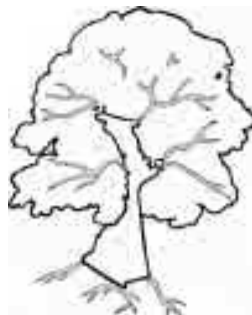


Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County
Genealogical Society
Box 1083, Port Elgin, ON
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Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

Date: Monday, June 11, 2018 @ 7 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Finding Great Grandma's Grandchildren
Presenter: Ruth Burkholder

Date: Monday, July 9, 2018 @ 7 pm
Place: Ripley-Huron Cemetery
1 Park St., Ripley
Topic: Cemetery Walk and Talk
Presenter: TBA

Date: Monday, Aug. 13, 2018 @ 7 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Author's Night
Presenters: TBA

More Upcoming Events

May 14 - Tales from the Mule Skinner - presented by Jim Merriam at 7 pm at the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre.

August 17-19 - Paisley Steam Show. We are still looking for volunteers to help at this event.

September 28 - British Home Children - presenter will be Allan Thompson at 7 pm at the Bruce County Museum and CC.

October 15 - "Colonsay" Presenter will be Glenys Johnson at the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre.

November 19 - Our annual Meeting at noon at the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre. Everyone welcome. Guest speaker to be announced at a later date.

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Kenneth Cameron's Ancestry Discovered at Cherry Park

submitted by Gordon Richardson

My journey of discovery began seven years ago when curiosity took hold about my mother's family the Cameron's of Rossburn, Manitoba. My mother had told me stories of my grandfather, William, stringing a rope between the house and barn not to perish in a wild Manitoba snow blizzard or the challenges her mother Bella Cameron faced in the late 1880s as a young bride from Ontario living with her husband and three brothers in a small log house. I learned where my great grandparents Kenneth and Annie Cameron homesteaded in 1850 from the Grey County, Ontario—Osprey Township History. But, where did Kenneth Cameron and family come from in Scotland? A hint of their origin in Scotland was provided in the Argyll Cemetery, Shoal Lake, Manitoba where my Cameron grandparents are buried. It has several family grave stones of McLeans and Lamont's indicating Tiree, Argyllshire as their homeland.

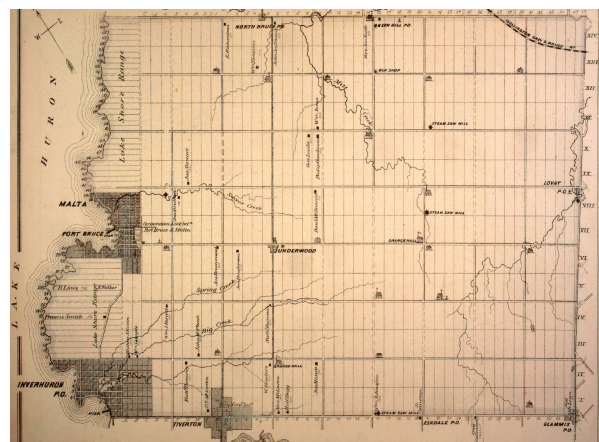
When the 1841 census was available on the Isle of Tiree Genealogy website I found my great grandfather Kenneth Cameron age 25, labourer on Tiree. The Scotlands People website documented Kenneth's birth and his 1844 marriage to Agnes (Annie) Morrison in Campbeltown, Argyllshire. However, the trail went cold when I tried to go back beyond Archibald, the tailor of Heylipoll, Tiree—Kenneth's father. By chance, I met Flo Straker at the Tiree Homecoming in May 2016. She researched descendants of Kenneth's siblings on the Island of Tiree, in addition she suggested I approach the Duke of Argyll's Archives at Cherry Park to learn more.

Alison Diamond had just arrived as the new Archivist when I contacted them. She kindly assembled information from the Duke of Argyll's 1776 and 1792 census. This was my Eureka moment, it filled the gap created by the lost Tiree Kirk baptism and marriage records. There was my ancestor Archibald his father John, and Archibald's grandfather Kenneth, who would have been born before 1750. These records showed that John Cameron's family lived close by that of Flory Lamont whom he later married. The 1776 census from the Archives along with the 1792 census added two more generations to my Cameron family tree.

Charles and Archibald Cameron Purchase Property in Bruce County

submitted by Gordon Richardson

Land Transfer records indicate that Charles and Archibald Cameron moved to Bruce Township, Bruce County some time before the 1881 census. Charles is listed as a labourer and Archibald as a carpenter. It appears other members of the family and Annie Cameron managed the farm in Osprey Township, Grey County.



Bruce Township, Bruce County, Cameron property
17 lots to the right of Lovat PO

The Bruce County Archives hold land transfer and tax information. They have a contract dated March 19, 1875 between Archibald Cameron and a Donald McDonald for the purchase of a 10 acre parcel of land on the north west corner of Concession 8, Lot 17, Bruce Township, Bruce County. Tax records indicate 3 of the 10 acres were cleared in 1876 and a value of \$ 270. The record for 1881 indicates 7 acres were cleared and the land was valued at \$300. This property was shared by Archibald and William as both names appear on the tax records and the county list of voters for 1881 and 1882. The closest post office was at Gresham, less than 2 miles from this location. An Allan and Murdock Bell owned a lot next to the one purchased by Archie and Wm Cameron.

The Bell brothers, Murdock and Allan were sons of Donald MacMillan Bell, and according to their family history Donald had immigrated to Brock Township in the early 1840s. Allan and Murdock were half brothers as Murdock's mother Mary McKinnon died when the family lived in Brock Township in the 1840s. Later Donald MacMillan Bell married a Flora McKinnon about the time the family moved to Bruce Township. Allan Bell was one of the children from that marriage.

Donald MacMillan Bell was born at Mannal, Island of Tiree about 1811 and with his brothers Archibald and John emigrated to Canada in the 1840s. Upon arrival in Canada the three brothers stopped using the family name MacMillan and adopted the family name Bell. Bell is a sept of the MacMillan family. Likely this decision was due to the large number of MacMillans and the desire to minimize confusion.

In the community of Bruce Township, Bruce County there was a Malcolm Cameron family, which may be related to Kenneth Cameron's family many decades

earlier in Tiree, Scotland. At this time there no proof of a direct blood relationship. The daughter of Malcolm Cameron, a Rebecca Cameron married an Allan Bell who was a brother to Isabella Bell who married Wm. Cameron.

Annie Cameron appears to have been with her sons in Bruce Township when she died in 1879. Annie is buried in Lovat Cemetery which is only a couple miles down the road from the property Archibald and William occupied. Kenneth's wife, Annie is buried at Lovat Cemetery in Bruce Township, Bruce County.



Annie Cameron relict of Kenneth Cameron, died Feb 16, 1879.

Her stone reads Annie Cameron relict (old English for widow) of Kenneth Cameron. Ann Morrison Cameron's Ontario Death Certificate dates her death as 16 Feb. 1879 Bruce Township, Bruce County. Annie Cameron's stone at Lovat Cemetery is quite badly damaged and is not easy to read.

The family in the 1881 census for Bruce Township, Bruce County North:

Name	Age	Calculate year of Birth
Charles Cameron	29	1852
Archibald Cameron	27	1854
John Cameron	24	1857
William Cameron	21	1860
Donald Cameron	19	1860
Catherine Cameron	34	1847

William Cameron's Trade Harness Maker/Saddler

William Cameron noted his trade as a harness maker on both his marriage application at Port Elgin in 1889 and his application for a patent Manitoba in 1903. It would be difficult to make a living from his 10 acre plot of land, at Concession 8, lot 17 in Bruce County. He may have learned his trade as a harness maker in the nearby towns of Paisley and Port Elgin. The 1876 Bruce County Directory cites Adam McGill as the harness maker in Paisley and a Joseph Delayer in Port Elgin. Probably William Cameron learned his trade from one of these gentlemen. As one of the younger men in the family he did inherit his father's farm and needed a trade. The author's mother, Jessie Cameron, claimed her father William spent at least one or more winters in Holland, Manitoba working for a harness maker to earn additional monies.

William Cameron and Isabella Bell

The move from Grey to Bruce County brought Archie and William into a new community. It was here that William met his wife to be Isabella Bell at a community church or social function. The 1881 census located Isabella's family in Kincardine Township, Concession 11, Lot 18. The distance between their farms would be less than 10 miles, both were in their early 20's at this time. The census indicates the family as Donald Bell, age 70, his wife Flora, 54 years old, Murdock son age 31, a son Allan age 15 and Isabella, 20 years old.

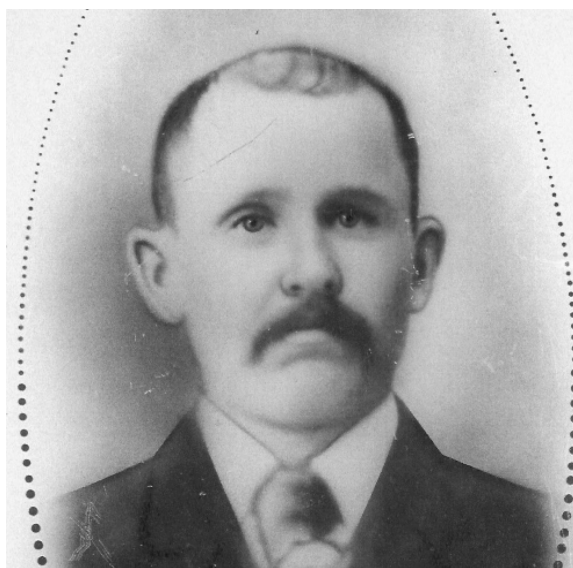
Bruce Township land records show that Murdock and Allan Bell, brothers of Isabella Bell purchased lot 18 on Concession 8 in 1886. This is next to Archie and William's property at lot 17. The family connections grow.

The County Marriage Register dated October 16, 1889 signed by Rev. W.M Neill validates the Marriage of William Cameron, Harness Maker son of Kenneth and Annie Cameron to Isabella Bell daughter of Donald and Flora Bell born in Kincardine Township, Bruce County. The marriage is witnessed by Allan Bell and Mary MacKinnon. Allan was Isabella's brother (1865-1881), while Mary MacKinnon likely is connected to Isabella mother Flora (MacKinnon) before she became the second wife of Donald MacMillan Bell.

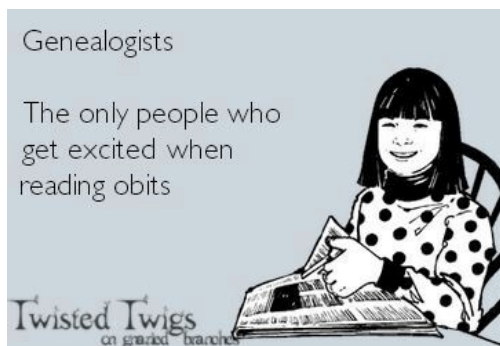
Donna Johnston, great granddaughter of William Cameron via Florence Cameron her grandmother (wife of William Johnston) provided the photos below which are believed to be William and Isabella's wedding photos.



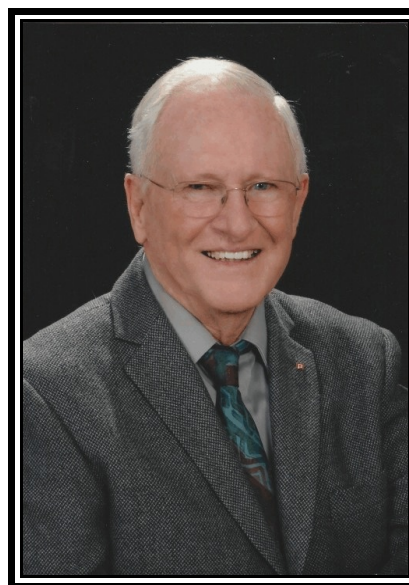
Isabella Bell (1859-1922)



William Cameron (1859-1939)



Loss of BCGS Member



John Arthur Conley Reynolds

John Arthur Conley Reynolds of Port Elgin died on December 19, 2017 at the age of eighty three. He is survived by his wife Karen (nee Cottrill) and his daughters Eleanor (Reg Barrett), Elizabeth (Alvin Mooney), Nancy and Katherine (Chris Tew) and their families. He had nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He was brother in law to Gregg Ziegler and Alfred Filsinger. John led a full and wonderful life that included teaching at G. C. Huston School in Southampton from 1974 to 1991. He was a proud Mason and Proboscis member, a past president of the Bruce County Genealogical Society, and a life time member of the Bruce County Historical Society.

John was one of the first members of the Bruce County Genealogical Society and was our second President in the 1990s. In 2004 John received an Ontario Volunteer Service Award recognizing fifteen years of service to the BCGS. John started tracing his roots in 1977 and he and Karen went to England, Scotland and Ireland seven times in pursuit of their family history. There, they were able to meet many family members whom they visited

on subsequent trips. Inspired by the help that he had received from many researchers and realizing he and other members had developed research skills which could be useful to others, John and the other members of the BCGS decided to help others search for their roots in Bruce County. In the 1990s, John worked with Jack McGillivray to record the histories of early residents of Saugeen Township. Jack did the interviews and John did the videotaping. Those tapes are stored at the Bruce County Archives and can be viewed by those interested.

John was instrumental in the transcription of information found on many thousands of tombstones in Bruce County cemeteries, making the information available for researchers in the Research Room of the Bruce County Archives in Southampton, Ontario. Even in recent years, John was an active member of our society assisting with the photography of tombstones during the summer months. He will be missed.

The BCGS wishes to thank the following people who have generously made a donation to us in memory of John Reynolds:

David and Monika Spaetzel

John and June Van Bastelaar

David and Maria Bertrand

Ashley and Rosemary Kemila

Ronald and Beverly Oakley

Ross McLean Lawyers

Dr. Philip Ziegler

Traci Weigand

Joseph Palmer

Lolly Fullerton

Ann-Marie Collins

Helen Wuerth



The Bruce is a 3-part documentary series exploring the history of Bruce County and the Saugeen/Bruce Peninsula in Ontario, Canada. The series was created as part of the non-profit Ontario Visual Heritage Project, in partnership with the Bruce County Historical Society, and in collaboration with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation.

The series will be launched in the spring of 2018 at free screening events in Bruce County. It will be broadcast on TVO, and distributed for free to schools and libraries in the region. Visit the website for full details and a preview of the movie. <http://thebrucemovie.ca/>

News Flash

Four of our members were nominated by Doug Lennox to receive Ontario Volunteer Service Awards last Sunday, April 22 at the Bayshore Community Centre in Owen Sound. Congratulations to all. They were:

Glenys Johnson - 5 years

Sylvia Hasbury - 10 years

Louise Stewart - 15 years

Mary MacKay - 25 years

News from the Bruce County Archives

Ann-Marie Collins, Archivist

Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant



Exploring the Lives of our Ancestors

Many genealogists enjoy adding context and depth to family histories by exploring the time period and communities in which their ancestors resided, as well as businesses and organizations they were involved with. In the Bruce County Archives, we have seen researchers revel in imagining what life was like for their ancestors, based on information discovered in a variety of resources.

1. Newspapers: Browsing local newspapers is a great way to discover the events and issues discussed in a community during various time periods.
2. Local and Family Histories: Many history books contain interesting explanations of life during various time periods. For example, "Bruce Township Tales and Trails" contains a chapter on pioneer life, and books such as "Pioneers in the Queen's Bush" and "The Queen's Bush" provide descriptive narratives about life as an early settler. You may also enjoy skimming through narrative histories related to other families. For example, "Looking Out on the 20th Century" by Gordon Aiken contains a tour of Allenford in the 1920s talking about "the people who lived there and the places they lived in." "My First Twenty-One Years, 1908-1929: Growing up in the Armow Area of Bruce County, Ontario" by Martin v. Scott reveals the interactions of the author with the people and places of his community.
3. Women's Institute Community Histories: Apart from narrative write-ups about specific farms and/or families, these often contain information about churches, schools organizations and businesses, all forming part of the fabric of the community in which your ancestors resided. If your ancestors were part of the Women's Institute, the minutes books will reflect the issues discussed and the contributions of those women to their communities.
4. Church History Booklets: Many church booklets highlight the role that churches played in the communities and lives of our ancestors. For example, "St. Andrew's United Church, Ripley, Ontario, 1886-1986" contains information about previous Methodist churches church life, organizations and events over the years.
5. Business ledgers: Business ledgers can be of interest not only to descendants of business owners, but to descendants of their customers as well. They give us a snapshot of purchasing trends and prices during various time periods. For example, William Symon's Warton ledger reveals that Samuel Phillips purchased \$2.80 worth of sugar, currants, raisins, soap, butter, lard, sardines, syrup, and tobacco on December 22, 1879.
6. Photographs: A picture is worth a thousand words! You can search for photographs of the communities in which your ancestors resided at collections.brucemuseum.ca. To explore images of the main streets of a community, try search terms such as the place name and the term

“downtown”, such as *Warton and Downtown*.

Municipal Records at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

To assist you in finding our online descriptions of municipal holdings, we are placing links for each municipality on the Museum's website:
<http://www.brucemuseum.ca/collections-research/archives-and-research/search-our-archives/>

To date, descriptions are available for Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, Huron-Kinloss, Kincardine, and Northern Bruce Peninsula.

Archive Hours

The Research Room is now open Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 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, Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080, ext. 129.

A reminder to our members who receive their newsletters via email that 2018 membership fees are past due. If you haven't yet paid, kindly send \$20 to the BCGS Membership Secretary, Box 1083, Port Elgin, Ontario, N0H 2C0. We are a registered charity and we appreciate any donation that you may be able to add to your membership fees. A tax receipt will be issued for all donations.

Bruce County Genealogical Society-2018

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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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