

Vol. 1- January 2016

HEIRS

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

newsletter



www.HEIRS.ca
Tel.:519 738-3700
Email:hheritage@bellnet.ca

243 McAfee St., PO Box 53,
Harrow, ON Canada N0R 1G0
Harrow & Colchester South
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



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January Meeting:

Kingsville Historical Museum - "The '42 Crew"

Newsletter News!

Happy 2016!

A new year, and a new updated HEIRS newsletter as we enter our 45th year!

Over the holidays, we refreshed the whole newsletter: sharper colors throughout, cleaner page backgrounds & clearer fonts for better readability. And we reworked 'page 10' with HEIRS membership info, resource centre hours & our Directors/Committee members' contacts.

All to bring new & exciting opportunities for members, whether through our meetings or by traveling with us on our 'local' roads trips, and when other special events are occurring in the region. Please share special events you hear about, and we'll keep other members advised.

Membership keeps growing each year. We hope our newsletters capture some of the interesting items and local stories for you, & especially for those members now living away from the Harrow area. **Get involved with HEIRS, let others know about us, and send us your requests so we can assist you to discover more about your own family ties to the Harrow region.**

January Meeting

When: Thursday, January 28th, 1:30 PM

Where: Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Centre

HEIRS begins our 2016 meetings with guest speaker Kevin Fox, who is now the full-time curator of the Kingsville Military Museum, partially hidden behind the Kingsville Legion on Division Street South. HEIRS visited the museum some years ago, but a new curator and many new exhibits called for an update for our members.

Kevin is a graduate of the University of Windsor with a Honours Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, with many courses on both History & Classics. He then graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a Masters of Library & Information Studies (MLIS), focused on Intellectual Property Rights & Archival Science.

Kevin served in the military as an Able Seaman in the Naval Reserve & an Officer Cadet in Regular Force Armoured Corps. He grew up in Amherstburg and has deep roots in the local community that go back to the United Empire Loyalists, and specifically Colonel Caldwell.

Kevin recently gave Ted Steele, one of HEIRS directors, a brief tour of the facility, who was surprised by the amount of materials on hand, and the personal memorabilia in the collection.

Be sure to attend this to learn more about the Essex Scottish Regiment members in 1942, prior to August 19th, Dieppe.



HEIRS met for our last time in 2015 on November 26th to review some advertising from the last 75 years, some humorous and others just reminders of our childhood Christmas “wish lists”.

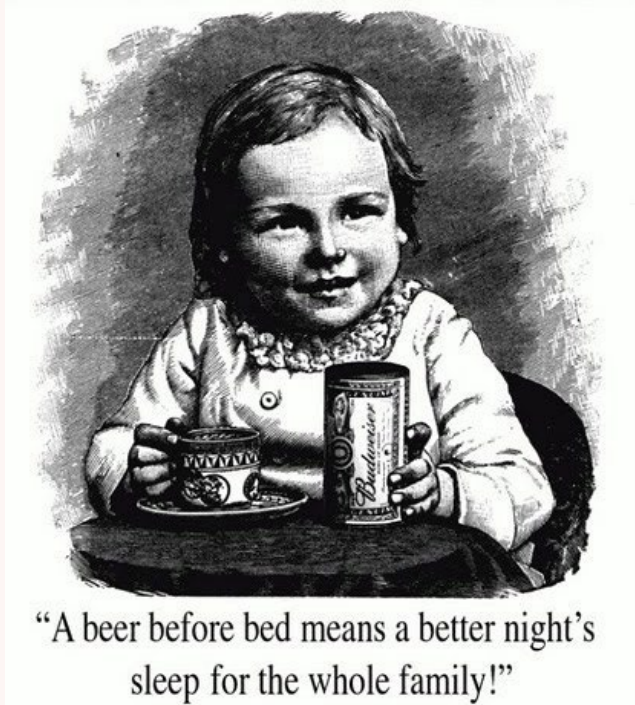
We’re all bombarded with ads of all kind; efforts to steer us towards purchasing particular items. We saw ads promoting revolvers “safe for children to play with”, shaving razors for toddlers, & beer for children.



but most were reminders of real items we had or wanted when we were not so big. Other Christmas memories were brought back, including Eaton’s holiday mascot Punkinhead, sledding on snow-covered roads, actually building snow forts and snowmen, playing “Circle Tag” in the snow, worrying how Santa would get into houses with no chimney, and letters which had to be written to Santa and sent to the North Pole.



Mother Knows Best...



A few mixed in were NOT real, such as the air rifle “keeping kids off your lawn for 40 years”

Our childhood was, compared with today, relatively rule-free and unstructured. We were so fortunate to enjoy that freedom to imagine, to pretend and to be kids.

The meeting ended with coffee & sparkling punch, Christmas cookies & singing some Christmas carols learned when we were growing up.



From the HEIRS mailbag...

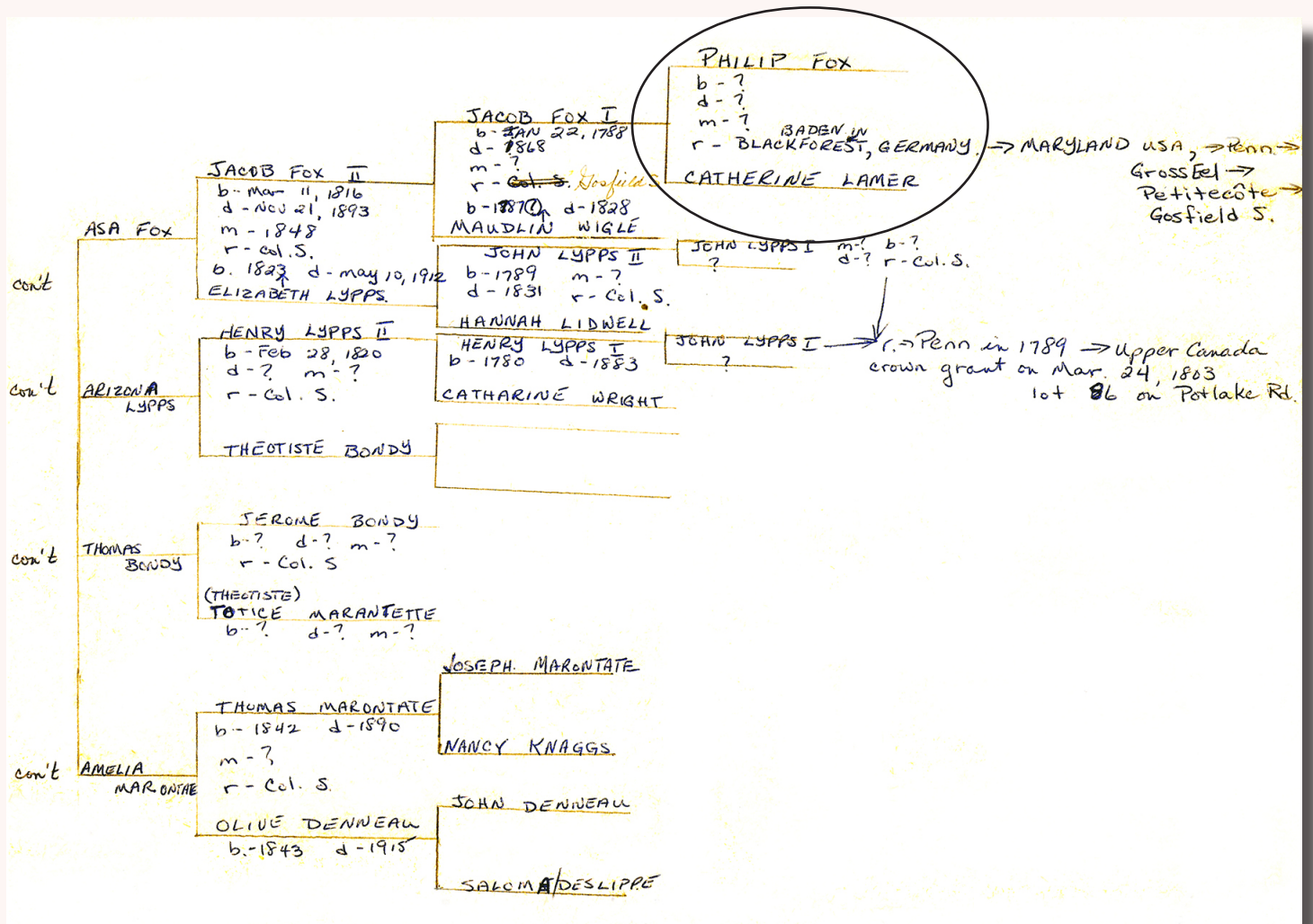
Acknowledgment

HEIRS wishes to gratefully acknowledge the donation of materials on the Fox, Bondy and Darling families from the collection of Elaene Fox. This is a valuable addition to our genealogy files, and is greatly appreciated.

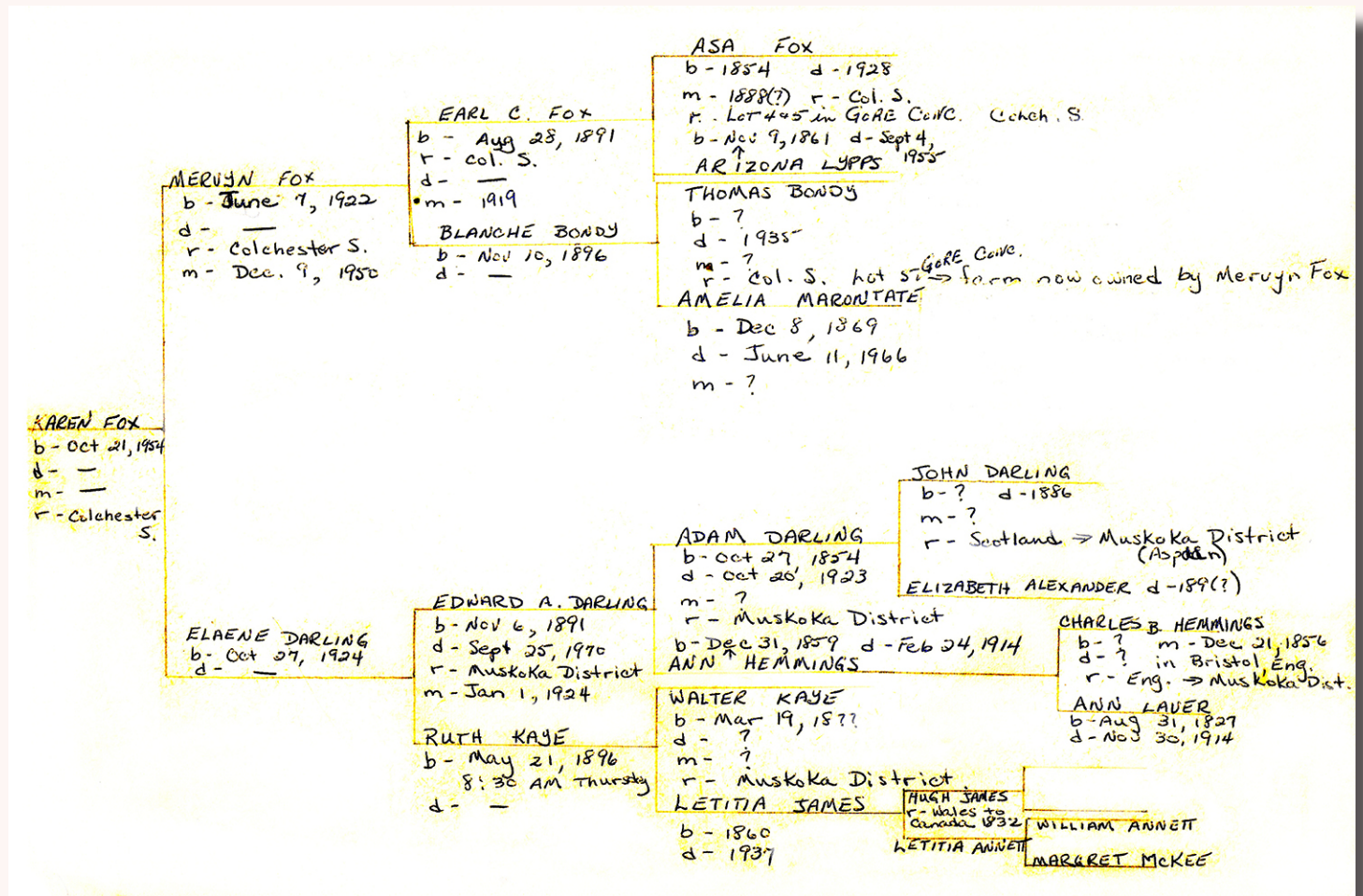
A small portion of this generous donation is shown on pages 4 & 5...

Two pages show a small part of the Fox Family Tree, which begins with Philip and wife Catherine Lamer (circled in the tree below), who arrived in North America from Germany, circa 1755.

It follows the line through Jacob 1, Jacob 2, Asa, Earl, Mervyn and Karen Fox.



HEIRS is especially pleased that this shows how the Fox line connects with so many other Essex County families, which include the names: Lypps, Wigle, Lidwell, Wright, Bondy, Marentette, Denneau, Darling and Deslippe, to name a few. Anyone researching any of these families has a new and valuable resource available through HEIRS files.



Another page perused was an account written by Rev. Jacob Iler, who actually took part in putting down the Rebellions of 1837-9. He gives a first-hand telling of the invasion by the Patriots and America invaders, the shelling of Amherstburg by the schooner Anne, and its capture by Canadian forces.

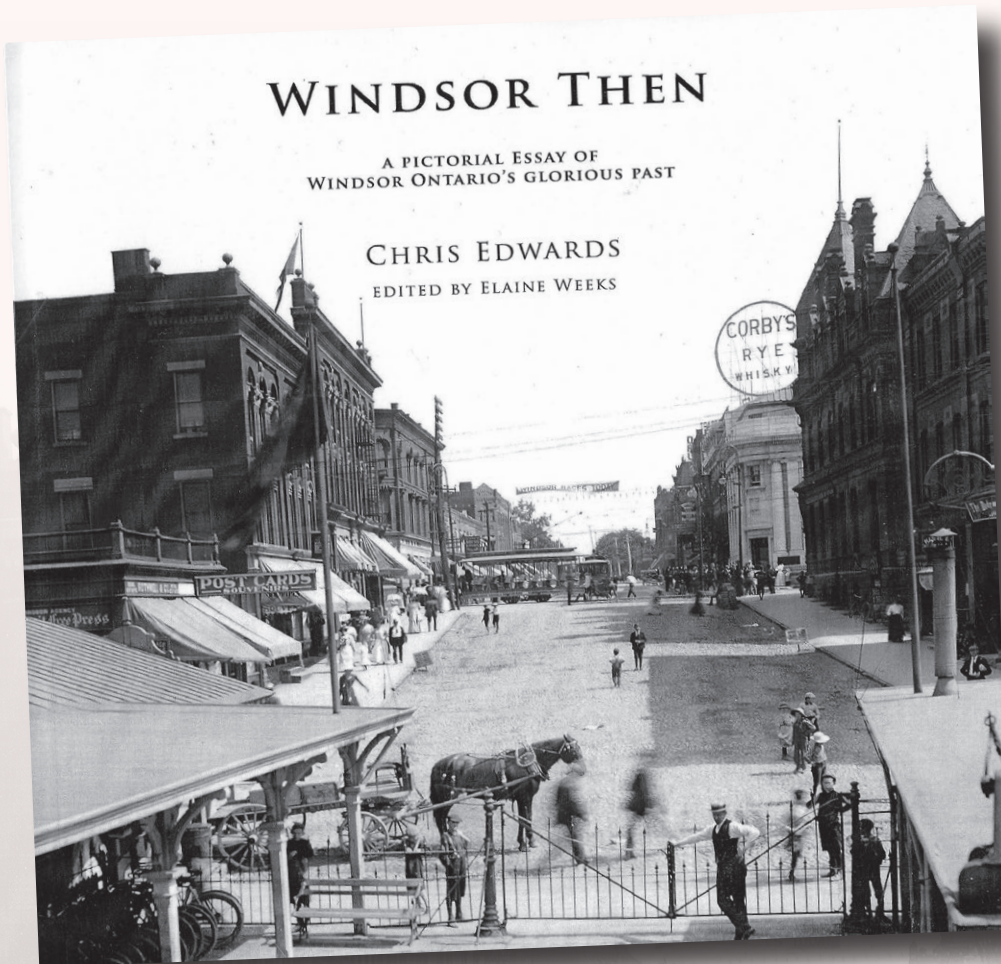
The Rev. Iler also indicated that at the time of writing his memories down, only 5 loyal defenders were still surviving: Adam Fox, Charles Cornwall, Henry Lypps, Daniel Wright and Rev Iler himself.

What an incredible piece of historical information!

Another page selected gives the obituaries of Elizabeth Lypps Fox and Thomas Lypps, and includes a great deal of factual information on their family lines, as well as the many marriages which connected them with other early settlers' families in Essex County.

It is amazing to read these stories and realize that these pioneers often lived into their eighties and nineties even though their lives could not be called easy and comfortable, by our standards.

These papers are available for viewing & copying at the HEIRS Resource Centre.



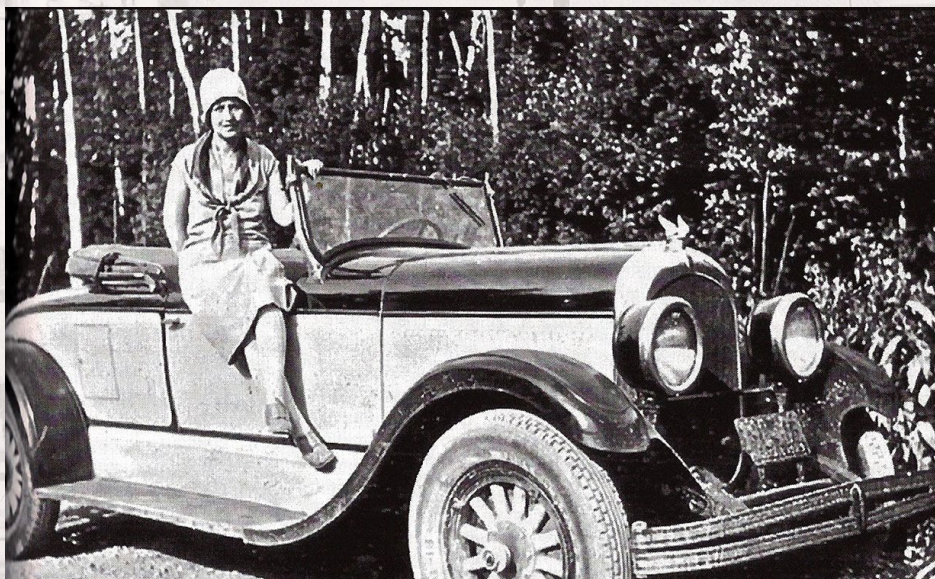
Windsor Then

- A Pictorial Essay of Windsor Ontario's Glorious Past

- by Chris Edwards

This book is a collection of rarely seen before photographs, all in glorious black and white, showing the various sections of Windsor from the 1890's through to the 1950's, ending with the well-remembered Skyway Drive-In.

It does not tell a narrative, but is a scrapbook looking back at the city and its people, including various parades, fire department scenes, the busy waterfront, and the construction of the railway tunnel under the river. Scenes depicting transportation abound, both on land and on the water, as do photographs of the industrial plants that have made Windsor famous.





Many photos show people going about their own affairs, with the old cars and even trolleys in the background. Dancing at the big pavilion on Boblo Island is another image sure to jog memories in many readers.



Paperbound, 70 pages, produced by Chris Edwards and edited by Elaine Weeks.

Printed in 2011 by our local Walkerville Publishing.



January 7

James Drummond shipped another carload of horses for the French army. The township will be gone over again and again until all the horses are picked up.

January 14

Mrs. Lewis Powell, nee Grozella Hanns, daughter of Samuel and Esther Hanns, died. She was born in the township, and taught school until age 26 when she married.

Thomas W. Crowe, newly elected reeve of Colchester South. E. Pastorius, Bondy, Wilson and Tofflemire are mentioned in the minutes.

A shortage of rail cars is limiting the shipping from Harrow. Only 1 of wheat, 1 of hay, 4 of hogs and 1 of cattle this past week.

January 21

Lewis Quick disposed of his creamery and confectionery to Ida Thrasher and son Harold of Oxley. Mr. Quick has bought a farm from Mr. Klie. Mrs. Thrasher and her son have considerable experience catering to the public.

George C. McLean, J. P., prominent farmer, died suddenly of pneumonia. The only son of John McLean, now of Walkerville; born in Colchester South 35 years ago. His great grandfather migrated from Pennsylvania to Gosfield a century ago. His son George, grandfather of the deceased, moved from Gosfield to New Canan about 74 years ago. In 1854, he moved to Colchester South and built up what is now called the old McLean homestead, north of Harrow. Ten years ago, George C. McLean was married to Jessie Patton, daughter of the late Sydney Patton. She survives him, as well as 5 children between the ages of 10 and 2. He also leaves his parents, listed above, 2 sisters (Mrs. Ernest Thompson and Mrs. Alex Shaw). He was appointed J. P. and sat on every case of importance in the township.

January 28

The first shipments of tobacco. Imperial Tobacco Co. Sending out two cars. Crop cured up well; price better than last year.

Mrs. C. E. Drummond is ill, and he has decided to just keep roomers. The Thrasher restaurant will serve meals for all travellers and others coming to Harrow.

A foot in the door...

It has been a long term goal of HEIRs to “get our foot in the door” at some of the local schools, and offer our knowledge to the local students. We know that the Grade 3 curriculum includes the Canadian Pioneers, and that the Grade 7’s study the Loyalists and the Rebellions of 1837-39. In addition, our high school students cover Canada’s contributions to both World Wars.

To date, there has been very little success in this endeavour to be included as a resource of historical knowledge. However, our involvement with the Bois Blanc blockhouse may at last open some of those doors.

Last fall, HEIRS director, Ted Steele was able to join Bill Brundage on Boblo Island for a few of the 6 occasions when school classes visited the island to explore the blockhouse. The students were quite fascinated, and we had the opportunity to “talk local history” with the both the kids and their teachers, who were genuinely interested.



Those teachers plan to return with other classes, with Bill approaching a number of the schools in the Amherstburg area, directly. In addition, he discussed with one principal the idea of using one of their Professional Development Days for Bill and Ted to present to a group of teachers or principals, on any of the history topics we could offer.

Topics could include the Loyalists, Pioneer Life, the War of 1812, the Rebellions, the Fenian Raids, Black History in Ontario, and other subjects.

Our HEIRS files are gold mines of data that would certainly make better reading than the textbooks! Once a few teachers use our source materials, we expect the demand for our presentations to quickly grow.

Are there teachers in your family or social circle? Let them know what HEIRS can offer. Show or give them a copy of our newsletter - spread the word that HEIRS can host, or we can come to them for a presentation.

Word of mouth is the best publicity, and publicity is what HEIRS needs!!

HEIRS Resource Centre

September to June (excluding December)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM - 3PM

Wednesday or for other appts. Call to confirm.

Memberships

\$25 CDN/US per person or couple: April 2015 to May 2016

Send cheque to: HEIRS PO Box 53, Harrow ON Canada N0R 1G0

Please include phone, fax, email, website & names you are now researching.

Non-member user fee for HEIRS Research Library: \$5 / visit (+ photocopy costs).

HEIRS Newsletter

Published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, from September through June (with the exception of December).
Receive full colour newsletters by email & save HEIRS printing & mailing costs of B&W copies by regular post. Simply provide your email address to our office.

THANK YOU

Greg Harrison at The Computer Centre in Harrow provides HEIRS ongoing support for all things technical, to keep our office running smoothly.



Board of Directors

President

Richard Herniman
herniman5@sympatico.ca

Vice-President

Chris Carter
cdcarter002@gmail.com

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John Brush
jmb1@xplornet.com

Secretary

Kathy Langlois
kathyl@msni.net

Directors

Pauline Baldwin
Esther Meerschaut
Roger Sinasac
Ted Steele

Committee Chairpersons

Resource Centre

Pauline Baldwin
baldwin1@xplornet.com

Kathy Langlois
kathyl@msni.net

Program / Publicity

Chris Carter
cdcarter002@gmail.com

Ted Steele
twsteele@sympatico.ca
519 733-3456

Membership

Richard Herniman
herniman5@sympatico.ca

Hospitality

Ann Brush
jmb1@xplornet.com

Esther Meerschaut

Newsletter

Ted Steele
twsteele@sympatico.ca