

PUBLISHED BY THE ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY EDMONTON BRANCH
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LOST 'N FOUND

submitted by Claudine Nelson An Unusual Research Services Request

A reporter from GLOBAL Edmonton phoned the library about a wrapped photo album that had arrived at their office. This request caught the interest of many volunteers.

A few pictures were forwarded to us from the classy leather album. The ONLY clues were that some were labeled from Scotland - Glasgow and Paisley. It included a family with parents and 8 children; 2 women; a couple; a lone female; and two children identified as Lillian and Hellen Shipp.

The mystery deepens with a picture of a lone boy in front of a building surrounded by snow, and another picture of a barn with 10 men standing in front of 'Sunny Field Farm - 1919', likely on the Prairies.

We found an Edmonton 2019 obituary for Donald Winston Shipp, of Ucluelet BC, giving the name of his parents as Thomas Lawford Shipp and Jean Viola Shipp, and a brother Richard Thomas Shipp.

The 1921 Manitoba census gave the name of Thomas Lawford Shipp's parents: Joseph Thomas Shipp and Selina Shipp born in England and 5 children born in Ontario. A 1903 Bristol marriage registration was found for Joseph Thomas Shipp and Selina Annie Pullin.

The 1891 Scotland census have Pullen names. A George Pullen married a Shipp in 1861 in Surrey County, England. Pat Pettit found a Manitoba local history book with the Joseph Thomas Shipp story. The Barn was built near Shellmouth, Manitoba.

Distant family members have been found. We are still hoping to find a home for the album.

TRACING YOUR FAMILY TREE

Next Sessions

June 8, 9:30 to 4pm includes:
Finding Métis and Indian Ancestors with Sheila Genaille

French Ancestors in Canada and Beyond with Jean Yves Vanier-Verbeek

June 22, 9:30 to 4pm includes:

DNA It's More than Just Spit and Analyzing Your DNA Results with Ellen Thompson-Jennings

Members \$20 Non-members \$40.

Links to registration and details can be found here.

<https://edmontongenealogy.shoutcms.net/content.php?nid=4479>



NEW BRAND

Introducing our new Brand colors, font, logo, and twig! We hope you enjoy it.



THE TWIG

P2

SPRING HUMOR

My ducks are absolutely
not in a row.

I don't even know
where some of
them are.

And I'm
pretty sure

one
of them
is a pigeon!



SHARE

GENFAIR COMING TO EDMONTON

Save the date – **Saturday October 19, 2024**. We have been working with LDS Church to co-host a Family History Fair in Edmonton on Saturday October 19, 2024 at the LDS Riverbend Stake center – Edmonton.

This event is being planned in format similar to the recent successful Red Deer GenFair held on April 27.

A planning committee has been formed and more information will be provided once details and specifics are worked out.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Let's Talk



What do you find difficult? Is there a class you would be interested in taking?

Reply to
newsletter@edmontongenealogy.ca

THANK YOU to all who have submitted material for our newsletter. I can't do it without you! Please continue to send me your short stories, experiences, tips, and suggestions.

newsletter@edmontongenealogy.ca

NEWSIES



GET INVOLVED

Currently, there are several positions on the Board and Special Interest Groups (SIG's) open for 2024. Our Society depends on volunteers to provide the services, resources, support, and leadership that make us a leading provider of genealogy information and services.

Visit the Volunteer Page on our website for more information.

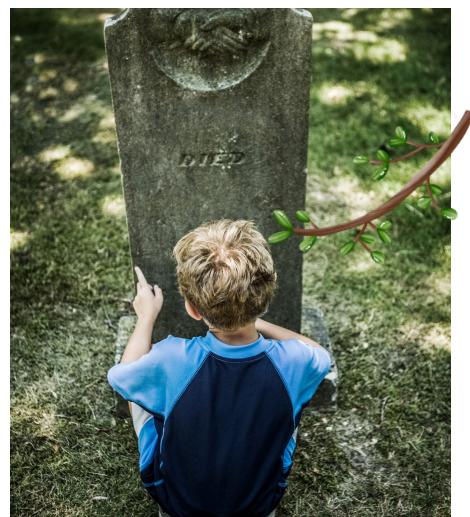
<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/volunteer-opportunities>



CHALLENGE

See how many of 131 words that can be made using only the letters in the word GENEALOGY you can find. Excluding proper nouns.

DO NOT CHEAT and look up on-line. Send me your name and list of words by July 30th. I will publish the winner in the next issue. I will mail you your favorite chocolate bar!



Missed RootsTech 2024?

You can still view MANY of the videos that were presented in the past 3 years.

Go to:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/rootstech-on-demand-library>



LOOKING BACK

Memoirs of Making the Canadian Prairies Home, by Courtney Laframboise

It's a yellow plastic binder that has lost its shape. The spine does not have a label. Every time our family moved; the binder was tucked safely in the linen closet. This binder is "Grandpa's Book."

Great-Grandpa to me is Harry Northrop. He was born in Harston, Cambridgeshire, in 1893 and immigrated to Canada under one of the early farm labour programs in 1913. In Saskatchewan, he worked on farms, endured the Great Depression, oversaw the construction of elevators for the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and finally purchased land of his own near Stalwart. He fell in love and raised five children with various talents who have led remarkable lives across Canada and the United States.

Grandpa was a natural storyteller. He could enchant many with his experiences, and he obliged when my mother (his granddaughter) asked him to write them down. Grandpa put pen to paper from 1974 to 1980 until his eyesight started failing. Over the last few pages, the blue ink starts to drift off the lines, and the letters get larger and larger. He signs off on the final page, "By Grandpa Northrop to granddaughter Heather. Bye now."

I was an infant when Grandpa passed, but his voice was loud and clear on the pages. He wrote stories of childhood mischief, leaving school to work on farms around Cambridge and how he helped prepare a prize-winning horse for an upcoming race. Grandpa describes the decision to go to Canada and the impact on his parents. The details of his trip are exciting – the friends he met on the train to Liverpool, their near-fatal voyage at sea, the train from St. John, New Brunswick, to Regina and how they worked together in their first year on the prairies.

In our home, the binder also became the keeper of anything related to family history: reunion papers, funeral programs, and newspaper clippings or birth announcements. It was our modern-era family Bible and sparked my desire to get into family research as a teenager.

With my photocopy of his book and the unexpected gift of time during the pandemic, I digitized his stories. I dove into the details, line by line, leaving no stone unturned. I combed through newspaper headlines, Wikipedia, museum websites, Cummins Rural Directory Maps, and more. Edmonton's England and Wales Special Interest Group was particularly helpful and pointed me to British Newspaper Archives, and the article shown below.

This project pushed my boundaries for research. I explored new source sites and became familiar with proper source citations. I finally took the plunge to ask for help from the Library and Archives Canada, Harston's Church leaders, and local history organizations. While this is not significant for many genealogists, it was for me.

My biggest discovery is that family research does not exist in a vacuum. Of course, records hold story details, but they lack the colour and vibrancy that can only come from working with others. Each of us has a different lens and research experience. By sharing research with others, we undoubtedly provide each other with an opportunity to see the data from another point of view.



LINKING IN

Peel Prairie Province News, submitted by Deb Boelstler

I received this valuable note a few days back from Lynn Fogwill. Please note the following changes:

In case you have not yet come across the announcement, the Peel's Prairie Provinces website is in the process of migrating.

Here is the announcement on the homepage:

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/index.html>

Here is the homepage of the new website (still part of U of A Library): <https://library.ualberta.ca/peel>

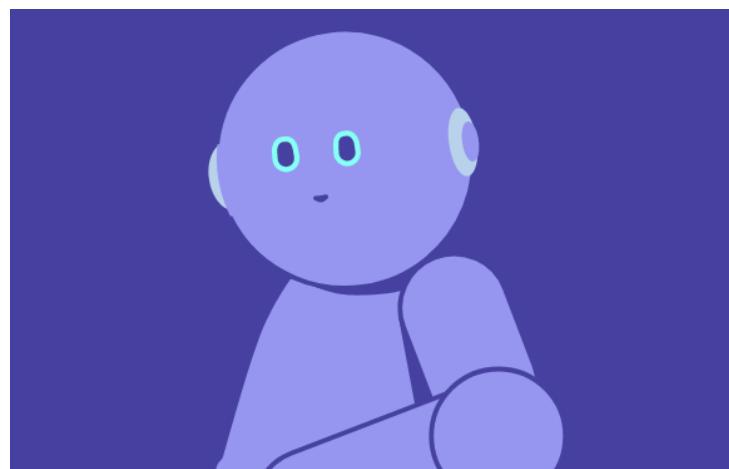
And here is where you go to search and use the digital content using the Internet Archive platform: <https://archive.org/details/peel/>

For the moment, both the old and new websites are still active until the migration is complete. I think this is fairly recent because I was using Peel a few weeks ago to search Winnipeg Henderson's directories and the notice was not yet published across the top of the old website. Today I was looking for a history of the Orange Lodge of Winnipeg (which Peel has) and came across the announcement. The new platform will be easier to search I think and they have added "flip pages" for books and documents, which is a bonus.

This is a valuable resource for researching in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

Thanks for sharing Lynn and Deb.

Online Artificial Intelligence Course - free, submitted by Kurt Paterson



Our goal is to demystify AI.

The Elements of AI is a series of free online courses created by MinnaLearn and the University of Helsinki. We want to encourage as broad a group of people as possible to learn what AI is, what can (and can't) be done with AI, and how to start creating AI methods.

The courses combines theory with practical exercises and can be completed at your own pace.

<https://www.elementsofai.com/>



CALENDAR

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/events>



England Wales SIG

Research Day in the Edmonton Branch Library, 162, 14315 – 118 Avenue NW. Saturday, 1 June from 10:30 - 2:00 pm.

EWSIG members will meet to collaborate on research.

Please register below so we can plan accordingly. Bring a bag lunch, your laptop, notes, and brick walls! Coffee, tea, and cookies provided. Register here:

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/england-wales-sig>



LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and 3rd Saturdays, 10am-3pm.

Check the website for updates or call the office when extreme weather events occur as library may be closed.

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/library>

Doors Open 2024

Celebrate the Historic Festival and Doors Open event at the Edmonton Branch Library!



This year's theme is **Innovation and celebrating 100 years for the RCAF.**

July 9, 10 & 13 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

July 11 - 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Invite a friend and visit our unique destination library featuring over 6,000 books on family research, including family and local histories, "how-to" books, periodicals, topographical and historical maps, family history files, microfilm, microfiche, digital databases and more.

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/historic-festival-and-doors-open-edmonton>

Computers in Genealogy SIG

Keeping your private family data secure. Cybersecurity tips by Kelcey Carlisle.

Register for this Zoom presentation on Thursday June 20, 7-9 pm.

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/computers-in-genealogy-sig>





INTERESTED IN EDUCATION?

A new committee provides opportunity to promote genealogical education!

One theme emerging from the January Town hall meetings was getting back to basics and offering more genealogical educational support for our new and renewing members.

During recent Board discussions, we wanted to "identify a way that we could have a coordinated effort, where roles are clear and without duplication, along with a strong organization and support for each role, to deliver education opportunities."

The evolving discussions to create an AGS Edmonton Branch Education Committee are very exciting and encouraging. Similar to other Branch Committees, the proposal is for this committee to meet regularly "to coordinate all the needs related to education programs, courses, and resource development."

The overarching Education Committee would include: Community Connector, Member Development, Tracing Your Family Tree, Programs, Resource Development, and an Education Committee Chair roles.

If you are interested in contributing to this committee, please see the new volunteers pages.

<https://www.edmontongenealogy.ca/volunteer-opportunities>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive

President - Kurt Paterson
Vice President - Courtney Laframboise
Treasurer - Sharon Schnell
Immediate Past President & Nominations Chair - **vacant**
Recording Secretary - Thea Hawryluk

Committees

Archivist/ Historian - Thea Hawryluk
Branch Newsletter - Susan Laycock
Community Connector - **vacant**
Correspondence Secretary - Linda Winski
Education* - **vacant**
Resource Development* - **vacant**
Library - Deborah Boelstler
Member Development *- **vacant**
Membership - **vacant**
Online Meeting Coordinator - Brenda Johnston
Programs* - **vacant**
Publicity - **vacant**
Research Services - Norma Wolowyk
Social Media - Brenda Johnston
TYFT * - Sheila Genaille
Web and Communications Lead -Courtney Laframboise
*Education sub-committees

Special Interest Groups (SIG's)

Canada/US - **vacant**
Computers in Genealogy - Art Taylor/Kelcey Carlisle
DNA - Ellen Thompson-Jennings
England/Wales - Bev Wardell
French - Jean Yves Vanier-Verbeek
German - John Althous, Sylvia Hertling
Irish - Neal Cody
Postscripts (writing family history) - **vacant**
Scotland - **vacant**
Ukraine - **vacant**



BE PART OF IT

MEMBERSHIP

terms and benefits

Membership Term: 1 January to 31 December.

Included with all memberships is a digital copy of the AGS publication Relatively Speaking. There is an additional \$10.00 fee if you want to receive the publication in print form.

Individual or Family \$50.00

Senior (65+) \$45.00

Young Adult (age 18-23) \$25.00

Student (grades 1-12) \$5.00

Contact:

<https://www.abgenealogy.ca/become-a-member>

and select Edmonton Branch.

Membership Benefits:

Access to online library edition databases.

Daily use of library at no charge.

Member pricing for courses and seminars, including participation in our Special Interest Groups (SIG's) focusing on research in specific countries.

Email notice of upcoming events + more!

It also makes a great gift!

FROM THE LIBRARY STACKS

Sharon Enns shares her research experience at the Edmonton Branch Library.

I have frequently used a selection of books by Rev. Donald A. McKenzie from the Edmonton Library.

Death Notices from The Christian Guardian. In the 1836-1850 edition, page 285, I located the death notice for John Smith, who is John Benjamin Smith, son of my direct ancestor Benjamin Smith.

It reads: "Smith, John was returning home from hauling bricks for a new church when he fell from his cart and a wheel passed over his body. He died, September 18, 1845, in Ancaster Twp., age 32, survived by his parents, his wife, and five children".

From the same book "Carpenter, Gershom was born in Sussex County, New Jersey, November 29, 1766, and came to Canada, settling in Saltfleet Twp. in 1787. In 1795 he married Sarah Pettit. He died in Saltfleet Twp. Jan 15, 1845; survived by his wife, 5 sons and two daughters.

Carpenter, Mrs. Gershom, widow of the late Gershom Carpenter, died at 50-Mile-Creek, Saltfleet Twp., January 22, 1848, in her 70th year. (Both Carpenter's and Pettit's are well represented in my Smith family.)

Methodist Papers, 1830-1857 lists the marriage record: "Smith, Jesse, of Ancaster, to Mary Ann Mattice, of Glanford, by Rev. O.G. Collamore, at the parsonage, Barton Circuit, Jan 20, 1857." (Jesse is the grandson of the above mentioned Benjamin.)

