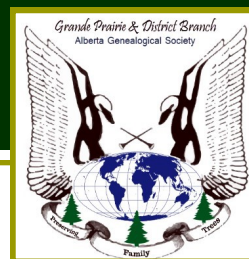


# HERITAGE SEEKERS



**Volume43 Issue2 Fall2021**



## President's Message by Al Bromling, President

We had all hoped that by now we would be looking back at the pandemic that was. Clearly, we are still struggling with pandemic anxiety and living, not very comfortably, with the health regulations enacted to guide us through this high-risk period.

Our Grande Prairie Branch has been strongly affected. We have not held an in-person meeting since our annual meeting in February 2020, about 22 months ago. We have not been able to host public presentations at our Branch meetings or participate in community events where we reach out to the genealogy community and the members of the public. We have had some success in sustaining our research services even though physical access to library and archival records has often been restricted.

Some core activities of the Branch have been sustained by the Executive Committee, primarily using virtual meeting platforms serving a limited number of participants. We need to expand our skills and acquire the technical capacity to invite all Branch members to join our activities using virtual meetings and presentations. We have made the decision to purchase a Zoom subscription. It is our assessment that even in post-pandemic times, an increasing portion of our activity, especially genealogy learning activities, will require the use of Zoom technology.

We are pleased to announce that the Grande Prairie Branch has been selected to host the 2022 GenFair of our provincial society. The event is scheduled for April 23 and will be a day long Saturday event, including the Annual General Meeting of our Society. My sincere thanks to the members who have stepped forward to drive the planning committee for GenFair 2022. These include Ed Hall, Gail Schau, Jean Gray and Clayton Tiro-Burns from the Grande Prairie Public Library. Stay tuned for updates on GenFair 2022.

In the immediate future we look forward to a Festive Season. Be safe and healthy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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# Old Newspapers

Births, Marriages & Deaths as extracted from the  
"Grande Prairie Herald" newspaper.



By  
B. Joan Bowman  
AGS #1108

## Aug. 2, 1932 Issue:

"Baby boy born to Mr. and Mrs. A. **GABOURY** in the Spirit River Hospital July 22, 1932."

"Rycroft News: Shower for Miss Ruby **SWANSON** whose marriage took place July 28 to Mr. E.C. **BAKER** of Northmark."

"Hythe News: Mr. F. **PAWLING** and his bride came by train...."

"Northmark News: July 17 – Leo **COOGAN** has surprised the natives by getting married without warning to Miss **GARRY**, the school teacher at Bridgeview.... There was a dance of celebration at Bridgeview July 22...."

"July 27<sup>th</sup>, Shower for bride elect Lena **GOSSEN**...."

"Andy **OLSON**, 24 year old resident of Berwyn lost his life Wednesday while swimming in the Peace River at the place known as George's Farm, twenty miles upstream from the town of Peace River."

"At the Lutheran Church Manse in Hythe on July 31<sup>st</sup>, Miss Martha **GOUCHY** of Sexsmith married Mr. Henry **STIENKE**.... Bridesmaid was Miss Marion **GOUCHY**. Groom supported by his brother Fred **STIENKE**.... Bride and Groom plan to live in Calgary."

"Born at Sexsmith Maternity Hospital to:

Mr. & Mrs. George **MONTH** on July 1, a boy."

Mr. & Mrs. F. **HARRIS**, Clairmont, July 12, a girl."

Mr. & Mrs. Fred **FOLLERT**, Buffalo Lake, a girl."

Mr. & Mrs. Norman **BODIE**, Clairmont, July 15, a girl."

Mr. & Mrs. Walter **MC GEE**, Rivertop, July 19, a girl."

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd **LEWIS**, Sexsmith, July 30, a girl."

Mr. & Mrs. **OMLID**, Valhalla, July 30, a girl."

## Aug. 9, 1932 Issue:

"Andrew **TYERBERG**, a young homesteader of the Demmitt district....took his own life.... Relatives of the deceased live in Minnisota"

"Funeral services for the infant son of Mr. & Mrs. Clayton **THIRD** of Goodfare, was held August 8<sup>th</sup>. Interment took place at the Hythe Cemetery."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. George **BAYER**, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, a baby boy, John."

"Born to Mr. & Mrs. Mike **MARKOVICH**, a baby girl born July 27<sup>th</sup>."

"Rycroft News: A wedding at the United Church at Rycroft when Miss Rebina (Ruby) **SWANSON**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. **SWANSON** of Rycroft became the bride of Mr. E.C. **BAKER** of Northmark.... Miss **SWANSON** taught in Spirit River the past few years. Rev. G.C. **CASS-MORE** of Spirit River officiated. Bridesmaid Miss Margaret **SWANSON** (Sister of the bride), Mr. John **BAKER** of Northmark supported the groom.... The bride and groom were the first couple to be married in the church.... Will make their home in Northmark."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. Tim **ARMSTRONG** at the Sexsmith Maternity Home, a son, Aug 6<sup>th</sup>."

"Born at the Grande Prairie Municipal Hospital to Mr. & Mrs. E.T. **SATHER** of Wanham, a baby boy Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>."

"Born at the Grande Prairie Municipal Hospital to Mr. & Mrs. Ashely **THOMPSON** of Kleskun Hill, a baby boy Aug 1<sup>st</sup>."

"Born at the Grande Prairie to Mr. & Mrs. R.J. **RUTLEDGE**, Jr. of Halcourt, a baby boy Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>."

# Pandemic Perspective: The Grandmother I Never Knew

## The Grandmother I Never Knew

By Jean Grey

Influenza epidemics have been circulating around for many years. The most noted ones are:

- *Asiatic/Russian Flu* – 1889-1890  
approx. 1 million worldwide deaths
- *Spanish Flu* – 1918 - 1920  
approx. 17 - 100 million worldwide deaths
- *Asian Flu* – 1957 – 1958  
approx. 1– 4 million worldwide deaths
- *Hong Kong Flu* – 1977 – 1979  
approx. .7 million deaths
- *Swine Flu* – 2009- 2010  
150 – 575,000 deaths (1)



In 1951 an influenza epidemic in Canada was reported to the Canadian Influenza Information Centre January 20 from Grand Falls, Newfoundland. Grand Falls is 40 miles east of Gander airport, therefore the infective agent could have been brought into Canada from England by the air route.

Within two weeks, about 700 cases were in Newfoundland and within an additional week more than a thousand cases in Nova Scotia, and several hundred cases from Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Other provinces followed and the epidemic reached its peak in the third week of February. (2)

My grandmother Mary (Aitken) Watt was hospitalized at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton and received the following letter from her sister Minnie.

11244 – 71<sup>st</sup> Street  
Feby 15, 1951

Dearest Mary,

I am so sorry about the ruling “No Visitors” unless critically ill, so thank goodness you didn’t come under that category. I miss my visits however and I hope the ban will be lifted before you leave. This flu is certainly sweeping the country – 200? (500) students living in those residences are stricken – no wonder. I didn’t think they are half fed. There was a cartoon in the “Gateway” supposed to be students living in Athabasca Hall – There they were seated around the table and one lone sausage on a large platter - one of them eating the table. - It isn’t that they didn’t pay enough for the privilege of living there – Well nothing exciting happening with us since I saw you last.

I went to Mary’s Valentine’s party yesterday. Maureen and her little girl were there – she was the only little lady – however the others weren’t too bad. The women had a good time and lots to eat. I think the children ate theirs mostly off the floor.

Tom said something about you going to Saidler’s or did you want to go anywhere except home when you are able. No place like home – if you had a capable woman there to look after things for a while & help you two that would make you happy.

The weather is nice now hope it stays for a while. We are going to the Ice Show tomorrow night. I hear it is very good.

Love from us all. Minnie

## The Grandmother I never Knew ... continued

Mary died March 18, 1951. She never left the hospital. I always was told she had died from falling and breaking her hip and contracting pneumonia in hospital. I think the flu epidemic of 1951 hastened her demise as she was in the hospital.

Tom died a year later in California.

I was born in February 1948, so have no recollection of my grandparents other than a few picture

Who's who:

\*Tom (Watt) is Mary (Aiken) Watt's husband.

\*Minnie's daughter (who had the Valentines Party) is also called Mary.

\*Ed Lyne is Minnie's husband.



Jean's 2nd Birthday Party!

From the left: Tom Watt, Mary (Aiken) Watt, Margaret (Watt) Harris (Jean's mother), Jean blowing out her candles and (sister) Mary Harris.

### References:

.(1) *Wikipedia*

(2) *Journal of Public Health*. Vol. 42, No.9, Sept 1951, p 367



## MY TRIP TO IRELAND

By V. Gail Prette

*For several years I had been asking my cousin, Pat Atkinson, (who had travelled to many places around the world) to travel with me to Ireland to do family research. However, her husband, Glen was not at all interested in going to Ireland again. Glen passed away on December 27, 2014. In 2015 Pat contacted me and suggested that I should apply for a Passport and that we should start planning a trip to Ireland.*

*Pat prepared an itinerary and booked our accommodations. The following is my diary of the trip.*

**June 17, 2016 :** I drove to Devon, stayed the night with my daughter Rai and her husband Randy Smith. On June 18, Rai and Randy drove me to the airport and I boarded flight AC241 at 11:30 a.m. only to sit on the tarmac for two hours while Air Canada made repairs to the airplane. This meant that my flight did not get into Vancouver until 2 p.m. I was scheduled to board Flight AC1940 to Ireland at 2:25. Pat and I had arranged to meet on the Street side of security but Air Canada would not let me leave security to go find her. I was so worried that I would be travelling alone. Someone paged me and I went to the information desk. I got the information clerk to page Pat. Pat got to the gate about 2 minutes before boarding time. Apparently, she had been rushed through security. I was never so happy to see anyone in my life as I was to see Pat that afternoon.

The flight was scheduled for 9 hrs and 30 minutes. We left Vancouver approximately 3:10 p.m. on **June 18<sup>th</sup>** and arrived in Dublin at 8:10 a.m. **June 19<sup>th</sup>**. We had to go through customs and this took quite awhile. Our plane was full (approximately 280 seats). We cleared customs and caught a taxi that took us to Latchfords of Baggot Street. Pat had booked "the Mews" for us to stay in. We could not check in until 1 p.m. so we left our luggage at the office and went looking for breakfast.

We found a SPAR. This is something like our 7 Eleven stores only they have some tables and a much larger variety of fresh fruit, etc. I found it amusing that the SPAR brand of coffee is called "Insomnia". We had cinnamon rolls and coffee and decided to buy some fruit etc to eat in our room. We eventually discovered that there were many SPAR stores in Dublin.



We went back to Latchfords.

They let us into our rooms early. I had now been awake for over 24 hours. I could not sleep on the plane. It was daylight all the way from Vancouver to Dublin. We laid down on the beds and slept until 2:45 p.m. We found the accommodations quite comfortable and the location very central to our genealogy research and tourist information.

We had supper at O'Donoghue's pub and listened to live traditional Irish music. We each had a bowl of Irish stew. It was absolutely delicious and reminded me of my mother's Irish stew when I was a child.



## Research: Irish Roots

**June 20<sup>th</sup>**, we walked to the National Library on Kildare Street. When we got there we had to put all of our stuff in a locker before we could gain entrance and had to wait to see the “Genealogy Research Clerk”. When we finally got to speak to him and I told him that our family had immigrated to Canada in approximately 1832 he immediately quit trying to help, saying that all the records prior to 1922 were destroyed in a fire at the National Archives. His only suggestion was to send us to the Registry of Deeds on Henrietta Street.



We walked from the National Library to the Registry of Deeds – about 10 blocks. When we got there the clerk told us that we needed to know what Townsland our ancestors lived on to search the Deeds. I told him that the only thing I knew was that my great great grandfather, Oliver Prittie, was born in Ballinakill in 1791. He gave us the Registry volumes for Queen’s County and Kings County covering years 1750 to 1850 and instructed us to look line by line through the B’s in each book. We did this but could not find any land indicating that a Prittie owned land in that area. The records were written in

very good calligraphy on some form of parchment. We were later told that this material was cat skin. I do not know if that was true. It was rather amazing to be touching these pages that were written so many years ago.



In the afternoon we walked to The Frank McCourt Museum. The Museum showcases a classroom of the 1930’s and the McCourt home, as described in “Angela’s Ashes”.



They were making a painting and asked each person to paint a 4” x 4” square following a preprinted pattern. The Museum is going to put all these squares together to make a large painting. Pat did one of these squares. They are going to send her a replica of the resulting painting when it is completed.



## Research: Irish Roots

**June 21**, we had breakfast. Pat did a web search for Church of Ireland parish records on her iPad and came up with a long list of Parishes. This list was colour coded as to what records still existed. I knew that my great great grandfather, Oliver, had married in the Diocese of Killaloe. We went through all 98 pages of the list and noted down all the names of the parishes that records existed in the Diocese of Killaloe for the period 1744 to 1844.



After lunch, we took a bus to go to the Representative Church Body Library, Braemore, Park Churchtown. It took us quite awhile to get there and did not arrive until 1:30 p.m. I had phoned the library that morning and they had told me that they were open from 1 to 5 p.m. for research. When we got there I gave the clerk our list of parish records that we wanted to look through. He showed us to a research table and then disappeared. About 20 minutes later, he brought us 3 Parish Registers. We assumed that he was going to bring us more, however, when we finished looking through the 3 Registers and asked him about the others he became quite

agitated and stormed off presumably to find the other Parish Registers that were on our list. We sat and waited for over an hour. Finally he came back with more registers and plunked them down on the table. There was one Parish Record that was from a bound book and the sections had separated. It was tied with a piece of cloth. The sections were upside down and out of order. When I asked the clerk about it, he picked up the Register and riffled through the documents handing me a small section that had Baptism and Marriage Records recorded in it. If someone handled old 1700 documents like that at our Archives they would be scolded. We searched through these last few registries as quickly as we could but we were unable to look at all of them before closing time. I was not impressed with this clerk.

\*In the Parish of Shrnorne (which is north east of Nenagh) I found the name of a Henry Prittie marrying Mary Ryan on Oct 15, 1760 and also that Mary Ryan Prittie had died on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1770.

\*My great great grandfather, Oliver, had married a lady by the name of Tryphenia Hayes. I found many persons with the surname of Hayes in the Parish of Dunkerrin records as follows:

- \* Richard Hayes, Ballingaroch, February 4, 1830 age 21 – burial
- \* Willaim Hayes, Ballingaroch, March 18, 1830 age 62 – burial
- \* Adelaide Hayes, Roscrea, April 24, 1836 age 14- burial
- \* Mary Ann Hayes, Silverhills, March 3, 1835 age 54 – burial
- \* John Hayes, Ballinahill, February, 1837 age 54 – burial
- \* Richard Hayes of Girtgreen (son of James) baptized February 26, 1807

\*In the Parish of Banagher, I found the name of Sarah Frances Prittie (Father's name John Prittie) marrying Richard Alexander on June 01, 1814.

My impression of Dublin was not great.

The streets were dirty. The people seemed constantly rushing about. They jay walked, cut you off. The light rail transit system was being revamped and rerouted which meant the bus routes had been temporarily changed. As a result there were no maps or schedules available. There were many beggars on the streets. There was a walking shopping area where there were many street performers busking.



## Research: Irish Roots

**June 22.** Pat had booked us into Kincora House in Killaloe, County Clare. This is a B & B owned and operated by Deborah Dudgeon. Pat had arranged for Deborah to meet us at Birdshill. When we got on the bus the driver said he did not go to Birdshill. We said we understood that he was to drop us off at Nenagh and we would have to transfer to a different bus to get to Birdshill. He told us there was no bus from Nenagh to Birdshill and that we would have to take a taxi. However, when we got to Nenagh, the driver told us to wait at the same stop until the #2 Limerick bus came by and it would take us to Birdshill. Deborah, who was waiting at Birdshill, took us to Kincora House, Killaloe.



**June 23** – up at 8 – breakfast at 8:30. Deborah had found an Article written by Bruce S. Elliott (McGill Queens Press 1-007-1987) which states that his great Grandfather Oliver Prittie's sister, Kate, married her cousin Adam and preceded Oliver to Canada. See Irish Immigration Canada "A New Approach" pages 1 to 4 and page 5. She also printed off a Registry of Deeds with several Prittie names listed thereon, 1901 Census and 1911 Census of Ireland showing Henry O'Callaghan Pritte et al, and 1889 Wills register showing the estate of Cornelia Elizabeth Prittie. Deborah had arranged for her "carpenter" Pat Keanne to come for breakfast with us and planned on taking us to drive around the Kilboy Estate. (This was the Estate built by the Pritties).

Deborah had also arranged for us to meet Betty Gleeson of the Silvermines Historical Society at

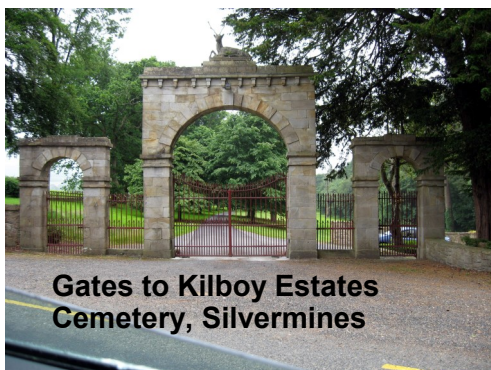
Kilmore Cemetery. Betty took us to her house. She went on line and found several church records regarding the Pritties but only 2 of the entries were prior to 1832. I purchased a book from her called "Mining the Past". In this book there were many references to the Pritties that owned the Silvermines and much more information regarding Townlands and Parishes.

After we left Betty, Deborah Dugeon and Pat Keane, took us back to the Kilboy Estate and the Kilboy Estate Cemetery where we took pictures of the grave markers.



Kilboy Cemetery

Pat meeting Betty Gleeson



Gates to Kilboy Estates Cemetery, Silvermines





## Research: Irish Roots

**On June 24<sup>th</sup>**, we took a bus to Nenagh and visited the North Tipperary Genealogy Center. We spoke to a lady named Geraldine Malone. She looked up the Pritties but could not find anything because of the time period. She gave me a Booklet entitled “Irish Family History Foundation Members List” and told me that I should contact the Laois/Offaly Family History Centre at [info@offalyhistory.com](mailto:info@offalyhistory.com) for information regarding South Tipperary. She also recommended the Book “Irish Migrants in the Canadas – a new approach” by Bruce S. Elliott, published by McGill Queens Press 1-007-1987. I have a sheet of paper with the title “History of North Tipperary Region”. I believe this may have been given to me by Geraldine Malone but I am not sure. On this article it says “Some of these colonels and a number of lesser officers settled their new estates in N. Tipperary and became ancestors of such landed gentry as “Pritties” and “Atkinson”. I thought this rather interesting as my cousin Pat, a descendant of the “Pritties”, married an “Atkinson”.



Elaine

Deborah had arranged for a lady named Elaine Bailey to meet us at the Nenagh North Tipperary Genealogy Center. Elaine's husband is a descendant of the Pritties. Elaine gave me letters and information that she had received from Tom Prittie and his wife Dixie. She had also been in touch with Lois Klags. (Both Tom and Lois are descendants of my great great grandfather Oliver.) Elaine's theory is that her husband Prittie's ancestor was a result of the Baron of Dunalley having an affair or born on the “wrong side of the sheet” as she put it. Elaine emailed me a copy of her Family Tree but it is illegible. Printing too small.

**On June 27**, we took a bus to Limerick. Pat had booked us into a place called “The Boutique”.

**On June 28**, we took the Tour Bus to Cliffs of Moher and the Burren.



Anchor Pub, Killaloe



Pat at the Burren



## Research: Irish Roots



**Burnratty Castle**

**On June 29**, we took a bus to Bunratty Castle. Toured the Castle and even walked up to the turret.

**On June 30** we took a bus to Galloway where Pat had booked a 2 bedroom apartment with a kitchen and living room combination in the village of Salthill. Finally I am having a good nights sleep.

**July 1** – Took a bus into Galway Town Centre (J. F. Kennedy Park) on Eyre Square. Saw Hall of Red Earl's Archaeological site, Church St. Nicholas of Myra Church, Spanish Arch, Museum, and had tea at Cupan tae. Booked a tour to Connemara for July 3rd. Had lunch at Skiffarms – The Skiffington and then after shopping around, we bussed back to our apartment.



**July 2** – In the morning we went for a walk into the village of Salthill and in the afternoon we took a bus back into downtown Galway to the Seafest and toured through the Irish National Research Vessel “Celtic Explorer”. This ship in collaboration with the Canadian Government has been charting the ocean floor for several months. Met some Canadians from Nanaimo in J. F. Kennedy Park.

**July 3** – Took the Galway Tour Bus to Connemara Park. Had lunch and then took the shuttle bus to The Gardens. These gardens are so huge we did not see all of it. Toured Kilmore Abbey. The tour took us on Route N59 through Rosscahill, Killarone, Derrycrolinna, Maam Cross, Derryneen, Derrylea, Clifden and stopped at Connemara Park. Coming back we too drove through Lenane an Mam, Cornamora, Cong (where the Quiet Man was filmed), Cross, Headford, Baile Chlair and back to Galloway. We saw lots of free range sheep, fences and walls of stone, cattle, mountains, lakes and fjord. The road were so narrow it was a single lane and pull outs to pass. I was sure glad that we were not doing the driving.



## Research: Irish Roots

**July 4** – Took the train to Dublin. We walked from the Dublin train station back to the Latchford Apartments. Long walk very tired.

**July 5** – We went to the Art Gallery and the Museum. Went out for supper at O'Donoghue's Pub. Remembering how great the Irish stew had been on our first day here, we ordered stew. Sad to say tonight's stew tasted like soapless dish water. What a let down.

**July 6** – Up at 5:30 a.m.. We checked out by 7:45 a.m. We went to the bus stop at 8:00 a.m. Finally a bus stopped and told us that if we were headed to the Airport we were standing on the wrong side of the street. The bus let us off at the wrong terminal and we had to hurry to the correct terminal finally got through security and to the gate just in time to board the airplane. The Air Canada flight from Dublin to Vancouver was scheduled to leave at 11:35 a.m. but did not leave until noon. However, we arrived in Vancouver at 12 noon instead of the scheduled time of 1:35. My flight from Vancouver to Edmonton was scheduled to leave at 5:35 but was told at the airport that it had been changed to 6:25 p.m. I arrived in Edmonton at 8:55 p.m. by the time I got to Rai and Randy's it was 9:30 p.m. By the time I got to bed I had been up for 23 ½ hours and felt like I was drunk. My muscles kept jerking and waking me up. At 7 a.m. I gave up trying to sleep and got up.

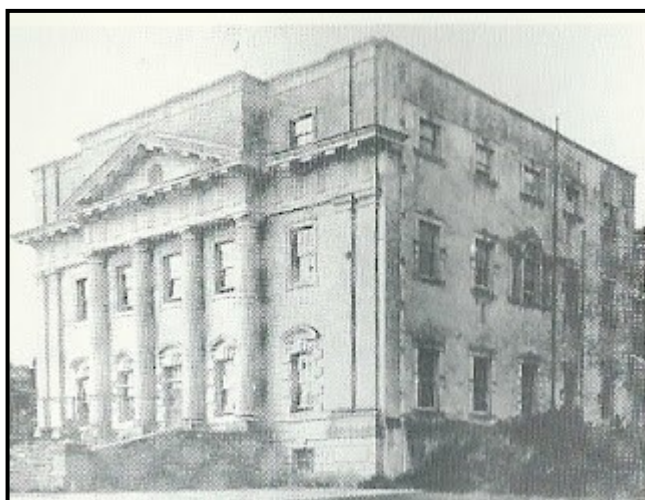
**July 7** – Spent the day in Devon at Rai and Randy's.

**July 8** – Drove back to Grande Prairie, arriving here around 3:30 p.m.

### Postscript:

- In October of 2016 my cousin Pat discovered that there was a Dunalley Papers Collection List No. 27 lodged at the National Library of Ireland. My supposed 7x grandfather was born in Dunalley Castle, Tipperary, Ireland and these papers were submitted by his family. I contacted the National Library of Ireland and requested copies of the documents that may or may have not proven the generational gap in my research of the family tree, only to be told that I would have to appear at the library in person to obtain copies of these documents. Alternatively, I could hire someone to go to the library and arrange for them to be photocopied. I have not done this as I cannot afford to hire someone to go to the library to do this.

*My cousin Pat Atkinson passed away from cancer of the spine on October 20, 2018. I will always treasure my memories of this trip that we took together.*



**The original House at the Kilboy Estate, and the modern rebuilt House.**



# Learning Opportunities



**RootsTech**, hosted by FamilySearch, is a global family history conference celebrating families across generations and cultures, and inspiring people of all ages to discover and share their memories and connections. The online event is the largest of its kind. Between the annual event and the expanding online video archives, RootsTech attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors globally, and is a great, free source for learning.

**RootsTech Connect 2022** will be **free** and entirely online.

Registration is now open: People can register for free at <http://RootsTech.org>. RootsTech 2022 will be a virtual-only experience, with some enhancements and improvements.

A new set of educational classes will be featured during 2022, along with new technologies to explore in the virtual classes will be a mix of on-demand, livestream and interactive sessions that will allow attendees to learn, grow and connect with people all over the globe. Participants will also be able to connect with their fellow attendees, speakers, experts and genealogy enthusiasts.

For future events (2023 and beyond), RootsTech hopes to offer a hybrid online and in-person model with content that is expanded and accessed throughout the year.

## Your Members Only Benefits List is Growing

If you have not checked your member privileges lately, it may be time to do so. Our Branch Website is affiliated with the Alberta Genealogical Society site and both of them have Members Only sections that give you access to exclusive benefits.

On our Branch site you can access Branch minutes, Branch newsletters and other resources. These include the DNA Boot Camp Webinar series (MacEntee and Eberle). There is also a User Guide that gives you free access to the Newspapers.com search engine and the MyHeritage databases, which will provide solid support for your family research.

On the provincial site you can access resources such as the Alberta surnames database, your member kit which includes excellent research aids, the Society Journal, and documents disclosing your Society's financial and policy operations. It also features a Perks section including discounts to the JSTOR Research Guide, the National Institute for Genealogical Studies, Shop the Hound, Vivid Pix, your DNA Guide, and membership in other genealogical societies.

So, enjoy your privilege. Go to [www.abgenealogy](http://www.abgenealogy) and explore!

# Conference: GenFair Planning Update

Grande Prairie Branch will host the **Alberta Genealogical Society GenFair and Annual General Meeting** on April 23 2022. GenFair is an outreach program of the provincial Society, hosted every two years by one of nine branches that comprise the society.

In September, the Executive appointed a Planning Committee. The members are: Gail Schau, Ed Hall, Jean Gray, Al Bromling and Clayton Tiro-Burns who is a Grande Prairie Public Library representative.

The Planning group had two meetings and used email dialogue to move forward with decisions.

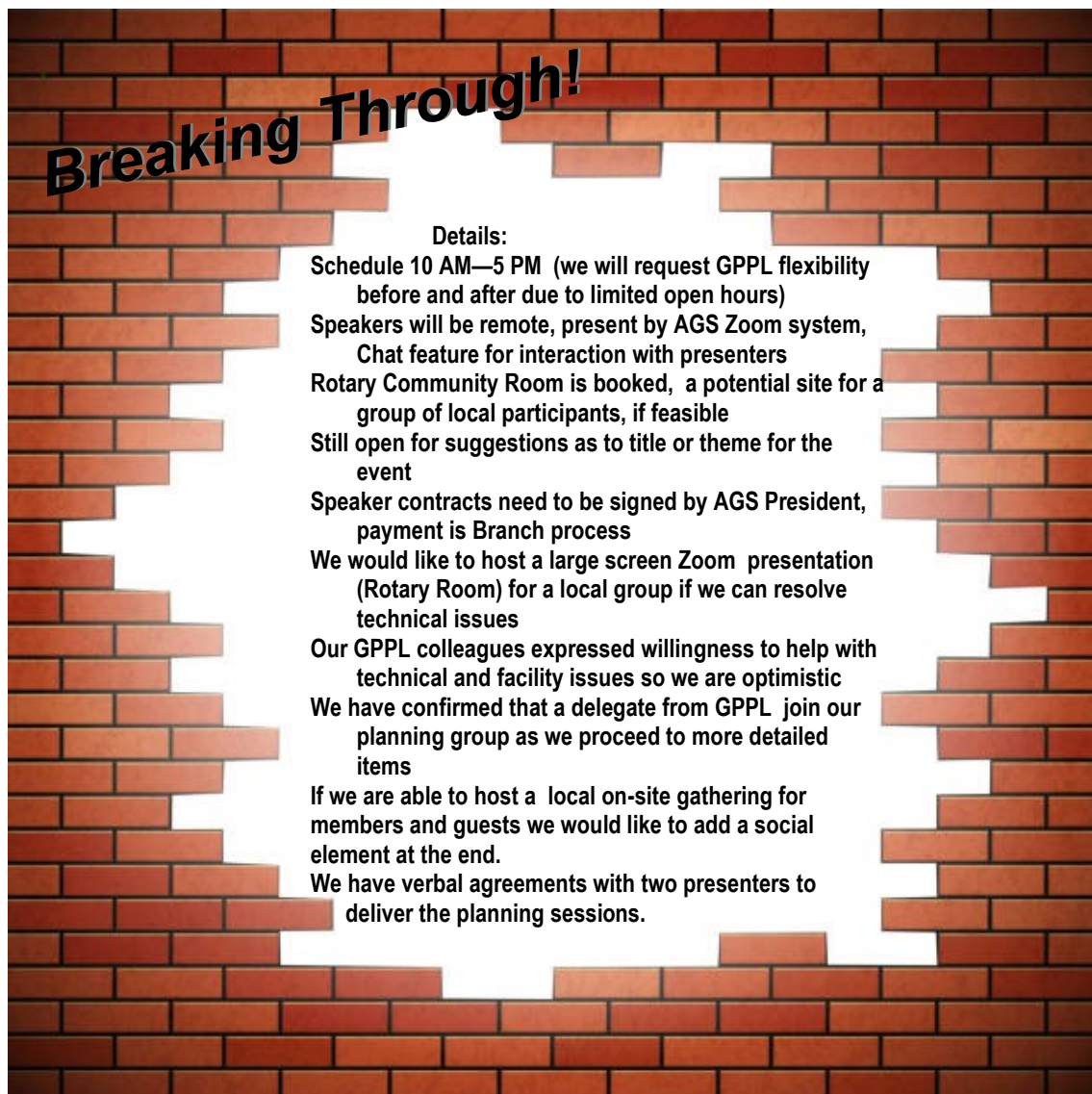
We are negotiating for three speaker sessions using Zoom delivery:

Session one: focus on **FamilySearch** new sources and update how-to-access

Session two: focus on **Breakthrough Research** using Genealogical Proof Standards approach

Session three: focus on **Breakthrough Research** using DNA methodologies

The AGS Annual General Meeting will be at 3 PM



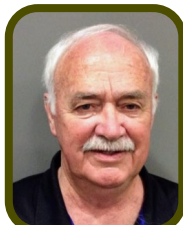


## Grande Prairie Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society

### 2021 Executive



**Al Bromling**  
President



**Ed Hall**  
Past President



**Rilla Websdale**  
Vice President



**Maxine Maxwell**  
Secretary



**Gail Prette**  
Treasurer



**Jay Sydoruk**  
Member at  
Large

### Grande Prairie Branch Volunteers 2021

*Our Branch activities and services depend on the energy and skills of our volunteers.*

*The Executive extends heartfelt thanks to the members who have committed to carry on these important volunteer roles.*

*Additional members are welcome and encouraged to step forward to enhance this volunteer team.*

**Branch Librarian** - Gail Schau

**Casino** - Maxine Maxwell

**Events/Programs** - Executive

**Genies** - Rilla Websdale, Jay Sydoruk, Al Bromling

**GP Director on the AGS Board** - Jean Gray

**Gravemarkers Image Collection** - TBA

**Historian** - TBA

**Heritage Seekers Newsletter Editor** - Freddi Bromling

**HS Print Copy Distribution** - Jean Gray

**Margaret Kay Memorial Bursary** - Ed Hall, Gail Schau

**Membership** - Jean Smith Gray

**Obituary Reference Binder and Indexing**

(Rural and DHT newspapers) - Gail Prette

**Obituary Reference Binder and Indexing**

(Funeral Home Websites) - Jay Sydoruk

**Publicity** - Executive

**Social Media (Website/Facebook)** - Nik Henke

**Technical/Equipment/Inventory** - Jay Sydoruk, Ed Hall

**Research** - Joan Bowman

**Volunteer Hours Recording** - Executive

### Staying in touch:

**Website:** [www.abgenealogy.ca](http://www.abgenealogy.ca)

(this is Alberta Genealogical Society website, which will link you to the Grande Prairie Branch website)

**Facebook:** Grande Prairie & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society

**Email:** [gp@abgenealogy.ca](mailto:gp@abgenealogy.ca)

**Mail:** Box 1257, Grande Prairie AB T8V 4Z1

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