

Vol. 4 April, 2012

H.E.I.R.S.

newsletter

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society



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Harrow & Colchester South
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



Inside this issue...

April 26th Meeting:

Grace Austin, The Barnado Boys

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser...

How much fun did we cook up?

Welcome to the April 2012 edition of the H.E.I.R.S. newsletter.

Already we are heading into April as the mostly mild winter has passed us by. With new events being planned, new history to uncover in our own region, and new info for our own family trees to gather, it's time to get outdoors once more.

Now is a great time to dust off the cameras, get outdoors and capture old homesteads of our ancestors, discover new cemetery inscriptions, visit the museums near and far. And don't forget to get those family group shots done this year – future generations will be searching for them.

If you know of any upcoming events we should share with our members, please send them to one of our newsletter committee members. We'll include them in our next edition.

Next meeting: Thursday April 26, 2012 1:30PM

Barnardo's Boys

Beginning about 1830, various charitable groups saw a need to get street urchins, orphans and unwanted children off London, England streets. At the same time, Canadian farmers had a great need for cheap manual labour. One of these organizations was headed by a Dr. Barnardo, who tried to ensure that the children got proper care and living conditions both on the voyage and after they arrived here in Canada. Other groups saw only a profit to be made, and a new form of "slave traffic" had begun. The Rebellion of 1837 and its general unrest interrupted this program, but by 1850 it began again and about 100,000 children came to Canada before the British Home Children program ended.

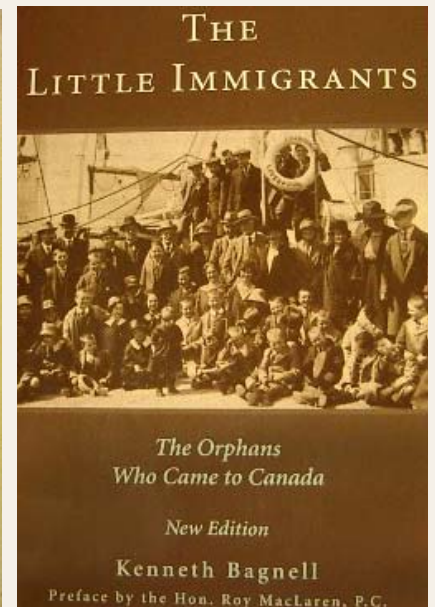
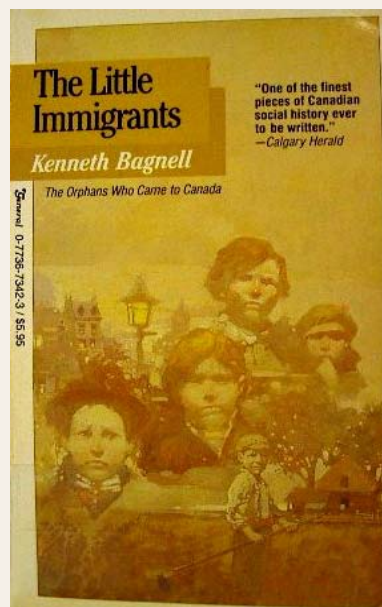
April's speaker, Grace Austin, is a retired teacher who has researched local history, and discovered that several local families in Essex County can trace their roots back to these Home children. Grace will share her knowledge on this important, yet largely unknown part of our own local history. *Could you have a British Home Child in your own background?*



Canada Post issued a single, domestic rate stamp to honour Canada's Home Children in September 2010.

As depicted on our cover, *British Home Children: Their Stories*, as well as an original and updated versions of *The Little Immigrants*, *The Orphans Who Came to Canada* are available from our Resource Centre.

They would provide an excellent backgrounder for Grace Austin's talk on April 26th.



March Meeting Recap - Charlie Campbell Military Museum



Here's what you missed during our March field trip...

HEIRS met at the Kingsville Historical Museum (Charlie Campbell Military Museum) on March 22. After a short meeting, members were invited to explore the many exhibits which feature Essex County's pioneer past, as well as the many conflicts in which Canada has been involved: the Fenian Invasions of the 1860s, the Boer War as the 1900s began, both World Wars and more.

Uniforms and equipment used by local servicemen and women are featured throughout and our hostess, Linda Lynch, was available to answer questions and point out special features. Those in attendance discovered a local treasure to be further explored, with new exhibits and displays added on an ongoing basis.



Photos 1 & 2 courtesy Heather Gignac (Harrow News)

From the H.E.I.R.S. mailbox...



We incorrectly spelled Richard's last name & email address in the March edition. Richard McGee (romcgee1@yahoo.com) is seeking help with his 1812 Society application. Please refer to his March inquiries and if you can help him out, please contact him via email.

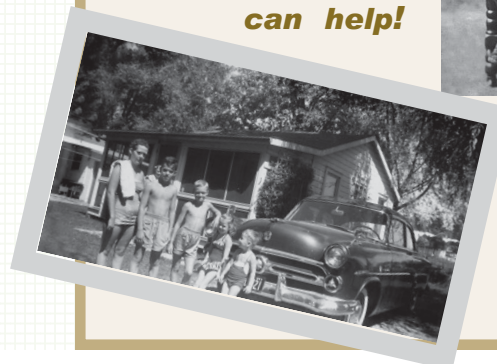
Mr, Michael Beale would like to find people, who know their ancestor was in the War of 1812, in either the Essex or Kent Militia, to be a part of the re-dedication of the cairn in front of the Armouries in Windsor, Ontario. If interested please send your name, address and name of your ancestor to family.finder@hotmail.com.

Karyn Mannell (mannell@csolve.net) Box 202, Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0 is searching for these names, and to connect with HEIRS members: Cascadden, Dexter, Knight, Maidens, Malott, Nutson, Scratch & Wigle.

Did you know?

*If you have negatives
or prints you need
digitized or videos
copied, or audio tapes
that need to be
burned to CDs...*

**H.E.I.R.S.
can help!**



**Call us
for more
information.**

Looking to prove that you qualify as an United Empire Loyalist?

Many of the original families of Essex County do qualify, and HEIRS has a great amount of history on these pioneers.

We can help you make the connections between your ancestors, and aid you in getting that UEL certificate.

Some of our directors have already gone through the process and been certified.

Let us help you do the same!

INSET: H.E.I.R.S. Director, Ted Steele receives his UEL certificate from retired genealogist, Margaret Lewis.



United Empire Loyalists' Association
Of Canada

This is to certify that

Ted Steele

is a descendant of

Steele

is a Loyalist

member of the Association



Pasta Fundraiser

On March 3rd, locals were treated to a sumptuous pasta dinner, all in support of the H.E.I.R.S. summer student program. This year 105 people attended and left with full bellies. That's a lot of pasta.

Of course, our heartfelt thanks go to the participants for their support, the dinner organizers, food preparation staff, the food servers and tickets sellers.

It takes a number of people to make the dinner a success, and to provide good value to our members and their families that support H.E.I.R.S. each year.



Available from your H.E.I.R.S. Resource Centre

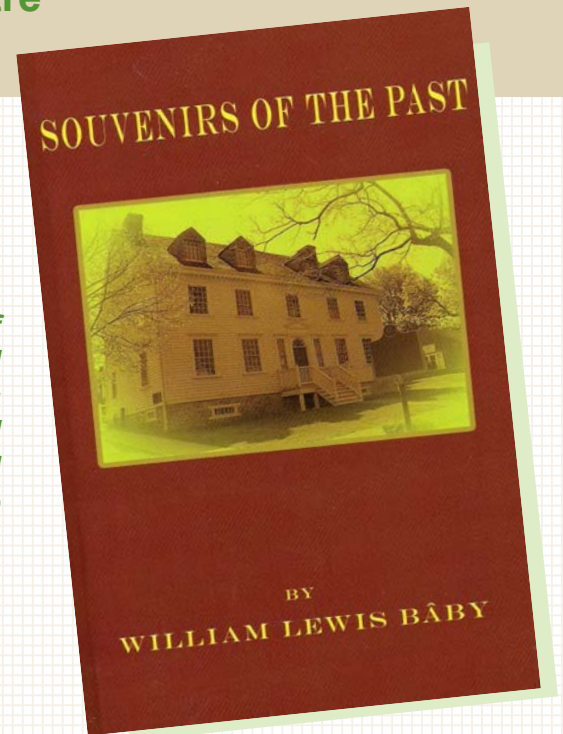
Mail orders available.

Souvenirs of the Past (with illustrations)

- by William Lewis Bâby

“An instructive and amusing work, giving a correct account of the customs and habits of the Pioneers of Canada and the surrounding country. Embracing many anecdotes of its prominent inhabitants, and withal an absolute correct and historical account of many of the most important political events connected with the early days of Canada and the territory of Michigan.” – preface

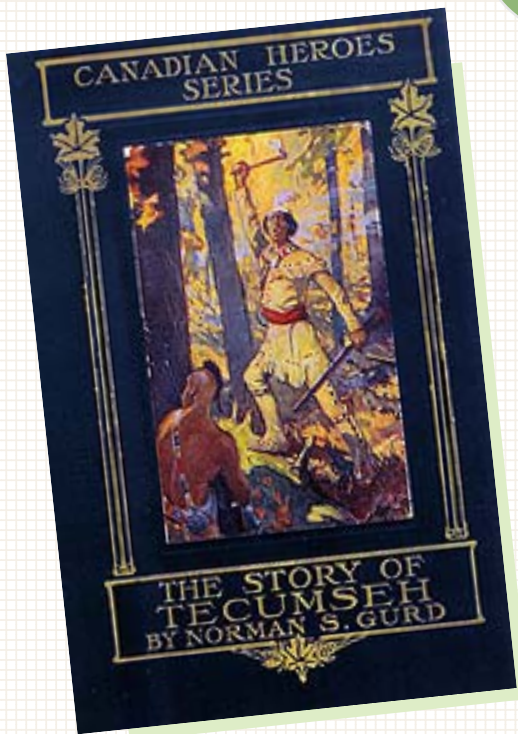
This is a 2010 b/w facsimile reprint of the original 1912 edition, copyrighted by the Deputy Minister of Education, Ontario, but with a new index. The 1910 edition was an exact facsimile reprint of the original 1896 edition.



Paperback, large print with several photos / illustrations, 271 pages with several supplements & anecdotes, and introduction by HEIRS Director, Chris Carter \$20.00

TO ORDER:

Call us at 519-738-3700
or email Chris Carter
cdcarter002@gmail.



The Story of Tecumseh (Canadian Heroes Series)

- by Norman S. Gurd

Upper Canada Press offers a newly indexed reprint, originally published in 1912. It is the culmination of 3 years of labour spent searching every available source, and combing over scores of books and available documents, many of which were at the Canadian Archives.

Written from the British point of view, the book is a vividly detailed biography of Tecumseh, including in-depth accounts and descriptions of Tecumseh's early life, Indian customs, events during the War of 1812, the surrender at Hull at Detroit, and his death.

Paperback, 177 pages, illustrated with several photos, sketches, supplements \$19.00

Tecumseh is remembered by Canadians as the leader of the Indian allies of the Crown in the War of 1812, but few realize the extent of his services to Canada in her hour of need.

From the archives of the Amherstburg Echo... 1889

April 26, 1889

Everything is booming in Harrow. Real estate is selling quite rapidly and at good prices. Several new houses are in progress and being rapidly constructed. The fine residence that Mr. Foster is building for Dr. Mitchell is progressing rapidly.

The railroad is building a very comfortable and good sized section house near the depot.

Robert Heaton has purchased from John Anderson the building used by Anderson & Bertrand as a planing mill, and has moved the same to a lot just west of the schoolhouse, and is fixing it up very nicely. It is occupied by James Murray, blacksmith, who will be glad to see his old customers.

Ira Pastorius is selling lots of furniture and machinery.

T. R. Flood is yet in the full tide of successful prosperity. Miss Belle Wright now holds the position of telegraph operator and book-keeper in his store. Ed Thrasher yet runs the peddling wagon. Frank Martin has had 2 or 3 good offers to leave Harrow. Mr. Flood, however, retains his services, and Frank will, for another year, dispense tea, coffee, etc, to his old friends and as many new customers as he can induce to purchase from Mr. Flood.

October 12, 1889

Imagine! The Detroit Free Press morning edition can be obtained at Harrow, every day at 11:30 AM. Truly Colchester South is getting out of the mud. Sandy Anderson is the agent, and a good one he makes.

October 18, 1889

The following businessmen of Harrow have agreed to close their respective places of business at the hour of 8 o'clock, Saturdays excepted... H. W. Allan, W. S. Pulford, W. J. Rosenburgh, T. R. Flood, Rumball Brothers, Thomas Ferriss and Dr. Mitchell.

Upcoming Events

April 10, 2012

Debra Honor will share techniques and resources for Researching Your War of 1812 Ancestors. Note this Essex Branch OGS will be on Tuesday due to the Easter Monday Holiday. Windsor Public Library, 850 Oullette Drive, Windsor, lower level, 7 PM.

April 13, 2012

Join the *Leamington Mersea Historical Society* for a delicious meal, show and dance on Friday April 13th at 6 PM. The Society is holding its pasta dinner, variety show and dance at the Rhine Danube.

Tickets are available in advance or at the door for only \$15. Door prizes and cash bar; singles welcome. For advance tickets or more information, call Betty Fox (519-326-5916) or email (betfox@sympatico.ca). **See you there!**

April 14, 21, 28, 2012

Purple Theatre at MacKenzie Hall will be presenting a version of the Battle of Lake Erie (without water) from the War of 1812 on these Saturdays at 8PM. Tickets are \$15, Students \$8. Contact Mackenzie Hall box office at 519-255-7600.

April 27 - 28, 2012

War of 1812: Local History Lecture & Tour. Dan Loncke is leading the lecture & guided bus tour throughout the County exploring 1812 sites. **Contact number is 519-255-7600.**

Ongoing until Jan 12, 2013

Living in 1812, Life on the Sandwich Frontier: Exhibition featuring many maps, illustration and artifacts, exploring the inhabitants' daily lives. www.windsormuseum.ca

Canadian Headstone Photo Project

This innovative project offers free-to-use family information and headstone photographs from over 380,000 records and cemeteries from across Canada. Jim McKane and other volunteers have assembled the collection. The project is a great method of finding specific information on your Canadian ancestors without the need to travel far to discover this important information in person.

The mission of the project is to capture digital images and the complete transcription of headstones of our ancestors. As decades pass, it is becoming harder - if not impossible - to read the inscriptions these stones originally contained. By archiving the images and transcriptions, these important records are saved. The Headstone Photo Project is a non-profit organization. Success of the project depends completely upon the activities of many volunteers and other individuals who contribute photographs to the archive.

These online records can be found at www.canadianheadstones.com. Simply browse records by province or territory. It includes records from Nunavut, the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Details most often include the person's name, cemetery, region or district, years/dates and other inscribed information.

There are two main ways to search the site: browsing and direct searching.

Browsing is an effective tool when properly used. From the main page, choosing the specific geographic location will lead you to a subset of the records focused on that location. Then you can choose specific cemeteries to browse by region and by singular rural municipality. Then just select the individual names from the list that you wish to view.

Direct searching of the records, can be the fastest method if you are in a hurry or have specific personal details you are looking to find. Simply choose the geographical location from the home page and then review the various options for direct searching of the person(s) you are seeking information on.

You can limit the search by surname, first name, cemetery, submitter, and comments. There are also options to correlate your search terms with other limiters; such as, start with, contains and sounds like. These options come in handy if you are unsure of the correct spelling of the search option.

This project certainly is worth exploring, and allows you to see and discover information from regions far from your home base. **Give it a try, and let H.E.I.R.S. know if you discover anything that may be of interest to others in the Colchester-Essex community.** – *Adapted from Tony Bandy's article, published in the April / May issue, page 53 at www.internet-genealogy.com.*

Want to Get Involved?

The Project is currently seeking volunteers to help take and upload photos and transcriptions for many areas of Canada.

They also require volunteers to assist the webmaster by acting as co-ordinators. If you have an interest in volunteering for this rewarding part-time activity, please refer to their contact numbers on the website.

The Headstone Photo Project would be an excellent project for a genealogy or history group. and It could also become a church congregational project to create a permanent, updatable, searchable photographic record of your cemetery.

Hours of Operation: September to June (excluding December)
Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM to 3PM / Wednesday: 9AM to 12 Noon
Please call appointments for other times.

Memberships:

Now Due: MAY 2011 to APRIL 2012: \$20 per person / couple (CDN / U.S.)
Send cheque to: HEIRS, PO/BOX 53, HARROW ON CANADA N0R 1G0
Please include your phone, fax, email, website & names you are now researching.



HEIRS Newsletter

The HEIRS newsletters are published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, from September through May (with the exception of December).

Newsletters by Email

If you currently receive our newsletter by mail and would prefer to receive it by email, simply provide your email address to any one of our newsletter committee members. Not only will you be able to archive the full colour newsletter PDF easily on your computer, it will save HEIRS the extra handling, reproduction and mailing costs.

Special thanks to Greg Harrison at the Computer Centre in Harrow, for his ongoing support of all things computer, setting up our new equipment, and keeping things running smoothly.



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