



## **Grande Prairie & District Branch Alberta Genealogical Society**

**Heritage Seekers  
December 2003, Vol. 26, No. 4**

---

### **Bill's Blurb**

Bill Lappenbush  
Branch President

As we draw near to the close of another year and look forward to the promise of the next, we can look back with pride on the accomplishments of society's branch and look forward to future activity. Among the most recent activities, and ones I wish to extend a special thanks to the individuals involved, are the cemetery recording at the Glen Leslie Cemetery, the AGS, Grande Prairie branch, booth at the mall and the beginners course at Beaverlodge. A big THANKS goes to all volunteers.

I would like to thank members for the support I have received this year. Special thanks goes to our past president, Judy, and vice-president, Maxine who so willingly filled in, for me, when I was unavailable.

I wish you the best of the season and look forward to a prosperous and active New Year.

### **From the Editor**

Judy Bradley

December is once again upon us, and with it comes this issue of Heritage Seekers. It is choc full of interesting articles for your reading pleasure.

Of special interest is our feature article Royal Fun with Compiled Genealogies by Bill Lappenbush, our president. This article is written tongue-in-cheek, and is meant to entertain you. Bill, the good genealogist he is, feels he must prove each step back. So when you read his article, read it with this in mind. It is meant to be fun.

Laura Turnbull has updated us with an article on members' interests. Are you making use of this service for you?

I would like to take this time to thank Mary Nutting, Patricia Greber, and Lynda Shopka for helping to see that our publication is published and delivered to you.

In closing, I wish to send seasons greetings to all.

Enjoy your family - past and present!

## Membership Renewal

Lynda Shopka

Your 2004 Membership Renewal Form was enclosed with the November issue of *Relatively Speaking*.

Please forward the completed form to the GP Branch or AGS office as soon as possible so that there will not be a delay in receiving your next issue of *Heritage Seekers* and *Relatively Speaking*.

Be sure to complete your Surname List and sign the disclaimer if you wish your information to be published by AGS

## Royal Fun with Compiled Genealogies

Bill Lappenbush

***Disclaimer: Who has not found compiled genealogies that show illustrious or famous ancestors? This is about one that I found. Until proven it is only fun. Genealogy it is not. All links in the compiled genealogies referred to here have not, to the writer's satisfaction, been verified. This is not the way to do genealogy. At best it is an example of what is yet to be proved or disproved.***

My main focus of genealogical research has been on tracing my ancestry back to immigration to North America. But, of course I am not going to ignore that which is readily available. Many of my maternal grandfather's maternal lines go back to New England, early 1600's, and much has already been compiled and verified on these. Following a compiled genealogy, on my Friend branch I traced my ancestry to a 13 x great grandfather, John Popham. Imagine the surprise of discovery as the following came to light! Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice of the Kings Bench, was an ancestor of mine.

*"POPHAM, SIR JOHN (c. 1531-1607), English judge, was born at Huntworth, in Somerset, about 1531. He was educated at Balliol College, Oxford, and called to the bar at the Middle Temple. Concerning his early life little is known, but he was probably a member of the parliament of 1558. He was recorder of Bristol, and represented that city in parliament in 1571 and from 1572 to 1583. He was elected Speaker in 1580, and in 1581 became attorney-general, a post which he occupied until his appointment as lord chief justice in 1592. He presided at the trials of Sir Walter Raleigh and Guy Fawkes. Towards the end of his life Popham took a great interest in colonization, and was instrumental in procuring patents for the London and Plymouth companies for the colonization of Virginia. Popham was an advocate, too, of transportation abroad as a means of punishing rogues and vagabonds. His experiment in that direction, the Popham colony, an expedition under the leadership of his brother George (c. 1550-1608), had, however, but a brief career in its settlement (1607) on the Kennebec river. Popham died on the 10th of June 1607, and was buried at Wellington, Somerset" from the 1911 edition Encyclopaedia.*

I had no idea that my ties to colonial America went back this far.

*"The Popham Colony was the first organized attempt to establish an English colony on the shores of what we now know as New England. It was planted at the mouth of the Kennebec River in the summer of 1607 and lasted for little over a year until it was abandoned in the fall of 1608. Popham was not the first European colony in New England. The French were earlier with a brief settlement on an island in the St. Croix River between Maine and New Brunswick in 1604. Although Popham was the first claim of possession of what was then called Northern Virginia by the English, the honor of the actual founding of a "New" England belongs to the Pilgrims who established the first permanent settlement in Massachusetts Bay thirteen years later. Despite its precedence, the failure of the Popham Colony to endure has rendered it a nearly forgotten historical footnote. Its failure, however, was an important step in the ongoing experience of English colonization and the lessons learned contributed directly to the ultimate success of the Pilgrims." from: <http://www.pophamcolony.org/>*

According to documented compiled genealogies, Sir John Popham is, through his mother, descended from John of Gaunt Plantagenet, third son of King Edward III (1312-1369).

To put this in perspective, King Edward, if my calculations are correct, shares the dubious honour, with over 8,000,000 individuals, of being a 21x great grand parent of mine. This makes my claim somewhat insignificant and reminds me of a quote from Sir John Popham "It is best for man not to seek to climb too high, lest he fall." [Lat., In medio spatio mediocria firma locantur.] free rendering of the Latin in sentencing Raleigh to death, quoting Nicholas Bacon.

Amy Popham, Sir John's daughter and my 12x great grandmother, married Thomas Horner, my 12x great grandfather. Thomas was the son of John Horner, of little Jack Horner fame.

"Little Jack Horner  
Sat in a corner,  
Eating a Christmas pie;  
He put in his thumb,  
And pulled out a plum,  
And said,  
What a good boy am I!"

According to information at <http://www.rooneydesign.com/JackHorner.html>, "Little Jack Horner, was anything but a good boy - he was a thief and a scoundrel! According to legend, the Bishop of Glastonbury sent his steward, Jack Horner, to King Henry VIII with a Christmas gift - a pie in which were hidden the title deeds to twelve manorial estates. On his way to the king, Jack popped open the pie and stole the deed to the Manor of Mellis, a real plum of an estate. To this day the Horner family resides there."

Along the lines of nursery rhymes and fables, I found a fanciful, and, of course undocumented genealogy of 141 generations from Amy Popham back to Adam and Eve. Just how would sources survive the Flood anyway?

It appears that our medieval ancestors were not quite as scientific about genealogy as we are today. They were not unlike the Romans before them who compiled genealogies showing their descent from gods.

We may not shake gods or mythological ancestors from the branches of our family trees. However, I encourage fellow genealogists to keep shaking those branches. There is a lot of history there. I am always amazed at what I do find.

## **Members' Interests on Our Website**

Laura Turnbull

We have had a service for Branch members on our website on the Internet for over five years. You are invited to submit the names you are researching for posting on this page along with your email and/or regular mail address. If you have a website and wish me to include a link to it on the Grande Prairie Branch page, let me know the address for that as well.

If you do not have an email address, you can still submit your names for inclusion on our Internet page. You would need to include your regular mailing address so that people would be able to contact you.

Grande Prairie & District Branch webpage is at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~abgpags/>

The interests are posted at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~abgpags/interests.html>

To participate, just send your interests to me and I will put them out there.

The format to use is the same as that used with the "Roots Surname Index", a free service available on the internet at <http://rsl.rootsweb.com/>

If you have already submitted your names to the "Roots Surname Index" and wish me to use your names as found there, just let me know one of the 'less' common names in your list and your 'tagname' in the index. I can then go there and quickly pick up the entries with all the names, dates, and places.

If you have not submitted your names to the "Roots Surname Index", please put your information in the following format and send it to me. Remember to let me know the email address and/or regular mail address to use for your entries.

Format to use:

Bauer c1850 now Crimea,RUS>AB,CAN  
Bennett c1790 c1870 LEI,ENG  
Bloss 1587 1889 ENG>MA>CT>NH>NY,USA>QC,CAN  
Braun 1880 1970 Essen,DEU  
Bush 1857 1955 LND,ENG>ON,CAN

If you have any questions, please contact me through the Grande Prairie Branch addresses shown elsewhere in this issue.

Looking forward to including your interests on the Grande Prairie & District Branch website.

## Old Newspapers

B. Joan Bowman

### **Feb. 1, 1926 Issue:**

"Funeral of Edward HOCKEY . . . Rev. A. GRAHAM officiated . . . Interment in the Grande Prairie Cemetery."  
(Editors note: No date of death or relations mentioned).

### **Feb. 8, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. Frank GUTHRIE on Feb 2, a daughter."

### **Feb. 15, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. Frank SPICER, at the Grande Prairie Hospital Feb. 6th. a daughter."

### **Feb. 22, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. G.A. DUNCAN, Feb. 15th, a son."

### **Feb. 29 and Mar. 8, 1926 Issues:**

No births, marriages or deaths found.

### **March 15, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. J. MITCHELL of Detroit, Michigan on March 2, a son. (Mrs. Mitchell was former Miss Hilda MOON . . . "

**March 22, 1926 Issue:**

"Double wedding on March 15, Rev. A. GRAHAM, pastor of the United Church officiated. Miss Hulda S. DOLEMO, youngest daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Carl DOLEMO of Valhalla became the bride of Merlin J. HORNELAND, son of Mr. And Mrs. J. HORNELAND of Valhalla . . . And Miss Jenny DOLEMO, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Carl DOLEMO, became the bride of Mr. Vaughen I. KENNY son of Mr. And Mrs. Oscar C. KENNY of Grande Prairie . . . "

**March 29, 1926 Issue:**

"Died Marie Owen GEORGE at the home of her son, March 18, wife of Peter GEORGE Sr. Mr. GEORGE was born in Menyshis County, Ontario on April 12, 1845 and married Mr. GEORGE June 5, 1865 . . . six children . . . Rev. A. GRAHAM officiated at the funeral. Interment at the Grande Prairie Cemetery . . . Survived by her husband, and five sons: William of Nobleford, AB; John and Peter of Grande Prairie, James and Albert of Vancouver, BC"

**April 5, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. Ervine William CROSSFIELD, AB, a son on March 21."

"Notice to Creditors and Claimants in the Estate of William E. CARLL, deceased, late of the hamlet of Sexsmith, AB, farmer, deceased 3 March 1926 . . . "

"Notice to Creditors and Claimants in the Estate of Olaf Andreassen WALD, late of Sexsmith, farmer, deceased . . . born January 1926 . . . "

"Notice to Creditors and Claimants in the Estate of Christ SORENSON, ate of Rio Grande, AB, farmer, deceased . . . 15 July, 1925 . . . "

**April 12, 1926 Issue:**

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. A.B. HOPKINS of Hythe at the Grande Prairie Hospital, March 4, a son."

**April 26, 1926 Issue:**

"Rueben COOKE, resident of Arudel, Quebec, for over 67 years died at his home April 2, at age 84. Born in Hawkesbury, Ontario, March 20, 1842, second son of Coral COOKE and Euphemia BLACK. His grandfather, Rueben COOKE of whom he was named after, came from Ticonderoga, NY with the United Empire Loyalists and settled in Chatham, Quebec in 1807. When age four, Mr. COOKE moved with his parents from Hawkesbury to Grenville, Quebec and thirteen years later moved to Arundel where Mr. COOKE'S father had purchased 700 acres . . . His first marriage was to Agnes THOMSON on March 15, 1869 and four children were born to them. Agnes died June 1875. On September 25, 1877, he married Mary, daughter of the late Donald LOYNACHAN of Beech Ridge, Que. And one daughter and six boys were born to this union. Surviving Rueben COOKE are two daughters and eight sons: Mrs. E. CAMPBELL at home, William S. on the old homestead, Rueben of Stanbridge, Quebec, G. Frederick, T. Edmund and D.L. of Grande Prairie, Mrs. Rev. C.F. BOWEN of Brockville, Ontario; Rev. H. SELWYN of Seeley's Bay, Ont.; D. Bertram and R. RAYMOND of Grande Prairie . . . Funeral service conducted at the United Church at Arudel on Sept 4 with Rev. HUBLEY officiating . . . "

## From the Stacks

Gail Schau

**Books new to the library this month are:**

- B.C. Local histories: a bibliography
- How do I Prove It? by Penny Christensen
- Let's Get Organised by Penny Christensen
- Irish Ancestors - A Beginner's Guide by Bill Davis
- Tracing Your 20th Century Family History by Stuart A. Raymond
- Make History - A Friesen Guide to Producing Your Own Book

The latest order of 1871 census microfilm is in and will be in the cabinet shortly (as soon as it can be processed by the Peace Library System)

If anyone comes across any books, magazines, etc while doing your own research that you think would be of benefit to any of our library users, please let me know.

## Family History Centre

Gail Schau

Our local FHC is now back in operation after being closed for renovations since April. Patrons now enter the building from the south west entrance. There is an abundance of parking for everyone. Once inside, follow the signs to find the new home of the FHC. There are 4 computers to help you with your research, and the FHC has a subscription to Ancestry.com, which can be a great benefit especially if you are working on American roots.

The Family History Centre  
is located at  
11212 102nd Street  
Grande Prairie, AB  
Phone: 780-532-3609

**Hours:**

Tuesday 10am-4pm, 6:30pm-9:30pm;  
Wednesday 1pm-4pm, 6:30-9:30pm;  
Saturday 10am-3pm.

The LDS Family History Centre  
would like to thank the AGS members  
for their patience and help  
given to us while we were closed and  
during our re-opening.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

Verna Hockey

## Harness Bells

Fran Moore

Not 'so long ago', -when horses were life, - the necessity,  
We lived in a quieter world, with the forest in its majesty,  
I can remember!

Not 'so long ago', -the old clock ticked to mark our time,  
With rides in buggy or cutter, they were oh so sublime  
I can remember!

Not 'so long ago', -down a lovely twist, hilly trail we went.  
Peaceful, pastoral countryside in summer, it was heaven sent,  
I can remember!

Not 'so long ago', -come winter, the frost with all its twinkly sight,

Sleigh runners make a crisp crunch, pushing through the snow tonight,  
I can remember!

Not 'so long ago', -Grandpa at the reigns, ever chawing on his snuff,  
Bundled up, I could ride along, forever, and never, never get enough,  
I can remember!

Not 'so long ago', -on the horse, the sturdy harness was thrown,  
Harness bells, jinglin, to tell the winter birds of our presence known.  
I can remember!

## Gleanings

Patricia Greber

Alberta Family History Society Chinook,  
Vol. 23 Issue 4, Sept. 2003

- Squeezing as Much Information As you can from the Glenbow Archives

Lambton Lifeline, Vol. 20 No. 3, Sept. 2003

- Wanstead Train Wreck Dec. 26, 1902, lists names of deceased and injured, etc.
- Dawn Twp. Historical Soc. Looking for submissions of family information for book

Scan - Simcoe Co. Ancestor News,  
Vol. 21 No. 3, Sept. 2003

- The Gendron families of Penetanguishene, Ontario
- A.C. Osborne's Pioneer Papers

Haldimand Past Times OGS,  
Vol. 14 Issue 3, Sept. 2003

- Possible Historical Sites in Dunn Twp.
- Glimpsing into the Past - abt. Alexander McDonald Lockhart.

Past Tents, Thunder Bay District OGS  
Vol. 24 No.3 Sept., 2003

- More Scottish Census Information

Roots Branches and Twigs, Kent Co. OGS  
Vol. 26 No. 3

- The History of the French's School House, Chatham Twp.

Saamis Seeker, Medicine Hat and District Branch AGS  
Vol. 24 No. 3, Sept. 2003

- Some Cautionary Thoughts - a well thought out article about what will happen to your if disaster strikes

Past Finder, Drayton Valley Branch AGS  
Vol. 1 Issue 3, Aug. 2003

- Sources for Medical or Nursing Personnel

Roots and Branches, Wetaskiwin Branch AGS  
• Subject: Wetaskiwin Branch Library

Origines, Bulletin of the Society Historique & Genealogique of Smoky River, July 2003

- Falher, Donnelly, High Prairie and McLennan give Enthusiastic Support to Highway Assoc. from Peace River Record 8/10/1925.

The British Columbia Genealogist,  
Vol. 32 No. 3 Sept. 2003

- Did your ancestors Homestead in the Railway Belt? - Alphabetical finding aid - letter "D"

Everton's Family History

- Shakin' Down Your Family Tree - The Art of Collection Oral Histories
- Writing Your Life Story
- Scottish Census Indexes
- Guilds and their Records: An Irish Occupation Source

Saskatchewan Genealogy Society Bulletin

Vol. 34, No. 3 Sept. 2003

- The Jean Doidge papers - collection of family news that was broadcasted over the radio 1947-1960.

BRANTches, Brant Co. OGS, Vol. 23 No. 3 Sept. 2003

- Brantford Daily Courier - deaths 1899

Hamilton Branch, Vol. 34, No. 3 Aug. 2003

- Pre 1837 BMD's (England)

Kingston Reflections, Vol. 30 No. 4 Sept/Oct. 2003

- Exploring the Latter Day Saints 1880/81 census records for the first time - tips for searching the census

P.E.I. Genealogy Soc. Newsletter #106

Vol. 28 No. 3 Sept. 2003

- The Yankee gale of 1851 - story of a storm in PEI.

The Tree Climber, Red Deer AGS

Vol. 24 No. 3 Sept. 2003

- Parvisse de Notre Dame de l'Assumption - Sylvan Lake Baptism records 1912 to 1924 - lists name, baptism and birth date, parent's & godparent's name

Ancestor Hunting, Vol. 25 Issue 3 Sept. 2003

Sudbury District OGS

- Ontario Strays from Manitoulin District

Our Waterloo Kin, Waterloo OGS

- Devonians in Ontario - a new newsletter for those whose family came from Devon, England to Ontario
- Missing from 1871 census indexing project - the following pages in NOT on the on-line census index for 1871 pg. 19-47 for Tuckersmith Twp. Huron Co. They are listed in the newsletter.

Yesterday's Footprints, Lethbridge AGS

Vol. 20 No. 3 Sept. 2003

- City Directories - how to use them in genealogy
- Canadian Naturalization and Citizenship records

Norfolk Branch OGS, Vol 17 Iss. 3 Oct.

- Cemeteries of Courtland

News and Views, Leeds and Grenville Branch OGS

Vol. 29 No. 5 Sept./Oct. 2003

- An abbreviated History of the Proprietors and Residents of 21 Ormond Street
- Baptisms from the Parish Perth Diocese of Kingston 1823-1850

Quinte Kin, Vol. 4 No. 4 Dec 2003

- 2003 list of surnames being researched by members

Everton's Family History, Nov/Dec 2003

- The Tapestries of Our Life - story about heirloom quilts
- Unmined Genealogy? Stamp collections and what they can tell you about your ancestor
- Recipes
- Scottish Surnames & Christian names
- A Modern Immigration Experience
- Spanish Research
- Mapping program

Bruce Bulletin, Vol 14 Iss 4 Winter 2003

- Bruce County photographers 1880-1881

Kingston Relations, Vol. 30 No. 5 Nov/Dec 2003

- Never Give Up - stick with your genealogy search

Oxford OGS Nov. 2003 The Tracer

- Middle Names in the 19th Century
- The Dornoch Connection - The Thistle and the Maple Leaf

Halton-Peel Newsletter

- Newspaper Extracts from The Acton Free Press
- Tombstone Tales of St. Peter's Anglican Church - Erindale
- Lost Hamlets of Peel County - Frogmore

East European Genealogist

Vol 12 No 1 Fall 2003

- Identifying Slavic Surnames
- The German Ethnic Group in the Polish State

Family Chronicle, Dec. 2003

- Federal Records of Your Immigrant Ancestor
- The British 19th Century Surname Atlas
- Genealogical Gems Found in land Records
- Acquiring a Real Coat of Arms
- Breaking Down Brickwalls with Family Heirlooms
- Thanks to PERSI
- Foraging Your Family History From Facts
- Genealogy Websites Worth Surfing

Huron Co. OGS Rooting Around Huron

Vol. 2 No. 4 Nov 2003

- A Letter to Ireland Feb. 10, 1839
- Visitors to the Log Cabin Research Library

Powell River Genealogy Group Tree Talk, Oct. 2003

- J.P. Blair Family
- Petersfield Workhouse

## Old Newspapers Website

Paulette Hrychiw

I was watching the History Channel the other night and they had an advert about a web page that has old newspapers. I checked it out and it looks very interesting. It's a pay site, but they have a two week free trial period.

The site has mostly Canadian Newspapers, with a great search feature that highlights the word or phrase entered in bright yellow when found in the paper. Thought it might be a good tidbit for the newsletter:

Paper of Record: Newspaper Archives from Around the World

<http://www.historytelevision.ca/paperofrecord>

## **Meetings**

are held at the  
Grande Prairie Public Library  
Meeting Room, 9910 - 99 Avenue,  
Grande Prairie, Alberta  
Third Tuesday of each month  
Except for July, August, and December

## **Executive**

**President:** Bill Lappenbush  
**Vice President:** Maxine Maxwell  
**Secretary:** vacant  
**Treasurer:** Margaret Kay  
**Past President:** Judith Bradley

## **Committees**

**Cemeteries:** Hugh Impey  
**Historian:** Fran Moore  
**Library:** Gail Schau  
**Membership:** Lynda Shopka  
**Obituaries:** Laura Turnbull  
Leita Askew  
Paulette Hrychiw  
Gail Schau  
**Phoning:** Evelyn Stark  
**Publicity:** vacant  
**Researchers:** Paulette Hrychiw  
**Researchers:** Joan Bowman  
**Volunteer Coordinator:** Gail Schau  
**Website:** Laura Turnbull

### **Newsletter "Heritage Seekers"**

**Editor:** Judith Bradley  
**Layout & Copying:** Mary Nutting  
**Distribution:** Lynda Shopka

## **Library Hours**

9910-99 Ave, Grande Prairie  
Telephone: 532-3580  
Mon - Thu - 10 am to 9 pm  
Fri & Sat - 10 am to 6 pm  
Sun - 1 pm to 5 pm

**Mailing Address:** Box 1257, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 4Z1

**Branch Website address:** <http://www.rootsweb.com/~abgpags/>

**AGS Website address:** <http://abgensoc.ca/>

**Published by**  
**Grande Prairie & District Branch**  
**Alberta Genealogical Society**  
**Box 1257, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 4Z1**  
**Volume 26 Number 4 December 2003**  
**ISSN 0707-0780**