

The British Isles



The British Isles

Historic Society

Heritage, History, Traditions & Customs

08-20 August Issue

The Culture and Traditions of the

British Isles

Points to Ponder:

The British Isles are influenced by the combined nations history, its historically Christian religious life, its interaction with the cultures of Europe, the traditions and customs of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, the impact of the British Empire. Although British Isles culture is a distinct entity, the individual cultures of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Cornwall and Republic of Ireland are diverse and have varying degrees of overlap and distinctiveness

First spoken in early medieval England, the English language is the de facto official language of the United Kingdom and is spoken monolingually by an estimated 95% of the British population. Seven other languages are recognized by the UK Government under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages – Welsh, Scottish Gaelic, Scots, Cornish, Irish, Ulster Scots, and British Sign Language.

Several sports are popular throughout the British Isles, the most prominent of which is soccer. Rugby, darts, snooker, horse racing and cricket

are also popular spectator and participatory sports.

The Public House (or pub) and the consumption of ale, lager, stout and cider are an important part of adult social life in all parts of the islands and pubs, and along with churches, are the central point of many communities.

The British Isles meals are quite different and part of their culture. The morning meal (breakfast), the pub lunch and the evening meal (dinner) may be similar but with some minor differences from country to country. Roast dinner with Yorkshire pudding is a common meal on Sunday or a carvery at a pub or a restaurant where cooked meat is freshly sliced to order for customers.

With this edition of the newsletter it is directed to those of the second and third generation that have a tie to the British Isles. Once they know more about their history and heritage they will share the traditions and customs of their ancestors with their families and friends.

“A people without the knowledge of their past, origin & culture are like a tree with no roots.”

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy



Pubs in Ireland and Britain

Traditionally, the church, pub and the local football club were the three main social outlets for people in rural Ireland. The pub had the habit of following the other two. By that I mean that people went to the pub after Mass or after a football match. The pub was where the village met, stories were exchanged and the 'craic' (fun) was had.

The history of pubs can be traced to Roman taverns in Britain, and through Anglo-Saxon alehouses, but it was not until the early 19th century that pubs, as we know them today, first began to appear. The model also became popular in countries and regions of British influence, where pubs are often still considered to be an important aspect of their culture. In many places, especially in villages, pubs are the focal point of local communities. In his 17th-century diary, Samuel Pepys described the pub as "the heart of England".



The Ale-House Door (painting of c. 1790 by Henry Singleton)



Irish pubs are characterized by a unique culture centred around a casual and friendly atmosphere, hearty food and drink, Irish sports, and traditional Irish music. Their widespread appeal has led to the Irish pub theme spreading around the world.

Irish pubs have existed for roughly a millennium, with the title "oldest pub in Ireland" held by Sean's Bar in Athlone, County Westmeath which

was established in the 10th century. The Brazen Head in Dublin City was established in 1198 and holds the title "oldest pub in Dublin". It was not until 1635 that the government required pubs to be licensed. Grace Neill's in Donaghadee, County Down, Northern Ireland, which became licensed in 1611, holds the title of "oldest licensed pub in Ireland" The pub was opened in 1611 as the King's Arms. According to family tradition, Grace Neill was given the pub as a wedding gift from her father. Neill was a well-known figure in Donaghadee and owned the bar until her death in 1918. The pub was renamed in her honour.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)



Football in England (Soccer)

Association football is the most popular sport in England, where the first modern set of rules for the code were established in 1863, which were a major influence on the development of the modern Laws of the Game.

With over 40,000 association football clubs, England has more clubs involved in the code than any other country as well as the world's first club (Sheffield F.C.), the world's oldest professional association football club (Notts County), the oldest national governing body (the Football Association), the joint-first national team, the oldest national knockout competition (the FA Cup) and the oldest national league (the English Football League). Today England's top domestic league, the Premier League, is one of the most popular and richest sports leagues in the world, with six of the ten richest football clubs in the world as of 2019.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)



TRIVIA: In 1898, on October 15, the Nine O'Clock Gun was fired for the first time in Stanley Park . . . at noon.



Land Developers Harvey Hadden:

Harvey Hadden, Millionaire, philanthropist b. **England.**; d. February 1931, **London, Eng.** A wealthy Englishman, he first visited Vancouver in 1891, becoming a major property owner before 1913. Said to have made more than \$1 million on his real estate holdings. Owned **Birk's site** (Hastings and Granville). Bought 160 acres in Capilano Canyon, sight unseen from architect S.M. Eveleigh.



In 1903 after being away for more than a decade, Hadden came back to Vancouver and purchased a 160-acre property west of the Capilano River. He built a mansion called Hadden Hall

near the current location of the Clubhouse and landscaped the property to create a “sort of Garden of Eden in the forest.” This property would become the **Capilano Golf and Country Club**.



Hadden Park at Kitsilano Beach was donated in 1928 but not dedicated until 1952. In his will, he bequeathed \$500,000 to Vancouver parks. In 1957, parks at Georgia, Adanac, Woodland and McLean were purchased with his bequest. Hadden Park, Home of the Vancouver Maritime Museum, Hadden Park is filled with fascinating bits of Vancouver history, with historic vessels often docking in harbour. Hadden Park was donated to the city by Englishman Harvey Hadden in 1928.

In 1896 he commissioned John Parr (three years later partnering with Thomas Fee) to design a

building on another of his Hastings Street corner sites – this one the north-east corner of Homer Street. Harvey’s Chambers were initially the home to McDowell Atkins Watson Co., Chemists and Druggists, but in a Phillip Timms photograph G S Forsyth’s Book Shop was on the corner, with medical offices upstairs.

https://www.vancouverhistory.ca/whoswho_H.htm



William Hailstone

One of the "Three Greenhorns" b. May 18, 1830, **Bridlington, England.**; d. July 12, 1912, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Eng. He and partners Sam Brighthouse and John Morton, dubbed the

"Three Greenhorns," were the first European settlers to pre-empt a Crown grant of Lot 185 in what is now the West End of Vancouver. The price for the 550 acres was 114 pounds 11 shillings 8 pence. He returned to England before 1894.

The Three Greenhorns were three Englishmen, Samuel Brighthouse, William Hailstone and John Morton, who were the first white settlers in the area known today as Vancouver's West End. They earned the nickname “Three Greenhorn Englishmen” because they bought land for what was believed to be an inflated price.

Morning Meal (Breakfast)

My favourites are . . .



Full Irish Fry Up

Bacon Butty on a Scottish Bap



Sausage Sarnie



. . . . What is yours?



Irish Boxty

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups grated raw potatoes

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 cup leftover mashed potatoes

1 egg

1 tablespoon skim milk

1 pinch salt and pepper to taste

¼ cup olive oil

Directions:

Toss the grated potatoes with flour in a large bowl. Stir in mashed potatoes until combined. In a separate bowl, whisk together the egg and skim milk; mix into the potatoes. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Drop in the potato mixture, forming patties about 2 inches in diameter. Fry on both sides until golden brown, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Drain on a paper towel-lined plate. Serve warm.



Sara Anne McLagan

(1 April 1855 – 20 March 1924),

born Sara Anne Maclure,

was an **Irish**-born Canadian newspaper editor and clubwoman, co-founder and publisher of the Vancouver Daily

World. She is often described as

"the first female publisher of a daily newspaper in Canada" or "the first Canadian female newspaper editor. Sara Anne Maclure was born near **Belfast, County Tyrone**, died in Vancouver, March 29, 1924, aged about 69. She was the first woman telegrapher in BC, probably in Canada, came here from Ireland in 1858 at age 3. Her father taught her telegraphy.

When she was 12 a major forest fire threatened their Matsqui home, but Sara tapped a message through to New Westminster and that brought help. At 14 she took over the New Westminster telegraph station! She was married in 1884 to John McLagan. He died in 1901, and she became the first woman publisher of a daily newspaper in Canada. (She was also managing editor, editorial writer, proof-reader and occasional reporter.) Construction of The Daily World's headquarters, The World Building (later renamed The Sun Tower), was completed in 1912. The building was designed to be seen throughout the newspaper's circulation area and was the tallest building in the British Empire at the time of completion.



The Last Scrimmage by Edwin Buckman depicting a rugby scrum, as published on The Illustrated London News in 1871

Rugby in England

Rugby union in **England** is one of the leading professional and recreational team sports. In 1871 the Rugby Football Union, the governing body for

rugby union in England, was formed by 21 rugby clubs, and the first international match, which involved England, was played in Scotland. The English national team compete annually in the Six Nations Championship and are former world champions after winning the 2003 Rugby World Cup. The top domestic men's club competition is Premiership Rugby, and English clubs also compete in international competitions such as the European Rugby Champions Cup. The top domestic women's competition is the Premier 15s.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)



The Royal Society of St. George

In 1415 St. George became the Patron Saint of England after the English soldiers fighting under the command of King Henry V had beaten the French at the Battle of Agincourt. Ever since then, St George has been the patriotic rallying point for the English people.

The Royal Society of Saint George was established in 1894 and Incorporated by Royal Charter. They are fortunate to have as their Patron, Her Majesty the Queen. The Society's first Royal Patron was Queen Victoria - each monarch since has been the patron of the Society.



Howard Ruff

In February 1894, in central London. two individuals, Howard Ruff, a Buckinghamshire-born agriculturalist, and solicitor Harry W. Christmas, The Royal Society of St George was established as a English patriotic society to encourage interest in the English way of life, and English customs and traditions.

The objects of the Royal Society of St. George are laid out in their Royal Charter:

To foster the love of England and to strengthen England and the Commonwealth by spreading the knowledge of English history, traditions, and ideals.

To keep fresh the memory of those in all walks of life, who have served England or the Commonwealth in the past, to inspire leadership in the future.

To combat all activities that might undermine the strength of England or the Commonwealth.

To further English interest everywhere to ensure that St. George's Day is properly celebrated

and to provide events all the world over where English men and women may gather to celebrate their heritage and traditions.

Some well known individuals have taken an active role in the society: The Duke of Cambridge, The Prince of Wales (later Edward VIII, then Duke of Windsor), Field Marshal (The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein), Rudyard Kipling, The Duke of Devonshire, and Sir Winston Churchill.

The Society now focuses its work on the younger generations of English and kindred people whose most valuable inheritance is the nation's history, heritage, traditions and culture.

Pub Lunches

A few of my favourites are



Fish & Chips



Jacket Potato



Ploughman's Lunch



Irish Stew



Steak and Guinness Pie



Bangers & Mash



Irish Corned Beef and Cabbage

. When was the last time you had one of your favourites?



JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT!

Pease Pudding

*Pease porridge hot, Pease porridge cold,
Pease porridge in the pot, nine days old;
Some like it hot, some like it cold,
Some like it in the pot, nine days old*

Serves 6

- 1 tablespoon (15 mL) vegetable oil
- 4 ounces (125 g) or 2 thick slices bacon or ham, in small cubes
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium carrot, diced
- 1/2 teaspoon (2 mL) dried thyme leaves
- 1 pound (500 g) dried yellow or green split peas, (soaked over night) rinsed and drained
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Heat oil in a large, heavy pot over medium heat. Add bacon, onion, carrot and thyme. Cook, stirring occasionally, until onion is transparent, about five minutes.

Add peas and cover with about three inches of cold water. Raise heat and bring mixture to a boil, then reduce heat to very low so mixture just simmers.

Cook gently until peas are very soft, about 1 1/2 hours. Stir soup occasionally as it cooks and thickens, adding more water if necessary.

Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve hot, topped with croutons. Serve with a thick slice of ham.



Charles Gardiner Johnson

Shipping pioneer b. Feb. 8, 1857, near **Dunblane, Scotland**; d. Jan. 19, 1926, Vancouver. In 1870, at 10, went to South Seas for a four-year apprenticeship. In the 1880s, left seafaring to farm in Souris River, Man. On Sept. 5, 1885, broke and married, arrived in Vancouver; worked for CPR as a laborer. In 1886 opened a shipping and insurance agency, the first in the city. C. Gardner Johnson & Co. (Hastings and Granville) became one of the city's major shipping agents. Addressed as major because he served with local militia. "Father of Vancouver's shipping industry."

https://www.vancouverhistory.ca/whoswho_J.htm



Designed by R. Mackay Frupp, architect, this Craftsman style house was built for shipping magnate Major C. Gardiner

Johnson, sometimes called the "Father of the Port of Vancouver". He arrived in Vancouver in 1885, one year before the City incorporated and the Great Fire of 1886. The home became a private nursing home, called Oakhurst, in 1938. It occupied this four-acre city block for almost a century becoming the city's oldest estate acreage.



TRIVIA: John Benjamin Ireland

(January 30, 1914 – March 21, 1992) was a Canadian actor and film director. Born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada He was nominated for an Academy Award for his performance in All the King's Men (1949), making him the first Vancouver-born actor to receive an Oscar nomination.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>



Tea Time

Afternoon tea is a British food tradition of sitting down for an afternoon treat of tea, sandwiches, scones, and cake.

Afternoon tea is served around 4 p.m. when afternoon tea became fashionable in the early 19th century thanks to the Anna, the Duchess of Bedford

High Tea: The origins of afternoon tea show clearly it was the preserve of the rich in the 19th century. For workers in the newly industrialized Britain, teatime had to wait until after work. By that hour, tea was generally served with heartier dishes which were substantially more than just tea and cakes.

High Tea in Scotland: In Scotland, high tea takes on further differentiation. A Scottish high tea is not unlike an afternoon tea but will include some hot food, such as a cheese on toast or other savory goodies.

Cream tea: Devon cream tea, comprising tea taken with scones, clotted cream and jam. This snack is associated with the West Country, i.e. Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tea>



A Typical Carvery Menu:

Our chefs freshly prepare our four roast carvery meats on Sunday, serving up the most tender and succulent Roast Gammon,

Roast Turkey, Beef with a Beef Dripping Glaze, and of course, our succulent Sunday exclusive, Lamb with rosemary rub.



England Cricket

The England cricket team represents England and Wales in international cricket. Since 1997, it has been governed by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), having been previously governed by Marylebone Cricket Club (the MCC) since 1903. England, as a founding nation, is a Full Member of the International Cricket Council (ICC) with Test, One Day International (ODI) and Twenty20 International (T20I) status. Until the 1990s, Scottish and Irish players also played for England as those countries were not yet ICC members in their own right.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

Late Meal (Dinner)

These are my favourites



Dublin Coddle

Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding



Haggis, Neeps & Tatties, Burns Supper

Shepherds Pie



Irish Seafood Pie

Toad in the Hole



Were any of these your favourite?



Clendinning Park

was established as a Protected Area on October 28, 1996.

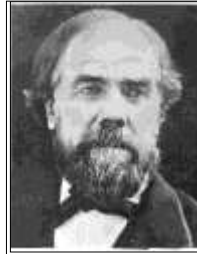
Clendenning Creek

was adopted 6 September 1951, Spelling changed to Clendinning Creek 19 September 1990. Canadian Army Sergeant William Henry Clendinning, MM, K37627, from Trail; serving with the 28th Armoured Regiment, British Columbia Regiment, RCAC, when he died of wounds 14 September 1944, age 35. Buried in Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, Maldegem, Oost-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Born in **Belfast Ireland** in 1909; came to Canada 1926; employed by the Duncan Dairy until 1934; employed by CM&S Co. at the Trail smelter until 1940; enlisted at Vancouver 1940; embarked overseas in February 1942.

Posthumously awarded the Military Medal for bravery, with the following citation: "During the advance of Falaise, Sgt. Clendinning's tank was one of the many of his regiment's which was knocked out and set on fire by enemy anti-tank guns. In spite of heavy shelling and mortar fire, Sgt. Clendinning immediately re-organized his own crew and that of another tank, ordered to dig in and, with salvaged weapons, during the day repelled several enemy attacks... After dark he led the group through two miles of enemy infested country to his own lines." Clendinning had been hit by a shell in the initial attack, and subsequently died of his wounds.

(excerpts from Trail Daily Times, 1944, and 28 May 1949.)



William Irving,

Born: 1816, **Annan,**

Dumfriesshire Scotland,

Died: August 28, 1872 (aged 55–56),
New Westminster, British Columbia

William Irving was a steamship captain and entrepreneur in Oregon, US and British Columbia, Canada. The Irvington neighborhood in Portland, Oregon is named in his honor and in New Westminster, British Columbia

his home, "Irving House", is now a heritage site. He was one of the earliest pioneers of steamer travel in the Pacific Northwest



and is remembered as one of the most successful and popular captains of the era.



In 1859, William Irving and his family moved to Victoria, where he became a partner in the Victoria Steam Navigation Company and built

two sternwheelers, the Governor Douglas and the Colonel Moody to serve between New Westminster and Victoria. However, Irving did not have a monopoly on the route and rate wars soon erupted between him and his main rival, Captain William Moore who was running his Henrietta on the same route. By that September, freight rates, which had begun at \$12 a ton, dropped to 50 cents a ton and fares, which had been \$10 a passenger also dropped to 50 cents

TRIVIA: In 1930 the Barnet Lumber Mill in Burnaby was the largest in the world.



TRIVIA: Yvonne De Carlo

was born Margaret Yvonne Middleton on September 1, 1922, at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Her mother, Marie

De Carlo (August 28, 1903 – December 19, 1993), was born in France to a Sicilian father and a **Scottish mother**, Marie. Yvonne was a member and chorister of Vancouver's St. Paul's Anglican Church

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yvonne_De_Carlo



Historic Stewart Farm

John Stewart was born on **Island of Arron, Scotland** in 1844. The Stewart family moved to Quebec in the early 1850s. He and his two brothers, Finlay and Donald, worked in the Redwood Forest in California from 1872-1880. Returning to Canada with his savings, John purchased a farm on Mud Bay from Samuel Hardy. The Stewarts owned 160 acres and purchased another 440 in 1897, including land on the north side of the Nicomekl River where they had two additional hay barns. He married Anne in 1884 and served 5 years on the earliest Municipal Councils. This is the only completely intact farm unit remaining in Surrey from the late 19th century.



Darts

As well as being a professional competitive sport, darts is a traditional pub game. Darts is commonly played in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

The British Darts Organization (BDO) is a darts organisation founded on 7 January 1973 by Olly Croft. The BDO was a founder member of the World Darts Federation which was formed in 1976 but due to a recent WDF ruling they are now considered an associate member. The BDO is made up of 66 member counties in Britain and organises tournaments for semi-professionals (all current players have a day job) and amateurs.

The original target in the game is likely to have been a section of a tree trunk, its circular shape and concentric rings giving rise to the standard dartboard pattern in use today. An older name for a dartboard is "butt"; the word comes from the French word but,

meaning "target". The standard numbered point system is attributed to Lancashire carpenter Brian Gamlin, who devised it in 1896 to penalize inaccuracy.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

Surrey's B.C.

Queen Victoria had named New Westminster, thus it is called the Royal City. In England, across the Thames from Westminster is the County of Surrey. It seemed appropriate that across the river from New Westminster there should also be a Surrey. Surrey was named by the first Clerk of the Municipal Council, Mr. W. J. Brewer, around 1880. "Due to the geographic similarity of this district to that of County Surrey in England, in relation to Westminster, I suggest it be named Surrey, British Columbia."



William John Brewer,

a native of **Cornwall, England**, arrived in British Columbia in 1870 and came to New Westminster. He was interested in settlement land and he selected 160 acres of land

"Situated on the north bank of the Serpentine river or slough, Mud Bay," which he registered in October 1870. This pre-emption was near the end of the Kennedy Trail which had been opened by James Kennedy in 1861. This was the first settler trail built south of New Westminster and it linked the area downstream from Brownsville to Mud Bay and to the good meadow land of the Serpentine and Nicomekl Rivers. Brewer's pre-emption was lot 168 which extended from part of the upland, later known as Panorama Ridge, to the north bank of the Serpentine River. This was located at the southern and eastern end of the Kennedy Trail. WJ Brewer died in 1931, age 90. A portion of his property survives in "Brewers Park", on Victoria Drive at 26th Ave.



PROVERB: I am not Irish because I was born in Ireland I am Irish because Ireland was born in me.



Mount Pleasant

Mount Pleasant is a vibrant and eclectic area known

for its unusual stores, heritage buildings, artistic residents, and arts-focused festivals. The area is popular with first-time homebuyers, urban professionals, and families. The area high above False Creek was named "Mount Pleasant" in 1888, after the **Irish** birthplace of the wife of H.V. Edmonds. Edmonds, clerk of the municipal council in New Westminster, was the original owner of much of Mount Pleasant.

<https://vancouver.ca/news-calendar/mount-pleasant.aspx>



Henry Valentine Edmonds

Businessman, office holder, militia officer, notary, jp, and politician; b. 14 Feb. 1837 in **Dublin, Ireland**. A land speculator, Edmonds accumulated real estate in Port

Moody, the Mount Pleasant area of Vancouver, Burnaby, and Lulu Island, as well as in his home town of New Westminster. In the early 1880s his attention centred on Port Moody, which a contingent of New Westminster land speculators hoped would be the location of the Canadian Pacific Railway's western terminus. Edmonds's property south of False Creek took on new value after Vancouver's incorporation as a city in 1886.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/edmonds_henry_valentine



Edmund Pope

In 1888, Edmund Pope arrived from **Cornwall, England** via Quebec and purchased a piece of land on River Road just east of the St. John the Divine Church.

He quickly endeared himself to his new community by pitching in for the 'entertainments' offered at fundraisers and holiday time at the Maple Ridge School. His fine baritone was a welcome addition.

He became Maple Ridge's first policeman. He did his rounds on horseback. In 1896, he was made superintendent of the cemetery and remained in that position for more than 40 years.

Once his house was built, he brought his wife and daughter from England to join him. Eventually, his daughter would marry and Edmund left the house to her and her family as he moved to Hammond. In 1964 Edith Pope Donohoe, sold a parcel of the land to the Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster. The transferred land was part of the estate of her mother, Eleanor Pope. When daughter Edith passed away, she left the family property to the church which has allowed it to be moved back off of the corner to where it sits today.



TRIVIA 1764: The spinning jenny invented by **James Hargreaves** (c. 1720–1778).

1790: Sewing machine invented by **Thomas Saint**



1843: The Christmas card introduced commercially by **Sir Henry Cole**

TRIVIA: In 1880 the influential London Truth newspaper editorialized: "British Columbia is not worth keeping. It should never have been inhabited at all. It will never pay a red cent of interest on the money that may be sunk in it." **NOTE:** Truth was a London-based weekly journal founded by Henry Labouchere. Publication History. Truth began in 1877, and ran until 1957.



Goidelic languages

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Goidelic / ɡɔiˈdɛlɪk/ or Gaelic languages (Irish: teangacha Gaelacha; Scottish Gaelic: cànanan

Goidhealach; Manx: çhengaghyn Gaelgagh) form one of the two groups of Insular Celtic languages, the other being the Brittonic languages.

Goidelic languages historically formed a dialect continuum stretching from Ireland through the Isle of Man to Scotland. There are three modern Goidelic languages: Irish (Gaeilge), Scottish Gaelic (Gàidhlig), and Manx (Gaelg). Manx died out in the 20th century but has since been revived to some degree.

Definitions of the term Gaelic in both the Cambridge and the Merriam-Webster dictionaries are the "two terms [Irish and Gaelic] are not synonymous"; it defines Gaelic as the "Celtic language group of Ireland and Scotland"

Irish (Standard Irish: Gaeilge) is a Goidelic language of the Celtic language family, itself a branch of the Indo-European language family. Irish originated in Ireland and was historically and still is spoken by Irish people throughout Ireland. Although English is the more common first language elsewhere in Ireland, Irish is spoken as a first language in substantial areas of counties Galway, Kerry, Cork and Donegal, smaller areas of Waterford, Mayo and Meath.

Irish was the dominant language of the Irish people for most of their recorded history, and they took it with them to other regions, notably Scotland and the Isle of Man, where Middle Irish gave rise to Scottish Gaelic and Manx respectively. It has the oldest vernacular literature in Western Europe.

Written Irish is first attested in Ogham inscriptions from the 4th century AD, a stage of the language known as Primitive Irish. These writings have been found throughout Ireland and the west coast of Great Britain. Primitive Irish transitioned into Old Irish through the 5th century. Old Irish, dating from the 6th century, used the Latin alphabet and is attested primarily in marginalia to Latin manuscripts.

Scottish Gaelic (Scottish Gaelic: Gàidhlig [ˈka:lɪkʲ] or Scots Gaelic, sometimes referred to simply as Gaelic, is a Goidelic language (in the Celtic branch of the Indo-European language family) native to the Gaels of Scotland. As a Goidelic language, Scottish Gaelic, as well as both Modern Irish and Manx, has developed out of Old Irish. It became a distinct spoken language sometime in the 13th century in the Middle Irish period, although a common literary language was shared by Gaels in both Ireland and Scotland down to the 16th century. Most of modern Scotland was once Gaelic-speaking, as evidenced especially by Gaelic-language place names.



Emily Carr House

is a National Historic Site of Canada located in Victoria, British Columbia. It was the childhood home of Canadian painter Emily Carr,

Built in 1863 for the affluent Carr family, house was originally situated at 44 Carr Street on a large property owned by Emily Carr's father, Richard Carr, (Born: July 16, 1818, **Beckley, United Kingdom**, Died: November 20, 1888). The area was the heart of 19th century Victoria, with many other merchants, businessmen, and politicians such as the Dunsmuirs living in the area, many of whom commissioned other important buildings, such as Helmcken House.



Irish Derby day, 2014, at the Curragh Racecourse

Horse racing in Ireland

is intricately linked with Irish culture and society. The

racing of horses has a long history on the island, being mentioned in some of the earliest texts. Domestically, racing is one of Ireland's most popular spectator sports, while on the international scene, Ireland is one of the strongest producers and trainers of Thoroughbred horses. The Irish horse racing industry is closely linked with that of Great Britain, with Irish horses regularly competing and winning on the British racing circuit.

Horse racing is the second largest spectator sport in Great Britain, and one of the longest established, with a history dating back many centuries. According to a report by the British Horseracing Authority it generates £3.39 billion total direct and indirect expenditure in the British economy, of which £1.05 Billion is from core racing industry expenditure and the major horse racing events such as Royal Ascot and Cheltenham Festival are important dates in the British and international sporting and society calendar.

The sport has taken place in the country since Roman times and many of the sport's traditions and rules originated there. The Jockey Club, established in 1750, codified the Rules of Racing and one of its members, Admiral Rous laid the foundations of the handicapping system for horse racing, including the weight-for-age scale. Britain is also home to racecourses including Newmarket, Ascot and Cheltenham and races including The Derby at Epsom, The Grand National and Cheltenham Gold Cup.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

Desserts

I love all British Isles pastries and desserts, top two:



Trifle



Sticky toffee pudding

Dear readers:

In the Vancouver Sun, Saturday July 25th. 2020, John Mackie, wrote an excellent article on the "City's history of changes to street names", "Westminster Avenue changed to Main Street following petition".

One of the reasons the British Isles Historic Society was created as two years ago a Vancouver City Councilor want to change street names to make them more politically correct.

Many of the street names and other historic sites in B.C. were named by immigrants, traders and explorers from the British Isles that gave names to sites that would remind them of home.

Mr. Mackie names one example "The Pender in Pender Street for example is Dan Pender of Britain's Royal Navy, who was staff commander (and later Captain of HMS Plumper, which Walker informs us "surveyed the B.C. Coast 1857 -70".

These names are our history and our heritage. They are to be preserved as lessons of the trials and challenges faced by our ancestors to create the British Columbia that we live in.

If the City Councils wish to give names of heroes and outstanding citizens to new streets I am totally in favour, but leave Historically named streets alone.

Steve McVittie,

The British Isles Historic Society