

# Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County  
Genealogical Society  
Box 1083, Port Elgin, ON  
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<https://brucecountygenealogicalsociety.ca/>



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## Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

**Date:** Sep 27, 2019 @ 10:30 am - 12  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** Branching Out: Family Tree Building for Kids  
**Presenter:** Learn about tracking your own family tree. Space limited to 15

As a thank you, we gave Vernon a membership to the Bruce County Genealogy Society and a donation in his name to the Charity of his choice. He decided to give it to the Bruce County Museum. As well, a personal gift of Fullerton Maple Syrup.

Afterwards, we went to the Bruce County Museum to partake in coffee and donuts etc. Anne Goeden had a binder full of information about the Saugeen Village and its inhabitants.

**Date:** November 18, 2019 @ 12 pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** Retrieving and Interpreting Military Records  
**Presenters:** E. Clare Stewart and Iain S. Sneyd, Military Genealogists

## Walk and Talk in the Saugeen Village Cemetery

For our July meeting, Vernon Roote, former Chief of Saugeen First Nations, met most of us at the Band Office. We presented Vernon with ceremonial tobacco in a beautiful red pouch. It was a fascinating tour where we all learned so much about the Indigenous culture regarding death, and the practices surrounding it. As well, Vernon explained some of the issues regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Committee.

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## QUERIES

The 98<sup>th</sup> (Bruce) Anti-Tank Battery was mobilized for Active Service in Port Elgin Ontario on July 15, 1940. Many Port Elgin and area men enlisted into the Battery. Along with the 49<sup>th</sup> Battery mobilized in Toronto, the 82<sup>nd</sup> in Gaspe, Quebec and the 16<sup>th</sup> Battery, they formed the 4<sup>th</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment. The 4<sup>th</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment was part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Armoured Division during World War 2.

Initial training of the Regiment took place in Listowel and Petawawa. In August of 1941 it became known that the Division would be heading overseas in October. On the evening of October 5<sup>th</sup> the Regiment marched to the Petawawa Railway siding led by the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Band for the journey to Halifax, Nova Scotia and the ship the HMT Aorangi, that would take them to Glasgow, Scotland.

Without incident and in the blackout hours of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1941, the Regiment marched into the Waterloo East Barracks, in Aldershot, Hampshire, England. And so, began the reality of war.

The Division arrived in Italy in November of 1943 and remained there until the end of 1944. It then proceeded to Belgium where it participated in the final advance into Germany.

It doesn't take much of a detective to uncover the above information about the 5<sup>th</sup>



Ken Fry

Armoured Division of the RCA and the battles they fought for freedom in but knowing about the actual men, their lives and their families is a different story.

So, I've made it a mission to find out what I can about at least the soldiers of the 98<sup>th</sup> (Bruce) Anti-Tank Battery because that is where my father enlisted and where he remained until, according to the Division War Diary, at 0800 hour on October 27, 1945 on "**a fine Autumn Day**"; "**Sgt. Fry left for Nijmegen (Belgium) to join the Canada Draft**". He was subsequently discharged from the Wolseley Barracks, London, Ontario on January 25, 1946.

My work has begun and I've been able to identify most of the soldiers in the Battery but to bring the faces of those I see in the photos I have, I need your help. If your father, grandfather, uncle or cousin enlisted with the 98<sup>th</sup> and you are willing to share their story with me, I am most willing to listen. I would love to know about their families, their lives before and after war and of course I would love to see more pictures.

Perhaps you remember a neighbour whose Dad enlisted in the 98<sup>th</sup> (Bruce) Anti-Tank Battery. I would appreciate it if you could share my request with them.

Please contact me via email at: [glenys@xplorenet.com](mailto:glenys@xplorenet.com) or by phone at 519-379-6403.

Hoping to hear from you soon, Glenys Johnson

## Southampton Cemetery

*submitted by Lolly Fullerton*

The BCGS Cemetery Group were in the Southampton Cemetery taking photos of each stone when we spotted this one!

We noticed Graham S Macaulay, aged 12 years drowned in the Saugeen River. Right then and there we decided to investigate this.

Well, Donald Macaulay, Graham's grandfather, born in 1834 was from the Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides arriving in 1855. Annie McLeod, grandmother, came in 1867. Donald and Annie married shortly after her arrival. Their eldest son John with his wife Margaret McLeod moved to Wiarton. Graham Stuart Macauley (John and Margaret's son) died at age of 12 drowning in the Saugeen River. Unfortunately, two other children died at a young age. Life can be so hard. Norma Mae died of tuberculosis at age 17 and Donald Gordon as a baby.

I checked **John Weichel Research Files Index, A2006.179 in the Bruce County Archives** online! A trove of treasure for the genealogist. Lots of gossipy news as well as facts about our ancestors. Found Graham twice both dated July 25 1907 in the Beacon but with the information I was seeking. What happened to poor Graham S Macaulay?

[http://www.brucemuseum.ca/wp-content/uploads/20121026\\_john\\_weichel\\_research\\_files\\_index\\_a2006179.pdf](http://www.brucemuseum.ca/wp-content/uploads/20121026_john_weichel_research_files_index_a2006179.pdf)

**1907 July 25 [Beacon] Death of Graham Stuart Macaulay, 12, fell from the bridge into the Saugeen; railing gave way.**

**1907 July 25 [Beacon] Graham Stuart Macaulay, 12, of Wiarton, off the bridge into the Saugeen.**

Then I also read what happened to his father:

**1944 Mar. 9 [prob. Beacon] Death of John MacAulay of Wiarton, 78, native Southamptonite; fell from his ice house**

## The Steele Family of Paisley

*submitted by Mary MacKay*

There were men from three generations of the Steele family who left their imprint on the history of Paisley. Hugh Steele the pioneer brought his family to Concession 14 Greenock Township when settlers were streaming into the Queen's Bush looking for land. His second son, Samuel, was a blacksmith, waggonmaker and later operated a general store business in Paisley. Samuel's son James H. operated a harness making business in Paisley for fifty-five years. He was on council for twelve years plus reeve for five years. I have a story about each one of Hugh's family which will appear in this column in the following months. This month let me tell you about the pioneer, Hugh. Hugh Steele was born in County Antrim, Ireland in about 1808. He married Elizabeth Reid who went by "Betsy" and they had two little boys, James and Samuel, before they decided to immigrate to Ontario with Hugh's widowed mother and three married brothers and a sister. They had to leave their second son behind with relatives because he had smallpox and was not allowed on the boat. They settled on a fifty-acre farm in West Gwillimbury Township, Simcoe County near Bradford.

In about 1854 Hugh and Betsy and their family which by now had grown to seven boys and one girl moved to lots 7 and 9 Concession 14 Greenock. Jacob, their youngest son was born in Greenock in 1857 when Betsy was 45 years old. Jacob and his oldest brother, James, both

became missionaries in newly settled parts of Ontario. Fourth son, William, went to northern Michigan and became a Life Saving Station Keeper. Another son, Benjamin, and a grandson went to Deloraine, Manitoba. Their sixth child, named after his father, ended up a blacksmith in Chilliwack BC. Their only daughter, Martha, married and went to the Manitoulin to live.

Hugh and Betsy buried two of their sons in Purdy's Cemetery, John when he was 28 and Thomas, age 31. Betsy died in 1870, age 58 and also was buried in Purdy's Cemetery. Hugh then married Elizabeth Miller who was 22 years younger than him and outlived him by 20 years. They lived out their days on Church Street, Paisley, their house being where the arena parking is today. Hugh died in 1900 at the ripe old age of 92.

*Hugh and Betsy's second son that was left behind in Ireland when the family immigrated came to Ontario on his own at age 17. He apprenticed in a wagon making shop and later set up his own business on Church Street in Paisley ..*

## **Jan-Jun, 1944 The Colonist, Victoria, BC**

*Leona Taylor*

January 9, 1944, 18: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Alexander McLeod, 79, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 21 years. Leaves 3 brothers, 3 sisters.

January 26, 1944, 12: died January 24 at Ganges, BC, Mrs Elizabeth Wakelin, 81, born in Bruce County, Ontario, resident of Salt Spring Island, 51 years. Leaves 2 sons [EM Wakelin, at Tara, Ontario], daughter. St Mary's Churchyard, Ganges.

February 1, 1944, 14: died January 29 at Saanich, BC, George Robert Twamley, 86, born at Wicklow, Ireland, resident here 20 years. Leaves widow, Mary, 3 sons, 2 daughters [Mrs R Turner, Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario]. Colwood

February 4, 1944, 2: funeral services will be conducted for Nursing Sister Catherine Elizabeth Pierce, veteran Great War nurse, who died in Shaughnessey Military Hospital, Vancouver, BC, February 3. A 1909 graduate of Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, she went overseas in January, 1915, returning May, 1919. Most of this time was spent in France and the fighting front. She was awarded the Royal Red Cross Medal for devotion to duty. [daughter of Mr & Mrs Samuel Pierce. [Born Bruce County, Ontario]

May 2, 1944, 13: died May 1 at Victoria, BC, Olive Sofia Lamb, 72, born in Bruce County, Ontario. She moved to Yorkton, Saskatchewan in 1881, and came here 38 years ago. She leaves husband, Robert, 5 daughters, 4 brothers, 3 sisters. Cremate

May 12, 1944, 12: died May 6 at St Albert, Alberta, Mary Elizabeth Churchill, 80, born at Bruce County, Ontario. She had resided in Victoria previously. Leaves husband, Reverend JW Churchill, daughter, son. Family plot, Royal Oak Burial Park

June 20, 1944, 12: died June 18 at Victoria West, Mrs Mary Ellen Creed, 88, born in Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 56 years. Widow of George Creed, she leaves sister, Mrs AP Cody-Johnson. Family plot, M 037/038 W 05

## **John Kadahgegwon, Illustrious Chief**

*submitted by Lolly Fullerton*

Born at Saugeen in 1805. Died here Nov 23, 1888, aged 83 years. Was Chief. At 9 years of age received silver medal from George III for loyalty during the war of 1812. In 1840 he married Negauch Keshegoqua who survives him. In 1849 at the death of Mataywal (a bow) he was elected chief in his stead. He received a medal from HRH on his visit here in 1860.

Chief John was mentioned in the Port Elgin newspaper in 1888, and In the Dominion Illustrated dated Dec 15, 1888. Plus a book all about the Royal Visit in 1860.

He was happily married for nearly 50 years. Only one daughter was mentioned as surviving him. She married John Elias, an Interpreter.

His name means Spotted Feather. At the time of the Prince of Wales visit in 1860, Chief John received personally from the Prince a medal in commemoration of the visit.

He lived through the reigns of King George III, George IV, William IV and lastly Queen Victoria. Prince Albert later known as King Edward VII gave Chief John the medal.

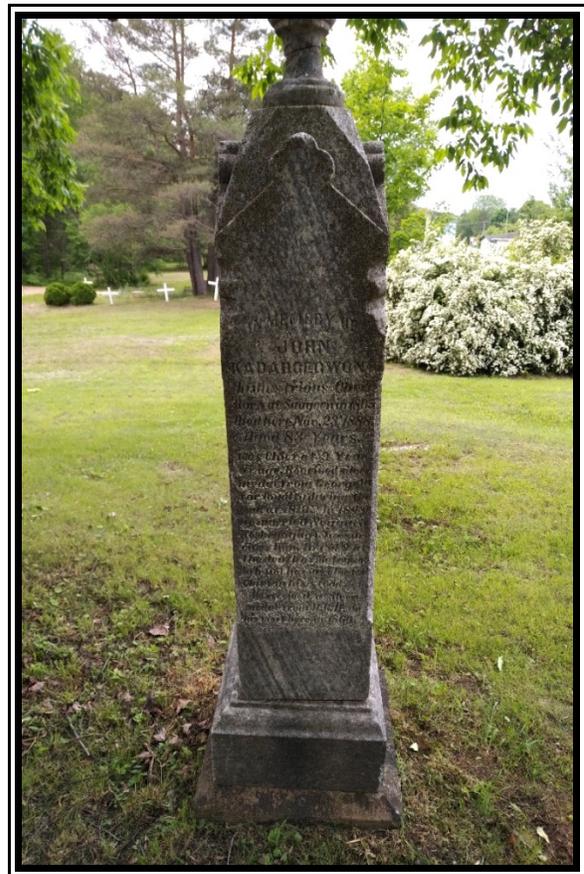
His funeral was a formal affair.

At 11 o'clock the body was removed from the house to the church being carried on the shoulders of the pall-bearers, composed of Chiefs Root and Henry and four councilors of the band. The casket having two large handsome medals presented to the late chief during his life and the British flag.

Rev. William Savage, who had been a minister for 50 years at the Methodist church, was assisted by Mr Sawyer of French Bay, and Big Canoe of Port Credit. The Council

flag with streamers of crepe was carried at the head by John George, one of the Chief's intimate friends, followed by Rev William Savage and Mr James Allen, Indian Agent, and Messrs Sawyer and Big Canoe, next the hearse, alongside being the pall bearers, followed by the mourners. The Indian brass band played the Dead March. As the casket was lowered the band played Nearer my God to thee. After the burial service was read, the solemn strains of "Shall we gather at the River".

The article in Port Elgin newspaper ends with this: "In all respects he was well-fitted to merit the esteem and reverence of his band. He was one of the last of his kind, connecting as he did, in his own person, the history of his race during four of the British throne, to which he was loyal in the highest measure, manifesting on all occasions a spirit of true devotion to his sovereign."



John Kadahgegwon, Illustrious Chief  
Saugeen Village Cemetery

## Helen Wuerth, Obituary



It is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the death of our long standing member Helen Wuerth.

Peacefully, at Saugeen Memorial Hospital, Southampton on

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 in her 91st year. Helen, beloved wife of the late Fred. Loving mother of Amy MacKinnon and Larry Price, and Ross and his wife Monique. Proud Grandma of Ian, Kerri (Tom), Cassandra, Jessica, and Amanda; and G.G. of Niko and Eva. Dear sister-in-law of Audrey Turnbull. Predeceased by her brothers Keith and Rae Turnbull, and by her sister Marion Otto and her husband Jack.

## Meausette Cemetery

### Re-Dedication Ceremony

*by Jenna McGuire*

The Meausette Cemetery (Est. 1860) is located on Lot 32, Con. 6 of Arran Township just east of the village of Invermay. Esther Meausette (Métis) purchased it in 1880 because her family (husband and five children) are buried there along with others (Meausettes, MacPhersons and Hyde) and she wanted to protect the hallowed ground for all time. Esther's own family passed away from tuberculosis, many at a very young age.

The Meausette family home still stands; a log home made of squared timbers. It represents a special place for the Historic Saugeen Métis. The Jesuit priest would stop there for a few days while on a travelling circuit

around his mission, which was based out of Wikiwemikong, Manitoulin. He would stay at the Meausette home for a time and support the Catholic Indigenous families throughout the district who would come to the home to visit him. The home was considered a "station" of his mission. Many of the Historic Saugeen Métis people's baptisms took place at "Meausette Station".

The cemetery is situated in a beautiful place on a small bluff overlooking the Sauble River, at a location where the river re-emerges from underground. Places where water can be heard underground and where water re-merges from the ground are very important culturally to indigenous peoples and are sacred places.

The cemetery was overtaken by forest and many of the stones had fallen. In 2017, the Historic Saugeen Métis with support from Bruce Power contributed to the restoration of the Métis family "Meausette Cemetery". The restoration was led by the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie and the Nicholson family who are the current owners of the property. In 2018 the work was completed to restore the cemetery and erect a cairn. The Historic Saugeen Métis held a ceremony at 10 am on July 24, 2019 to honour the newly restored cemetery, give blessing and put the ground to rest again. Both Historic Saugeen Métis council and Father Chris Tracey gave their blessing at the re-dedication ceremony.



**Father Chris Tracey giving his blessing.**

**News from the Bruce County Archives**

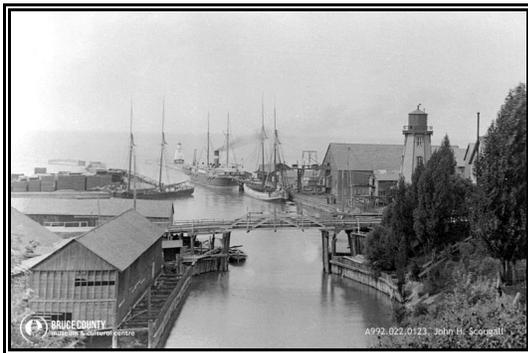
*Deb Sturdevant, Archivist*

*Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant*

*Heather Callaghan, Archival Assistant*

**Kincardine's Scougall and Port Elgin's  
Thornburn Photographs**

Enjoy browsing Kincardine and Port Elgin photographs! In 2019 to date, volunteers have assisted Archives staff in uploading to our Online Collections over 650 descriptions and images of photographs taken in the Kincardine area by John H. Scougall between 1876 and 1922. Scougall was clerk of Kincardine, and an amateur photographer with a professional's eye. His photographs earned awards at the Western Fair in London, Ontario and at Toronto's Canadian National Exhibition. Themes of online photographs focus on buildings and businesses, including images of houses, churches, schools, post office, downtown storefronts, range light, harbour area, Coombe Furniture Factory, saltworks, train station, and more! In the fall, we will begin uploading additional Scougall images with a marine theme. Visit [collections.brucemuseum.ca](http://collections.brucemuseum.ca) and enter keyword "Scougall" to browse these images.



A992.022.0123 - Kincardine Harbour, Scougall

Also recently added to the Online Collection site are over 200 batches of Port Elgin area photographs taken by Port Elgin High School teacher and photographer Lindsay Thornburn between 1950 and 1970. To browse these images, enter the keyword "Thornburn" in the Photos section of [collections.brucemuseum.ca](http://collections.brucemuseum.ca).

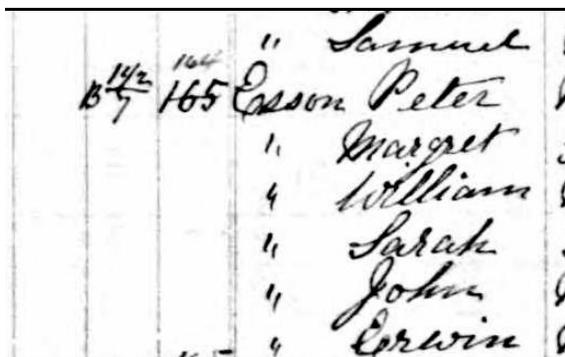
Digital copies of the photographs are available to purchase from the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre.

**Researching Farm Properties**

A few researchers have recently used Bruce County Archives resources to gather information about farm properties and farmhouses. They used land abstracts and township papers to determine original occupiers and owners of the properties. In one case, tax rolls confirmed that the property was being rented to a tenant with a family of 6 for a period of time, which assisted the researcher in confirming that a house was on the property during at that time. Census data was also useful in tracking the existence or type of house on the property. The 1851 and 1861 censuses, for example, indicate the type of building (brick, stone, frame, log, shanty), number of stories and number of families occupying, provided the census taker was diligent in completing that column! The 1871 and 1881 censuses have columns in which the census taker could record the number of shanties, houses, houses in construction, houses inhabited, and houses uninhabited; unfortunately, it appears that these columns were not always completed in Bruce County. That information was more often completed in the 1891 and 1901 censuses. For example, in the "Houses inhabited" column, you may see a notation such as W1-1/4. This refers to a wood house, one storey, with four rooms. The notation B 11/2 / 7 would mean one brick

house with one-and-a-half storeys and seven rooms. These notations, which appear to the left of the names in the census, are often overlooked as they sometimes appear as nothing more than scribbles!

The Bruce County Archives offers paid research services concerning Bruce County genealogy or property research topics for those unable to visit in person. Contact us or visit [brucemuseum.ca/collections-research](http://brucemuseum.ca/collections-research) for more information.



1891 Census Notation

### Bruce County Archives Hours

Summer hours are in effect until the end of October 2019. The Research Room is open Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please check [brucemuseum.ca](http://brucemuseum.ca) 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- 2019

E-mail: [brucecgs@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucecgs@yahoo.ca)

<https://brucecountygenealogicalsociety.ca/>

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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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