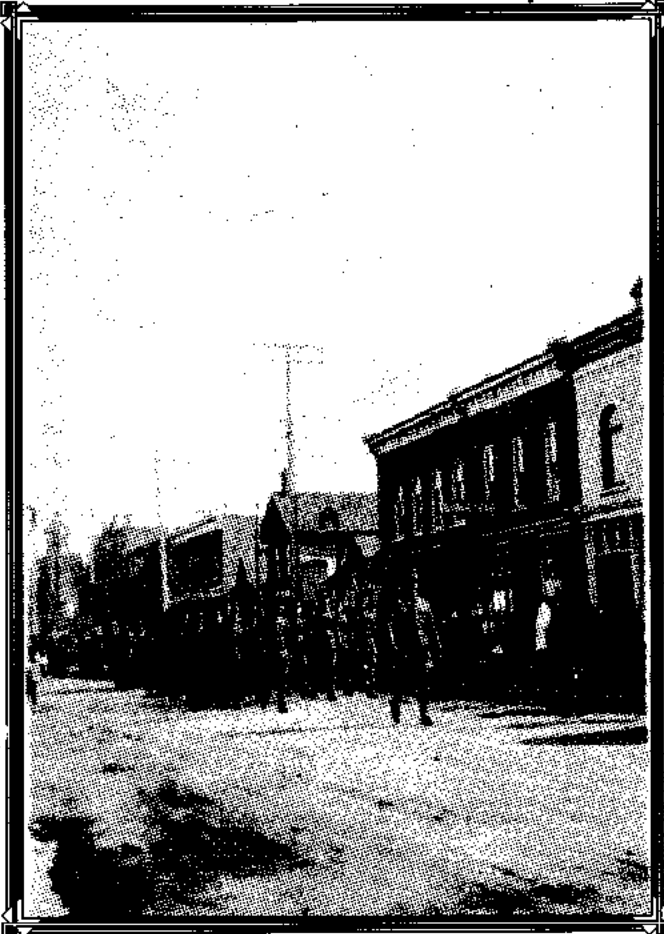




Opengo Lines

Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow

Heritage Renfrew Historical Society Newsletter - December 2007



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Connecting Photographs

This photograph shows a sub-unit of the 130th Battalion parading along Raglan Street - the Main Street in Renfrew - perhaps for the last time before moving to the front in France. The photograph seems worthy of being included for a number of reasons: first, it seems entirely appropriate to include a military photograph on the 90th anniversary of the battles of Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. Secondly, the photograph is of interest not so much for the soldiers but also for what one can see in the background, which connects us to the previous issue's front-page photograph.

A careful study reveals a sign for the premises of Ms. A. McArthur's Tailoring Shop, the sign for which can be seen just above and to the left of the parade leader's head. The astute reader will recall from our last issue that Ms. A. McArthur's Tailoring Shop was the subject of a large billboard situated on the corner of Raglan Street and Railway Avenue, where the Renfrew Public Library is today.

The 130th (Lanark and Renfrew) Battalion, CEF was a unit in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War. Based in Perth, Ontario, the unit began recruiting in late 1915 in Lanark and Renfrew Counties. After sailing to England in September 1916, the battalion was absorbed into the 12th Reserve Battalion on October 6, 1916. The 130th Battalion, CEF had one Officer Commanding: Lieut-Col. John Edward de Hertel.



Opengo Lines is published four times per year, at a cost of \$3.00 per issue for non-members, free for members of Heritage Renfrew. Memberships are available for \$15.00 per year or \$150.00 for a lifetime membership. There are approximately 115 members in the Heritage Renfrew Genealogical Society.



What's in your attic? Mr. Kevin McSheffery of Renfrew found something that had been in the rafters, and which only revealed itself recently when it had fallen from its hiding place. The certificate reads as follows (underlined text is unclear):

This is to certify that Half-Co. Ldr Stewart Barton (or Bartau), Renfrew Collegiate Institute, has competed in the matches of the Canadian Rifle League during the season of 1914 and has duly qualified as a First class Marksman having made the points shown hereunder. Ottawa September 12th, 1914.

The certificate is signed by the Minister of Militia Sam Hughes, and portrays six "target-like" icons along the bottom. Apparently, this young man scored 52, 63, 63, and 59 for a total of 237, or an average of 59.25. We learn from the web-site http://www.hrharmer.com/sales/2978/HTML/2978_53.html that a similar certificate can sell for \$250.00 to \$500.00 in mint condition. The web-site further explains that the Canada Canadian Rifle League Proof certificate for Marksman's competition was printed on white paper and mounted on manila sample book page. The certificate states "Issued By Authority of the Department of Militia and Defence Canadian Rifle League Class Certificate. This is to certify that the team from the _____ Competing in the _____ Series 193_ Scored points shown hereunder. Vignettes of Canadian Province Arms are shown on the left, the Coat of Arms are on right with lion and unicorn and there is a beaver on the bottom with targets showing be-



neath the beaver.

If you have something in your attic, would you like to share it with Heritage Renfrew?

HOME CHILDREN COMMITTEE REPORT on October 2007 Activities by Dave Lorente. 1. Total number of messages sent in 2007 to end of Oct in response to HC matters: 761

2. The BBC TV series **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** has spawned a useful magazine of the same name on searching British roots. A pricey issue No 1, complete with DVD, became available last week at Chapters. Do ask your library to consider carrying it..

3. The CBC's **VERSION** of the above UK TV show on genealogy began in a week ago last Thursday and the CBC website now carries a photo of the Cdn hockey personality to be featured in a program re his home child ancestor. Now that the secret is out you might as well know that we, at Heritage Renfrew's HCC were asked to advise the producers on the choice of qualified and suitable overseas experts to appear on camera with...you guessed it...**DON CHERRY.**

4. **THE BRITISH NATIONAL ARCHIVES (BNA)** have also asked us for, and we have provided, the names of dozens of HCC contacts in Canada, the USA, Australia and Great Britain who will be invited to write reviews of the upcoming BNA book **New Lives for Old.** (We have also advised the British High Commission what outlets exist in North America for BNA publications. They did not know and we only found out recently about the US based distributor.)

5. **NEW LIVES FOR OLD,** the BNA book on home children due last April has been delayed again. The latest news is that it will be published in the UK in January (2008) and in North America later next spring.

6 **THE FIFTH ANNUAL BRITISH HOME CHILDREN AND DESCENDANTS ASSOCIATION** in NS was hosted by Cecil Verge. HCC supports Cecil who hopes that Governments, 138 years after the fact, will officially recognize 2009 as year of the home child.

DR. BARRY COLDREY'S HOME CHILDREN RESEARCH is now available on CD. The internationally known author of **The Scheme** and other exceptionally well researched and annotated volumes has included other books, articles and photos on mostly Australian but also on British migration. Just send \$35 US or Equivalent Cdn Money Order in Australian funds to Dr Barry Coldrey at Tamaraik Press, PO Box 12792, a Beckett St Post Office, Melbourne Vic 8006, Australia. More details on his website:

www.barrycoldrey.com.

f) **THE FAIRBRIDGE HOME ON VANCOUVER ISLAND** is all about Canadian Home Children with a difference even though they too suffered from Loss and Separation and perhaps a lesser degree of stigma. They were different because they came to Fairbridge's Prince of Wales Training Farm at Douglas on Vancouver Island before and after WW II. (76 came between 1945 and 1948.) They are also refreshingly different because their Old Boys and Girls Association has been operating in Canada for decades, since 19XX, in fact. Pat Skidmore, whose mother was a proud Fairbridge girl edits the excellent Fairbridge Bulletin XXXX and is involved with the Annual Reunions.

g) **HOME BOY ART MONK,** at 96, of Beachburg in the Ottawa Valley is writing his autobiography of his days as a home child, We meet regularly to type copy and discuss layout.

HOME CHILDREN COMMITTEE REPORT on November 2007 Activities. 1. Total number of messages sent in 2007 to end of Nov in response to HC matters: 814

2. We await a response from the CBC producer we assisted re when Don Cherry will

trace his Home Child ancestor's past on the CBC's TV series *Who Do You Think You Are*. Until then watch an interesting 30 mins about famous Canadians on Channel 8, Thurs. nights at 7:30 pm

3. **NEW LIVES FOR OLD**, the British National Archives book on home children which was due last April has been delayed again. The latest news is that it will be published in the UK in January (2008) and in North America later next spring at International Publishers Marketing, 22841 Quicksilver Dr, Sterling, A 21066, USA. Tel 800-758-3756.

4. Check at collectionscanada.ca re cuts in hours and staff at Library and Archives Canada.,

5. British Army WW I records are being made available.

6. Andrew Morrison's Doctoral thesis on Home Children is now available in PDF form free of charge at <http://etheses.nottingham.ac.uk/archive/00000276/>. Free download of PDF is available at <http://www.adobe.com/>.

7. HOME BOY Art MONK has completed four chapters of his autobiography as a home child. We meet regularly to type his copy, discuss layout and travel to photo haunts he mentions.

8. We await delivery of Dr Barry Coldreys's 20 Pounds Sterling DVD of material he has researched on child migrant to the USA(1600's) and to Australia (1869-1967). The CD includes about 500 sheets of newspaper comment on child migration ca 1990's, additions on his several books, on Maltese children to Australia, plus 17th century research on the beginnings of British Child Migration. We will advise in Jan if payment by Canadian Money Order is acceptable without Dr Barry having to pay the normal exchange penalty.

9. Re the proposed Nunney Statue, a British ex-Pat in Canada's west has been in touch to ask permission to intercede on our behalf with General Hillier and others to have the statue erected full size somewhere in Canada.

10. We hope to make a presentation re the statue to the editor of the LEGION Magazine in Ottawa Legion HQ this month.

OTHER: The first intrusion raid into Germany in WW II was a test flight by a single two-seater Canadian-built plywood Mosquito Bomber. Britain called for it to as-

certain if "The Fatherland" could ever be attacked from the air. (It had not been in WW I.) The pilot of the two-seater Canadian Mosquito was Pilot Officer Martin Cybulski of Renfrew. We have reminded the Mercury that this story should be a highlight of the 2008 celebrations of Renfrew's 150-year history. We have written the draft of an article to be used at some time next year and will donate our research and photos to the Canadian War Museum.

RESEARCH:

For those wishing to do research at Heritage Renfrew we have the following aids to help you in your research: The census records for Renfrew County from 1842 to 1901; Census records for Pontiac County from 1842-1901; Census records for Lanark County from 1851-1901; Family histories of local residents which were researched and donated by members; Church records on microfilm, St Francis Xavier Church, Renfrew, Our Lady of Angels Wilno Church; St Patricks Church records which are in binders from 1846 to 1908; Esmonde Roman Catholic Church records up to 1910; We have cemetery recordings for cemeteries local and some for the surrounding area; We have the Ontario Marriage records for Renfrew County done from 1869 to 1890; The books written by Carol McCuaig which have a lot of information on families who settled in this area and who also came into this area from other counties; The Renfrew Mercury from 1871 to 2004 on microfilm; Les and Aldene Church BMD's from the Renfrew Mercury from 1871-1926; You can order in microfilms from the National Archives for research. It saves going down to Ottawa to do the research where the cost of parking is very dear indeed. There is no parking at the National Archives building; There are many reference books some purchased and some donated that are very helpful for research; There is also the IGI series on Microfiche of families all over the world with baptisms, marriages on them; Land Records also on Microfiche.

We have two reader printers to assist you in printing out information from microfilms. Cost of print outs is 25 cents for each copy; We have microfiche readers also as well as microfilm readers without the print out facility; We are open to the public two days a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays and a volunteer should be available to assist you; On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays you can make an appointment with one of the following volunteers and come in and do your research then. Olga Lewis 432-6958 Joyce McBride 646-2375, Martin Munhall 432-2225. We welcome you to our facility and hope to see you there.

CEMETERIES: The following publications and excerpts are available for purchase at Heritage Renfrew:

Castelford Union \$9.00, Goshen Cemetery \$15.00, Sand Point Cemetery \$6.00, Flat Rapids Cemetery \$6.00, St Alexander's Cemetery R.C. \$8.00, Hillcrest Public & Lakeside \$9.50, Our M Precious Blood Cemetery \$8.00, Springtown cemeteries \$8.00, Malloch Road Cemetery \$30.00, White Lake Cemetery \$20.00,

North Horton Cemetery \$12.00, Haley Cemetery, \$10.00, Rosebank Cemetery \$15.00, Admaston Public Cemetery, \$12.00, St Andrew's Cemetery \$10.00 Opeongo Road Cemeteries \$12.00 Mt. St. Patrick Cemeteries \$12.00 plus mailing cost of \$3.50 for first publication and \$1.50 shipping and handling cost, plus mailing cost of \$1.50 each for additional items purchased.

Our esteemed member Carol Bennett McCuaig has a new e-mail address: juniper2@nrtco.net/ . Her website is now at www.nrtco.net/~juniper2/ . She has recently learned that when Sympatico amalgamated with MSN in 2004

they opened a new mail server but she was left on the old one. Because e-mail continued to arrive via the latter she had no idea that many messages were also accumulating in the new box and being deleted as it filled up. As a result many items have been lost. Carol always responds to queries and book orders within 24 hours, so anyone who has tried to contact her without getting a reply is asked to try again, please. Her latest book for genealogists is Founding Families of Beckwith Township, 1816-1846. Many of these early settlers later moved up to Renfrew County, including the townships of Admaston, Bromley, Grattan, Horton, McNab, Ross, Stafford, Westmeath and Wilberforce. The book is priced at \$30.00 plus shipping. She will not be making a profit on this work, but hopes to recover the cost of printing. She is currently researching a new book, Leinster to Lanark and would like to hear from anyone whose ancestors came to Lanark and Renfrew from the Irish counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Wicklow.

Upcoming Events

8 January 2008, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, Monthly Meeting

5 February 2008, 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM - Heritage Renfrew Annual General Meeting

18 February 2008, Heritage Renfrew Luncheon

2008 - 150th Anniversary of the Corporation of the Town of Renfrew

Heritage Renfrew Executive Appointments and Active Members 2007

Executive

President Dean Black 613-432-4354, dcblack@sympatico.ca

Past-President Audrey Green 613-432-4354

Vice-President - Vacant

Treasurer -

Secretary Darlene Mask 613-432-6242

Membership Chair Joyce and Clarence McBride 613-646-2375

Home Children -Vacant

Research Darlene Mask 613-432-6242

Newsletter Publishing Editor Dean Black, 433-3305 dcblack@sympatico.ca

Active Directors

Vaughn/ Grace Simmons 613-432-2376, Stella Laviolette 613-432-7722,

Irene Rekowski 613-432-3423, Pat Patterson, Dave Lorente, Jim MacGregor

Active Members of the Past Presidents Advisory Committee

Jim MacGregor, Vaughan Simmons, Marjorie Lindsay, Dave Lorente

Honorary Directors

Carol McCuaig, Helen Clark, Don Campbell

Heritage Renfrew Meetings

Won't you join us? Heritage Renfrew meets on the first Tuesday of each month, July and August excepted, at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room at the Renfrew Archives, 770 Gibbons Road, National Archives of Canada facility (off O'Brien Road). You will be a welcomed addition to our team of Renfrew historians and genealogists. Share with us your research interests. We will be pleased to include your interests in our quarterly* newsletter. Share stories and questions, share successful research experiences and advice. The accumulated experience amongst members of Heritage Renfrew is remarkable. See you soon?

Membership Expiration Notification: Subscribe to Opeongo Lines for the new year! Subscriptions for the calendar year are \$15.00 (\$20.00 outside of Canada). With subscription comes membership and membership gives you: the latest Heritage Renfrew news updates in Opeongo Lines, access to microfilm & microfiche collections held at Heritage Renfrew, including Census Records, Local newspapers (Renfrew Mercury, Renfrew Advance and the Renfrew Weekender), Land records, Birth, marriage & Death excerpts from local papers and other sources, general information, maps, and Cemetery transcripts & reference books.

