

Bruce Bulletin

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

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs>



Volume 25, Issue 1
February 2014
ISSN 1184-7387

Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

Date: Monday, March 10, 2014 @ 1 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre.
Topic: Internet Workshop with Anne Goeden

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2014 @ 7 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Introduction to Genealogy during Archives Week

Date: Monday, June 9, 2014
Place: Start at Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Bus Tour: Lighthouses with Bruce County Historical Society

Bruce County Tombstone Challenge *submitted by Marie Charbonneau*

The idea for an activity to stimulate members' interest as well as that of the public was accepted at the December 2012 meeting. A News Release was submitted to seven County newspapers and to the Society newsletter, *Bruce Bulletin*. Eight categories were set. Replies were received for each one, a total of nineteen submissions. As agreed at the October Executive Meeting, all winners will receive a \$15 gift certificate redeemable for Society

membership or towards purchase of any publication. The officers of the Society were the judges.

The results are:

1. The most distinctive or bizarre stone: McNeill Family proposed by **Jack Cumming**.
2. The most outlandish, colourful, romantic or poignant epitaph: Mary Wiley sent by **Diane Ferris**.
3. The most famous person: that of Dr Walter Bagot Thorp, also from **Diane Ferris**.
4. A relatively unknown character who made a mark on the outside world: John Stewart as found by **Marguerite Caldwell**.
5. An epitaph known to be chosen by the person before death: Grace Robertson discovered by **Diane Ferris**.

Contents

	Page
Upcoming Meetings and Events/ Tombstone Challenge Results. . . .	1/2
Queries/Bruce County Strays 1936.	2/3
Bruce County Strays in 1937.....	4/5
Willie of the Hill.....	5/7
News from the Bruce County Archives.	7
BCGS Information.....	8

6. The stone or epitaph most detailed about the person's life: John Kadahgegwon, as chosen by **Lolly Fullerton**.
7. The stone or epitaph most descriptive of the person's occupation: Snyder from **Marguerite Caldwell**.
8. The tombstone naming the most family members: The Campbell Family stone sent by **Denise & Dave Cheer**.

We wish to thank all the participants for interesting, suitable and well thought out entries, as well as all those who assisted the project in any way. Detailed results will be published in future issues of the *Bruce Bulletin*.



The most distinctive or bizarre stone: McNeill Family proposed by **Jack Cumming**. Located in the Rusk Cemetery, part of lot 6 Con. 10 Elderslie Township. This is a steel stone which appears to have been struck by lightning.

. . . . More winners in upcoming editions. . . .

QUERIES

1. **MCLEOD, Lillian (Lillie, Lily)**. Born in Bruce on 5 Nov 1861 and moved to Saginaw, Michigan as a young child. No records of her until 1880 (census, city directory), married 1881, and died in 1895- parents unknown. The 1880 census states that both parents are from Scotland. She was a domestic servant at 18 and I assume her parents died but not in Saginaw, Michigan. I wish to find out who her parents are. If you have information, please contact me email: nichelle.barra@gmail.com

2. **WOELFLE, Martin John**. I am researching Martin John Woelfle who married Magdalene Donnenworth in about 1848. I know Martin was born in Germany but we desperately want to know WHERE in Germany he was born (birth approx.1823). He immigrated in 1843. I cannot find any immigration records. I have found him in the census and have found his death certificate from Elderslie Bruce. I know that he lived in the Bentick, Grey County area from approximately 1860s-1890s then he moved to Elderslie, Bruce area until he died on 12 June 1911. I would love to find his obituary or picture of his gravestone in Bruce. Any help would be greatly appreciated. My mailing address is: 12539 Cerromar Pl. Fairfax VA 22030 email: jenealogy208@gmail.com

Bruce County Strays–Victoria Daily Colonist, Victoria BC, in 1936 *submitted by Leona Taylor*

Died January 28, 1936 at Vancouver, BC, George Watson, born near Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, he came to Victoria in 1890, and for a number of years was employed by Victoria Transfer Co. His wife predeceased him, he leaves 2 sons, 5 sisters, brother. Vancouver burial.

Died February 7, 1936 at Sidney, BC, James Wilson Bryce, 80, pioneer of North Saanich. Born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 59 years. For 20 years he was manager of Victoria Truck & Dray Company. He took an active part in the Yukon gold rush of 1898. In 1901 he acquired Sidney Island, with his brothers, Robert and William. He was also owner of 300 acres of land which he later sold to CNR, George Sangster and late J S H Matson. Leaves widow, Jennie, son, daughter, brothers, Robert, Saanich, and David, in Paisley. Royal Oak Burial Park.

Died February 10, 1936 at Victoria, BC, David Fair, 73, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 34 years. He was a well-known stock-breeder there, shipping cattle for exhibition as far away as England. He was active in the gold rush of 1898 and in 1901 came to Victoria. Leaves widow, son, daughter, 2 brothers. A son, John, was killed in the Great War. Colwood.

Died March 13, 1936 at Victoria, BC, John Martin Fraser, 78, born at Freulton, Bruce County, Ontario. He was a pioneer of Pilot Mound, Manitoba, where he was a well-known banker. Leaves widow, daughter, 2 sons, siblings. Pilot Mound.

Died suddenly March 15, 1936 at Saanich, BC, William John Fanning, 77, born at Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 2 years, coming from McLean, Saskatchewan, where he farmed 50 years. Royal Oak Burial Park

April 18, 1936, 1; 4 - died April 17 at Victoria, BC, John Watts Sluggett, 78, born in Owen Sound, Ontario, educated in Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario, and when about aged 18 he came to a farm in Saanich.

His father, late John Sluggett, purchased 700 acres of land there and brought the family to reside there. At one time the family owned 1,100 acres, believed to be the largest farm ever operated in Saanich.

Predeceased by his wife, Eva, in August 1934, he leaves 3 sons, 2 daughters, 3 brothers, 2 sisters. Shady Creek.

Died May 6, 1936 at Victoria, BC, Miss Mary 'Mollie' Jane Davey, 78, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, coming with her parents resident here 56 years. Pallbearers: W Swire Mitchell, William White, William Savage, R H Green, William Craigmyle, Robert Peden. Family plot, B 095 E 28.

Died May 15, 1936 at Victoria, BC, Donald McKay, 68, born at Underwood, Bruce County, Ontario. He entered the tire business at an early age, and at the time of the great fire in San

Francisco in 1906 he was sales manager there for the Diamond Rubber Company. He came to Victoria in 1918 and joined the staff of Thomas Plimley, as head of the tire department, retiring in 1928. Leaves 3 sisters, 2 brothers. IOOF. Royal Oak Burial Park

Died June 6, 1936 at Victoria, BC, Charles Walter Macintosh, 64, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, he learned telegraphy in his father's post office in Ontario. He came west, where shortly after his arrival he joined the staff of E&N Railway at the Victoria station. After spending a short time here he was transferred to up-Island points. In 1896 he was appointed local agent in Victoria. Coming here just prior to the Klondike gold rush he played an important part in the development of the city in those days in his capacity as a railway employee. He was intensely fond of yachting and boating and was a member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Oak Bay, for many years. Mason. Leaves brother, Santa Monica, California, and a sister in San Francisco. June 20, 5 - funeral... Cremation. R 076 E S

Died June 9, 1936 at Victoria, BC, John Wesley Robb, 55, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, late of Tisdale, Saskatchewan. Leaves widow, 2 daughters, 4 sisters. Royal Oak Burial Park

October 4, 1936, 10 - Mr J C Wilson, eldest son of late Horace A Wilson, who conducted a drug store at Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario, visits after absence of 51 years... Met old friends, Norm Fox, Dr H H Sinclair. He was accompanied by his wife and youngest sister, Edith. A brother, Arthur, died suddenly at San Francisco two years ago. Wilson is a close relative to the late Sir Arthur Knyvet Wilson, who succeeded Lord Fisher as First Sea Lord of the British Navy.

Bruce County Strays in BC in 1937

submitted by Leona Taylor

Died January 9, 1937 at V, Mrs Sarah Maria McGregor, 72, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 61 years. Widow of Alec, she leaves 3 sons, 2 daughters, sister, 2 brothers [Graham]. Pallbearers: C Pearson, Inspector Robert Owens, Alderman J A Worthington, W P Worthington, J Speed, H Brown. Family plot, R 074 W M.

*

Bldg/January 31, 1937, 3 - James E & Emma Thomas celebrate 50th wedding anniversary - she was born in Bideford, England, nee Glover, they came to Canada when she was a child to Invermay, Bruce County, Ontario. He was born at Bolton's Village, Ontario, and with his parents moved to Tara, Bruce County, where he later learned his trade as stonemason and bricklayer. They married at Invermay.

When they came to Victoria he entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, George Glover, a firm that was identified with much of the early building in Victoria. The Colonist block was erected by this firm, and in 1896 they were the contractors for the foundations of the present Legislative Buildings. From 1899 to 1903 Thomas was in Rossland, where he superintended the building of the Courthouse and Bank of Montreal there. For a time he was a member of the firm of Martin & Thomas, contractors, from which he retired in 1915. They had 4 children.

*

Died February 1, 1937 at V, Mrs Margaret Jean Mackenzie Walker, 75, born July 8, 1861 in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 52 years, she married Walker in 1883 and came to Victoria in January, 1885. Widow of Sergeant Robert Hampton Walker, she leaves 2 sons, 2 sisters, 2 brothers [MacKenzie]. Royal Oak Burial Park

*

March 30, 1937, 2 - died yesterday at V, Dr Morley C Salmon, 51, born in Lucknow, Bruce County, Ontario, he was for many years a prominent and highly-respected resident of

Calgary, Alberta, where he practised as a physician and surgeon. Leaves widow, 2 sons, 2 daughters. His mother and a brother reside in Port Elgin, Ontario. Calgary

*

Died August 7, 1937 at V, James Henry Dickson, 73, of 202 Raynor Avenue, son of James Henry & Phoebe Dickson, born in Thorold, Ontario, resident here 37 years, formerly senior member of Dickson & Howes, cabinet manufacturers of Victoria.

Predeceased by his first wife, Ellen Whitefield Dickson in 1901, he leaves widow Hannah Jessie [daughter of John & Caroline [Haslam] McDonald of Prince Edward Island, born Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario], 6 sons: Arthur in Everett; Howard, in Birmingham, Alabama; Percy, in Seattle; Gordon, Victoria; Donald, Sayward; George, Nanaimo, and 3 daughters, Mrs E LaPine, Seattle, Mrs Smith & Miss Margaret Dickson, Victoria [2013: now Mrs Margaret Trowsdale, 97, still resident of Victoria]. Pallbearers: W A Blake, H E Wille, A Stevens, G Okell. Family plot, P 092 E I.

*

August 14, 1937, 16 - Bruce County Old Boys' Assn hold 5th annual picnic at Victoria. Officers are: James Dinsmore; Frank Schroeder; W A Hendry; Angus Galbraith; Robert Allen, A B McNeill.

*

Died October 26, 1937 at V, Miss Emma Lillie Blakeway, youngest daughter of late Mr & Mrs Thomas Blakeway. Born in Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario. Leaves sisters, brother. ROBP

*

Died December 10, 1937 at Vancouver, BC, Lady Christina Margaret McBride, 67, widow of Sir Richard McBride. Born 1870 in Ripley, Bruce County, Ontario, daughter of Neil McGillivray, she came to New Westminster, where she was living at the time of her marriage in 1896. Their home for 12 years, between 1903-1915, was at Gleneig, Gorge Road, when McBride was Premier of BC. When Sir Richard went to London in 1915 as BC Agent-General, Lady McBride accompanied him, but returned here after his death in 1917. Until 2 years ago

she lived at 830 Quadra Street, but latterly had been staying with 2 of her daughters, one in Calgary and latterly in Vancouver. She leaves 6 daughters. December 14, 6 - funeral... Pallbearers, all sons-in-law: Marshall Beck, Captain Macgregor Macintosh, Dr John H Moore, Maurice Carmichael, Basil Hood, Bruce Forbes. Family plot, R 077 W R.

*

Died December 9, 1937 at V, Alexander McLellan Bannerman, 79, born at Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 50 years. He was an alderman here nearly 30 years ago. Leaves widow, Fannie Louise, daughter, son. Pallbearers: A E Mallett, M Kirkpatrick-Crockett, A Jones, T S Mills, Fred Butterfield, Cyril Barker. Family plot, H 087 E 16.

Willie of the Hill

Submitted by Mary MacKay

Let me introduce you to Willie of the Hill. His real name is William McLaughlin and he was an early settler on lot 16, Con 10 Elderslie. He was given this interesting nickname to distinguish him from his cousin, William McLaughlin, who lived across the road. His log house and barn were on top of the steep bank along the east side of Snake Creek. Thus Willie of the Hill was a very appropriate name for him, one that researchers find easy to latch on to.

When I was attending the OGS Conference in Oshawa last June, a pleasant-looking lady stopped to speak to me. "Are you Mary MacKay from Paisley?" she asked.

Surprised, I admitted that I was, as I twisted my head around to read her name tag, *Margaret McLaughlin*. Didn't ring a bell with me.!

Her second question surprised me even more. "What do you know about Willie of the Hill?"

"Willie of the Hill!" I exclaimed. "Well I know where he lived when he was in Elderslie and somewhere in my McLaughlin file I have 1871 census record for him, I think."

Her third question really caught my attention, "What do you know about Sarah Jane McLaughlin and her husband William Rusk?"

"Woa," I replied, "quite a bit. They pioneered on the farm where we lived for over 50 years. They had a family of twelve and moved to Paisley in 1876 where he operated a very successful pump making business."

Now it was my turn for a question. "What do you know about them?"

"Sarah Jane McLaughlin was my great-grandfather's sister and I think Willie of the Hill was their brother. I was hoping you could help me prove that?"

That was an interesting challenge. She had her McLaughlin history with her but I hadn't worked on my husband's grandmother's genealogy for over ten years.

We had a good visit at the Conference and planned a day when she would come to Paisley. That didn't happen until October but we had a great day sorting out McLaughlins. I showed her where the four McLaughlin brothers on our branch settled and she told me all about her branch that settled in Howick Township, Huron County. But we parted without solving the puzzle of Willie of the Hill.

"I should be able to find out where Willie of the Hill fits in," I thought and immediately set out to prove it. If he is a cousin to the four McLaughlin brothers in our branch then their fathers must be brothers. I made myself a descendants chart with the farthest back couple I knew at the top- Thomas McLaughlin and his wife Mary Stafford. They had five known adult children who came from County Caven in about 1828-1832 settling first in Megantic County, Quebec for nine or ten years before moving to Darlington, Durham County in about 1837. So I made a column for each son. I'll call them I II III IV and V so as not to confuse you with names are repeated in every generation.

I didn't have to do all the research. Paul Turner had been collecting McLaughlin genealogy from several sources for many years. His branch was Branch I so it was well researched and sources stated so I listed all of the seven children who had a total of 33

grandchildren including the famous branch that lived in Oshawa and created the McLaughlin car. The only William there was born in 1818 so that was too old for Willie of the Hill who according to the 1871 census was born about 1829.

Branch II was ours so I listed the 4 that I knew about and from Paul's notes added three more half-brothers I didn't know about before and continued on.

Branch III claimed to be the first McLaughlin couple to come to Canada and all known children were born in Ireland but only 7 of 11 could be accounted for. However it did say there was a William because he put up the stone for his parents in Enniskillen Cemetery so he was listed at the end of the column, born in 1833 and they called him Willie of the Hill married to Margaret Jane McComb with a daughter married to John Williscroft. And I fell for it! There's our Willie. Not in Branch V where we wanted him to be.

So I emailed my visitor, Margaret McLaughlin, and said "I'm taking Willie of the Hill out of your branch because we really had no proof he belonged in Branch V and Paul Turner's record said he belongs in Branch III.

I did not rest well that night. Poor Willie not only lost somewhere in the US after leaving Elderslie now he'd been kicked out of his lawful place in family history. About 2:30 of a sleepless night I came to the conclusion I had acted in haste. I should have checked my sources. Who had submitted this info? In the morning I was going to take a hard look at the source of information in Branch III.

As mentioned above, Branch III had not been researched in depth as Branch I and II was. Many names were missing in the generation that would be Willie of the Hill's siblings. But wait- the note said Willie of the Hill's daughter married John Williscroft. I wondered if I could find him in my extensive Williscroft file?

In no time I found the marriage of John Williscroft to Mary Ann McLaughlin. John was the son of Jane Blackburn and James Williscroft and Mary Ann was the daughter of William McLaughlin and Margaret Jane

McComb.

Great! I was feeling very smug and in turn very foolish because right on the copy of this marriage I had written "Willie of the Hill. " The info about Willie of the Hill recorded in Paul Turner's records had come from me!! I was the only one who knew he had a daughter married to John Williscroft. Ten years or more ago I had added him to the Branch III because it was the only branch at the time that had a William of about the right age.

Embarrassed I emailed Margaret McLaughlin and said "I'm reinstating Willie of the Hill in your branch. Now I just have to find some proof."

Well I hadn't much to go on because there was no birth registration or baptism for Willie although there was for his older siblings and younger sister. So why not Willie? Maybe he didn't belong in Column V after all.

Next day at the Archives I found his marriage to Margaret Jane McComb in Darlington Township in 1851 but no parents were given.

I looked for a William McLaughlin on 1861 census. There were several in Ontario to pick from but I found Willie and Margaret in Wallace Township, Perth County with four children. Assessment records for lot 16, Con 10 Elderslie told me Willie had a brother Alexander who turned over the farm to Willie in 1868 so I checked my 1871 Elderslie census which I had from ten years ago to remind me when Willie came to Elderslie. They had eight children by then.

Tracking a family by census records had been a successful way for me to research a family before but to continue I needed to find where Willie went in the US. My Williscroft notes said maybe Willie followed his brother Alexander to Michigan.

Well it was a long shot but worth a try. Back to the Archives and Ancestry.com for Michigan census. Good luck again! I found Willie and Margaret in Sanilac Co. Michigan with the four youngest children who had been born in Elderslie and three more boys born in Michigan. The family now totalled 12 children

although the older ones were all away from home and didn't show up on any Michigan census.

I was making progress but not in the direction of what branch Willie belonged in.

I have had great success while doing other families in the USA by using "Find A Grave" Site but there wasn't one for Willie of Margaret Jane. So I began methodically looking for each of their twelve children in turn. No luck until #6 Alfred and #8 W Thomas who were both buried in Watertown, Codington Co. South Dakota. That's my first breakthrough! Because a sister of Sarah Jane McLaughlin was also living in Watertown so if Willie belonged in this family his family had settled near his sister.

Pretty weak proof but wait. It gets better.

Child #9 (of Willie of the Hill) was called Agnes. She had married James Mitchel and also went to Watertown, SD to live. With her Find A Grave record was a little history which confirmed who Agnes's parents were so I knew for sure I had the right person. This Find A Grave Record had also recorded the name of the source with the note "*Agnes was my husband's grandmother.*"

I couldn't believe my luck. I had found a *living* descendant of Willie of the Hill! I immediately emailed her and waited one whole day for a reply. But it was worth the wait! She sent me back what appears to be the obituary for Willie of the Hill, confirming what I already knew about where Willie had lived but the statement

William McLaughlin's parents were John McLaughlin and Margaret Collins

Did you hear me cheering? That's what I was trying to prove and **I did it**. I was so excited I didn't rest well that night either. About 2:30 in another sleepless night I had the devastating thought that I'd been douped again. Maybe in her report about William McLaughlin she was only recording what I had already told her because I had told her who I believed to be Willie's parents.

I wasn't waiting a whole day to get her reply to that question. I headed for the Archives before Sue was even open for business. I was

going to find the death registration for Willie of the Hill. My new contact had given me a date and place of death. I found it! Complete with all the details I needed including name of Father *John McLaughlin*. Name of Mother *Margaret Collins*.

That time I'm sure you did hear me cheering!

It paid to make a guess and then proceed to prove it.

Try it next time you hit a brick wall.

News from the Bruce County Archives

Ann-Marie Collins, Archivist
Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant
Deb Sturdevant, Archival Assistant



New Research Room Acquisitions

The following resources have been added to the shelves of the Research Room over the past few months:

- *Bruce County's Black Pioneers, written and edited by Sylvia Hasbury*
- *Family Histories: Graham family, Shier family, Mills-White family, Guest family, Campbell family, corrections/additions to "From the Shamrock to the Maple" Collins family; Laretta Collins Mills Memoirs; Engel family; Monk family; "Children of Murdock McLennan; chapters concerning the ancestors and descendants of William James Harris; and additions to "Descendants of the Family of Walter Wardrop and Mary Lawson"*
- *Gould Lake Family Stories booklet*
- *The Historic Schwan Breweries with abridged family genealogy, by Terry Schwan*
- *Strange Adventures of the Great Lakes by Dwight Boyer*

- *History of Schools of Bruce Township*
- *Knox Presbyterian Church, Tara, Centennial Historical Sketch 1858-1958*
- *Christ Church Lion's Head, 1883-1983 Centennial Book*
- *Kinloss United Church, Centennial 1874-1974 booklet*
- *Sacred Heart Church, Teeswater, Ontario, 1878-1978*
- *Wesley United Church Centennial, 1976, Glimpses from the Past*

New Archival Acquisitions

Downey Collection

Hilda Fairbairn Downey of Tiverton was an avid genealogist and historian. Although she was not born in Bruce County, she embraced her new community of Tiverton and became an authority on it and the surrounding area. Hilda always answered genealogical and historical queries and if she didn't know the answer, she would find it out.

She was the first secretary of the Bruce County Historical Society when the organization reformed in 1957 and stayed in that position for over 20 years. She was also an active member of the Eskdale Women's Institute and a founder of the Bruce County Museum. Hilda died April 1, 1997.

The Hilda Downey collection is in the process of being transferred to the Archives. If anyone is interested in assisting the BCM&CC staff in processing the collection we are looking for volunteers to work with us to make this fantastic historical material available as quickly as possible to researchers.

Archives Staff and Hours

The Research Room is open Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until April 2014. 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 N., Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080, ext. 129.

**Cemetery Publications are
available at our website:**
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs>

Bruce County Genealogical Society-2013

E-mail: brucecgs@yahoo.ca
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs>

Executive

President:	Doug Lennox
Vice President:	
Secretary:	Marilyn Perkins
Assistant:	Sylvia Hasbury
Treasurer:	Anne Goeden
Membership Secretary:	Anne Goeden
Past President:	Anne Goeden

Committees

Mail Secretary:	Helen Wuerth
Cemetery Co-ordinator:	Lolly Fullerton
Library Co-ordinator:	Cecile Lockrey
Research Co-ordinator:	Sylvia Hasbury
Newsletter Editor:	Shirley Moulton
Newsletter Assistants:	Audrey Underwood Mary MacKay
Webmaster:	Louise Stewart
E-mail Correspondent:	Anne Goeden
Publication sales:	Helen Wuerth
Publication Co-ordinator:	Bill Stewart
Publicity:	Marilyn Perkins
Clipping Collection:	Volunteers
Cards:	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.

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

E-mail: smoulton@bmts.com

