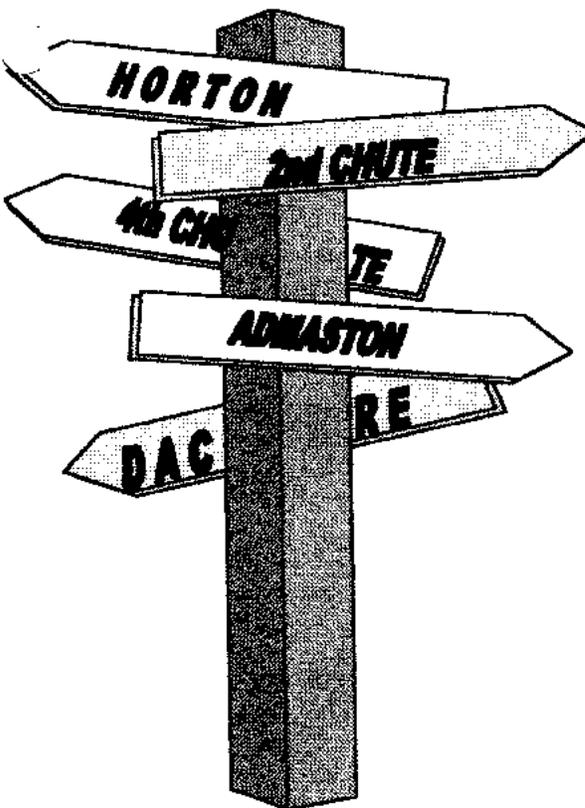


# \*\*THE OPEONGO LINES\*\*

(THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE RENFREW)  
 ++PRESERVING YESTERDAY FOR TOMORROW++



GREETINGS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS FOR THE COMING HOLIDAY SEASON AND ALSO A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We hope the coming year will treat us as well as we have been during the past year. We still are at our room to answer any of your questions and give help to those who need it. During the year, at times, we have been busy and help out a great many visitors.

Even though we are restricted from being able to access the premises during the week-end, we still are available there during the week days from 8,00 am to 5,00pm.

It is wiser to make an appointment to visit the site if you are not familiar with the workings of the machines and the materials that are archival makeup. Most of you are familiar with some operations of our room but there is always new material and machines there to assist you.

As usual, we are always looking for interested members who are willing to spend some of their spare time and help out at the facility. There is always some work to be done around the room; ie, keeping our shelves tidied up and seeing that all our material is in order and put in its right place so the next person is able to find what he's looking for.

The Editor

+++++

## OUR NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

\*\*\*\*\*

[renarch9@sympatico.ca](mailto:renarch9@sympatico.ca)

It's the time of year that your membership is coming due;;; just fill in the membership application below and mail to :

\*\*\*\*\*

Heritage Renfrew Archives  
 Box 1004 770 Gibbons Rd  
 Renfrew ON K7V4H4  
 Tel 1-613-432-7534  
 E-mail :renarch9@sympatico.ca

<b>DUES ARE</b>
<b>\$10:00/YR</b>

+++++

Name : \_\_\_\_\_  
 St No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2003

#### EXECUTIVE

- .....
- Pres : Audrey Green  
 P/Pres: Jim McGregor  
 V/Pres: Mary Hass  
 Treas: Ken Stafford-Brown  
 Sec'y: Darlene Mask  
 Member: Joyce Laird-  
 McBride  
 Home Children: Dave  
 Lorente  
 Directors:  
 Martin Munhall  
 Vaughan /Grace Simmons  
 Stella Laviolette  
 Irene Rekowski  
 Dolores Agnell  
 Pat Patterson  
 Olga Lewis  
 Mary McCann

# HELP!!!!

During the course of our operations here, we get a great many requests for help.

A lot of the time we can help this person and sometimes we can only pass the word on to some of our members and those who read this issue.

So.....

Here are some of the requests which have come in this past season.

Michelle Cybulski writes::

I have been researching my family history and have come across the following referenc:

Gutoski-Pasjylk family history, by Avis Worthington.

I was wondering if anyone might have or come across this this particular book, or know of its existence and she would like to see a copy or buy one.

Michelle Cybulski@hc-sc.gc.ca.

Tracy and Dave Stringer wrote+++ I was born and Any info would be appreciated raised in Renfrew and trying to get info on my GF W J Stringer but would like to get some history on the Stringer barbershop, contact me at

++ : tdstringer@sympatico.ca

Any help would be appreciated.

There are many "on-line" places to aid people who are searching for answers, Namely:  
The Tanguay genealogy Dictionary of Canadian families.

These are records of births, marriages and deaths which happened in Quebec/New France up to 1760.

Looking for Irish Ancestors????

You might try the new online search for names at\*\* www.irishorigins.com\*\* this

takes in and they have data from Griffiths Valuation and is a recording of property holdings from 1847 to 1864.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear heritage Members,

I cant believe that a whole year has gone by since I agreed to become President of our wonderful organization and club. It certainly has been a tremendous year and most of the thanks goes to the Executive who have worked diligently on certain projects. Unfortunately, we did not get the day tour completed this year. I can assure you that plans are already under way for next year. So, get ready, we will go on an educational and fun trip in the spring, hopefully.

We have already started to get our quarters in shape, and have acquired another room from National Archives where we have a new computer, scanner, photocopier, and file cabinets, that now house many of our precious collections. It is a slow process, but between Ken Stafford Brown scanning and Martin Munhall transcribing, many items are now being catalogued.

We hold Board meetings the first Tuesday of every month. We have tried to hold them at 2 p.m., but this is not working. Therefore, come the beginning of 2004, we will go back to holding them at 7.00 p.m. Thanks to Ken, who will take the responsibility of the building while we are there.

I encourage you to attend our general meeting on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004, at the Archives. It will commence at 7 00 p.p. and it is hoped John Yakabuski will be our guest speaker.

Of course, we are always looking for new members and would appreciate your help, by asking your friends. This is such an amazing way to get information regarding our past, that it is hard to believe that people are not breaking down the doors to join. As you know, it is only \$10.00 /yr and they will receive a news letter, hopefully, four times a year.

I want to THANK the EXECUTIVE and members who have helped me so much during this year, and to take this opportunity to WISH each and every one of you a Very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

AUDRY GREEN, President.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Can anyone help?????

**This poem is taken from  
the files of the Renfrew  
Mercury of June 21 1878  
and Im wondering if  
anybody can make a  
connection to any one of  
their long ago relatives who  
might be the author.**

.....  
**To The Boys of Admaston \*\*\*\***

Come one ,come all ,come great and small  
And listen unto me  
And Ill 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 ,Ill be nineteen  
,so Im 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 aching bones.

Many a day ,I passed away,trying to plow,you  
know  
And at every stump ,I would get a thump,  
That would make you cry out ,"OH",  
I have often went ,at least was sent  
Sixteen feet off the ground  
And many a shoe,off my feet it flew  
And never since was found

I am not the only boy that's here  
Labouring hard to earn my socks,  
But,theres many more ,with bones as sore  
Ting to cultivate the rocks.  
What keeps us here ,year after year  
Does any of you know?

Why don't we start ,while young and smart  
Go to where the prairie grass does grow.

What is the use in working here where  
There is no pleasure never found?  
Where we're sure to break ,without mistake  
Our constitution down  
Where there is land enough,for thousands  
Yet,without a stump or a 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.

**Admaston ,JJK.(AUTHOR)**  
(who might JKK be ?)  
(published in the RENFREW MERCURY, June 21 1878)

.....

## HELP WANTED

Would you like to contribute a part of your spare time  
To helping at the Archives room .there is so much  
work that could be done and needs doing that a great  
amount of material is being under-utilized .No matter  
how little or a lot of your time could be put to good  
use here.SO!!!!~!!!!  
Contact us at :renarch9@sympatico.ca

## NOTICE

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW WEB ADDRESS**

**RENARCH9@SYMPATICO.CA**

Dacre.wpd

**Part 1: What's in a name?**

Shakespeare wrote "What's in a name? A rose would smell as sweet by any other." But however true that is, sometimes one can't just leave it at that. There is a certain mystique in wanting to know more about certain things, like how and why place names like *Killaloe* and *Dacre*, and surnames like your own or *Briscoe*, came to be and what they suggest about family and community origins particularly when contradictory theories might abound.

When I was a young child and should have been in bed, I more than once sneaked down the staircase to listen to my parents chatting with visitors in the living room. On one such occasion I heard Dad mention *Killaloe*. I was young enough not to know what "a loe" was or why anyone would even want to "kill" it. Years later a trip to the original *Killaloe* in Ireland gave me a more logical and historically accurate perspective. That's when I learned *kill* is old Irish for *church* and *Lua* was the name of a local Saint. And indeed, the original tiny Church built by St Lua has been dismantled and reconstructed on higher ground outside the later larger 'kill' in Killaloe, Ireland. Some early settlers from the area had no doubt settled in Canada and named our Killaloe after it.

I have long since traced my surname back two millennia and more to pre-Rome days when Aeneas, the Trojan prince fleeing the destruction of his city, landed on the western shore of Italy south of the Tiber and was met by the *Laurenti* who lived in *Laurentum* which got its 'place name' from the *laurus* or laurel trees which grew in abundance there. *Laurenti* eventually became *Lorente* and *Lorenzo* in Latin countries, *Laurent* in France and *Lawrence* in Britain.

Which brings us back to *Dacre*, the *Briscoes* and *Brougham*. The true origin of 'Dacre', the name of a hamlet outside Renfrew, Ontario has long intrigued and eluded me until a few years ago when we rented a car in Liverpool and drove through that part of northern England called Cumbria.

Some Ottawa Valley locals had told me that our word for *Dacre* was likely a corruption of 'God's Acre' - the place, perhaps, where the clergy reserve was located. Others held that a Major O'Dacre who had served in India spent a night in the area and so impressed the locals with his story of the Black Hole of Calcutta (where only 23 of 146 British prisoners were suffocated to death almost a hundred years before) that they named the hamlet after him. Alan Rayburn's first book, Geographical Names of Renfrew County Ontario (1967), says Dacre was called after a place in England. I tend to agree because I've been to where that particular Dacre must be and have seen a remarkable physical resemblance and learned of local connections to our own Dacre.

That *Dacre* has English origins is beyond doubt. There is a *Dacre Lodge* near Enfield, Middlesex, a *Dacre Hill* in Cheshire near Birkenhead, a *Dacre parish* in Yorkshire, a *Dacre stream* in Cumberland, and a *Dacre village* (population 863 in 1975) on the *Dacre River* 4 1/2 miles SW of Penrith and the ruins of *Dacre Castle* are nearby. There are other good reasons for thinking the origin of our Ottawa Valley *Dacre*'s name is strongly tied to Cumberland's *Dacre*.

.....  
 This history of Dacre and its beginnings are being searched and submitted by Dave Lorente and the remainder of his submission will be included in subsequent issues of Opeongo Lines. He has a detailed description of this topic as he has visited the area concerned.  
 .....



Another source on line for the western area of the county and has a large source of church records of B,M,D, for the Brudenell area is found on Our Lady of Holy Angels Church at Brudenell. Go to a search engine, like [www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com)\*\* or "google" and put in the name and you will have records from 1862-1910.



HAVE A LOOK AT SOME OTHER SITES AROUND THE AREA.....  
 Bonnechere Valley Museum at Eganville \*\*[www.bonnecherevalleytwp.com/museum.HTML](http://www.bonnecherevalleytwp.com/museum.HTML).  
[Pontiacarchives@gouest.net](mailto:Pontiacarchives@gouest.net)++++Sebastapol Area,contact ;; [lakeclear.gerry@sympatico.ca](mailto:lakeclear.gerry@sympatico.ca) or  
[lpforan@webhart.net](mailto:lpforan@webhart.net). Arnprior Archives can be contacted at ===[www.adarchives.org](http://www.adarchives.org)

From Our Collections Dept+++operated by Ken Stafford-Brown  
 The CAL GREEN COLLECTION of negatives, depicting many Renfrew events and family Portraiture, photographed between 1960-and 1978, will soon be available for public viewing.  
 Heritage Renfrew's acquisition of a special scanner has enabled it to reproduce Cal Greens negatives into a high resolution digitalized positive image format and in some cases even enhance the image to a much clearer rendition, which was not possible during the earlier days of photography.  
 The effort to transform the negatives into positive images began at the beginning of this Dec and to date 150 of the 2985 negatives has been reformatted.  
 Heritage Renfrew respects the privacy of the many individuals who were the subjects of Greens Photography, and while it welcomes every opportunity to expose this collection to the public, it will ensure that only persons depicted in the photos, or directly related family members of those persons will have access to actual copies of the photos beyond general public viewing.