

# Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County  
Genealogical Society  
Box 1083, Port Elgin, ON  
N0H 2C0

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## Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

**Date:** Monday, September 14, 2015 @ 7 pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** German Settlers in Bruce County  
**Conveners:** Anne Goeden and Patrick Kelley

**Date:** Monday, November 23, 2015 @ 1pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** Ann-Marie Collins will lead a guided tour of the all new Bruce Remembers Military Gallery and Website. View military artifacts and archival material and discover more about Bruce County's Military heritage.

## Highlights of Previous Meetings

**June: Forgotten Lives Bus Tour, June 15, 2015—in Review**  
After months of preparation, the **Forgotten Lives Bus Tour** became a reality again, on Monday June 15, 2015. 31 enthusiastic Family Researchers and Historians ventured to Kincardine for *"A Day of Reflection"* into the town's past.

The day began with refreshments at Dunsmoor Park where we glimpsed back as far as March

5<sup>th</sup>, 1848 when Allan Cameron and William Withers landed at the mouth of the Penetangore River, intent on building a settlement. The Presentation there included talks about Dunsmoor Park, the Pavillion, and the development of Penetangore, which on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1858 became the Village of Kincardine. We followed the town's progress up to 1917 at which time William "Billy" Mitchell built the Circle Bar Knitting Co. to keep young people, especially women employed in Kincardine.

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Our next stop was at Malcolm Place, built by Levi Rightmeyer, owner of Kincardine's Salt Works and once home to the Malcolm Family. The house remains a tribute to its rich past filled with Malcolm Furniture Factory furniture pieces. Co-op student Jordan Otto presented the home's history to us, a project that she prepared as part of her placement there.

From there we travelled to Boiler Beach to learn about the fate of the Erie Belle, its crew and the reason that the beach has its name. It was a foggy stop but as if on cue because of the dense mist over the lake, the Fog Horn blared for our entertainment just as I spoke about Kincardine's Marine life, including the Lighthouse and the fog horn, which was and is invaluable to the safety of boats looking for the entrance to the harbour.

Important to understand was that lives were lost aboard the Erie Belle, so from the beach we travelled to the Kincardine Cemetery to the resting place of Frank Eikenhurst, second engineer aboard the tug. After discussing what I was able to learn about most of the crew members we headed to the F.E. Coombe headstone for a history lesson about Frank Earnest Coombe, his family and the Coombe Furniture Factory which in 1902 he and J.B. Watson built for the production of fine furniture pieces.

The Malcolm Mausoleum was next on our list. Like Frank Coombe, Andrew Malcolm had a dream of producing quality furniture. And so the family did until 1976 when the Malcolm Furniture Factory closed ending a century of fine craftsmanship. Of note was the story of James Malcolm, who as Minister of Trade and Commerce of Canada made the first historic Trans-Atlantic phone call on November 1<sup>st</sup>., 1928.

The last stop in the cemetery was at the headstone of the Mitchell Family. "Billy" Mitchell's footstone reads "He Liked to

Build" and build he did, a well-known hosiery factory, known as the Circle Bar Knitting Co. As previously mentioned, the factory kept young people employed in Kincardine and during the late 1940's provided work for 30 women from England and 20 women from Scotland.

We enjoyed a yummy lunch of "Church Lady" sandwiches, squares and refreshments provided by the good folks at Knox Presbyterian Church. Joan Threndyle treated us to a pictorial of the church's past and Mac MacDonald gave us a recital on the newly refurbished Pipe Organ. The sound was as amazing as I remembered it to be when I attended church there as a child.

The sun shone for the afternoon as we toured some of the impressive homes and gardens on Princes St. It was like a tour to the turn of the century. Each one was impeccably kept as it would have been when afternoon tea was celebrated and upstairs maids kept home for industrious families like the Malcolm's. We were treated to Victorian furnishings and rare flowers like the yellow peony.

We boarded the bus for home at 4 p.m. after a long but enjoyable day. It was my hope that I could share a bit of history from my hometown of Kincardine and from the reaction of everyone there I think I accomplished my goal. Thank you to everyone who attended and allowed me to indulge myself in history. **We will tour again...maybe not next year, but soon. Tour organized by Glenys Johnson for the Bruce County Genealogical Society...with pleasure.**

**August:** Bruce County Genealogical Society recently welcomed local Authors Robin Hilborn from Southampton, Mary I. MacKay from Paisley and Joyce Osborne from Huron Township to the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. . Each featured author spoke about their recent books and were available for book signing and those present enjoyed the tasty snacks prepared by Karen Ribey.

In “Heart of the Great Lakes: Lake Huron and the Saugeen to 1850” Robin Hilborn looks at the Bruce coast before settlement: how Metis fur traders fought the Hudson’s Bay Company and how the Saugeen Ojibway welcomed Methodist missionaries and struggled with commercial fisher men on the Fishing Islands.

Mary I. MacKay’s historical narrative “First Among Firsts: The Story of Thomas Orchard” tells the stories of real people who settled in Paisley or vicinity in its first seventeen years. Central to the story is Thomas Orchard: first store master, first postmaster, Returning Officer for first municipal election, first Treasurer of the municipality...and more... all before the village of Paisley was even given a name.

The Huron Township History Book Committee created “Families and Farms of Huron Township and Ripley 2015” in response to requests for the updating of previous community history books. It includes updated and newly discovered histories as well as several original writings about early life in Huron Township. Joyce Osborne shared in the editing and chairmanship of the committee.

## QUERIES

1. **CRAIG / COPELAND** Researching the family of John Craig and Jane Copeland. They lived on the 6th concession of Brant Twsp., Bruce County East, District 51. My grandfather was their youngest son Samuel. I am interested in the rest of his siblings. In total there were six boys and two girls. If you could assist me or point me in the right direction, I would be grateful as I have run up against a road block. Thank you. Anne at [brynnmaeve@gmail.com](mailto:brynnmaeve@gmail.com)

2. **CAREY** - I am doing family tree research in the Kincardine, Culcross, Carrick, Bruce area. My Grandfather William Henry Carey was born in Kincardine in 1899. I cannot find the birth registered. I believe my Great Grandfather William J (I think James) was also born in Kincardine 1869. He married Cecelia Benninger (b. 1871 in Culcross) I cannot find the marriage registered in the area. William J Carey died around 1899/90. My Great Great Grandfather was James Carey (b. abt. 1830 Ireland) married to Margt. Carey. (born abt 1820 or 1830 Ireland). The census records are different for Margt’s age. Do you have any idea where I can find some birth/ marriage/death information for the area for 1869 & 1899 Marriage date for William J Carey to Cecelia Benninger likely around 1891-1899. Any help would be appreciated. Email Debbie at [debbiekeegan@shaw.ca](mailto:debbiekeegan@shaw.ca).

3. **HUTCHISON** - John Hutchison (c1818-before 1871) and his wife Susanna Reid (1818-1887) were born in Co. Lanark, Scotland and came to Canada sometime between 1852 and 1861. Six of their nine children were born in Scotland: James b. 1840 (m. Wilhelmine Ewald), Mary b. 1842 (Christian Shantz), Elizabeth b. 1844 (m. Dougald Currie), Margaret b. 1848 (m. Homer A. Neelands), Andrew Reid b. 1850 (m. Mary Ann Drean) and Susan b.1852 (m. Samuel Neelands). Their last three children were born in Saugeen Twp, Bruce Co. John Laurie b. 1854 (m. Margaret Ellen Brown), Isabella Ann b. 1857 (Michael C. Cassidy) and Robert Reid b. 1863 (m. Christine Ann McIntosh). John Hutchison owned 100 acres Lot 13 Con 6 Saugeen Twp, Bruce Co. His son Andrew Reid Hutchison

was a farmer and owned Lot 10 Con 4 Saugeen Twp, Bruce Co. He was a breeder of fine Durham cattle and thoroughbred sheep. Andrew Reid Hutchison also was a Councilman. Were John and Susanna Hutchison buried in Port Elgin, if not where? Around 1896/97 some of the Hutchison siblings and families moved to Dryden in Northwestern Ontario. Is anyone else researching this family? Anna at [atuncott@drytel.net](mailto:atuncott@drytel.net).

4. Are you searching in Dunblane, Saugeen Township, Bruce County???

Once again I am making the final effort to finish research for my observations of the times and families of the Dunblane area which includes the farms, businesses and other interests from the corner of the three townships, Saugeen, Arran, and Elderslie, approximately a country block all directions. This takes in the community of Ebenezer as well.

Starting with the first family to settle within this boundary was that of Wm. Gowanlock Sr., who took up land for himself and his five sons, a total of just over one thousand acres of land on Concessions 7, 8, and 9 of Saugeen. It's the adventure of looking into the land records of these farms that brings out the adventurous spirit of those hardy pioneers! It was this same Wm. Gowanlock that first held service in his home that started the Dunblane Presbyterian Church, a small simple log building that still stands today after one hundred and fifty six years!!

Other families that came early, and related to the Gowanlocks were, Bryce, Rowand, Scott, Wallace, Armstrong, adding others, McTavish, Richardson, King, Fleming, Pollock, McKechnie, McNeil, Stark, Craig, Fraser, Telfer, Grant, Jones, Burns,

Potts....and many more. Each has a story to tell. Yes the stories are most interesting but family and farm pictures really add to the mix.

I do not wish to repeat what has already been done, but gain new information into the rise and fall of Dunblane. Would you be able to help me with this venture by providing either family or other pictures?

Does anyone know anything of the Dunblane Cheese Co. that was established on the Handbidge farm in Arran Township? Or the Dunblane hotel?

Please email me at: [aumelrosefarm@bmts.com](mailto:aumelrosefarm@bmts.com) or call 519-389-5229.

## **The Amateur Genealogist: Sez Who? Why citation is a hard lesson to learn**

**Another of a monthly series of articles on genealogy, written by members of the Kawartha Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society.**

### **Kawartha Branch, OGS**

By [Fraser Dunford](#)

The hardest lesson for a new genealogist to learn is citation. Every fact has to be backed up with where you got the fact. Without that citation, it is not a fact; it is only an opinion.

This is a particular difficulty with online genealogies, which usually do not have any citations. An amazing number of them are junk and a startling number of people repeat the junk spreading it further. At the recent OGS conference, a genealogist related how he had spotted an error in an online genealogy and informed the author who immediately corrected it. The error was up for less than seven days but so far they have found twelve genealogies repeating the error. Twelve people who did not bother to verify the facts. My favorite online

error is a genealogy listing a father and son where the son was born before the father. Simply a typo you may say, but the birth dates for both people were correct. They were not father and son. It is amazing that anyone could be that careless, but they are.

On another online genealogy, some ignorant soul contacted the families of two brothers, making siblings of first cousins.

Always be skeptical of new data provided by someone else. Look for the citations and look up the citations.

Verify the facts!

Writing a citation is not hard. Imagine that in five years you need to go back to the source of that fact, then write enough get you back.

An easy form is: What it is: where it is

Which would look something like this:

1851 Upper Canada census, Peterborough Co, Dummer Twp, page 17, lines 49-50: microfilm C11748 from LAC, Ottawa, copy in AO, Toronto.

A good genealogist is a skeptic too. Official records can be wrong, as was shown in a recent article in this paper about the Leslie family.

Tombstones in particular can be wrong. There is a tombstone in Warsaw that says the person died over a year after the minister, in the church register, said he buried him. Genealogists like to have more than one independent source for a fact, even a fact provided by an official record. A good genealogist searches all the records and does not blindly accept the first bit of data that comes along.

And then there is out and out fraud. In the late 1800s it was fashionable for successful families to have a family history written by a

professional. Unfortunately, there were people only too willing to provide a glowing family history. These frauds are still around and still cause difficulties for genealogists. There are frauds still being created today.

Ignorance, carelessness, fraud. They exist. You will run into them. Be skeptical. Demand citations and check the citations you are given. Always provide citations for your own work.

*This article was written by Dr Fraser Dunford, a professional genealogist and member of Kawartha Branch, OGS.*

*To contact Kawartha Branch or to comment on this article please send an e-mail to [kawarthaprojects@ogs.on.ca](mailto:kawarthaprojects@ogs.on.ca)*

## **Where Was Donald McC Calder?**

Written by Mary MacKay

Sometime ago a descendant of Donald McC Calder notified me he was coming to Ontario from Edmonton to find out where his great grandfather, Donald McC Calder, lived. Could I help? I accepted the challenge!

I knew a little bit about this family because the McC Calders came from Colonsay where so many of the families I have written about did. I knew there were two Bell brothers John and James, married to McC Calders, who settled on Concession 4 Elderslie near the Twenty sideroad. So that was a good place to start.

I checked the early records where the Bells are listed on the first Voters List for Elderslie (1856). There was a Forbes McC Calder but no Donald. I checked the 1857 Voter's list and still no Donald. The map in the back of "The History of Elderslie" dated 1867 has no McC Calders at all.

I checked the 1861 census of Elderslie – two Forbes McCalders but no Donald. I wonder if one of the Forbes might be a brother of Donald? That took me back to Colonsay records and sure enough on the 1841 census of Colonsay there was a family with two little boys, Forbes 7 and Donald 4. Their father was 70,( strange, a bit old I thought! Maybe an error in transcription, maybe a grandfather?!) There was no mother but four older sisters, one of them Kate. That could be the Catherine who was married to James Bell. No sign of a Margaret who was married to John Bell.

Donald, Forbes and three sisters were still in Colonsay on the 1851 census The father was gone. Sister Kate was gone (in Canada 1848 and married to James Bell from my Bell history)

So let's go back to Ontario and check the 1871 Elderslie census. There he was ! Donald McC Calder 32, his wife Catherine 28 and son Malcolm 5 months. On the census record they were tucked in between James and Catherine Bell and their family of nine and John and Margaret Bell, both 70 years old, with only one of their family of ten still at home.

I knew where the two Bell farms were, John on the north side of the road and James on the south side of the 4<sup>th</sup> of Elderslie at the Twenty Sideroad. Now which farm near there would Donald McC Calder be living on ?

Off I go to the Archives in Southampton and check the land records for both Concession 4 and 5. No Donald McC Calder. Both Forbes McCalders had claimed a farm but not Donald! That puzzled me because he *was* there on the census record.

Let's see where he was on the next census. By 1881 Donald and Catherine had 5 children but new neighbours. They were living at Gillies Hill on Concession 6, lot 16. That's

strange I thought! That farm belongs to Donald Gillies and his sister Janet and her husband John McMillan were farming it. Donald and Catherine must be living in one of the little houses beside the store and post office at Gillies Hill. Whatever is Donald doing to feed his family?

By 1891 Donald and Catherine had 6 living children and three who died as infants and new neighbours again. This time they were living two concessions north, Lot 14 Concession 11. I know that area very well. It's right across from Salem Church! One of my first books was "Families Buried in Salem Cemetery." Donald's neighbours were George McKay, my husband's grandfather and Thomas Follis, the postmaster. Again Donald was not on a farm but living on a small lot.

What was he doing in Salem? I got out my "History of Elderslie Township " and read all about Salem and this is what I found:

Thomas Fallis was a blacksmith at Salem. He lived on the southeast corner of Lot 14 Concession 11. He also served the community as postmaster. He lived in the cottage later owned by Rev. and Mrs. Donald Archibald. The Archibald's used it as a summer home and later retired there. Donald Archibald is buried across the road in Salem Cemetery. Thomas Follis later sold his blacksmith shop to Donald McC Calder. In the early 1920's, the building, no longer a shop, was used to winter George Hall's colts.

There's my answer! Of course! Donald McC Calder was a blacksmith. Each of his moves would be to better serve his clientele.

To round out his story I checked the Elderslie Assessment Records. In 1874 he was living on the east ½ of James Bell's farm. Probably a small lot big enough for his log cabin and blacksmith shop. (That's where he was

when I couldn't find his farm in 1871) In 1876 he was living down the road from his Bell relatives on Lot 24, Concession 5.

A couple of days on Ancestry told me that Donald was in Luss, Scotland for the 1861 census. He must have immigrated shortly after because he married Catherine McLean in York County on August 20, 1869 (so they must have come to Elderslie as newlyweds).

I also found the marriage of their two sons and one daughter in Essex. (They were living in Detroit) and another daughter in Michigan.

The History of Gillies Hill Presbyterian Church named Donald McC Calder as one of the first elders appointed in 1891 when the congregation was organized. The red brick church was not built until 1908.

The Ontario Vital Stats confirmed the birth dates of the children listed on the census records. There were two little girls named Ann, so I looked for the death of the oldest one. Ann McC Calder born May 16, 1880, died May 10, 1882 and the next little Ann was born May 4, 1883. Two babies in three years both born in May!

I figured out which one of the two Forbes McC Calder was Donald's brother. He claimed land near the two Bell brothers, never married and made his home with James and Catherine Bell. He died of blood poisoning in 1904 and is buried in the plot with James and Catherine Bell. (that convinced me that Catherine was their sister)

When a great grandson of Donald and Catherine McC Calder came to visit this August we found a tombstone in St Andrew's Cemetery Concession 4 Elderslie with this inscription

**Donald McC Calder**

**Died March 26, 1911**

**Age 76**

**Native of Colonsay Argyleshire Scotland**

So now we know when he died and where he was buried but why isn't there a gravestone marker for Catherine and the three infants who died. Another puzzle to solve. That's what makes Genealogy so much fun!

### **News from the Bruce County Archives**

*Ann-Marie Collins, Archivist*

*Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant*

*Deb Sturdevant, Archival Assistant*



### **Krug Bros. Co. Ltd. Inventory**

A description of the Krug Bros. Co. Ltd. subseries of the Krug family fonds, as well as an itemized inventory of archival items accumulated and created by Krug Bros. Co. Ltd., furniture manufacturers of Chesley, are now available on the "Search our Archives" page of [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca).

The items have been organized into thirteen subseries. The Human Resources subseries (No. 10) will be of most interest to genealogists as it includes:

- Apprenticeship agreements, 1894-1916
- Contracts to cut, skid and deliver logs, primarily 1899-1913
- General ledgers, containing names of employees, 1890-1907; and
- Employee registers, and some time sheets, 1908-1987

The Historic Documents-Photographs subseries includes a number of employee photographs, including years 1892, 1894, 1896, 1928, 1935, 1950 and 1985.

### South Bruce Peninsula School Records

Around 2009, the Bluewater District School Board transferred Bruce County public school records to the Bruce County Archives. However, there are gaps in their collection as school teachers or board members sometimes kept attendance registers and other records in their homes, even after retirement. Many descendants of those individuals kindly bring those records to the Archives to be restored to their place within the Bluewater District School Board fonds. Recently, the following school records from South Bruce Peninsula have been added to the collection:

- USS 8 Amabel & Albemarle Townships (Greig School) attendance registers for years 1897, 1906, 1907, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1916, 1920, and 1921.
- SS 13 Amabel Township (Chippewa Hill) attendance register for 1919.

### Bruce County Archives Hours

Summer hours are in effect until the end of October 2015. The Research Room is open Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please check our website for holiday hours and call ahead if you are planning to view items stored in the archival storage area. The Bruce County Archives is part of the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, 33 Victoria Street, Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080, ext. 129.

### Bruce County Genealogical Society-2014

E-mail: [brucecgs@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucecgs@yahoo.ca)  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs>

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#### Newsletter

The newsletter is published quarterly: February, May, August, November. Articles of interest may be submitted for inclusion and should give credit to the original source.

**Newsletter Editor:** Shirley Moulton  
 763 Brentwood Dr.  
 Port Elgin, ON  
 N0H 2C4  
 (519) 832-3206

E-mail: [smoulton@bmts.com](mailto:smoulton@bmts.com)

