

# Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County  
Genealogical Society  
Box 1083, Port Elgin, ON  
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<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~onbcgs>



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## Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

**Date:** March 11, 2019 @ 7 pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** DNA, What's All the Fuss?  
**Presenter:** Lolly Fullerton

**Date:** April 8, 2019 @ 7 pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** Genealogy Workshop  
**Presenter:** Ann Goeden

**Date:** May 13, 2019 @ 7 pm  
**Place:** Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
**Topic:** Surfing the Net  
**Presenter:** Ann Goeden

BCGS Executive Meeting April 8, 2019 at 1:30 pm at the Museum.

Join Glenys Johnson at the Chesley Library on Friday May 10 at 2 pm for her talk on Colonsay.

June 10, 2019 at 7 pm in the Museum Theatre: "Across the Pond", speaker to be announced.

July 8, 2019 will be a cemetery walk and talk at one of our local Bruce County Cemeteries.



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## Queries

**Jacob SCHENK** (1829-1895) 2nd husband and his wife Elizabeth (Rossell) Schenk (1832-1875). Any information on William George Riehl) the first husband would also be appreciated.

Their children were:

1. John Riehl – (1857- 1932) child of George Riehl and Elizabeth Rossell. Married Margaret Blake.
2. Elizabeth Schenk – (1857-1932). Married Sam Taegar.
3. George Schenk – (1859-1942). Married Amanda Krumholz.
4. Regina Schenk – (1861-1915). Married Michael Icheldinger.
5. Philopena Schenk – (1858-1946). Married William C. McKelvie.
6. Henry Schenk – (1863-1955). Married Mary Blake.
7. Caroline Schenk – (1867-1916). Married Christian Eberth.
8. Michael Schenk – (1869-1956).
9. Jacob Schenk – (1873-1955). Married Lydia Bailey.

Jacob and Elizabeth originally homesteaded near Kitchener (formerly Berlin) in Waterloo County, Wellesley Township between 1855 to 1860. They were married July 1, 1856. Later they moved to Bruce County, Brant Township. We know Elizabeth (Rossell) Schenk is buried in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery near Neustadt, Ontario and we have not found, to date, Jacob's burial location. If you have any information please contact me by phone, text, or email: [darcyschenk@accesscomm.ca](mailto:darcyschenk@accesscomm.ca)

## 1943 Victoria Daily Colonist

*submitted by Leona Talor*

February 12, 1943, 3: funeral for Reverend Irving Albert McKelvey, 72, of Victoria, BC, who died February 10 tomorrow. Born in Bruce County, Ontario, he retired to Victoria 7 years ago. Leaves daughter, 4 sisters. Stratford, Ontario burial.

\*

February 14, 1943, 3: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, James L Watson, 65, born in Arran Township, Bruce County, Ontario.

\*

February 28, 1943, 5: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Mrs Margaret Ann Perry, born March 23, 1862 at Bruce County, Ontario. For many years before her marriage to Richard W Perry, she was a trained nurse practising in Nanaimo and Vancouver. Widow of Richard, she leaves 4 nieces, 2 nephews [Taylor]. Royal Oak Burial Park.

\*

March 30, 1943, 7: died March 26 at Victoria, BC, James Edward Thomas, 90, born 1852 in Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario, he came to Victoria with his family in 1886. His wife died in 1939. A contractor, buildings to his credit were old Colonist Building, Jewel Block, Centennial Church, Turner, Beeton Building, and Five Sisters Block... Leaves 2 daughters, son. March 31, 11: photo. Family plot, Q 060/061 W U.

\*

April 29, 1943, 14: died April 27 at Victoria, BC, James King, 79, born in Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 32 years. Leaves widow, 2 sons, 4 daughters. IOOF. Cremate.

\*

May 26, 1943, 12: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, John Douglass, 78, born in Tara, Bruce County, Ontario. Leaves 2 sisters, brother.

Mason, Toronto burial.

\*

May 26, 1943, 12: died May 24 at Saanich, BC, Elizabeth Logan, 84, born in Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 36 years, widow of Edward Logan. Colwood

\*

July 6, 1943, 14: died July 4 at Victoria, BC, Miss Anne Young, of Duncan, BC, born at Bruce County, Ontario, resident of BC 35 years. Leaves 5 sisters, 2 brothers. Vancouver burial

\*

August 1, 1943, 9: Wing Commander JE Johnson, and Englishman commanding a Canadian wing, and Flight Sergeant GM Shouldice, of Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario, destroy a German plane over Holland...

\*

September 1, 1943, 12: died August 28 at Victoria, BC, Mrs Estella Margaret Gokey, 84, born in Thorold, Ontario, resident here 24 years. Leaves brother, Judge CD Owens, at Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario. Royal Oak Burial Park

\*

September 14, 1943: died September 12 at Victoria, BC, Principal Percy H Elliott, 61, head of Victoria College. A leading educator in western Canada, he had been for 35 years associated with school and university life in Victoria. He was beloved by 2 generations of men and women who passed through Victoria High school and Victoria College. Born October 3, 1882 in Bruce County, Ontario. After a brilliant career at McGill he graduated in 1906 with degree of Master of Science. In 1908, he joined Victoria High staff as an instructor in chemistry and physics...

\*

September 15, 1943, 11: photo, died September 8 at Victoria, BC, Percy Elliott Wakelin, 54, born in Clavering, Ontario.

Proprietor of White Owl Taxi Co for 25 years. Previously spent a few years with CPR passenger dept, running out of Medicine Hat. A keen gardener, his splendid vegetable gardens at 1022 Southgate attracted many passerbys. Leaves widow, 2 sons, mother, brothers [one, Edgar at Tara, Bruce County, Ontario], sister. Royal Oak Burial Park

\*

September 26, 1943, 20: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Miss Tena Whyte, born in Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 20 years. Cremate

\*

November 11, 1943, 12: died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Annie Dempsey, 79, born in Pinkerton, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 20 years, beloved wife of John, daughter of late John Wells & Margaret Beaton, survived by husband, 2 brothers, John, Frank. Royal Oak Burial Park

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Canada 1926 census to be released next year...**

The population of the Prairie Provinces of Canada (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) grew much more quickly than in other provinces, so from 1906 additional censuses were held. The 1926 Census has been transferred from Statistics Canada to Library and Archives Canada, and according to this it should be available online from March 2019 - and it will be free.

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/news/Pages/2018/1926-Census-announcement.aspx>

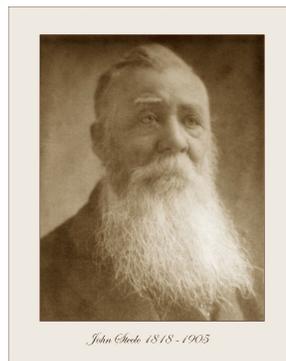
## The Steeles of Burton Agnes *submitted by Shirley Moulton*

William Steele and Elizabeth Massender, lived in Yorkshire, England, near Burton Agnes. Their family consisted of John (1818-1905), Robert (1824-1921), George (1827-1912), and two sisters, one in Bridlington, England and a Mrs. Wilson in Hull, England.

**John Steele**, born March 28, 1818 and his wife, Mary Davidson, born November 23, 1820, were married and came to Canada when their eldest son, Thomas, was two years old. He was called Thomas Davidson Steele. The story is told that John Steele was a stable boy and Mary's family thought she had married beneath her station in life so they broke off relationship with her and so John and Mary set sail for Canada. On the journey over, they were robbed and landed in this country without money. He worked in eastern Canada for four years until he earned enough money to come to Albion Twp. A brother, George, came with him to Canada but Robert remained in England along with two sisters.

**Robert Steele** was born in 1824 and died in 1921. He lived in Burton Agnes, Yorkshire, England. He was married but had no children. He took part in the Crimean War and was one of the noble 600 who took part in the charge of the Light Brigade.

**George Steele** was born in 1827 and died in 1912. He came to Canada with his brother John in 1850. In 1854 he married Mary Ann Armstrong who had come with her parents from Northallerton, Yorkshire, England in 1851. George and his wife had four sons and seven daughters.



John Steele (March 28, 1818-October 12, 1905) and Mary Davidson Steele (November 23, 1820-September 2, 1900) had the following family: Thomas Davidson Steele, Margaret, William, Fanny, John, Robert, Ner, George, Mary and Isaac.

**Thomas Davidson Steele** was born in the Parish of Bridlington, York Co. England on August 31, 1848 and died September 13, 1924. He married Margaret Jane Lipsett (c1855-July 14, 1921) (Margaret's parents were James Lipsett and Margaret Jones Lipsett) on October 30, 1872 in Albion Twp. They lived there for a time and later moved to Bruce County. They had one daughter and a son: Mary Louise (Minnie) and Wellington Steele. Wellington (my grandfather) was born on the 10<sup>th</sup> concession of Bruce Twp. on May 28, 1880.



This tin type was taken on Thomas and Margaret's wedding October 30, 1872.

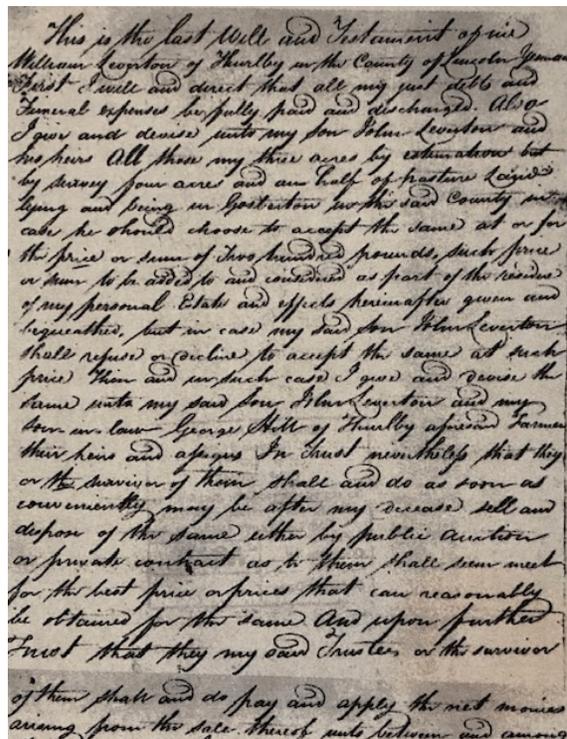
## Seven Tips for Reading old Handwriting

*article from the web*

1. Start by transcribing the letter you can recognize in each word. When you reach the end of the document, go back and revisit the words in the first few lines of the document. You may find that you can more easily read the letters you did not recognize at first.
2. After you have transcribed what you can by going letter by letter, go back through the document to see if you recognize entire words based upon the letters you have transcribed.
3. You can use letters and words you have recognized and transcribed as comparison examples to transcribe more words in the document.
4. Learn about the type of document you are trying to read. If you learn to recognize common terms and abbreviations found in that type of document, you can transcribe those first eg. Is it a baptism, marriage or death certificate? Familiarize yourself with legal and medical terms.
5. If you are reading a handwritten document online from microfilm, look at a few frames before and after the document you are reading. If the same person is recorded on those pages as well, you may spot more words you can recognize.
6. Ask a fellow researcher to have a look at a document you are having difficulty transcribing, or post an excerpt on social media and ask Genfriends to take a run at it. Sometimes another pair of eyes can be helpful for deciphering old handwriting, and your fellow researcher will enjoy the challenge of helping you.
7. Finally Take your time. It is exciting to find a new record and frustrating if you can't read it easily. If you become frustrated, put the document aside for a bit and try again

later. You will find that over time, you will become more at ease with reading old handwriting.

Try your hand at transcribing this will from 1824—see translation below.



This is the last Will and Testament of me William Leverton of Thurlby in the County of Lincoln Yeoman First I will and direct that all my just debts and Funeral expenses be fully paid and discharged. Also I give and devise unto my son John Leverton and his heirs All those my three acres by estimation but by survey four acres and an half of pasture land lying and being in Gosberton in the said County in case he should choose to accept the same at or for the price or sum of two hundred pounds, such price or sum to be added and considered as part of the residue of my personal Estate and effects herein after given and bequeathed, but in case my said son John Leverton shall refuse or decline to accept the same at such price Then and in such case I give and devise the same unto my said son John Leverton and my son-in-law George Hill of Thurlby aforesaid Farmer their heirs and assigns In trust nevertheless that they or the survivor of them shall and do as soon as conveniently may be after my decease sell and dispose of the same either by public auction or private contract as to them shall seem such for the best price or prices that can reasonably be obtained for the same And upon further trust that they my said Trustees or the survivor of them shall and do pay and apply the net monies arising from the sale thereof unto between and among . . .

The Bruce County Genealogical Society gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our many donors during the year 2018. . . .

Linda MacNeill – in memory of John Jack Howard MacNeill

Anne Judd

Margaret Pook

James D. Struthers

John and June VanBastelaar – in memory of John Reynolds

David and Maria Bertrand – in memory of John Reynolds

David and Monika Spaetzel – in memory of John Reynolds

Ronald and Beverley Oakley – in memory of John Reynolds

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Anne Goeden

Dorne C. Fitzsimmons

Richard A. Brunton

Linda Huber

Alice Hoyle

## News from the Bruce County Archives

*Deb Sturdevant, Archivist*

*Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant*

*Heather Callaghan, Archival*

*Assistant*

### Sharing Memories and Knowledge

A number of family histories in the Bruce County Archives' collection consist of narratives revealing life experiences throughout the decades, giving us a glimpse into our ancestor's lives, communities and cultures. These are helpful not only for descendants, but also for anyone interested in a particular time period or geographical area. In addition to genealogists, historic fiction writers also find these reminiscences useful when searching for historic details to establish characters and settings.

In Gordon H. Aiken's "Looking Out on the 20<sup>th</sup> Century," for example, he talks about preservation of food in the fruit cellar, including boxes of celery and carrots covered in soil, hampers of winter apples, and preserves. Electricity came to his Allenford home around 1928. Life without automobiles must seem completely foreign to recent generations. Aiken's discussion of his family's journey home to Allenford from Oshawa with their new 1930 Chevrolet is interesting to ponder. They had to drive the 250 km distance at a speed no greater than 24 km per hour. The car had to be "broken in"; there were grindings in the cylinders that had to be flushed out, and other parts that could stick or bind if overheated.

Concerning new automobiles, "Ginn and Toe" by Mary Ann Shewfelt reveals the reaction of children Mary

Ann Hughes ("Ginn") and Flora Bell Hughes ("Toe"), born in Bruce Township in 1902 and 1903, the first time they saw a car while visiting family in Teeswater around the 1910s. "When their mother got in the car to ride as far as the barn, they all cried, because they were so afraid of the car and thought they would never see their mother again!"

Personal reflections on the freedom and play of children in earlier years are also both entertaining and informative for children living different experiences in modern times, or for those who find themselves living similar experiences as residents of yester-years! Aiken reflects on the Allenford school playground in the 1920s, recalling that they had no playground equipment, no supervision, and no rules. The boys played baseball or scrub (banging the ball around with only one base), made up games, climbed over the fence into the gully which ran around the school yard, and sometimes fought. In "Ginn and Toe," Mary Ann Huges recalls many interesting activities and excursions of children in the late 1900s and early 1910s. She mentions picking wild strawberries and raspberries (with her big sister giving her chewing gum so she wouldn't eat all the berries), walking with her younger sister, for the first time, 2.5 miles to Tiverton's McKellar's store to spend their 3 cents, and spurring a search party when they returned late after staying to watch firemen fighting a fire. Very different from time spent in front of screens today, Mary Ann and Flora spent a good deal of every summer out in the fields and woods, picking wild flowers by the armload and gathering ginger root and leeks; they could not resist eating the leeks even though their sister threatened to make them sleep in the barn if they ate them again. They waded into the creek with their clothes on, caught polliwogs, and watched the lazy dragon flies hovering over the water. One day Ginn lifted a

board that was over a hole in the ground and a swarm of bees came out and chased her all the way home, glad that her mother always forced her to wear a straw hat as she kept swinging it at the bees as she ran, suffering only one sting.

In the 1910s, when Mary Ann and Flora's mother had no time for baking bread, Mary Ann and Flora would wait at the corner of Highway 21 and the 2nd of Bruce for the daily stage coach which ran between Port Elgin and Kincardine. The coach always carried a box of bread from the bakery in Port Elgin, destined a Tiverton store. The children would flag down the stage coach and buy a few loaves of bread for 5 cents each.

If you're interested in discovering family histories with lively narratives, try searching [collections.brucemuseum.ca](http://collections.brucemuseum.ca) catalogue using the term "rural life" or "domestic life" (in quotations), then visit the Research Room to have a look at the books. You don't need to publish a book to record some of your favourite childhood, young adult and adult moments. Why not write, type, or verbally record some of your favourite childhood memories for others to read, listen to, and reminisce about in the future! Works that reflect experiences living in Bruce County are welcome additions to the Bruce County Archives collection. Feel free to contact us about the donation process if you would like to share your memories with a wider audience!

### **Archives Awareness Week**

Admission to the Research Room will be free from April 1-6, 2018 in recognition of Archives Awareness Week.

### **Archives Hours**

The Research Room is open Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On

Saturdays, the Research Room is closed over the lunch hour from 12 to 1. Please check our website for holiday hours and call ahead if you are planning to view items stored in the archival storage area or to make a donation. The Bruce County Archives is part of the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, 33 Victoria Street, Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080.

## **Bruce County Genealogical Society- 2018**

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

### **Executive**

<b>President:</b>	Glenys Johnson
<b>Vice President:</b>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	David MacRae
<b>Assistant:</b>	Sylvia Hasbury
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Anne Goeden
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Anne Goeden
<b>Past President:</b>	Doug Lennox

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<b>Cemetery Co-ordinator:</b>	Lolly Fullerton
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<b>Research Co-ordinator:</b>	Sylvia Hasbury
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<b>Publication sales:</b>	Helen Wuerth
<b>Publication Co-ordinator:</b>	Bill Stewart
<b>Publicity:</b>	David MacRae
<b>Clipping Collection:</b>	Volunteers
<b>Cards:</b>	Judy MacKinnon

### **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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