

Tweedsmuir Report

Sharing Our Heritage

Both of my parents were deceased by the time that I became interested in and found time to do genealogical research about my family "roots." My father was born in Plumstead, Woolwich, adjacent to London, England. His mother had returned to England in order that her new baby could be born there. She, her husband and other small son had moved to Canada from England two years earlier. Three months after her new baby was born, my grandmother and her children returned to Canada. When my Dad was 11-years-old, his father had been killed in a Smelter accident. I remembered these and other stories because as a young girl I lived near my three grandparents and my great grandfather.

Other sources of information include birth certificates, which furnished maiden names, British Census records obtained through the Latter Day Saints' Family History Centre and parish records. I discovered that my great grandparents Knight had come to London from Devon. Membership in the Devon Heritage Society led to the miraculous letter from a distant cousin in England. Our great grandparents had been sister and brother. My cousin travelled to Devon, visited the Genealogical Centre at Essex and then provided me with information on the Knights back to the 1600s, along with pictures.

Obituaries and articles in newspapers are also valuable, as well as tombstone, church, cemetery and land records. A Lanark history book provided me with the fact that my great, great grandmother had been an herbalist!

Modern day communication through the email connected me with another

distant cousin. This led to the addresses of other cousins. Eventually, I met several of these cousins in person. One of them still lives in a house on the farm that my great grandfather settled in 1891 near Nairn Centre.

When I had accumulated all of my information, I was concerned about what would happen when I no longer was around. That was why I made my first "Grandmother's Legacy" book for my 18-year-old granddaughter. This led to making a book for each of my 13 grandchildren. The book also contains an abbreviated biography of myself. Hopefully, some day, one of my descendants will take advantage of and appreciate the genealogical information I compiled.

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Carlingford WI Hold Successful Book Launch

Last June, the Carlingford Women's Institute launched *By the Old Mill Stream: Carlingford 1856-2004*, a history of their community and area. With FWIO support for their application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Branch received a \$10,000 grant to publish 400 copies of the 360-page book containing 440 photographs. Most of the information for the book was obtained through the Branch's Tweedsmuir History Books. On launch day, 117 people gathered for lunch to celebrate the success and 280 people signed the guest book and viewed the history displays at the WI Hall.

The Carlingford History Book Committee, from left to right in the back row included Jean Sebben, Verna Willows, Donna Willows, Lillian Kreis and Betty Knott. In the front row from left to right are Ruth Reath, Lois McIntosh (Chair), Lorraine Babb (Treasurer) and Jean Davidson.

Submitted by Lois McIntosh, Carlingford WI, Perth South, London Area.

