

# **RELATIVELY SPEAKING**

Volume 42 Number 3 – August 2014

## *Summary of Feature Articles*

### **2013 AGS Awards**

#### **“A Centennial Family, William and Elizabeth Snell” by Linda McKay**

This is a chronology with some biographies of the Snell family who lived in a village north of Red Deer in 1913 when Red Deer became a city. Linda McKay is their great granddaughter and her recounting of this family and their history won this year's Kenneth Young Award for best original article in a branch newsletter.

#### **“A Walk With Uncle James” by Grant Nicol**

As a young man Grant travelled to Ireland to visit with his family there and trace his genealogical roots. He was warmly embraced by his aunt and uncle, and taken around the county by his uncle who also told him of family and county lore. Grant has taken his recollections of these events and spun an entertaining family history story. Grant shows how to be a good teller of family stories, something we all could learn from.

#### **“Preservation of Gravestones and Monuments” by Janine Carroll**

In this one-page article Janine outlines two levels, basic and advanced, of a workshop she attended to learn about gravestone and monument preservation.

#### **“‘Liquid Fire’ Neon Museum” by Denise Daubert and Lesley O’Neil**

Once again these two sign buffs team up to give us a glimpse, both night and day, of Edmonton's new outdoor neon sign museum. They also provide some general history of neon signs along with the history of the signs on display. This will be a nostalgic place to visit during the day and as night falls.

#### **“1921 Canadian Census” by Sharon Aney**

Sharon lists the questions asked in this census that is now fully indexed and online.

#### **“Brownvale, Alberta” by Norma Wolowyk**

RS received a query in March about a family that had come from the Scottish Highlands to settle in Alberta's Peace River country. As we often do, we sent this on to Norma and her research committee, thinking they might be able to assist. In this one page article Norma tells where the group searched and what they found for the person inquiring.

#### **“Mauchline Ware” by Gloria Cathcart**

Gloria shows pieces from her collection and tells us what Mauchline Ware is, its origin and its significance to her and her family.

#### **“Old Postcards-A Glimpse into the Past” by Marilyn Hindmarch**

Several years ago Marilyn became the recipient of her grandmother's treasured album filled with a fascinating collection of postcards dating 1903-1912. Marilyn discusses how these items provided insight into her grandmother as a young woman who travelled and collected these mementoes.

### **“My Life at the Tower of London” by Heather Louise Miller**

What would it be like to live in a palace? Heather Louise got to find out when her husband was posted to the Tower of London. Here she recounts for us some of the benefits and drawbacks along with a uniquely memorable birthday party she arranged for her mother in that historic place – an engaging tale indeed.

### **“No. 5 Bombing and Gunnery School Revisited” by Lesley O’Neil**

In last November’s RS (Vol. 41, No.4) Lesley wrote of her parents’ experience in this facility during WWII taken from letters her mother had written home to her brother in Montreal. This one page article focuses pictures from a subsequent visit her parent had made in the 1980s and one from Lesley’s search on Google Earth in 2014, showing us how the past can meaningfully be brought forward.

### **“The Sinking of the Empress of Ireland 100 Years Ago” by Mavis Nelson**

Mavis’s mother-in-law was a young child aboard the *Empress of Ireland* on her maiden voyage to Canada and up the St. Lawrence in 1906, fourteen years before she sank with 1,012 people perishing on the same route. This past May 14<sup>th</sup> marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this great maritime disaster.

### **“Relive the Harvest of Old” by John Althouse**

John lists several locations where recreations of old time prairie harvests can be enjoyed, appreciated and learned about.

### **Book Review**

*Rosina, the Midwife*, reviewed by John Althouse

This book tells the tale of Jessica Kluthe’s having found her 2X great grandmother’s photo in an old box of assorted memorabilia. From this artifact and travel to Calabria that resulted in more information, she subsequently wove together the bits and pieces she discovered about this ancestor into a loving tale.

### **Visiting Alberta’s Past**

- “Father Lacombe Chapel”  
The history of this chapel, the oldest building in Alberta, is chronicled here.
- “High level Bridge Lit Up!”  
Following the success of this initiative, the bridge was lit up for this year’s Canada Day celebration complete with music and fireworks. More events are planned for the end of summer.

### **From the Branches**

News from all branches is available this quarter:

- Brooks and District
- Camrose and District
- Drayton Valley
- Edmonton
- Fort McMurray
- Grande Prairie and District
- Lethbridge
- Medicine Hat and District
- Peace River
- Red Deer
- Wetaskiwin

### **“Late Dispatches from the Trenches” by John Althouse**

John presents a synopsis of the following books about WWI:

- 1) The First World War in 100 Objects,
- 2) Canadians at War: A Guide to the Battlefields of World War I,
- 3) A Call to the Colours: Tracing Your Canadian Military Ancestors

and some magazines with articles on German and British war info:

- Discover Your History, May 2014,
- Your Family History, May 2014,
- Who Do You Think You Are?, May 2014

**Marilyn Hindmarch/Peter Staveley**  
**Co-editors – Relatively Speaking**