

OPEONGO LINES

PRESERVING YESTERDAY FOR TOMORROW

ISSUE 10 January 2002



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Research: Darlene Mask 1-613-432-6242

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Brian/Doris Long, 1-613-432-0887

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A Message From The President

The year 2001 has moved along very quickly. It has been a busy year for Heritage Renfrew with the number of visitors to our archives continually increasing. We have added to our research materials substantially during the year.

The largest acquisition we acquired being the micro-films of the Eganville Leader. We have also been entrusted with the records and pictures from the Renfrew Office of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food

Home Children continue to be, for the time being, a very important part of Heritage Renfrew. Dave and Kaye Lorente continue to carry the work load, which is very heavy. There may be some changes taking place next year, which Dave will be announcing as they develop.

Our usual activities took place this year. The annual Heritage Week luncheon was on February 19th and was well attended. Stella Laviolette supplied an excellent display of the heritage the "transportation"

On Canada Day the plaques that Heritage Renfrew donated to the Millennium Trail were unveiled as part of Renfrew's Canada Day celebrations

In October we held a Public Meeting addressed by Senator Lorna Milne. Her talk about heritage and genealogy included the release of the post 1901 Canada Census. The people that attended found her presentation informative and interesting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

7:00 p.m.

National Archives Building

Renfrew

Guest Speaker

Jim Ferguson

Columnist, Naturalist and

Expert on Birds

Light refreshments will be served

Our annual meeting is being organized at the present time. It will be held at the National Archives Building, January 23, 2002 and the Guest speaker will be Jim Ferguson. A brief business meeting, including the election of officers will precede the guest speaker and refreshments will be served.

The board of directors for the past year have contributed much of their time and made the various activities run smoothly and successfully. As president I would like to thank everyone who helped make this year a success and wish all a happy and prosperous New Year.

OUR REVISED WEBPAGE

USERS OF OUR WEB PAGE
WILL NOTICE THAT SOME
CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO
IT. THEY ARE:::

- 1) **REFERENCES HAVE BEEN MADE TO OUR ACQUISITION OF THE EGANVILLE LEADER (IN MICROFILM FORMAT) FROM THE YEARS 1901 TO 1975.**
- 2) **WE HAVE OBTAINED THE RECORDS FROM THE Agricultural Representatives office for Renfrew County from the years of around 1913 to its closure---the 1960s or 70s. There are many detailed documents and records of the LIFE of Agriculture in the county....from school fairs ,to young farmers ,and anything related to farming.**

WE ALSO MADE REFERENCE TO A BULLITIN BOARD SETUP WHERE ANYONE CAN POST A REQUEST TO GENEALOGY AND RELATED SUBJECTS. Please use the LINK TO MESSAGE BOARD in the reference made in the WEB PAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Senator Lorna Milne Demands that Statistics Canada stop breaking the law

For Immediate Release—
Renfrew - Oct 27, 2001

Today, the Hon. Lorna Milne demanded that Statistics Canada stop breaking the law and allow the release of post 1901 census records to the National Archives of Canada.

"It is now clear that Statistics Canada has a legal duty to release post 1901 census records, and they have repeatedly refused to do so". Senator Milne asserted.

"They can no longer claim any legitimate reason to avoid this duty. This vital record of Canada's history and people must be released into the keeping of the National Archivist of Canada immediately".

Senator Milne was reacting to the release of 10 legal opinions that Statistics Canada has

received over the last 20 years on the issue of the release of post 1901 census information. The

documents were obtained by the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and

Technology. The committee is currently studying Bill S-12, Senator Milne's Private Senator's

Bill that would allow for the release of census information 92 years after the date of the census.

"The latest legal opinion unequivocally states that the better legal view is that post 1901

census records should be released." she noted.

"Furthermore, the current Chief Statistician, Dr. Ivan Fellegi, was told as long ago as 1981 that, in order to comply with both

the spirit and the letter of privacy and access to

Statistics Canada would have to release post 1901 census information". Senator Milne has received petitions from nearly 20,000 Canadians calling for the release of post 1901 census information. The 1906 Western Census records were due to be released in 1998 in accordance with the National Archives of Canada Act and the Privacy Act, but Statistics Canada has refused to act on this obligation

Many of our readers, we are sure, can have little idea of the extent to which a desire to make "verses" or "lines"---to be poets, in fact--- prevails among the rural population.

Generally speaking, we are obliged to decline publishing most of the effusions offered; but as there are no great number of local items this week, we have made room for a specimen of the native talent in the poetical line (FROM THE EDITOR, published

21 1878)

TO THE BOYS OF ADMAS- TON

Come one ,come all ,come great
and small, and listen unto me---
and I'll sing you a verse or two
about this country,
I know I am no scholar, nor never
intended to be,
But on my feet ,I earn my meat,
by hard industry.

I have worked upon a farm,
since I was nine years old,
And if I don't die until next July,
I'll be nineteen ,so I'm told;
I have plowed and sowed and
reaped and mowed ,and wrestled
with the stones,
And what have I got ,for all I
wrought ,but a frame of achin'
bones.

, And many a shoe, off my
feet it flew, and Many a day
I passed away, trying to
plow you know, at every

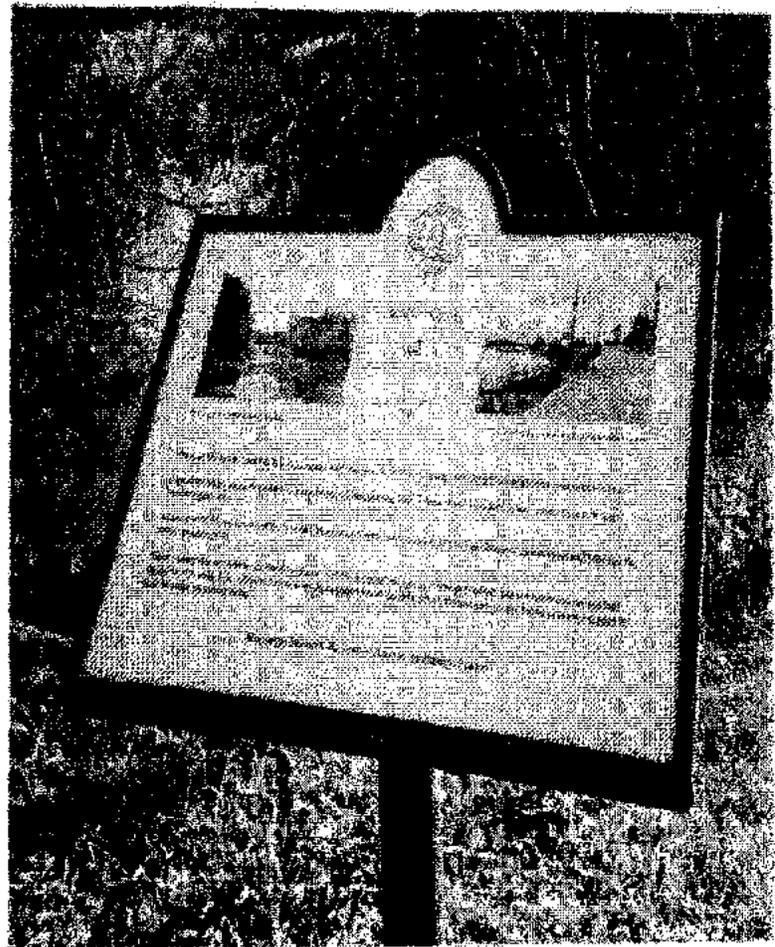
What is the use in working
here ,where there is never
pleasure found?
Where we're sure to break ,
without mistake ,our con-
stitution down,
When there's land enough
for thousands
yet, without a stump or
stone
Where we could plough, with
ox or cow, with the greatest
pleasure known.

Welcome, all you brave
young fellows, we all join in
the band,
And we'll go away, without
delay, to seek for better
land,
We will settle down together,
where the

land is good and free,
There, we'll work with one
another, and like
brothers we will be,
So come on brave boys ,we'll
make us music and join all
into a band
We'll pack our box, and leave the

Rocks and seek for better
land,
We'll go to Manitoba, where
the wild west is Free
And come July ,we'll say
goodbye, to the people of
Admaston.

J.J.K.(If anyone knows who
J.J.K. might be ,please let us
know) Published
in THE RENFREW MER-
CURY June 21 1878)



Notice

We are considering sending out some of our newsletters by e-mail. This would get your newsletter to you faster and save us some postage which is a large portion of the cost of our production. Please send us your e-mail address if you are in favour of this method.

The above picture is of one of the plaques located on the Renfrew Millennium Trail that was donated by Heritage Renfrew and unveiled July 1st, 2001.

The picture shows Smith's Creek in early days and to-day. This water played an important role in the establishment of early Renfrew industry.

Can Anyone Help These People In Their Search?

Subject: Searching records of death
Date: Fri, 29 Jun 2001 12:03:57 -0400
From: "David Geesey" <dlgeesey@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Renfrew County" <renarch@renc.igs.net>

Dear Sir:
In the Renfrew County records, are there death records for the following:
Charles Bremner (born ca 1836) died?
Hannah (Cochrane) Bremner died ca 1925—possibly Grattan Twp.
Thomas Combs (born ca 1843)
Elizabeth Catherine (Cochrane) Combs died?
Working on my Cochrane family and searching these dates—
Greatfully appreciate assistance. Will reimburse for copies.
LaVonne (Laughy)Geesey

Subject: research
Date: Thu, 02 Aug 2001 14:56:26 -0400
From: Paul Larmant <plarmant@bconnex.net>
To: renarch@renc.igs.net
Dear sir , I would like to know if there is anyone in your area that would research a name or a family .I would be happy to pay for the service.
sincerely. Bemadine Larmant @plarmant@nortelnetworks.com
thank you

OUR WEB PAGE

EMAIL ADDRESS

Renarch@renc.igs.net

Is always ready to accept your enquires

Subject: Renfrew Grave
Date: Tue, 24 Apr 2001 17:43:47 EDT

From: WGMille104@aol.com
To: renarch@renc.igs.net
Hi

I'm hoping that you can give me the address of someone to find a grave in Renfrew. I have the list from the Internet, but there are no dates, so can't be sure I have the right person. I'm researching the family of Archibald Miller that lived in Renfrew from 1843 - 1878.

Thank you for your help.
Betty

Research Request

The search is on for information on John Church who married Rebecca Crofts.

They are both buried in Calabogie. Married in Sept. 1835 in Perth County somewhere. Both believed to be born in USA. John's father may have been born in England. 1871 shows them living in Bagot twp with son William. It is believed that they were in Darling twp. before that time, but where? Can you help? Please contact Darlene in research or e-mail cdmask@aol.com

Would "YOU" like to spend some of your spare time working in the Renfrew Archives. Help is needed !

We thank you for all the research requests received in 2001. I enjoyed the challenge and hope you will continue to find our site informative. We look forward to your continued support in 2002. May this year bring you laughter, good health and prosperity.
Darlene Mask in research.

**MEMBERSHIP
NEW or
RENEWAL**

Name.....
Address.....
City/town.....
Postal Code.....
Tel.....
For Year.....New/
renew.....

For home children.....
Membership: \$10:00/yr
Mail to: Heritage Renfrew Archives
Membership Chairperson,
Box 1009
Renfrew ON CA K7V 4H4

**Annual Membership Fees
Are now due!**

For the year 2002 they remain at \$10.00

Your mailing address will show if your Membership is paid up.

Heritage Renfrew's
HOME CHILDREN CANADA

*The Voice of Child Migrants in Canada
Helping You Help Yourself*

UPDATE 2002 - Issue #1

Heritage Renfrew's OPEONGO LINES - Jan 2002

*** ***** ***

HAPPY NEW YEAR, AND HAVE WE GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

**REQUESTS RE TRACING HOME CHILDREN RECORDS TO
BE SENT TO OTTAWA STARTING NOW**

** *** **

**THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
ON HOME CHILDREN HELD IN CANADA, AUG 20, 2001**

** *** **

1. Requests re Records

As of Jan 1 of this year all requests formerly directed to Dave Lorente or Home Children Canada founders in Renfrew, except those from surviving home children, should be sent to or will be forwarded to the Home Children Canada Committee of The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa) c/o John Sayers, 2157 Fillmore Cres, Gloucester, Ottawa, ON, K1J 6A1, E-mail <sayersji@sympatico>.

This is the same group that has compiled data for the Canadian Index at the National Archives of Canada website www.archives.ca.

When asked by home children attending the first Annual Reunion in Renfrew ON in Jan 1991, if I would help them find their records, I made a promise that I would do so free of charge. I little expected that I would be inundated by requests from all over the world (including the Near East and Japan) not just from home children but also from their descendants. And the numbers have increased so greatly each year (I answered 4,418 in 2001 alone) that it has become impossible to answer them all and still cope effectively with the other time-consuming chores that have become an important part of the job - like helping organize the Stratford Reunion last August.

And so for the foreseeable future I will answer requests re locating records only from surviving home children.

And for the time being we in Renfrew will also continue to edit the **Home Children Canada Update** that is part of our **Heritage Renfrew Opeongo Lines** newsletter, to liaise with our 'branches' across this country, the major sending agencies in the UK and the 'movers' in Canada, to attend reunions which others organize, and concern ourselves with research and other related projects - plaque raising, presentations, media productions and compiling Home Children Memoirs for publication.

Kay and I are also prepared to handle questions in French as we have done over the years. We also want to write our own family history for our six children and growing number of grandchildren (13 at the moment) .

The decision to transfer the answering of requests re records was not taken lightly. Helping people locate their personal records has been, after all, the first of our four aims and it has been a real joy to do so and to help reunite families in so many cases. But 11 years of doing so has begun to take its toll. Besides the responses I made to over 4,400 faxes, phone calls and e-mails in 2001 alone, I have a growing (and depressing) backlog of unanswered mail.

I explained my plight in a not too subtle presentation to BIFHSGO in the fall of 2000. It was published in **Anglo-Celtic Roots**, Quarterly Chronicle, Vol 7, Number 2, Spring 2001 under the title "*Home Children Canada - Update 2000: Whence and...Oh heavens!...Whither?*" John Sayers was in the audience, and my friend and fellow member of BIFHSGO "picked up the ball", as they say in the sports world, and "ran with it". Touchdown!

(Years ago at a similar presentation at the Ottawa Family History Centre, I mentioned that it took me four years of travelling to the National Archives in Ottawa to research my father's port of entry data in the then-unindexed ship manifests. That is when the light went on over John's head.

"Project!!" he said to himself, and he later convinced the executive of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa and the National Archives that they should allow him and his volunteers to compile a database of all child migrants 18 and under for the NA website. Thanks to John and his researchers anyone can now stay at home and do in 40 seconds what it took me four years and thousands of miles to accomplish. And let me be perfectly clear: the National Index was entirely John and his volunteers' project. I take satisfaction in knowing I inspired it, but he and they did all the work.)

BIFHSGO's Index project is now nearing completion and some of the 30 volunteers are looking for some related volunteer work to do. After all, they have developed a great deal of expertise in handling NA microfilms.

Those of you who attended the Stratford plaque unveiling and Reunion will remember that when I introduced "Mr Canadian Index", John mentioned that our fellow members at BIFHSGO were interested in forming a Home Children Canada Committee under the aegis of BIFHSGO and taking over the answering of such requests. That is now happening.

Kay and I welcome them aboard and rejoice that the primary Home Children Canada Committee has grown so large in numbers that it will now not die with us when we shuffle off this mortal coil. And because the major number of researchers are Ottawa-based we shall eventually be moving our files and most of our resources to the BIFHSGO Archives in our home-town, Ottawa, where they will be locked and available for reference only to members of John's Home Children Canada committee.

The transition process will be a long one and has already involved joint meetings and consultation with the 'movers' in the National Archives, International Social Service Canada, British High Commission and the NCVCCO and major former sending agencies in the UK. Canadian and British Government officials and other contacts in New Zealand, Australia and the UK have also been advised.

There are other logistical reasons to transfer our major base of operations to Ottawa. Most home children came to Ontario and Quebec. The Ottawa region, the true centre of Canadiana and home children research in this country, straddles both provinces. On the Ontario side the National Library and National Archives have the greatest collections of immigration material in the country. BIFHSGO is perhaps the country's most active body majoring in British genealogy. Certainly it is the most ambitious; its Canadian Index project is not likely to be duplicated by any genealogical group in Canada. Nor is anything major wanting at the local LDS Family History Centre which has on location virtually all the available Birth, Marriage and Death records etc for the British Isles. International Social Service Canada and the British High Commission (who have been much involved in our work) are here, as are the Embassies and High Commissions for the countries which received siblings of children sent to Canada. And on the Quebec side we have one of the largest libraries in Quebec, francophone resources *par excellence*, the federal Ministry of Canadian Heritage and the Joseph Montferrand Archives. Ottawa also has two universities

and one is the home of the Institute for Canadian Studies. Did we mention the federal government? And to top it all off, the Silicon Valley of the North is centrally located in Ottawa, the most "wired" city in Canada. Now who can top that?

2. **First International Congress on Home Children held in Canada**

With just a bit of tongue in cheek, we can say that Home Children Canada hosted the first international congress on child migration on August 19 and 20, 2001 at Stratford Ontario. There were representatives from the major sending agencies in attendance, as well as from the Canadian Government, National Archives, International Social Service Canada, Home Children Canada Branches, the Catholic and Anglican Churches in the UK and the British High Commission to Canada. The former sending agencies represented on stage at the plaque unveiling and reunion on the 19th hold approximately three-quarters of the 100,000 Canadian Home children records.

What was not reported in the press is that Home Children Canada convened a post-Reunion meeting of Canadian and overseas guests - all "movers" on Monday morning to discuss such matters of concern as the withholding of information re third parties, the UK's new Data Protection Act, the limitations of the British Index, how to contact surviving child migrants to advise them that records are available and that they may be eligible for a first free trip back to the old country at British Government expense, the implications (vis-a-vis release of records) of Britain's joining the European Union, etc.

The British Government promised to convene such an event in its report on *The Welfare of Former Child Migrants* in December 1998. It did nothing since. As early as 1999 the major former sending agencies in the UK considered convening one in the UK and in 2000 invited Home Children Canada to make a presentation at a Conference in July 2001. But they were cowed and called it off when the Child Migrant Trust said *IT* had already made arrangements to hold one last fall in the US of A. The CMT's sound and fury worked. But they were left with egg on their face after the former sending agencies cancelled because the CMT then admitted months later that they were still without an organizer, funds, a place to meet, etc. One wonders who had made the arrangements they bragged of to the former sending agencies. Anyway, the much vaunted CMT's fall 2001 Congress never took place. And so they have promised to hold one in the USA this coming fall. When asked several months ago if we were interested in presenting a paper, Home Children Canada replied "Yes! Title: "A Canadian Perspective". We have heard no word from them since.

Are you wondering "Why hold the Congress on British child migrants in the USA? And why the delay?" Some speculate that the timing and place for the Congress are to coincide with the announcement that a class-action lawsuit will be launched by former child migrants, most from Australia, in the European Court of Human Rights against the British Government. It may be that last fall the US firm hired by the plaintiffs did not have enough evidence to take to court, and so the delay. Speculation, of course! It will be interesting to see what unfolds this fall.

3. **The Federal Plaque - Its Aftermath**

The unveiling in Stratford, ON on Aug 19, 2001, of the federal plaque commemorating home children marked the highly successful culmination of a decade of lobbying by Home Children Canada to have Canada's government recognize that the hitherto suppressed story of child migration to this country was of national historical significance. The story can now be told in our texts and taught in our schools. Some schools have already prepared units. Some teachers are writing texts.

Films and audio tapes have already been produced and others are being edited even now which will bring the experiences of living home children into our homes and institutes of learning. Visual artist, Suzanne Caines of NS has had her installation, *Where She Slept*, displayed in the Maritimes and in Ottawa. Singer-composer Maria Dunn of Alberta features her song *Orphan Hand* on one of her CD's. We have even heard that some time ago Alfred Lloyd Webber had composed a musical on the life of Thomas Barnardo, but it has never been staged (perhaps because of the negative criticism of all things pertaining to child migration in the UK.) We have attended dramas about child migrants in Cumberland, Lindsay and Huntsville, and know of others in the Toronto and Ottawa areas. Authors of children's books have also taken advantage of the publicity about home children in the last ten years to write stories that can be used in classrooms. *The Tin-Lines Trunk* by Margaret Hamilton (1980) and *Home Child* (1996) by Barbara Howarth-Attard have perhaps blazed the way.

Two publications about home children recently hit the market and that is why we asked Patricia Bolger, a book-reviewer for the Ontario Historical Society and long time member of Heritage Renfrew, to write critiques of *Orphan At My Door* by Jean Little and *A Bushel of Light* by Troon Harrison. We look forward to publishing Pat's analysis in our next newsletter.

3. British author and former child evacuee Harry Collins helps find records, kith and kin in the U.K. Harry was our guest on Oct 25. He has great empathy for home children and all who have lost their family identity and assists them to find their records. We introduced him to a fellow child evacuee, HR director Brian Long, and his wife. Many child evacuees sent to Canada and the USA during WW II to escape Nazi bombing suffered similar experiences to home children and many never returned to the UK. Several have been in touch with us. **HARRY, A Child Evacuee's Story** was published in the fall of 2001 by Woodfield Publishing in England. It tells the story of a boy born in Winnipeg to British parents who returned to England with them only to be sent back to Manitoba when hostilities started and of his subsequent experiences, not all pleasant, and his return to Britain where he lives today in Essex. It seems one can only order the book on-line. Check the Woodfield Publishing website at www.woodfieldpublishing.com. The softback 164 pp book is available for 9.95 Pounds Sterling. ISBN is 1-903953-02-21. Harry can be contacted at 24 Baker Ave, Hatfield Peveral, Essex, CM3 2LH. As with all references, we advise that inquirers ascertain costs beforehand.

4. Family Tree Maker has been the #1 top-selling and top-rated genealogy computer program for the last ten or eleven years. It enables one to include audio and video tape clips as well as still

photos. The latest upgrade is now available. Heritage Renfrew Archives subscribes to the **Family Tree Maker Magazine**. Copies can be perused in our facility which is in the National Archives building in Renfrew.

5. Archives Awareness Day in Ontario - Sean Conway, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke spoke to the private member's bill proposing that the first Monday in April be Archives Awareness Day. The bill passed with the support of all parties and has gone before the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. In his speech Mr Conway "mentioned in despatches" three members of Heritage Renfrew Archives and two archivists in Arnprior. We hope the bill will make grants more available to small archives such as ours.

6. The British Census for 1901 is now on the internet at <http://www.census.pro.gov.uk>. Wouldn't it be great if Canada and/or the provinces did the same? (Yes, we know about the Ontario 1881 Census of heads of families at www.archives.ca).

7. Home Children Memoirs - The Book! When we were made Honourary Life Members of the Orphan Train Heritage Society of America in Arkansas a few years back, Sheila Beatty, whose father was an Orphan Train Rider and whose grandfather was a Home Boy, presented us with the first of five books, all collections of OTR life stories. We have mentioned this at several presentations, in newsletters and to home children we have interviewed or video'd. And we have been asked why we did not do the same. Well, we've started, and without moving from my computer I made up a list of over 100 stories that I have or should like to see included. And I am sure that I have forgotten as many and even more.

Volume 1 will "go to bed" in late 2002 if all goes according to plan. We have already been in touch with surviving home children because we want them to see their stories in print in the first edition. We want to include as many photos as possible and we are not sending out suggestions of what one should say because we don't want the stories to have the same flow. We want the individual to shine through. We expect that, where there is but little material, it will be augmented by comments from descendants.

And we have already planned later volumes which, while dealing with home children, will concentrate on what their descendants have to say about their child migrant parents or grandparents, because we recognize that descendants suffered an inherited or trans-generational effect from child migration and that will show in the writing.

All proceeds from these ventures will be donated to Home Children charities.

8. The British Government's offer of a first free trip back to the UK is up on April 1, 2002. (And that's not an April Fool joke!) All paper work must be processed by March 31. So if you are a home child, or you know of one who is healthy enough to travel with an escort, do contact Dave at the address on the masthead of this newsletter as soon as possible. The visit must be to see relatives, and we are delighted to report that since the last Newsletter we have been involved

in locating relatives for two travellers who applied even though they had lost touch with those overseas. More on Art MONK and Ernie TODD's trip back in later newsletters.

9. So You Want to Travel and Research in Britain now that you have made so many startling discoveries about your Home Child's past. We suggest you take these initial steps before you go:

- a) Contact the British Tourist Authority, 5915 Airport Road, Unit 120, Mississauga ON, L4V 1T1. Phone is 1-888-847-4885. Ask for a (free) package of maps, info on B&B, rail times and fares, car rentals, day tours, events, etc on the places you wish to travel to.
- b) Be aware that some things (e.g Brit Rail passes) are cheaper if bought beforehand in Canada.
- c) Do some research before you go at www.visitbritain.com/ca and other web sites.
- d) Get your passport application at the local post office and mail it in early because the new regulations may cause a delay in processing.
- e) Access BMD records (Birth-Marriage-Death registration certificate numbers) before you go. Use the local LDS (Mormon) Family History Centre to get the registration numbers so that you can purchase the cheapest possible records. You can order your registration records ahead of time from Canada. Info at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk>
- f) Contact the former sending agency to arrange a visit to them. Most are glad to assist you in your search and be involved with your visit.
- g) Pack your luggage and carry it around the block. Take half the clothes you think you need and twice the amount of money. Consider drip dry clothes.
- h) Buy your camcorder tapes and film in Canada. You will need a lead-lined pouch to put your film in to protect them from airport X-Ray machines. X-Rays harm film but not camcorder or audio tapes.
- i) Expect the prices in Britain to be twice what they are in Canada and fight the habit visitors fall into over there of thinking that a British Pound is the same as a Cdn dollar. *It ain't!*
- j) Bring a diary and jot down now the things you want to see, the people you want to meet and the questions you want to ask.
- k) And when you arrive at a new destination sneak a peek at the local postcards. They generally feature the sites you want to see.
- l) If you are a senior look into buying your Pounds Sterling traveller's cheques at no cost at your bank. Cash a few at the airport in Canada. It's nice to have coins and bills in local currency when one arrives at the airport over there.
- m) Pay your cabbie and get your proper change while you are still in the cab. If you get out of the cab and pay through the window the cab driver may take your large bill, give you no change, say "Ta for the tip, guv'nor", and speed around a corner out of sight. You won't give chase with your luggage on the sidewalk.
- n) Put buttons or velco on pockets that hold valuable papers and wallet. Wear a tummy pack for security, and put elastics on your wallet to make it harder to be pick-pocketed..
- o) Cdn passports are worth \$30,000 to \$40,000 on the blackmarket. Photocopy the page with your picture and the one under it. Make several copies. They - and extra (signed) regulation size passport pictures come in handy if your passport is stolen or lost. If it is, or if you have other major problems abroad, contact Canada House at Trafalgar Square. You may wish to record your traveller's cheque numbers, telephone numbers etc on the reverse of your copy.

10. Canadian War Veterans were advised of the British offer of first free trip back and access to records in SAPA Chronicle, December 2001. Special thanks to Cliff Chadderton and his staff.

11. A Look Back on The Year That Was is normally the lead item in the January Newsletter, but we felt we had more important items for this issue, so look for it in the next Newsletter.

12. Our Website is at <http://www.orphantrainriders.com/HomeChild/HomeLetters.html>. We thank Bruce Ayler, webmaster for the USA Orphan Train Riders, who designed our site and piggybacked it on the OTR's a few years ago. We regret that we have been too busy to update it or to answer queries directed to it.

13. A Breakthrough for those Researching Maria Rye Records:

Chris Sanham of the UK and Gail Collins of St Catharines are working together on a database and have access to records on children sent by Maria Rye to "Our Western Home" in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This hitherto unavailable material has been extremely helpful so far. Gail covers 1869 to 1879 and can be reached at gcollins@vaxxine.com. Her snail mail address for those not on the internet is 508 ½ Niagara St, St Catharines ON, L2M 3P5, Canada. Chris covers 1880 to 1896. He lives at Rus House, High Street, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9DD, UK. His e-mail is chris@sanham.com.

14. Re Home Boy W.C. GOODCHILD. Marjory Martinez of the USA is willing to share information with other relatives of this Barnardo Boy.

15. The Child Migrant Project Manager of the UK's NCVCCO (National Council of Voluntary and Child Care Organizations) has advised that the British Department of Health (which is in charge of the Child Migrant envelope) has agreed to the inclusion of six amendments we suggested to their Leaflet advising former Child Migrants where to look for records. These included suggestions that

- Barnardo's other agency holdings be mentioned,
- one should not omit Quarriers and Fegans and other major agencies,
- the National Archives website (which includes the Canadian Home Child Index and Canadian Expeditionary Force databases) and the Commonwealth War Graves site were indispensable tools,
- the roles of the Family Care Society and Catholic Child Welfare Council be defined.

16. Presentations: We are booked for two in January. One to the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group in Pembroke and the other to an Admaston group. Date for a presentation to the Nipissing Branch of OGS in North Bay TBA.

17. You Tell Us We shall make every effort to devote two pages to your comments in the next newsletter.

Have a great twenty-0-two,

Dave & Kay Lorente