



# Anglo-Celtic Roots

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*Finding 21 Children: Simple—Not So Simple!*

*Postcards from Around the World—Part III*

*We Shall Remember Them*

*Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens*



25  
years

—1994–2019—

## *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

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### *Cover Illustration:*

Emily Jane Hosken

Source: Jane Down's collection

## *From the Editor:*

A letter from Jane Down's great-granddaughter stated that she was one of 21 children. In this award-winning article, Jane recounts how she attempted to find all 21 of her great-great-grandparents' children—a task that proved harder than she first thought. We are pleased to bring you this article which won Jane the *Alan Neame Award* in 2017 from the Kent Family History Society.

Barbara Tose continues her travels with her grandfather, Tom Tose. Barbara uses the crew agreement for this voyage to determine when he sent his postcards to his sweetheart, Olive Burdick. Tom takes us from Somerset, England to Philadelphia and Florida, U.S.A., Genoa, Italy, and Alicante and Huelva, Spain. Some cards give us a view of those places, but some are meant just for "Ollie".

Heather Carmody brings us the life of Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens in *We Shall Remember Them*. Heather provides details of Stephens' life and family before the war then shows us the dangers of life in the Machine Gun Corps on the Western Front.



Barbara Tose

## From the President



June—spring is nearly done and summer approaches. Another BIFHSGO year ends and our summer break begins. Over the past season, we've had ten

great talks from a wide range of speakers, ten interesting and inspiring Before BIFHSGO presentations and ten great chances to meet fellow members at the Discovery tables. There was also our fabulous annual conference and this journal with great contributions from our members. And all of this was brought to you by an active group of dedicated volunteers. My thanks to all our volunteers.

I would particularly like to thank two Board members who have contributed a tremendous amount during their tenure on the Board. Andrea Harding has provided us with a fantastic program for the last three years *and* set up next year's program for her successor. Each speaker has been interesting to listen to and provided valuable information. And as a lead organizer of the 2018 Ulster Historical Foundation Day, she was key to its success. Lynda Gibson has been the Director of Research and Projects for the last two years. She successfully shepherded the long-standing Middlemore Home Children

project to its completion. She has been involved on all levels with the No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station biographies and has helped members develop, continue or complete several other research projects.

Planning for Conference 2019, 27-29 September, is well underway. The program this year will take a break from the usual country focus and, instead, will consider genealogy's *Past, Present and Future*. I, for one, am looking forward to the presentations by Cyndi Ingle, Blaine Bettinger, Audrey Collins, Nancy Loe, Ken McKinlay and Rick Roberts, covering a wide range of topics. Don't miss out—register early, if you haven't already done so.

Summer is the time to take a well-deserved break from BIFHSGO work (except for the Conference Committee) and get back to the family research that has been sitting on the back burner—or perhaps not, if your summer plans include a beer by the lake. Whatever your form of entertainment this summer, I hope it exceeds your expectations and you enjoy the next three months.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Duncan Monkhouse'.

Duncan Monkhouse

## Family History Research

# Finding 21 Children: Simple—Not So Simple!©



BY JANE L. DOWN

*A retired conservation scientist, Jane is an avid family historian. She was the Program Director for BIFHSGO for eight years and has co-chaired several genealogy conferences, delivered genealogy talks, overseen an indexing project, and written a few books and journal articles. Jane became interested in genealogy in 1971 and has been researching her Ontario and English roots ever since. This article won the Kent Family History Society Alan Neame Award in 2017 and was published in their Journal in December 2018. It is reprinted here with permission from the society.*

### Introduction

Have you ever attacked a genealogy problem and thought “Oh, this is going to be simple!” only to find out that the problem is much more difficult than you thought? That is what happened to me when I tried to find the siblings of my maternal grandmother’s adoptive mother.

My maternal grandmother, Emily Jane Bignell, née Hosken, known to us as Nanny (Figure 1), was born in April 1893 in Dover, Kent. She was taken by the midwife, Harriet Ann Austen, raised by her and never told about her biological family.<sup>1</sup> My grandmother didn’t find out that she had been adopted until 1952 when she sent away for her birth certificate so that she could visit the USA. Up until that point, she had never had a birth certificate. The

birth certificate came back with names of parents that she did not recognize, Frederick George and Elizabeth Hosken.<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth’s maiden name was Baldock.

Harriet Ann had died in 1907, so in 1952 Nanny wrote to Harriet Ann’s only living sister, Annie Rowland, to find out if she could shed some light on her parentage. I have the letter that Aunt Annie wrote back.<sup>3</sup> In it, she told Nanny that Harriet Ann had attended her biological mother at her confinement. The mother was not well (her death was implied by the letter) so Harriet Ann took my grandmother and raised her as her own. When Harriet Ann died in 1907, my grandmother went to live with Harriet Ann’s other sister, Emily Jane Smith, née Austen.



**Figure 1: Emily Jane Bignell, née Hosken**  
Source: Author's collection

Nanny never seemed to have questioned having a different surname from Harriet Ann—I think Nanny thought she was a child from a former marriage. But when Nanny read Aunt Annie's letter, she told my mother that things started to make a bit more sense. Curiously, she never felt compelled to find her biological family. She felt the Austen family had treated her "like their own" and she was happy with that.

But when I heard this tale in 1971, I could not rest until I found out everything I could about Nanny's biological family and her adoptive one, too. It is this birth story that launched me into my obsession with genealogy.

In Aunt Annie's letter, she also wrote, "No there is [sic] not many of us left now. I am the last of our family out of 21 children."

Over the years, I discovered that Nanny's biological mother did not die in childbirth but went on to have more children after Nanny was born.<sup>4</sup> I kept wondering why the Hosken family would give a child to Harriet Ann. Did they know her? Was she related to them? In 1992, in a quest to find out if they might be related, I decided to find all of the 21 Austen children and see if any of them had married a Hosken or were related in some way. In the "old days," childless relatives sometimes took younger cousins, nieces or nephews and raised them to unburden the biological family who had more children than they could care for or support. At the time of Nanny's birth, Harriet Ann was childless and a widow.<sup>5</sup>

So, I thought, how difficult could this be? Just find the 21 children, find who they married and see if there was a connection. It was just another step in my long investigation of this family. Of course, 25 years ago, when I started this search, online records or even indexed records were not as plentiful as nowadays, so the search progressed slowly. As more and more databases of records came online, it made the search easier. When I started, I knew only that

there were three Austen sisters: Harriet Ann, Emily Jane and Annie.

### **Information from Lucy Finch**

One of the first things I did was write to Lucy Finch, née Smith. She and her sister, Lillian, were the only Smith children still living in 1992. Lucy was 90 and Lil was in a nursing home. I asked Lucy if she knew the names of her aunts and uncles on her mother's side. She wrote back and said she knew only her mother, Emily Jane Smith, "Aunt Annie [Rowland] and Charlotte and Uncle Ted who lived in Dover."<sup>6</sup> So that gave me two more children to look for in my searches—Charlotte and Ted.

### **Birth Records for Harriett Ann and Annie**

Next, I wanted to find the names of Harriett Ann's parents, so I needed her birth certificate or baptismal record. I did not know when she was born or where, but I did know that Harriett Ann died in 1907 and that she had married a Robert West when Nanny was young.<sup>7</sup> So I knew her name to be Harriett Ann West when she died. I was able to find her death registration in the English death indexes at the Family History Centre (FHC), and I sent away for her death certificate.<sup>8</sup> When it arrived, it said she was 53 years old at death, so she was born about 1854. Way back in 1992, I did search the FHC English indexes manually for Harriett Ann's birth

registration from 1853 to 1855 but did not find it. Many years later, when the indexes came online, I did find it in 1858<sup>9</sup>—I just had not searched far enough.

In 1995, the 1881 census for England was indexed and made available at the FHC, and I was able to find Harriett Ann with her brother, James, and sister, Annie E. (Aunt Annie), in Minster, Kent.<sup>10</sup> I knew the family had lived in the Minster area, so I thought this family was likely the right one. The parents were Edward and Charlotte Austen. The census indicated that Annie was one month old and born in Minster. I thought finding her birth certificate would be easier than finding Harriett Ann's. So, I found Annie's birth registration in the indexes at the FHC and sent away for her birth certificate. When it came back, it gave her parents as Edward Austen and Charlotte Sidders.<sup>11</sup>

### **Adding Children Using Census Records**

Knowing the parents' names and as more census records became available online, over the years I was able to add to the list of children for this family. I found John (born about 1853), William (1855), George (1857/1858), Harriet A. (1859/1860), Mary A. (1861), Charlotte A. (1862), Edward W. (1855), Emily J. (1867), James H. (1869) and Annie Elizabeth

(1881).<sup>12</sup> That totalled 10 children. I was still missing 11.

## **Adding Children Using Parish Records**

The census records indicated that Edward, Charlotte and some of the children were born in Westbere, Fordwich and Minster, Kent. So, I ordered those church records at the FHC and confirmed baptisms for John, William Thomas, George Henry, Harriett Ann, Edwin Walter, Emily Jane, James Henry, Philip Isaac and Annie Elizabeth.<sup>13</sup> This added one more child, Philip Isaac, for a total of 11 children. I also confirmed baptisms for parents Edward in 1818 (son of William and Elizabeth)<sup>14</sup> and Charlotte in 1835 (daughter of Aaron and Mary Scissors, Scissors being considered a variant of Sidders).<sup>15</sup>

## **FreeBMD Searches**

When *FreeBMD* came online, I searched it for hours trying to figure out whether I could identify more children, but there were just too many Austen entries, especially if you considered all the surname variants (Austin, Ashdown, Aston, etc.). There were too many possibilities to order birth certificates—it would have been too expensive. I also used *FreeBMD* to try to figure out whether there might be deaths at the same time as some of the births of the known children. This might account for multiple births, in that one child survived to be

baptized while the others did not. I could not identify any strong possibilities—that is, strong enough to order a certificate.

## **Kent Parish Records on FindMyPast**

Then *FindMyPast* (*FMP*) added the Kent church records and I was busy for hours and hours confirming baptisms of known children<sup>16</sup> and trying to see whether I could identify more children who might have been missed in the census because they were born and died in the intervening years between censuses. I have searched and searched that database but can find no other children of Edward and Charlotte. I also searched for burial records for Austen children on *FMP*. There were many, but the parents' names were not given so it was very difficult to know whether they belonged to Edward and Charlotte.

## **Two Marriages for Edward or Charlotte?**

Then one day, while at the FHC, I discussed my problem of finding/not finding my 21 children with the fellow on duty. He asked whether I had considered a second marriage for either Edward or Charlotte. I had not considered that. So, I ordered Edward and Charlotte's marriage certificate to see what their marital status was when they married.<sup>17</sup> Edward was a bachelor and Charlotte Sidders was a spinster—so neither was a widow or widower.



Charlotte would have been 17 when she married and Edward 34. The likely candidate for a former marriage would have been Edward, but he was supposedly a bachelor, as mentioned above. Further, I found Charlotte Austen in the 1891<sup>12</sup>, 1901<sup>18</sup> and 1911<sup>19</sup> censuses, and she was always a widow. So, she did not remarry after Edward died.

### **Adding Children Using GRO Birth Database**

So, try as I might, I was never able to find more than 11 of their children, a far cry from 21. Then, in July 2017, I had the brilliant idea to check the new General Registry Office (GRO) birth database. This database allows one to search for births and gives the mother's maiden name, so you can be more certain whether the person is the one you seek. I searched this database from 1852 to 1890 and, not only was I able to find birth registrations for 10 of the 11 children, but I found four more.<sup>20</sup> The children were registered with the mother's maiden name of Sidders (there were none for Scissors or other variants). I could not find a birth registration for William Thomas, but I do have his baptismal record, so I am fairly certain that he is a child of Edward and Charlotte.

The four new children that I found—Frederick (1872), female (1875), female (1876), and Thomas

(1877)—seemed to have died as infants.<sup>21</sup> The two females were not even named. I could find no church burial (except for Frederick<sup>22</sup>) or baptismal records for these four. So, without the GRO birth database, I would never have identified these children.

But this brought the number of children to only 15. I was still missing six children.

### **Back to Considering Two Marriages for Edward**

I then spent a considerable amount of time playing with the idea that Edward did have a second family before he married Charlotte, even though he said he was a bachelor when he married her. The first wife would have died before 1852 when Edward married Charlotte, and all the children would have either died or been old enough to be on their own, as they did not appear in any census with Edward and Charlotte.

I surmised that, if Edward was born in 1818, then perhaps this first marriage occurred around 1838 to 1843. I looked for marriages for any Edward Austen on *FMP* in Kent around that time frame and found several, along with children for each marriage. As I worked through each of the Edwards, I knew that if the Edward I was working on continued to have children beyond 1852 then he could not be *my* Edward, as *my* Edward had married Charlotte in 1852. I also checked the 1861

census to see if the various Edwards were with their families. If they were, then I knew it was not *my* Edward—he was with Charlotte in 1861.

I worked through several families and then came upon one possibility. This Edward Austen married a Maria Henniker in 1842 and proceeded to have five children (not six!) from 1843 to 1851.<sup>23</sup> I could find no more children for them after that and I could not find them in the 1861 census for England, Canada or the US. There were two problems with this family: I could not find a death for a Maria Austen, and many of the children from this family had the same names as the children of Edward and Charlotte. Wouldn't Charlotte have given her children different names? Because of these peculiarities, I am not sure whether this is a first family for *my* Edward or not. And even if it belonged to my Edward, there were only five children not six. I eventually gave up on this avenue of investigation.

### **Why Only 15 Children, Not 21?**

So, I had found only 15 children and was missing six. Why did Aunt Annie say she was the last of 21 children if there were not 21 children? I surmised the following seven possible scenarios to explain this:

1. Aunt Annie lied—there were not 21 children, there were only 15.

2. Aunt Annie counted her brothers and sisters as well as their spouses. This number would actually be 24 if Aunt Annie had counted everyone, or less if she did not know about some of the infant deaths. So, I am not sure whether this scenario explains Aunt Annie's statement of 21 children or not.

3. Edward lied on his marriage certificate to Charlotte. He really was a widower and Maria—or some other woman whom I cannot identify—was his first wife who died. Their younger children also died and so are not seen on any later census records with Edward and Charlotte.

4. Charlotte and Edward took in foster children, and Aunt Annie counted these in the 21. I am not sure how likely this scenario is, as no foster child was found in any of their census returns. If they took in six foster children over the years, surely some of them would have shown up on their census returns.

5. Aunt Annie counted miscarriages that her mother had, which would not have been recorded in any database of births, baptisms or burials. Did Charlotte have six miscarriages or fewer miscarriages of twins or triplets?

6. Edward and Charlotte did not register some of the children who died shortly after birth or

were stillborn. We know William Thomas was not registered, so maybe others were not registered as well.

7. And finally, another scenario that I have yet to discover.

I think the most likely scenarios to explain the discrepancy are numbers 5 and 6. Even though I am not sure I will ever know the true answer, I will never stop looking for all 21.

**Figure 2: Summary of Known Children of Edward and Charlotte Austen**

Child's Name	Birth Year / Place	Marriage / Year / Place	Death Year / Place
John	1853 Westbere	Did not marry – joined Army 1869 <sup>24</sup>	1874 Jamaica
William Thomas	1855 Westbere	Margaret Kehoe about 1879 Canada <sup>25</sup>	1916 Canada <sup>26</sup>
George Henry	1857 Westbere	Jane Elizabeth Knight 1883 Canterbury <sup>27</sup>	?
Harriett Ann	1858 Westbere	1. William Thomas 1888 Colchester, Essex 2. Robert West 1903 Canterbury	1907 Heme Bay
Mary Ann	1861 Canterbury	-	1865 Bridge District <sup>28</sup>
Charlotte Anna	1863 Sturry	Harry Hearn 1882 Minster? <sup>29</sup>	?
Edward/Edwin Walter	1864 Fordwich	Mary Jane Hammond 1884 Buckland <sup>30</sup>	?
Emily Jane	1866 Fordwich	William Charles Smith 1887 Minster <sup>31</sup>	?
James Henry	1869 Fordwich	Annie Fields 1889 Minster <sup>32</sup>	1935 Canada <sup>33</sup>
Philip Isaac	1871 Fordwich	-	1871 Bridge District <sup>34</sup>
Frederick	1872 Barham	-	1873 Thanet District
Female	1875 Sturry	-	1875 Thanet District
Female	1876 Ramsgate	-	1876 Thanet District
Thomas	1877 Minster	-	1877 Thanet District
Anne Elizabeth	1881 Minster	Fred Rowland <sup>35</sup>	?

## Checking for Connections Between the Families

I was not able to identify all of the 21 children, but I decided to check the nine who survived to adulthood (Figure 2) to see whether there was any relationship between them or their spouses to the Hosken/Baldock families (which included all of Nanny's biological parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles).

Unfortunately, I could not identify any relationship between the biological families and the Austen family through marriage.

I then decided to investigate a geographical connection. From the census, baptismal, birth and burial records that I collected, I examined all the parishes where the Austen/Hosken/Baldock families lived to see whether any overlapped. Three parishes overlapped. First, Nanny's biological maternal grandmother (Mary Baldock Groombridge Keeler, née Vant) lived in Barham from 1881 to 1891,<sup>36</sup> as did Edward and Charlotte Austen in 1872. However, the timeframe was off by nine years, so the families likely did not cross paths in Barham. Second, Nanny's same biological maternal grandmother,<sup>37</sup> and Edward and Charlotte both lived in Canterbury Northgate in 1861 on streets not too far apart. Could the families have known each other?

Third, I looked at Dover, Nanny's birthplace. I remembered Lucy's

letter said her Uncle Ted lived in Dover. Uncle Ted had to be Edward/Edwin Walter Austen. I could not find him in the 1891 census for Dover (or anywhere), but I did find him in the 1901 and 1911 censuses for Dover.<sup>38</sup> All his children were born in Dover from 1887 to 1901, so he was likely there in 1893 when Nanny was born. In 1901, his occupation was "iron foundry furnace maker," and in 1911 it was "Admiralty labourer, government dockyard." In the 1891 census<sup>39</sup> and on Nanny's birth certificate, Nanny's biological father, Frederick George Hosken, was living in Dover and listed as a "mariner." So, maybe Edward/Edwin and Frederick both had a connection to the dockyards. Were they friends? Did Harriett Ann come to Dover to visit her brother in 1893 and agree to help at the birth of his friend's daughter (i.e., my grandmother)?

I returned to Aunt Annie's letter and reread the part about my grandmother's parentage. She wrote, "Now dear about your parentage. The name that the Registrar sent to you was correct. For my sister who you always knew as your mother, adopted you from birth. My sister attended your mother at the confinement and she was so ill, not expected to live. I do not know if she did die. So my sister took you and brought you up as her own. My mother and I went to Dover to see my sister and I sat on a chair and

something moved and cried and that was you 4 days old. I sat on you. I was 12 years old.” Was Harriett Ann living on her own in Dover? Was she living with her brother? Or was she just visiting? I am not sure. I cannot find her in the 1891 or 1901 censuses, which would have helped to shed light on these questions.

So, was Harriett Ann just the local Dover midwife, or was she a friend who helped at the confinement? “Midwife” was not listed as her occupation in the 1881 census, and she was a “tailoress” on her first marriage certificate in 1888.<sup>40</sup> Perhaps she offered to take Nanny for a short period of time because the mother was sick, and things were so bad in the Hosken family that they were never able to take Nanny back. Certainly, it seems from later census and burial records that other Hosken children died, were sent to live with grandparents or were admitted to an industrial school.<sup>41</sup> The 1898 admission records for the industrial school indicate that the mother had abandoned the family.<sup>42</sup>

## Final Thoughts

In conclusion, my perceived simple problem of finding 21 children turned out not to be so simple after all. I found only 15, and I found only geographical, not marital, connections between the adoptive and biological families. I still have many

questions—but isn’t that just like genealogy?!

© Jane Down 2019

## Reference Notes

- <sup>1</sup> For consistency, I have spelled the surnames “Austen” and “Hosken” throughout. In the records examined, I have encountered variants such as Austin, Hoskin and Hoskins.
- <sup>2</sup> Birth Certificate of Emily Jane Maud Hosken, 7 April 1893, St Mary, Dover, parents Frederick George Hosken and Elizabeth Baldock. General Registry Office reference: BB033545, 1893, J Qtr, Dover, Vol. 02A, p. 978.
- <sup>3</sup> Letter to Emily Jane Bignell, née Hosken, from Annie Rowland, née Austen, 27 August 1952; in possession of Jane Down.
- <sup>4</sup> Birth Certificate of Henry Albert Hosken, 14 July 1894, St Mary, Dover. General Registry Office reference: BXBZ 271577, 1894, S Qtr, Dover, Vol. 02A, p. 950. Birth Certificate of Mary Agnes Violet Hosken, 27 March 1896, St Mary, Dover. General Registry Office reference: BXBZ 271587, 1896, J Qtr, Dover, Vol. 02A, p. 1005.
- <sup>5</sup> Marriage Certificate of Harriett Ann Thomas (widow, father Edward Austin, deceased) and Robert West, 3 November 1903, Holy Cross, Canterbury. General Registry Office reference: MXD 504390, 1903, D Qtr, Canterbury, Vol. 2A, p. 1900. I am not sure when Harriett Ann was widowed, as I cannot find the death information for her first husband. I think she was widowed before my grandmother was born because her first husband was never mentioned in any of my grandmother’s family stories.

- <sup>6</sup> Letter to Jane Down from Lucy Finch, née Smith, 24 March 1992; in possession of Jane Down.
- <sup>7</sup> Information from Emily Jane Bignell, née Hosken.
- <sup>8</sup> Death Certificate of Harriett Ann West, 15 July 1907, Herne Bay. General Registry Office reference: DXZ 077405, 1907, S Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 467.
- <sup>9</sup> Birth Registration of Harriett Ann Austin, 1858, D Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 526; from General Registry Office, <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/Login.asp>, accessed 9 August 2017.
- <sup>10</sup> Edward Austin household, 1881 census of England, Minster in Thanet, piece 0983, folio 14, p. 21; Family History Library Film 1341233, Public Records Office reference RG11.
- <sup>11</sup> Birth Certificate of Anne Elizabeth Austen, 3 March 1881, Minster in Thanet. General Registry Office reference: BXBY 131511, 1881, M Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 917.
- <sup>12</sup> Edward Austen household, 1861 census of England, Canterbury, piece 519, folio 118, p. 14, household 89; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 9 August 2017. Edward Austin household, 1871 census of England, Fordwich, Bridge, piece 966, folio 86, p. 8; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 23 July 2013. Charlotte Austin household, 1891 census for England, Minster in Thanet, piece 725, folio 10, p. 14; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 24 February 2014.
- <sup>13</sup> Baptisms for Austen children: John (30 April 1853 Westbere), William Thomas (22 March 1854 Westbere), George Henry (7 February 1857 Westbere), Harriett Ann (3 December 1858 Westbere), Edwin Walter (17 November 1864 Fordwich), Emily Jane (baptized Mary Ann Jane, 3 November 1866 Fordwich), James Henry (3 April 1869 Fordwich), Philip Isaac (10 July 1870 Fordwich) and Annie Elizabeth (16 March 1881 Minster); from Westbere, Fordwich and Minster Parish Church Baptism Records, Fiche 6342086, 6342074 and 6341514 at the Family History Library, 8 February 2002.
- <sup>14</sup> Baptism of Edward Austen, 19 July 1818, Westbere; from Westbere, Kent Parish Church Records, Fiche 6342086, at the Family History Library, 8 February 2002.
- <sup>15</sup> Baptism of Charlotte Scissors, 25 June 1835, Westbere; from Westbere, Kent Parish Church Records, Fiche 6342086, at the Family History Library, 8 February 2002.
- <sup>16</sup> Baptisms for Mary Ann Austen (7 February 1861 Canterbury, Northgate) and Charlotte Anne Austen (4 February 1863 Sturry) were added; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 20 February 2014.
- <sup>17</sup> Marriage Certificate for Edmund Austen and Charlotte Sidders, 25 July 1852, Sturry, Kent. General Registry Office reference: 1852, S Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 805.
- <sup>18</sup> Charlotte Austen household, 1901 census for England, Folkestone, Kent, piece 846, folio 118, p. 32; from

*FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 9 August 2017.

- <sup>19</sup> Charlotte Austin in Susanah Hook household, 1911 census for England, Folkestone, Kent, piece 4645; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 23 February 2014.
- <sup>20</sup> Birth Registrations for Austen Children: John (1853, J Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 475), George Henry (1857, M Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 551), Harriett Ann (1858, D Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 526), Mary Ann (1861, M Qtr, Canterbury, Vol. 02A, p. 578), Charlotte Anna (1863, M Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 633), Edward Walter (1864, D Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 595), Emily Jane (1866, D Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 654), James Henry (1869, M Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 728), Philip Isaac (1871, S Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 669), Frederick (28 July 1872, Barham, BXCH 289910, GRO: 1872, S Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 697), female (3 July 1875, Sturry, BXCH 289888, GRO: 1875, S Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 733), female (15 May 1876, Ramsgate, BXCH 289953, GRO: 1876, J Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 870), Thomas (26 April 1877, Minister, BXCH 289887, GRO: 1877, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 816), and Anne Elizabeth (3 March 1881, Minister, BXBY 141511, GRO: 1881, M Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 917); from General Registry Office, <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/Login.asp>, accessed July 2017.
- <sup>21</sup> Death Registrations for: Charles Frederick Austen (1873, S Qtr, Blean, Vol. 02A, p. 375, age 1), female Austin (1875, D Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 503, age 0), female Austin (1876, M Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p. 487, age 0), and Thomas Austin (1877, J Qtr, Thanet, Vol. 02A, p.486, age 0); from General Registry Office, <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/Login.asp>, accessed 9 August 2017.
- <sup>22</sup> Burial for Charles Frederick Austen, 29 July 1873, Sturry, 1 year old; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 9 August 2017.
- <sup>23</sup> Marriage of Edward Austen and Maria Henniker, 17 April 1842, Westwell, Kent and Baptisms for Children of Edward and Maria Austen: William (17 February 1843, Westwell), John (8 June 1845, Westwell), Edward (3 January 1847, Westwell), Thomas (31 December 1848, Westwell) and George (29 June 1851, Westwell); from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 19 July 2017.
- <sup>24</sup> I could not find a marriage for John Austen or a burial record in Kent that seemed right. Fellow Austen researcher, Jim Feetham, kindly directed me to the following military records for John and his brother, William Thomas. John Austin, Military Service, 97th Foot Soldiers (joined 29 July 1869 at Dover, born Westbere, Kent, Church of England, age 18, height 5' 6¾", Labourer, Died 5 July 1874 Jamaica, Remittent Fever) and William Austin, Military Service, 97th Foot Soldiers (joined 21 May 1871 at Dover, born Canterbury, Kent, Church of England, age 17, 5' 5½"; Farm Servant, Discharged 6 July 1878); from The National Archives, WO25, 97 Foot, piece 542C; on *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), Canadian, British Regimental Registers of Service, 1756–1900, accessed 22 August 2017.

- <sup>25</sup> Estimate from Jim Feetham, fellow Austen researcher, 26 February 2014. To date, a record of this marriage has not been found.
- <sup>26</sup> Death Registration for William T. Austin, 24 February 1916, Halifax, Halifax County, Book 21, p. 66, number 391; from Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics, <https://www.novascotiagenalogy.com/ItemView.aspx?ImageFile=21-66&Event=death&ID=94257>, accessed 22 August 2017.
- <sup>27</sup> Marriage Banns for George Austin and Jane Elizabeth Knight, 13, 20, 27 April 1883, Sturry; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 31 July 2017.
- <sup>28</sup> Death Registration for Mary Ann Austen, 1865, J Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 364, age 4; from General Registry Office, <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/Login.asp>, accessed 11 August 2017.
- <sup>29</sup> Marriage Banns for Charlotte Austin and Harry Hearn, 5, 13, 19 February 1882, Minster in Thanet; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 11 August 2017. No actual marriage record, other than these Banns, could be found for this couple, so I am not sure whether Charlotte married Harry. There were a few other possible marriages for Charlotte Austen in Kent from 1882 to 1884, but when I located the families in the 1891 or 1901 census (or failed to locate them, sometimes), the birthplace for Charlotte was wrong (i.e., not Sturry).
- <sup>30</sup> Marriage of Edward Walter Austin, 20, and Mary Jane Hammond, 20, 13 April 1884, Buckland (near Dover), father of groom, Edward; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 13 August 2017.
- <sup>31</sup> Marriage of Emily Jane Austin, 22, and William Charles Smith, 23, 21 November 1887, Minster in Thanet, father of bride, Edward; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 12 August 2017.
- <sup>32</sup> Marriage of James Henry Austin, 20, and Annie Fields, 23, 21 September 1889, Minster in Thanet, father of groom, Edward; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 3 January 2014.
- <sup>33</sup> Death Registration of James Henry Austin, 15 November 1935, Armstrong, British Columbia, Canada. Birth date 12 March 1870, England. Father Edward Austin. Mother Charlotte Anna Scissors; from Family Search, <https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/FL2N-84W>, accessed 26 February 2014.
- <sup>34</sup> Death Registration of Philip Isaac Austen, 1871, S Qtr, Bridge, Vol. 02A, p. 395, age 0; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 28 February 2014.
- <sup>35</sup> Information from my mother, Gladys Down, née Bignell, 1971. Also, Aunt Annie's name was "Mrs Rowland" on the envelope sent to my grandmother in 1952 (see source 3). I cannot find the marriage record for Annie Austen and Fred Rowland.
- <sup>36</sup> Mary Keeler, in Stephen Keeler household, 1881 census of England, Barham, piece 955, folio 75, p. 21; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 27 November 2016. Mary Keeler, in Stephen Keeler household,



- 1891 census of England, Barham, piece 705, folio 61, p. 15; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 27 November 2016.
- <sup>37</sup> Mary Baldock household, 1861 census of England, Canterbury St Mary's Northgate, piece 519, folio 104, p. 26; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 27 November 2016. Mary Groombridge in Edward Barnes household, 1871 census of England, Canterbury St Paul Northgate, piece 967, folio 11, p. 16; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 27 November 2016.
- <sup>38</sup> Edward W. Austin household, 1901 census of England, Dover, piece 838, folio 75, p. 34; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 13 August 2017. Edward Austin household, 1911 census of England, Dover, piece 4612, household 103; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 13 August 2017.
- <sup>39</sup> Frederick Hosken household, 1891 census of England, Dover, piece 743, folio 81, p. 19; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 21 August 2017.
- <sup>40</sup> Marriage Certificate of Harriett Ann Austin and William Thomas, 27 March 1888, Colchester, Essex. General Registry Office reference: 1888, M Qtr, Colchester, Vol. 04A, p. 492.
- <sup>41</sup> Florence Hosken (sister to Emily Jane Hosken), in Frederick Hosken (grandfather) household, age 11, 1901 census of England, Dover, St Mary, piece 841, folio 132, p. 8, household 51; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 8 August 2017. Burial Henry Albert Hosken (brother to Emily Jane Hosken), 12 April 1898, Dover, St Mary the Virgin, age 3; from *FindMyPast*, [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk), accessed 8 August 2017. John Hosken (brother to Emily Jane Hosken), in Kent County Industrial School, age 10, 1901 census of England, Kingsnorth, St Michael, piece 784, folio 74, p. 3, household 1; from *Ancestry*, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca), accessed 8 August 2017.
- <sup>42</sup> Admission Record for John Hoskin (906/112) and Frederick George Hoskin (905/183) to the Kent County Industrial School (Standhope), C/ST/1/4. 1898–1902, indicated that: John was 7, Frederick was 10, they were both admitted 26 February 1898, they were in non-compliance with school attendance and the mother had left the home. Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone. Records kindly supplied, with thanks, by Valerie Ellmore, née Hosken, granddaughter of John Hosken.

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# Postcards from Around the World: Part III<sup>©</sup>



BY BARBARA TOSE

*In the Summer and Fall 2018 issues of ACR Barbara wrote about the postcards her grandfather, Tom Tose, sent his sweetheart, Olive Burdick Trott (later his wife), while travelling worldwide on a merchant ship. Part 3 continues with his journeys on the Gloriana and the postcards he sent.*

At the end of my last article in the Fall 2018 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, Tom's ship, the *Gloriana* had returned from Archangel to Portishead, near Bristol, where Tom and the rest of the crew were discharged. Tom had eight days off before his next voyage. Although I have no proof, I presume he would have taken that time to visit his sisters and other family members in Whitby and Stockton-on-Tees, in northeast England.

Tom signed on to his next agreement in Portishead on 16 August 1912<sup>1</sup> and was expected on board the *Gloriana* at 8 a.m. on 17 August. In addition to the master and first mate Tom, also signing on the same day and time were the second mate, steward, cook, mess steward, carpenter, boatswain, first and second engineers and the donkeyman. The remainder of the crew, consisting of the third engineer, able seamen and firemen/trimmers, arrived the next day, making a total crew of 23, plus two apprentices aged 20 and 18.

This agreement was very similar to the last one: not to exceed more than one year with travel to ports between 75°N and 60°S, commencing at Portishead and headed for Portland (whether Dorset, Maine or Oregon, the agreement does not say, though Dorset is the most likely) via the Bristol Channel and Fowey, Cornwall.

There is a lot of fine print on a crew agreement, most of it standard wording to the seamen who worked the ships regularly, no doubt much like our "terms and conditions" on computer programs and apps. These agreements outlined many things, from where the ship would go, to which Board of Trade Regulations would apply, regulations for maintaining discipline and penalties for offences. It stated: "The crew agree to conduct themselves in an orderly, faithful, honest, and sober manner"—which may be why all the letters of recommendation I have for my grandfather mention his sobriety.

Throughout this period it is difficult to tell exactly when Tom sent his postcards, as most were sent in envelopes which are long gone, and are without postal cancellation stamps. So, the crew agreement becomes more useful in determining when the postcards were likely sent.

The first postcard in this series pictures a romantic couple sitting having tea. On the back Tom writes, “do you care for tea, Ollie. People at home, I think, would far sooner be minus food than that delicacy. Coffee & Cocoa is not much in demand.”

Another card in this series shows houses in the village of Portbury, Somerset, which leads me to believe that he sent this group of cards from Portishead before he left port.

The crew agreement papers show that their first stop was Bristol on 20 August, followed by Newport on the 21st. They reached Fowey on 3 September. From there they headed across the Atlantic to Philadelphia, arriving on 23 September. They left Philadelphia on 3 October leaving behind sailor Thomas Charning [my best guess at his surname] in hos-

pital with a fractured elbow. In his place, Julian Marian was signed on before leaving the port. There are no identifiable postcards for these ports and no mention in the agreement as to what cargo they were carrying.



**Figure 1: Loading Lumber for Export, Pensacola Harbor, Fla.**

Source: All postcards from the author's collection

Their next stop was Pensacola, Florida and from here Tom sends at least one postcard showing lumber in the harbour (Figure 1). Tom writes,

This is a sample of some of our cargo. 2ft square some of these logs & 60 ft long All of it is pitch pine lumber Regret I forgot to enclose Sarahs cards [Tom's older sister Sarah] as mentioned in my letter. You see Ollie that is the worst part of being in love. One gets kind of Wandering some times. Be good & drop a word at Kirk on our behalf. Fondest, you know. Tom

They were in Pensacola for eight days, arriving on 14 October and departing on the 22nd. It is noted in

the agreement papers that J. Marian, the sailor who signed on in Philadelphia, has been left behind “on the ground of desertion.” I suppose the loss of wages and any items left on board might be worth a “free” trip from Philadelphia to Pensacola, though there could be any number of reasons why Marian didn’t show up for duty. James Clark was signed on in Marian’s place but failed to join the ship when expected. So Tom Henderson was signed on at the last minute.

The next port of call was Genoa, Italy. According to the crew agreement, the *Gloriana’s* registered tonnage was 3,050 (gross) with a nominal engine horsepower of 275. I don’t know how to calculate how long it would have taken to make the journey but the agreement states they arrived in Genoa on 26 November—just a little longer than the 15½ hour trip it would be today by plane. Six men were discharged here by mutual consent and six men were engaged to replace them.

The agreement doesn’t give the exact date they left Genoa but they arrived in Alicante, Spain on 8 December. Tom sent quite a num-

ber of postcards from here. One is a “bird’s eye view of A—” (Figure 2). Tom explains that

“The circular building in the centre is where all the Bull fights are held. So when you visit Alicante don’t fail to visit. July, August & September are the months.”

The Plaza de Toros looks very similar today, though the surrounding area is more built-up.

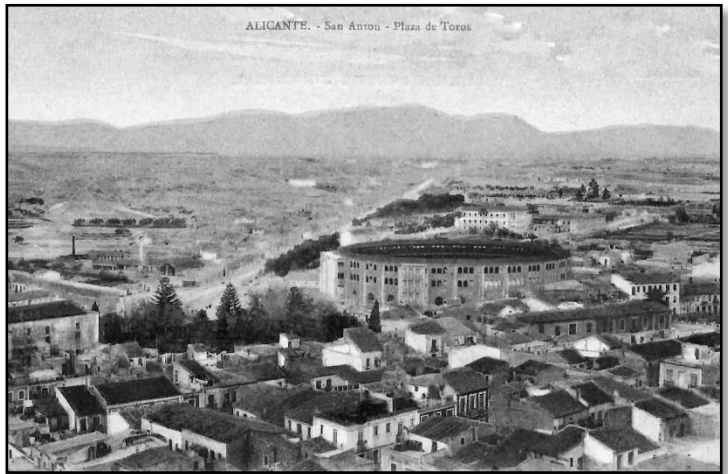


Figure 2: Alicante, San Anton, Plaza de Toros

Tom also sent three postcards about the bullfights themselves—rather graphic ones, too. On these he writes about how the bullfight proceeds. Tom explains on the first one, titled *Caida del Picador* or Fall of the Picador,

“at the beginning of the fight, the picador enters the ring on horseback. His goal is to plunge spears into the bull to make him wild. Often the horses do not fare well. Once the picadors have raised the bull’s ire, the

Matador enters the ring with sword and red cloth.”

The second postcard shows the matador facing the bloodied bull. Tom notes

“The Matador entices the bull with red flag or cloth & keeps jumping out of the way when he plunges for him until the opportunity arises when he can kill it outright Cruel Sport (eh).”

The final bullfighting card shows the “Arrastre”, the dragging from the ring of the dead bull. Cruel sport indeed! Tom tells Ollie that “quite the elite & bon ton visit such places.” I had never heard the phrase “bon ton” used before but apparently it means “fashionable manner or style.”<sup>2</sup> Tom tells Olive that the minimum charge to get into the ring is \$4, no doubt a tidy sum in

1912. He teases “Come along Ollie will you come & see one” but also seems to have known that she would refuse, “Guess not (eh). Love, Tom.”

The fourth card from Alicante shows the harbour (Figure 3), where the *Gloriana* is “laid”, within its breakwater. Tom jokes that the steamer is “bound out for Adelaide, Ontario” and explains “Most steamers calling here is [sic] in the wine trade.”

The final card from Alicante is labelled Los Balnearios and shows Mount Benacantil on which sits the Castle of Santa Bárbara<sup>3</sup> (Figure 4). This fortification dates from the ninth century at a time of Muslim control of the Iberian Peninsula and

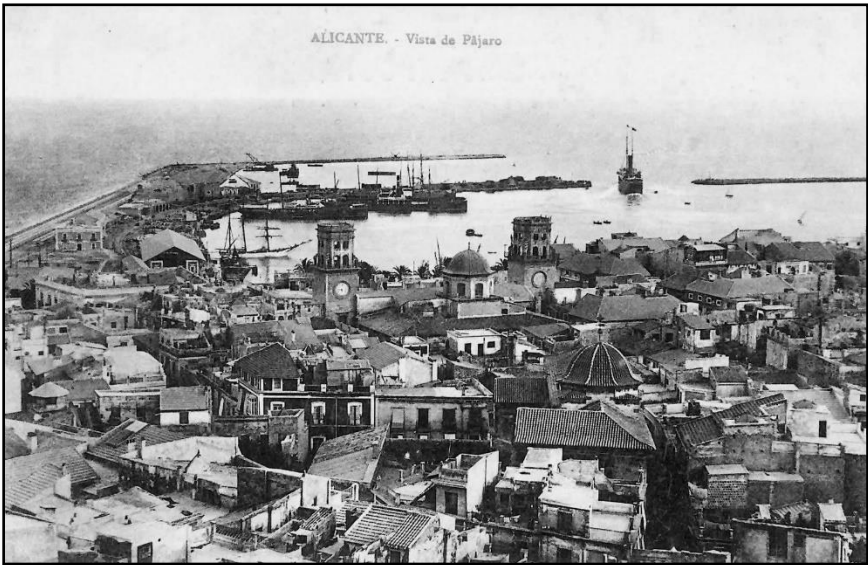


Figure 3: Alicante, Vista de Pajaro

was a point of conflict throughout the years. Its military importance declined during the 18th century and by 1912 the castle had been abandoned for some time. It was opened as a tourist attraction in 1963. Tom says little about the photograph but instead writes: “Regret was unable to purchase Xmas cards. First time I missed for years. Every-one sends such like at home.” But adds “Something Similar to Rock Gibraltar.” [sic]

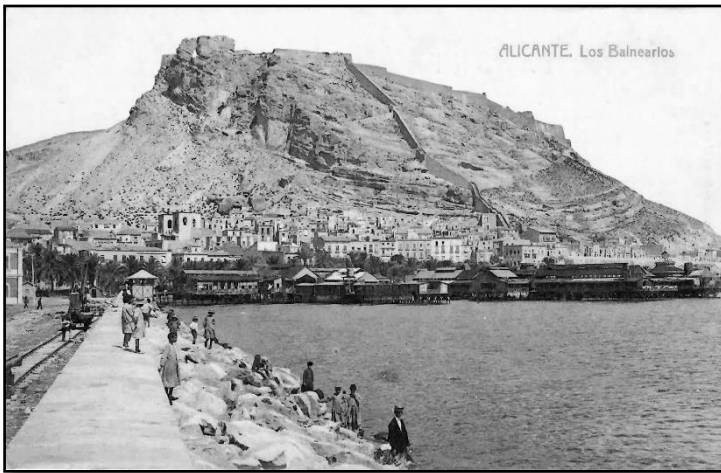


Figure 4: Alicante Los Bañearlos

Although I have several cards that say *Buon Natale* or *Buon capo d'anno*, which would indicate they were sent from a Spanish location in December, I presume they were sent another year because Tom stated on his card from Alicante that he had missed sending Christmas cards that year. Since they do not have any postage stamps on them and my grandmother did not make

clear to anyone when she received the cards, I will never know but I have chosen not to include them here.

The *Gloriana* was in port at Alicante for only six days and on 14 December they headed out for Huelva, arriving there on 18 December. My father told me that, as a child, he would sit on his father's knee with an atlas and his father would take him on trips around the world

telling him of all the places he had been. I must say, I feel a little like that with these postcards—I had never heard of many of these places until I looked at the cards. Huelva is one such place. It is located in the southwest of

Spain near the Portuguese border, west of Seville and north of Cadiz.

Tom sent two postcards from Huelva. One shows the town's main thoroughfare, Calle de Joaquin Costa. Tom notes, “Lovely summer day for Xmas. fit for a pull down the river in a boat.”

The second shows the steamship *Don Hugo* of London (Figure 5) at

the wharf being loaded with copper, according to the postcard title. The *Don Hugo* was a ship of 2,244 tons (gross),<sup>3</sup> so was just slightly smaller than the *Gloriana*. If you zoom in on the image of the ship's back end, you can see the set up of the deck around the ship's wheel and get an idea of what the *Gloriana's* deck might have looked like.

and New Year at sea. One wonders if they had any kind of celebration on board for the two holidays or if they were just like any other days aboard ship.

They returned to Philadelphia on 20 January 1913 for a short four-day stay. They must have been very busy unloading and loading before leaving on 24 January. It would

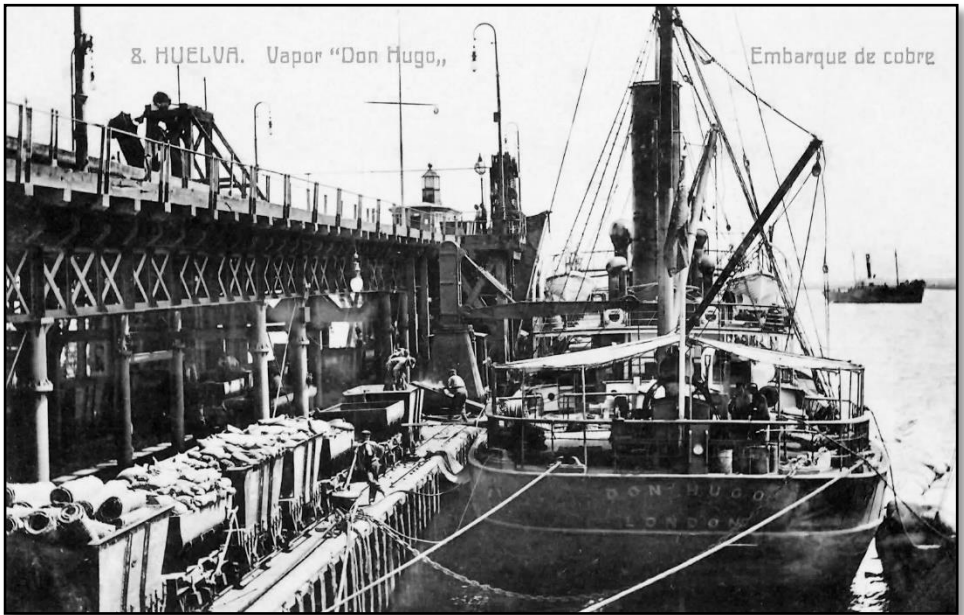


Figure 5: Huelva, Vapor Don Hugo, Embarque de cobre

Unfortunately, I can't find any photos of the two ships from the same angle to compare. On the back of this card Tom tells Olive, "This steamer belongs [to] the iron ore company & is at present laid alongside wharf alongside the G—."

The *Gloriana* left Huelva port on 24 December and spent both Christmas

appear Tom did not have time to send a card, let alone get to Canada to visit his sweetheart. In another card that gives no indication of where it was sent from or when, Tom says, "Hope you have forgiven me for not been [sic] able to come up. Never mind alls well. June will see T.W.T. at A—."

Another unusual card has an old-fashioned clock on the front under the heading “Appointment Calendar” (Figure 6). On the clock itself is written “MEET ME AT 1:00 ON *WHITBY VILLA STEPS* THE *29½* DAY OF *JUNE 1913* AT *ADELAIDE*”—the italicized words having been inserted by Tom. This seems to tie in with Tom’s reference on the previous card to being in Adelaide in June. Although Tom and Olive married on 6 May 1913, I suspect that they were planning on a June wedding until he was freed from his ship earlier than anticipated.

However, this voyage still had several stops to go before Tom would be free to head to Canada to marry his sweetheart. And I’m afraid you will have to wait for the next edition of ACR for the final details of his voyage and the postcards he sent along the way.

© Barbara Tose

### Reference Notes:

<sup>1</sup> BT 99 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Agreements and Crew Lists, Series II, Gloriana, Ship No. 119869, 1911–1913, Maritime History Archives, Memorial University, St. John’s, Newfoundland.

<sup>2</sup> Merriam-Webster Dictionary, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/bon%20ton>, accessed 2 May 2019.

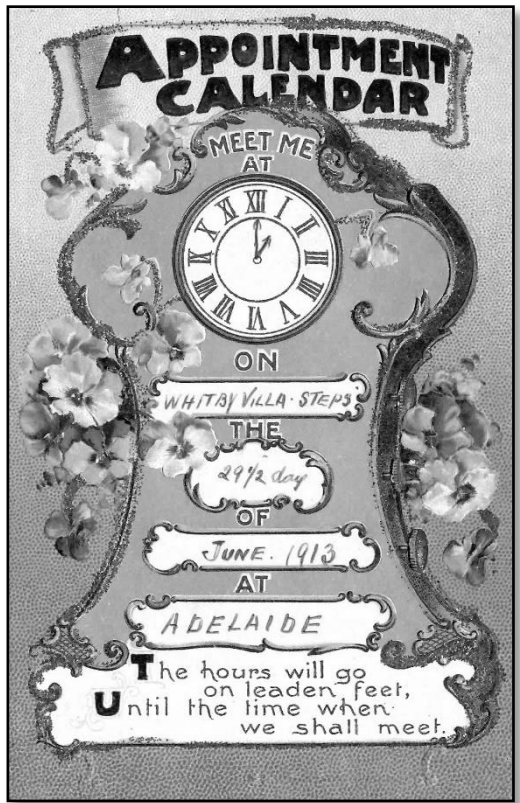


Figure 6: Appointment Calendar

<sup>3</sup> Wikipedia: Santa Bárbara Castle, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa\\_Bárbara\\_Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Bárbara_Castle).

<sup>4</sup> Scottish Built Ships, <http://www.clydeships.co.uk/view.php?ref=5987>.



# We Shall Remember Them

## Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens© 4th Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment (Territorial Force) attached to Machine Gun Corps

born: 22 May 1879 – died: 1 June 1916

BY HEATHER CARMODY

*Heather is one of the volunteers researching soldiers who died at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. In this biography, Heather describes the dangerous life of those men in the Machine Gun Corps.*

“Oh! dear, brave heart, God bless thee, wheresoever in His great universe thou art to-day” wrote his sisters on the first anniversary of Nassau Barrington Stephens’ death “in proud and very loving memory of our brother . . . who died of wounds received in action, Ascension Day, June 1, 1916.”<sup>1</sup>

Nassau Barrington (N.B.) Stephens was born into a military family. His great-grandfather was Captain Daniel Stephens of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, his grandfather was Captain Nassau William Stephens of the 94th Regiment and his father was Major Edward Barrington Stephens (23 July 1850<sup>2</sup>–27 December 1918<sup>3</sup>) of the Royal Marine Light Infantry.<sup>4</sup> His mother too had a military connection. Edith Maria Cross (January 1857<sup>5</sup>–12 August 1932<sup>6</sup>) was the youngest daughter of Mary Ann and Alexander Cross, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, Royal Navy.

Edward Barrington Stephens joined the Royal Marines as a lieutenant on

24 June 1868.<sup>7</sup> He served under Sir Evelyn Wood<sup>8</sup> in the Ashanti War of 1873–1874, one in a series of five conflicts between the Ashanti Empire in the Akan interior of the Gold Coast (now Ghana) and the British Empire.<sup>9</sup> He was back in Great Britain only a short time before he and the 18-year-old Edith Maria Cross were married at Nantmel Church, Radnorshire, Wales, on 20 July 1875.<sup>10</sup>

The couple settled near the Royal Marines headquarters in Chatham, Kent. Their first surviving child, Edith Dulcie Jane Stephens (1878<sup>11</sup>–1943<sup>12</sup>) was born in Rochester-upon-Medway, about 2 km from Chatham. Within the year Edward was posted to Ascension Island, where he was second-in-command of his regiment.<sup>13</sup> Ascension Island is located in the South Atlantic Ocean about 1,600 kilometres from Africa and 2,250 kilometres from South America; it was governed by the British Admiralty from 1815 to 1922 and then became part of the

British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.<sup>14</sup> Nassau Barrington was born there probably on Ascension Day, 22 May 1879.<sup>15</sup> Another son, Edward William Daniel (1880<sup>16</sup>–1938<sup>17</sup>), was also born on Ascension Island. Lieutenant Edward Barrington Stephens, Edith Maria, 2-year-old Nassau and the two other children were on board H.M. Naval Vessel *Flora* tendered at the Isle of Ascension on Sunday 3 April 1881 and most likely bound for England.<sup>18</sup> Edward Barrington was promoted to Captain<sup>19</sup> on 1 July 1881 and probably stationed again in Chatham, Kent. The couple's fourth child, Francis Trant (1882<sup>20</sup>–1946<sup>21</sup>), was born in New Brompton, Kent, which is 2.5 km from Chatham. Two years later, their fifth child, Lily Muriel (1884–?), was born in Alderbury, Wiltshire, England<sup>22</sup> and baptised 23 March 1884 at St. Martin, Church of England, Salisbury, Wiltshire.<sup>23</sup>

Edward Barrington Stephens was promoted to Major on 24 June 1889.<sup>24</sup> Either before or after this promotion, he was posted to Bermuda, where he was in command of his regiment.<sup>25</sup> His family probably accompanied him, as no member was listed in the 1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census. By the mid-1890s, Edward had retired and the family relocated first to Rochester, Kent,<sup>26</sup> and then to Sulcoates, East Yorkshire.<sup>27</sup>

The Stephens family seemed to live a life devoted to military service and church work. Nassau Barrington Stephens joined the Hull Artillery Volunteers [4th East Riding of Yorkshire Artillery Volunteer Corps]<sup>28</sup> at an early age and soon rose to the rank of sergeant. When it merged with the East Riding Yeomanry in 1908, he joined that force and served for some years.<sup>29</sup> He did not serve in the Boer War (1899–1902) although his two younger brothers, Edward W. D.<sup>30</sup> and Francis Trant<sup>31</sup> enlisted in 1900 and 1901 respectively. His father was secretary of the local branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, which raised funds to assist the families of soldiers serving in the conflict.<sup>32</sup> Perhaps, Nassau's earnings as an accountant's clerk at the firm of Hodgson and Harris were needed for the family's wellbeing. In 1901 he was living at 49 Park Grove Road, Sulcoates, with his mother, father and sister Edith Dulcie, who worked as a daytime governess.<sup>33</sup> His other sister, Lily Muriel, was studying in London.<sup>34</sup>

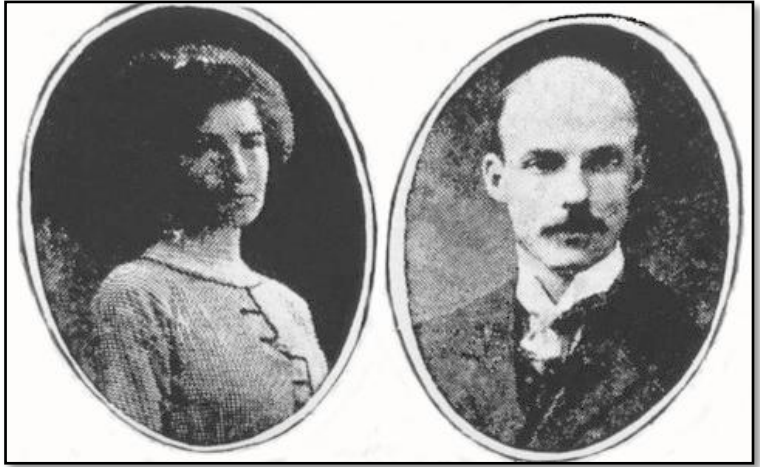
After the Boer War, both younger brothers joined the British South Africa Police (BSAP). On 1 October 1903, Francis Trant departed from London, England on route to Cape Town, South Africa to work with the BSAP.<sup>35</sup> Edward W. D. probably left around the same time.

Nassau Barrington Stephens' life revolved around St. Augustine's Church, Hedon, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. He was an elected sidesman as well as captain of the St. Augustine's Company of the Church Lad's Brigade for 16 years (1897 until 1913),<sup>36</sup> positively influencing the lives of over 200 young men.<sup>37</sup> He raised funds for the church and would involve his whole family in the endeavours.

In a fundraiser for the Church Lad's Brigade on 10 February 1904 his father (who was Honorary Colonel of the Brigade) did a reading while Nassau conducted several squads through skilful bayonet exercises. The evening ended with a dramatic sketch entitled "Turn him out" performed by Nassau, his sister Edith Dulcie and others.<sup>38</sup>

In 1909, Edith Dulcie married Horace Bingham<sup>39</sup> but continued to be involved in some of Nassau's charitable endeavours. On 15 December 1910, Nassau organized the annual concert and display

given by St. Augustine's Troop (Boy Scouts) in the parish hall. His sister Lily and Lillie Hall opened the proceeding with a pianoforte duet. Nassau and Joseph Hall (who later married Nassau's sister Lily) sang melodies that a newspaper reporter



**Figure 1: Miss L. M. Stephens - Mr. J. Hall**

Source: *Hull Daily Mail*, The British Newspaper Archive ([www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk): accessed 9 September 2017), 4 September 1912, page 3

considered "alone worth the price charged for admission."<sup>40</sup>

By 1911, the Stephens family had moved to 8 Hinderwell Street, Hull. Nassau was now employed as a commercial clerk at Messrs. Hellyer's Steam Trawling Company and Lily worked as a daytime governess.<sup>41</sup> Nassau was best man when Lily and Joseph Hall married in August 1912.<sup>42</sup> In subsequent years, Nassau continued to raise funds for the church and other worthy causes. For instance, on 23

January 1914, he organized a drive and dance in aid of The Hull Poor Children's Summer Outing Fund;<sup>43</sup> and on 23 February a café chantant at St. Augustine's Parish Hall to purchase children's chairs for the church's Sunday school. As part of the entertainment, Edith Dulcie sang "The deathless army."<sup>44</sup> Around 6 March, he was racing the motorboat, *The Khaki*, at the Humber Sailing Club vying for the silver cup.<sup>45</sup> He must have had good organizational skills to balance successfully so many activities.

When war was declared on 4 August 1914, Nassau was caught up in the patriotic fervour that swept the country. He enlisted immediately in his old regiment, the East Riding Yeomanry, as a lance corporal (regimental number: 7385) but applied for a commission in the East Yorkshire Regiment (Territorial Force). On 22 July 1915 he was appointed a second lieutenant<sup>46</sup> in the 4th Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment, which as of May 1915 was part of the 150th Brigade, 50th Division.<sup>47</sup> He trained in machine gunnery, passing with honours through a course of instruction in that arm. His organizational skills were noted, earning him the reputation as being one of the most efficient officers in the 4th East Yorkshire Regiment.<sup>48</sup> In January 1916, Nassau arrived at the Front and on 4 February 1916 was

seconded to the 150th Infantry Brigade Machine Gun Corps.<sup>49</sup>

The Machine Gun Corps (MGC) was a recent addition to the military establishment. After a year of warfare, military officials had concluded that to be fully effective machine guns needed to be used in larger units and crewed by specially trained men. The War Office recommended the formation of a single specialist MGC in each infantry brigade and the withdrawal of the guns and gun teams from the battalions. The MGC was formed by royal warrant on 14 October 1915. Training centres were established at Belton Park in Grantham, Lincolnshire, and in France. In total, 170,500 men served in the MGC. Shortly after the formation of the MGC, the Maxim machine guns were replaced by the Vickers machine gun. The Vickers was fired from a tripod and cooled by water held in a jacket around the barrel. The gun weighed 18.5 pounds (8.4 kg), the water another 10 pounds (4.5 kg) and the tripod 10 pounds (4.5 kg). Bullets were assembled in a canvas belt holding 150 rounds and would last 30 seconds at the rate of fire of 500 rounds per minute. Two men were required to carry the equipment and two the ammunition. A Vickers machine gun team also had two spare men. The team fought from an exposed position, which resulted in a high casualty rate.<sup>50</sup>

The 150th Infantry Brigade Machine Gun Corps, 50th Division, was created on 1 February 1916. On 4 February 1916, it was stationed at Dickebusch (now Dikkebus) a village in the Ypres Salient area of Belgium. When Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens arrived, the company had spent the morning parading and then practice shooting on the range near the Dickebusch Huts and the afternoon playing a football match. The following day at 4:30 p.m. all sections marched to the trenches to relieve the Northumberland Fusiliers. This might have been Nassau's introduction to trench warfare. Guns were set up in various positions extending from Blauport Farm to A5 trench with headquarters at Bedford House. The brigade was heavily shelled on 6 and 7 February and again on 11 February. Conditions were made even worse by heavy rainfall. On 12 February there was a gas barrage with lachrymatory and smoke shells. Sunday, 13 February was a quiet day. On Monday, the enemy attacked, taking an area called The Bluff but failing in its two attacks on the Division's line. Then the enemy shelled the brigade with a barrage of fine shrapnel "wooly beans" between Bedford House and Blauport Farm. Perhaps Nassau was operating one of the machine guns in the rear position that fired onto communication lines behind the

German Front Line. He probably was frustrated at times by the defective equipment. The company found that four of their Maxim machine guns were defective. Some of the new Vickers were also defective. On Tuesday 15 February at 8 p.m., the allies failed in a counterattack to retake The Bluffs. Later that night the enemy heavily shelled the roads. Wednesday 16 February was a fine clear day with not so much shelling. On the evening of 17 February, the brigade was relieved by the 151st Infantry Brigade MGC and returned to billets behind the lines.

This pattern would repeat itself during the time that Nassau was at the Front. He would experience day-to-day trench warfare, shelling, sniper fire and small skirmishes followed by rest periods behind the lines. On 28 February, Nassau was again in the trenches. He and Lieutenant Purvis visited reserve positions and sighted aiming sticks for indirect firing onto roads and approaches behind enemy lines. On 13 March he and No.1 Section went up to a reserve position in support of the 151st Brigade MGC. Relief was carried out at night with no casualties. He and the section remained there until the 22 March. Nassau did have a break: he attended training sessions for a few days in April but was back in the trenches on 22 April.

By the end of May 1916, the 150th Infantry Brigade MGC had moved to the trenches near Kemmel Village, Belgium, about 9 km from Ypres. On 29 May a working party was assigned to install additional machine gun emplacements in Via Gellia, a communication trench between Kemmel Village and the British and Canadian front lines facing German front lines before Wytschaete, Belgium. One of these emplacement locations, S.P. (Strong Point) 11 was at the orchard where Beaver Hut dugout was located. Another S.P., No. 10, was placed a few hundred yards to the right between Regent Street's dugouts. It was well sited on high ground with an excellent field of fire and concealed by a grove of trees.<sup>51</sup> Nassau was in charge of the working party for the emplacement at S.P.10 with Corporal Fields and Privates Hendry and Pearce. On 31 May, which was a fine day, the working party had started the second emplacement in Via Gellia when Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens was seriously wounded, probably by sniper fire, while operating a machine gun around midnight.

He was taken to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) at Bailleul, France, where he died. He was one of the three men who died 1 June 1916. The chaplain recorded that the battalion's chaplain would write to his friends.<sup>52</sup> The entry in

the war diary for that day was "2nd Lieutenant N. B. Stephens died of his wounds and was buried at Bailleul this morning. Working party continued on No. 2 emplacement in VIA GELLIA."<sup>53</sup> The war continued without N.B. Stephens. Lieutenant C.H. Rose took his place at S.P.10.



**Figure 2: Hull Officer Killed in France**  
Source: *Hull Daily Mail*, The British Newspaper Archive ([www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk): accessed 14 October 2017)  
6 June 1916, page 3

Second Lieutenant Nassau Barrington Stephens was buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord Grave/Memorial Reference II. D. 51.<sup>54</sup> Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several casualty clearing stations, including 1st Canadian CCS, were

quartered there. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918; they occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers' remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields. Nassau Barrington Stephens was awarded posthumously the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre), and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918).<sup>55</sup> He left his effects (£98 5s 7d) to his brother-in-law, Joseph Hall, his sister Lily's husband.<sup>56</sup>

At the time, Nassau's death was felt deeply by his family and friends. The Reverend E. C. Cree, Vicar of St. Augustine's Church in Hull, described him as a perfect type of soldier and gentleman and that "when the great Call came, it found Nassau Barrington Stephens ready to meet and to salute the great Captain of his salvation."<sup>57</sup> To honour the men who fought and the 13,791 officers and other ranks who had died in its service, The Machine Gun Corps Memorial (also known as The Boy David) was erected on 10 May 1925 on the north side of the traffic section at Hyde Park Corner, London, England.<sup>58</sup>

The war took its toll on the Stephens family. On 8 August 1918, Private Joseph Hall, Lily's husband, was missing in action in Italy. He was declared dead on 8 August

1919.<sup>59</sup> Major Edward Barrington Stephens, Nassau's father, who had reenlisted and worked as a recruiting officer<sup>60</sup> at the Pryme Street station died 27 December 1918. After the death of Major Stephens, Nassau's mother, Edith Maria Stephens, and his sister Lily moved first to Bridlington, Yorkshire, and then to Falmouth, Cornwall.<sup>61</sup> Both his brothers fought with the British Expeditionary Force in German East Africa. Edward W. D. was a lieutenant in the Northern Rhodesian Police. Francis Trant was a major in the King's African Rifles.<sup>62</sup> He was awarded the Military Cross in 1917 and an OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) in 1919.<sup>63</sup> He went on to be chief commissioner of police in Nyasaland from 1920 to 1939.<sup>64</sup> On the eve of another war, Nassau's sister, Edith Dulcie Jane Bingham and her family were living in Sheffield, Yorkshire, in 1939. Her husband, Horace, worked as an insurance agent.<sup>65</sup>

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## DNA and Online Resources for Discovering Your Lost Family History

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**Leanne Cooper** — WikiTree collaborative DNA and genealogy

**Lesley Anderson** — AncestryDNA solving mysteries

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## Techniques and Resources

### The Cream of the Crop

Top items from recent posts on the Canada's Anglo-Celtic-Connections blog



BY JOHN D. REID

#### **DNA and Online Resources for Discovering Your Lost Family History**

The family history

meeting calendar is mostly empty in July and August. This year we're trying something different, waking us from our summer *torpor-siesta*. On Thursday, August 8 the Ottawa Public Library, BIFHSGO and Ottawa Branch OGS are joining together in a free one-day event featuring two talks by Daniel Horowitz, the Genealogy Expert at fast-growing web-based *MyHeritage*. Daniel provides key contributions for *MyHeritage* by liaising with genealogy societies, bloggers and media, as well as lecturing, and attending conferences around the world. We are fortunate that he has agreed to come to Ottawa before embarking on a genealogy cruise from Montreal.

Our own Leanne Cooper, speaking on *WikiTree* and DNA, and Lesley Anderson on *Ancestry* and DNA round out the program. It's all in the

familiar air-conditioned comfort of The Chamber at Nepean Centre-pointe, and it's free. For additional information see the ad elsewhere in this issue or at [bifhsgo.ca](http://bifhsgo.ca).

#### **British Home Children Sesquicentennial**

The first British home children were brought to Canada by Maria Rye 150 years ago. Three children arrived with her on the *Moravian* in June that year: Mary Kneevs (age 5), Ellen Fallen (age 10) and Herbert Radley (4 mo., died 1870).

Rye's first major party sailed from Liverpool on the *Hibernian* on 30 October 1869 bound for Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. How many were in the party? Marjorie Kohli in *The Golden Bridge* states 92 (or 94). They were the forerunners of 100,000 or more.

#### **Second World War: Unaccompanied British Child Evacuees to Canada**

Responding to the threat of Nazi invasion of Britain early in the Second World War, many parents decided to send their children away to relative safety. Mostly that was internal, to areas away from likely

bombing. Others decided to send their children to greater safety overseas.

For those who came to Canada under private sponsorship, there's a new BIFHSGO database of 1,834 child evacuees. It includes first and last name, host organization, the province where hosted, and page within the province list in the source file, Library and Archives Canada Reference RG7 G26 file 2085-C-2 sub.1. Compiled in 1943 by the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, it contains additional detail on many of the children. While the intention was that they return to Britain when the danger was past, and most did, many eventually decided to make Canada their home—including Nobel Prize winner John Polanyi (chemistry). Another 1,532 unaccompanied evacuee children came to Canada in 1940 under the British government-sponsored Children's Overseas Reception Board (CORB). A good reference is Claire L. Halstead's dissertation *From Lion to Leaf: The Evacuation of British Children to Canada During the Second World War.* <<https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/etd/3329/>>

### **Tracing Your Irish Ancestors**

The 5th edition of the highly regarded *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, by John Grenham is now out. It's a classic, that's why there's the 5th edition. Claire Santry reviewed it at <[www.irishgenealogynews.com/20](http://www.irishgenealogynews.com/20)

[19/04/tracing-your-irish-ances-tors-by-john.html/](http://19/04/tracing-your-irish-ances-tors-by-john.html/)>.

There are two entries in the index for Canada:

The Irish in, 132–6  
Sources for Irish origin,  
xx–xxi, 112–13

The first of these is in Chapter 8: *Emigration and the Irish Abroad* and consists of a list of references. Eleven are for Canada: General; 25 for New Brunswick; 9 for Newfoundland; 9 for Nova Scotia; 8 for Ontario; 3 for PEI; 14 for Quebec; and 1 for Saskatchewan. Several, such as Lucille Campey's book *Atlantic Canada's Irish Immigrants* are duplicates between provinces. Grenham does not mention her more recent book *Ontario and Quebec's Irish Pioneers*.

The introductory section, *Sources for Irish Origin*, mentions Library and Archives Canada as having "the vast bulk of information of genealogical interest." Under "other sources" it suggests Angus Baxter's *In Search of Your Canadian Roots* which was good for its time (3rd edition published in 2000). The more recent guide, *Finding Your Canadian Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide* by Sherry Irvine and Dave Obee would be a better source, even though it too is getting a bit out-dated. The other mention, under *Sources for Irish origin*, is a scant 17 lines, also in the *Emigration and the Irish Abroad* chapter.

Although nobody would buy Grenham's book to learn about Canadian records, Grenham's 650 page, 1.1 kg tome remains **the** reference source for those exploring their Irish ancestry.

### **Town Plans for 1820s Scotland**

The National Library of Scotland has placed online a digitized collection of over 60 town plan maps of Scottish towns by mapmaker John Wood (1780–1847). If your ancestor set sail from Stornoway for Canada, the “Plan of the Town and Harbour of Stornoway, Island of Lewis, from actual survey 1821” might be of interest. From 1822 there's “Map of the ten parishes within the Royalty and the parishes of Gorbals Barony of Glasgow.” Each map is linked to a description in an 1828 publication available on the Internet Archive, *Descriptive Account of the Principal Towns in Scotland; to Accompany Wood's Town Atlas*.

### **OPL Beaverbrook Digitization Lab**

Ottawa Public Library cardholders now have free access to equipment for DIY image scanning at Beaverbrook Branch, Kanata. You can scan and digitize photographs, slides and negatives, and save them to USB or The Cloud; convert VHS materials (DVDs or old VHS cassette tapes); and convert 8mm and Super 8 films to SD card.

You need to reserve the equipment and on a first visit will receive a brief training session from the OPL staffer in charge. I was able to successfully digitize both slides and negatives and save to my USB drive. The trickiest part was getting accustomed to working on a Mac. The quality of the digitized image was excellent. Depending on the resolution set—I chose 600 dpi—scanning can take a while. It's a good idea to carefully select the material you want to digitize before you arrive. There are limits on how much time you can reserve and how often. If it continues to be so popular, I'd imagine other branches might also acquire similar equipment.

### **DNA from Envelopes**

Australian company *totheletter DNA* <[www.totheletterdna.com/](http://www.totheletterdna.com/)> claims to be the first to offer commercially available testing of envelopes, postcards with stamp/s and aérogrammes from deceased relatives for genealogical purposes. On May 2 they announced that DNA was found in 16 of the first 26 samples. Genotyping of those samples is proceeding. The website makes it clear that the company is still developing its procedures so, while it's one to watch, I'm not rushing to try it.

### **Recent Canada-wide Obits at Genealogy Quebec**

One of the gems dropped by Gail

Dever, well known for her *Genealogy à la carte* blog, during her presentation on April 27 in Ottawa, was a free obit database from *Genealogy Québec* <[www.genealogie.quebec.com/necro/home/](http://www.genealogie.quebec.com/necro/home/)>. You can search by last name, first name, year, month and day and text. I found three people originating from my home town in England by searching its name in the text field. However, the search balks at phrases like "Grande Prairie." While a few obits go back as far as 1990, most are much more recent.

### ***Far From Home***

Diana Beaupré and Adrian Watkinson of Canterbury, Kent were undaunted by the challenge of finding, photographing and producing profiles for the 3,902 First World War Canadian service men and women commemorated in graves and memorials in 872 locations throughout Great Britain. Over the past ten years, the couple has travelled the country to identify, photograph and record these lost or forgotten tombstones and memo-

rials. Their meticulous research, aided in part by a donation from BIFHSGO, has inscribed those names onto previously incomplete pages of Canadian military history. On April 25 at a ceremony at Rideau Hall, they were recognized by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, with the Meritorious Service Decoration (Civil Division).

The War Museum has agreed to acquire the *Far from Home* records which are all about Canadian soldiers, so they will now be here in Canada for research purposes.

### **Library and Archives Canada**

This month we bid farewell and happy retirement to Librarian and Archivist of Canada Guy Berthiaume. He turned around a dispirited organization and gave it a much higher profile both internationally and across Canada, through initiatives such as lending material for displays and the Documentary Heritage Communities Program.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

BIFHSGO member Alison Hare was a recent recipient of the newly established Board for Certification of Genealogists' *Donn Devine Award for Extraordinary Service*. This award recognizes those who have made important and lasting contributions to the BCG. Alison served as Judge Coordinator for ten years from 2008 to 2018, and as a BCG Trustee from 2009 to 2018. During her tenure as Judge Coordinator, she facilitated numerous improvements to BCG's judging system.

Congratulations, Alison!



# BIFHSGO News

## Membership Report

BY KATHY WALLACE

### BIFHSGO Members 10 Feb 2019 – 13 May 2019

Member No.	Name	Address
1764	Marianne Mullan	Carleton Place, ON
1603	Adrienne Stevenson	Ottawa, ON
1978	Ann Jenkins	Qualicum Beach, BC
1979	Emily Rahme	Kanata, ON
1980	Irene Elce	Kanata, ON
1981	Heather Douglas	Nepean, ON
1982	Sharri Davis-Barron	Wakefield, QC
1983	Christopher Doris	Ottawa, ON
1984	Glenn Anderson	Ottawa, ON
1985	Judy Webber	Ottawa, ON
1986	Eleanor Rosenzweig	Kingston, ON
1987	Claire Callender	Ottawa, ON
1988	Anne Fisher	Hessel, MI
1989	Michael McNeil	Ottawa, ON
1990	Karen Jackson	Ottawa, ON

### Great Moments in Genealogy—8 June 2019

***A Dark Chapter in a Successful Life***—Nigel Lloyd’s great-great-grandfather was a 19<sup>th</sup> century publishing magnate. He also had 19 children with three different women and a dark chapter in his life.

***A Poor Racine***—A reference to “a poor Racine” in an 1854 Times article on poverty in Bethnal Green, London led Mike Jaques to investigate if this unknown Racine was a relative.

***Finding Frances***—Frances was known only through her relationships to others until Gillian Leitch went to work to discover her identity and life—with a little luck and some help along the way.

***Family Fiction, Facts Found***—Family stories often take on a life of their own. For Roberta (Bobby) Kay, unraveling the stories about the Swinn family of Lincolnshire produced just such twisted stories, interesting facts and delightful details.



25th Annual  
**BIFHSGO Conference**

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**FAMILY HISTORY:  
PAST ∞ PRESENT ∞ FUTURE**



Expert Speakers—  
Presentations and Seminars

Featuring **Blaine Bettinger**  
**Audrey Collins, Cyndi Ingle**  
**Nancy Loe**

....and more great presenters!

Marketplace  
and Research Room

**27–29 September 2019**

at Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointhe Drive, Ottawa

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For program info and to register,  
go to—

**[www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca)**

613-234-2520 (voicemail)



—1994–2019—

## **BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2018–2019**

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Director at Large	John McConkey	video@bifhsgo.ca
Programs/Education	Andrea Harding	programs@bifhsgo.ca
Past President	Barbara Tose	pastpresident@bifhsgo.ca

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Webmaster	Vacant	
Queries	Sheila Dohoo Faure	queries@bifhsgo.ca
Photographer	Dena Palamedes	

### **Conference 2019**

Jane Down, Duncan Monkhouse

### **Public Accountant**

McCay Duff LLP

## **The Society**

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally incorporated society and a registered charity (Reg. No. 89227 4044 RR0001). Our purpose is to encourage, carry on and facilitate research into, and publication of, family histories by people who have ancestors in the British Isles.

We have two objectives: to research, preserve, and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history, and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education, showing how to conduct this research and preserve the findings in a readily accessible form.

We publish genealogical research findings and information on research resources and techniques, hold public meetings on family history, and participate in the activities of related organizations.

Membership dues for 2019 are \$50 for individuals, \$60 for families, and \$50 for institutions. Members enjoy four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, ten family history meetings, members-only information on [bifhsgo.ca](http://bifhsgo.ca), friendly advice from other members, and participation in special interest groups.

# BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

## Saturday Morning Meetings

The Chamber, Ben Franklin Place,  
101 CentrepoinTE Drive, Ottawa

- 14 Sept 2019**    **25 Years of Storytelling**—When Wayne Walker hit a brick wall, it was a voice in his head that led him to a special find—a piece of paper hidden since 1884. Learn what was on that paper and other memorable stories from the 25 years of the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* archives.
- 12 Oct 2019**    **Quakers in the Family: My Dickinson Ancestors of England and Jamaica**—A pivotal moment in Sandra Adams' research came with the discovery that one branch of her family tree were Quakers. Three generations of informative Quaker records plus an ancestor who kept everything has allowed Sandra to compile detailed family stories. Her talk will be illustrated with documents from the Somerset Archives' *Dickinson Collection*.
- 9 Nov 2019**    **The Commonwealth War Graves Commission: In Perpetuity**—The Commission marks and maintains graves and memorials to Commonwealth soldiers who died in the two world wars and keeps records and registers. **Dominique Boulais** will speak about the Commission and its Canadian Agency's responsibilities with an emphasis on its work in genealogy.

## Schedule

- 9:00–9:30        Before BIFHSGO Educational Sessions: check [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca) for up-to-date information.
- 9:30              Discovery Tables
- 10:00–11:30    Meeting and Presentation
- 11:30–16:00    Writing Group

For information on meetings of the other special interest groups (Scottish, Irish, DNA, Master Genealogist Users), check [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca).

## Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at [acreditor@bifhsgo.ca](mailto:acreditor@bifhsgo.ca). The deadline for submissions to the Fall issue is 26 July 2019.