

# Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County  
Genealogical Society  
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<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~onbcgs>



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## Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

**Date:** Monday, September 11, 2017 @ 7 pm

**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre

**Topic:** Pat Kelly, Greenock Swamp Stills

**Date:** Saturday, October 28, 2017 @ 1:30 pm

**Place:** BGOGS

**Topic:** TBA

**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 @ 12 pm

**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre

**Topic:** Annual General Meeting, Election of Executive 2018/2019

### Resource Bruce Township Migrants *submitted by Ann Judd*

The Township of Bruce Historical Society has assembled a booklet with information on migrants from our township to other places in North America as documented in our history books. Included is information on a few other families as given by TBHS members.

A copy of this resource is now lodged at the Archives, Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. A link to "Bruce Township Migrants" as a .pdf is also available on-line at

<http://brucetownship.ca/tbhs/index.htm>

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I'm outdoorsy in that  
I like to go wander  
around cemeteries.



*Twisted Twigs on  
Genealogical Branches*

## A BRUCE COUNTY NURSE IN WORLD WAR I

*submitted by Donna Coffey*

While much has been written and published about the 160th Bruce Battalion and soldiers of Bruce County, little can be found about Bruce County nurses who served in World War I. This is about one nurse who was born in Port Elgin and served in No. 4 General Hospital of the Canadian Army Medical Corps in Europe.

ELIZABETH NORA CAMPBELL was born in Port Elgin on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, 1884, the youngest child of John Campbell and his wife Annie Maria Coffey. John Campbell was born in Glasgow, Scotland about 1834, son of Dougald and Agnes Campbell. Annie Coffey was born in 1845 in the area of Kilkeel, County Down, Ireland, daughter of William Coffey and Elizabeth McNeilly. The Coffey family emigrated to Canada in 1846 and settled in Arran Twp., Bruce County after being enumerated in Sydenham, now Owen Sound when the census was in January 1852.

Nora attended school in Port Elgin before going to Toronto to begin her nursing training at the Toronto General Hospital. It is not known when she graduated but information in the 1911 census indicates that she graduated prior to 1910. The details of the census show Nora Campbell, habitation Toronto General Hospital, lodger, birthdate June 1884, Scotch, Canadian, Presbyterian, nurse. The number of weeks worked in 1910 is shown as 52. She and 5 others enumerated on lines 1 through 6 on the census page are the only ones listed as having been paid (\$ 480 - \$600), indicating that they were graduate nurses, not students. The other persons on the page are listed as 'nurse', and designated as 'probationer' with no earnings recorded. Hence the conclusion that Nora had graduated previous to 1910.

Information shown for Elizabeth Nora Campbell in the 'Canadian Great War Project' and her Attestation document includes her date of enlistment in Toronto as April 7, 1915, her height as 5 feet 2 inches, hair brown, eyes blue and her next of kin as her mother Annie Campbell, Port Elgin, Ontario.

Nurses had the rank of Nursing Sister in their regiment, the Canadian Army Medical Corps. The nurses of the Toronto General Hospital were assigned to 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian General Hospital (their unit) and moved with their unit as it moved. The 4<sup>th</sup> General Hospital was associated with the University of Toronto.

A photograph of the 'Graduates of the School for Nurses, Toronto General Hospital that were appointed to Staff No. 4 General Hospital' can be found online at Library and Archives Canada. The thirty nine nurses are identified, with E. N. Campbell being in the middle of the front row of seated nurses. The same photograph can be found online at the City of Toronto Archives, captioned as 'The graduates of the School for Nurses who sailed with the # 4 Canadian General Hospital, University of Toronto Unit, May 15, 1915.' The Honour Roll of Toronto General Hospital graduates who served in the First World War includes 135 names (City of Toronto Archives Series 1200 Sub series 3 file 5).

Nursing Sister Campbell served with #4 General Hospital at Shorncliffe in England 28<sup>th</sup> May 1915 to 15 October 1915, Salonica, Greece (capital of the Greek region of Macedonia at the time), 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 1915 to 18<sup>th</sup> May 1916, Kalamaria, Greece 19<sup>th</sup> May 1916 to 17<sup>th</sup> Aug 1917 and Basingstoke, Hampshire Co., England, 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 1917 to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1919.

In the War Diaries of #4 General Hospital some notations related to Nursing Sister Campbell were found. In Salonika, Greece, the group of nursing sisters granted leave of 2 weeks to England,

departing Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 1916, included N. Campbell. During Sept 1917, Nursing Sisters from Salonika were taken on strength at the recently built hospital (originally planned as Hospital for the Insane) at Basingstoke in England. The summary report for June 1918 included the notation 'Sr. E.N. Campbell awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> class R.R.C (Royal Red Cross)'. The 17<sup>th</sup> July notation was 'Sr. E.N. Campbell received 2<sup>nd</sup> class R.R.C. at Buckingham Palace'. On 31<sup>st</sup> January 1919 the number of patients in the hospital was 1621. By 7<sup>th</sup> June 1919 the last 32 patients were evacuated and the staff began completion of the process of closing the hospital. The final entry - 'July 2 – No. 4 Canadian General Hospital entrains and embarks on the S. S. Olympic for Canada'. Canadian Passenger Lists on Ancestry.ca include Nursing Sister Elizabeth Nora Campbell departing Southampton, England on board the Olympic and arriving in Halifax 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1919.

Nora and Dr. John George McLeod were married in Toronto on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec., 1919. The witnesses to their marriage were Nora's sister Nellie Lane and brother in law R. D. Lane. John McLeod was born in Southampton, had attended high school in Port Elgin and graduated in medicine from the University of Toronto. When the census was done in April, 1921 Nora was listed as 'wife' along with her husband in Toronto.

Two items in the Port Elgin Times announced Nora's death and funeral in March, 1932. 'It is with deep regret that friends here learned of the death of Mrs. E. Nora Campbell McLeod, a former Port Elgin girl and popular nursing sister on the staff of the Christie Street Hospital, Toronto, who passed away in that institution .....from pneumonia following an operation about ten days ago'( Port Elgin Times Wed. March 16, 1932). It is stated in her obituary that she joined the nursing staff of Christie Street

Hospital (Veterans' Hospital) in 1921. In the two obituaries, neither her husband nor her marriage is mentioned which seems unusual, but she is referred to as 'Mrs. (Dr.) McLeod' in her mother's obituary in 1926. Had they separated when she began employment at the Christie St. Hospital?

Nora Campbell McLeod is buried in Sanctuary Park Cemetery in Port Elgin along with her parents and brother and sisters. The Campbell gravestone inscription includes information about her service in WWI and at Christie St. Hospital, reflecting her family's pride in her service.

Other members of Nora's family who served overseas in WW I were her brother Wm. Pierce Campbell, her first cousins Edward Coffey and Frederick Coffey, each of whom enlisted in the 160<sup>th</sup> Bruce Battalion and Charles George Stewart of British Columbia who died 11<sup>th</sup> Feb., 1919 in England.

Did other Bruce County nurses serve in World War I? Who were they? What are their stories?



## **BRUCE COUNTY STRAYS - 1941/42**

Victoria Daily Colonist, Victoria, BC

*Compiled by: Leona Taylor*

January 3, 1940, 2 - photo, died December 31, 1939 at Victoria, BC, Angus Beaton McNeill, 80. A former member of Victoria City Council and Victoria School Board, and one time auditor of revenue for the BC Government. Born January, 1859 at Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario he was educated at public schools there. He later taught in Ontario schools for a time, and then came to Victoria, where for some years he taught at schools in Victoria, Oak Bay and Esquimalt. Giving up the teaching profession he was appointed secretary-treasurer of the Victoria Pilotage Assn, an office he held for four years.

He joined the government staff in 1917 as head of the travelling audit department, and retired in 1931.

He was a member of the Baptist Church here for nearly 60 years. He was interested in almost all forms of sport and devoted much of his time to lawn bowling. He leaves 2 sons, widower of Eliza Rae McNeill]: James Rae, San Francisco, Howard W of Vancouver, and daughter, Miss Florence M McNeill of Victoria. Pallbearers: Neil B Pollock, George F Waites, E Hensley, C M Cross, Angus Galbraith, Fred Davey. Family plot, R 084 W N

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January 9, 1940, 3 - died January 7 at Saanich, BC, Mrs Alberta Mary Anderson, born 1878 at Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, daughter of Reverend Dr JL Murray. During the whole of her life she took a very keen interest in music... She leaves her husband, Reverend FW Anderson, son, brother, 2 sisters. January 10, 3 - photo. Cremate

\*

January 18, 1940, 6 - died suddenly

yesterday at Victoria, BC, Mrs Catherine Ellen Calvert, 67, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 28 years. She leaves husband, Frank, son, 3 sisters, 2 brothers [Hopper]. Pallbearers: J Macfarland, WT Straith, JFC Hyndman, JB Munro, Raymond Fraser, EM Brown. Family plot, P 106 E U

\*

January 24, 1940, 6 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Mrs Agnes Gillies Greene, 52, born at Bruce County, Ontario, she came here from Saskatoon in 1911. Leaves husband, CH Greene, son, 2 daughters, father, David Rutherford, 2 siblings. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

\*

February 14, 1940, 3 - found dead February 11 at Saanich, BC, Thomas Halladay, 80, born in Bruce County, Ontario. Leaves brother, Elmer, of Vancouver. February 16, 16 - open verdict delivered... Colwood

\*

February 14, 1940, 4 - funeral of late Mrs Abbie Grasser Craig held. Born February, 1868 at Mildmay, Bruce County, Ontario, nee Abbie Grasser. She moved with her parents to Minnesota, then to North Dakota in 1887. She married Charles BM Craig in 1889, and in 1913 moved to Saskatchewan, then to Chemainus, BC in 1936. She leaves husband 6 children, two brothers, 2 sisters.

\*

February 20, 1940, 8 - photo, Mrs Margaret Freeman, 96, born in Highlands of Scotland, she lived for some years in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario. About 40 years ago John & Margaret Freeman, with their 10 children moved to Victoria. Celebrates birthday...

\*

Died February 28, 1940 at Victoria, BC, Roderick MacKenzie, 67, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 32 years. Was chief engineer at Canadian Western Cooperage. Leaves widow, Mary, 2

daughters, son, brother, 2 sisters.  
Pallbearers: J Woolcock, Ernie Butler, M Whyte, John D McCuaig, Alec T Robertson, WR Emery. R 100 E N

\*

March 15, 1940, 3 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, George Henderson Crapper, 76, born in Warton, Bruce County Ontario, resident here 20 years. Leaves wife. Pallbearers: RT Thompson, RN Brown, P Waterman, L Impey. K 003 E 02

\*

April 17, 1940, 3 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Mrs Mary Louisa Gray, 73, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 38 years. Widow of James, she leaves 2 daughters, sister, brother, RK Sutton, Walkerton, Ontario. Pallbearers: WA Turner, Walter S Miles, AL Robinson, HH Smith, HD Patterson, WJ Llewellyn. Family plot, T 077 E 40.

\*

June 5, 1940, 6 - photo. Died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Dr William E Harper, director for the past five years of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Saanich. Born 1878 in Bruce County, Ontario he attended local schools and the Collegiate Institute at Owen Sound. He taught school for 3 years before he entered University of Toronto in 1902. He was the 1st recipient of the gold medal given by the royal Society of Canada... He came to Victoria in 1919... He leaves his widow, 2 daughters, 3 brothers and 2 sisters. June 7, 3 - funeral... Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

\*

June 30, 1940, 6 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Donald Alexander McNeill, 71, of Saanich. Born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident of BC 35 years. Leaves widow, 2 sisters, 4 brothers [Roger, James, John, Archie].

\*

July 21, 1940, 6 - photo, died yesterday at Oak Bay, BC, Joseph Henry Baker, 82, born in Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario. He came west as a young man and for 20 years he conducted the leading boot and

shoe business in Victoria. He leaves his widow, 2 daughters. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

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August 28, 1940, 3 - died yesterday at Saanich, BC, Mrs Isabella McMorrان, 81, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 50 years. Widow of George McMorrان, the family long resided in the Cedar Hill District. Leaves 3 sons, 3 daughters, 3 sisters [Mrs WD Bell, Chesley, Ontario, brother, James Stark, Paisley. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

\*

September 5, 1940, 6 - died suddenly September 3 at Victoria, BC, Mrs Matilda Gawley, 80, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 58 years. Widow of George Gawley, she leaves 2 daughters, 4 sons [Mrs Oliver Stout]. Pallbearers: J. McConnell, J Anderson, A Goodwin, F Schroeder, D Sprinkling, B Taylor. Family plot, G 027/028 W 09.

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**More Surprises on the  
Other Side of My Brick Wall**  
*by Robert Alexander*

In the May issue of Bruce Bulletin, I wrote about my 2-greats grandfather Joseph Hildred, who had a farm near Kincardine from 1863 to 1893. For some time, I couldn't find information about his parents, and that was my brick wall. I eventually broke through the brick wall and

discovered that he was descended on his mother's side from the Babington family in Lincolnshire. The Babingtons were a very wealthy and influential gentry family and their history going back many generations can be found on the internet. One of their family members, Anthony Babington, was convicted of high treason and executed in 1586 for plotting to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I. To discover that I am related to him was my first surprise. He was a brother of my 9-greats grandfather, George Babington.

Other surprises soon followed. My main source of information about the Babingtons was a long descendancy chart on the internet that lists the descendants of a John De Babington who was born in 1178. This chart identifies my Babington ancestors all the way back to him, and some of them are interesting. For example, my 13-greats grandfather, Thomas Babington, was a wealthy Derbyshire landowner. Effigies of Thomas and his wife Edith lie atop an elaborate tomb inside All Saints Church in Ashover, Derbyshire. They have been there for 500 years. Pictures of the effigies and the tomb are on the internet. Thomas died in 1518 but Edith predeceased him and her body was put in the tomb. Thomas stipulated in his will that his body was not to be put in the tomb because he feared that the tomb might be damaged if it were opened. He is buried under a slab on the floor beside the tomb.

Some of my other Babington ancestors fought in various battles during the Wars of the Roses in the 1400s and at least one was killed. Other Babington ancestors were prominent lawyers and MPs. Some held a post with the colourful title of High Sheriff of Derbyshire, Nottingham, and the Royal Forests. Some were knighted.

By Googling around, I found more surprises on the other side of my brick wall. There is a branch of my family tree that extends all the way back to someone born in 846 named Rollo Ragnvaldsson.

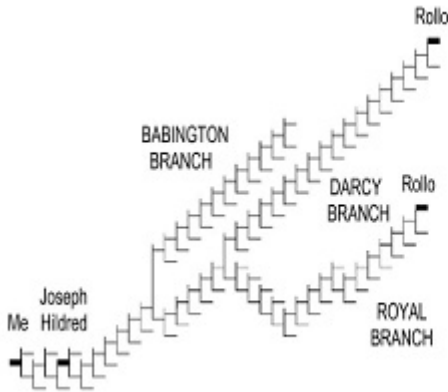
To distinguish this branch from the main branch containing the Babingtons, I call the first one the Babington Branch and this new one the Darcy Branch. It starts with Mary Darcy, my 10-greats grandmother, who was also Anthony Babington's mother. I found this branch using a website that contains the same information as the dependency chart, but goes farther back in time. Its format is interactive. Clicking on anyone whose name is in blue type brings up information about that person.

When I found Anthony Babington on this website, I saw that his mother's name was in blue type. This led to information about her. Then I found information about her father, then his father, then his father, and so on. I continued on and on all the way back along Mary Darcy's paternal line to Rollo Ragnvaldsson. He was a Norse nobleman and the founder and first ruler of the Viking principality of what became known as Normandy. His son, grandson, great grandson, and other descendants were the first rulers of Normandy. These Dukes of Normandy had colourful nicknames — Rollo the Ganger, William Longsword, Richard the Fearless, Richard the Good, Robert the Magnificent, and William the Conqueror. They are my very distant ancestors.

The website had interesting information about some of the families on the Darcy Branch. For example, I have another ancestor who was convicted of high treason and executed. He was my 12-greats grandfather Sir Thomas Darcy, who was executed in 1537 for taking part in a rebellion and handing a castle over to the rebels.

The surprises didn't end there. In a similar way, I found another branch of my family tree that also goes back to Rollo Ragnvaldsson. I call it the Royal Branch because it includes some of the early kings and one queen of England — King William I the Conqueror, King Henry I, Queen Matilda, King Henry II, King John I, King Henry III, and King Edward I. Their

reigns occurred between 1066 and 1307. They lived from about 700 to 900 years ago, and there must be many millions or tens of millions of people living today who are descended from them. Some of these people probably live in Bruce County now. They include any of Joseph Hildred's descendants.



duplication. There must be many branches of my family tree where Rollo is my 33-greats grandfather. There is so much duplication that he would also be included among my 32-greats grandfathers, my 34-greats grandfathers, and probably others. There would be many marriages among the descendants in the same or different generations, and my family tree in the diagram provides an example. At the point where the Royal Branch begins, two of Rollo's descendants were married. The groom was 17 generations down the line from Rollo, but the bride was only 16 generations down from him. He is my 33-greats grandfather in one branch and my 32-greats grandfather in the other.

When I started researching our family's ancestors about 11 years ago, I never imagined that I would find ancestors going back 1,000 years. I wonder what surprises might be behind my other brick walls.

## Arthur's Story

by Glenys Johnson

Arthur's Story began as my desire to show my Aunt Betty that she did indeed have a Family History worth discovering. She was sure there was nothing to tell because her father Arthur Vernon Bowen was, as she described him to me, "an orphan". I was to discover that Arthur was one of Dr. Thomas Barnardo's Boys.

Arthur was born to Rosa Marie Bowen on December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1898 in Worcester, Worcestershire, England. He was one of 6 illegitimate children born to Rosa during Britain's Industrial Age. His story is a real-life story about a boy, like so many others, who was born into poverty and through circumstances out of his control would be forced to live without his mother and some of his siblings. Desperate parents, who were unable to care for their children gave them into the hands of strangers to raise, hoping to give them better lives. Because of the growing gap between the rich and the poor at this time in history families were left destitute and children often found themselves on the streets of Britain's towns and cities fending for themselves as best they could.

Dr. Thomas Barnardo among other charities, sought to help unfortunate children on the streets and in homes where care by their parents was lacking, by opening homes like those in Stepney Causeway for boys and The Girl's Village home in Barkingside to house and educate them. He developed a scheme in the 1800's to send children to Canada and Australia where he hoped they would find safe new homes. The first party of 51 boys left Stepney in 1882, followed the next year by 100 more boys and 72 girls. By 1939, 30,000 children had made their way across the Atlantic.

Arthur grew up in Euphrasia Township in Grey County with William John and Emma Ward, as did his sister Queenie, a Barnardo Girl. Brother Ralph William who came to Canada with Arthur in 1907 was sent to Markdale where he remained for awhile before moving to Saskatchewan where in 1916 he enlisted in the Army. He served with the 147<sup>th</sup> Overseas

Battalion until his untimely death in Somme, France in 1918.

Arthur married Sarah Adelaide Marshall in 1925. They farmed in Euphrasia Township for 25 years while raising a family of three that included my Aunt Betty Adelaide. Queenie married William Thomas Walsh, who was himself a Barnardo Boy. She and William had three children.

Arthur and Queenie led troubled lives that during the course of my research for the presentation of "Arthur's Story", I grew to understand, given the fact that they were forced to leave their homes as very young children only to be sent far away to people and a country they didn't know. Queenie did however recall happy times with her new family in Canada and Arthur did remember his connection to Dr. Barnardo and his charity with fondness and respect. He sent money to the charity as he could afford and wrote to the charity after receiving the Barnardo Good Conduct Medal as follows:

**"Dear Friend: Just a few lines to let you know that I received my medal all right, which you may be sure I will appreciate very much. The medal reached me on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December and I received your letter two days later and was glad to hear from you. I am enclosing one dollar with this letter to help to pay back the Home a little for what it has done for me. Thanking you for your welcome letter and wishing you and the homes every success. I remain one of your Old Boys. Arthur V. Bowen."**

The Bruce Bulletin is available in .pdf format. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email please contact:  
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## **Bruce County Genealogical Society-2017**

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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.

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