

The British Isles



The British Isles

Historic Society

Heritage, History, Traditions & Customs

12-20 December Edition
England and the English



photographer Annie Leibovitz



Elizabeth II (Elizabeth

Alexandra Mary, born 21 April 1926 is Queen of the United Kingdom and 15 other Commonwealth realms.

Elizabeth was born in Mayfair, London, as the first child of the Duke

and Duchess of York (later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth). Her father ascended the throne on the abdication of his brother King Edward VIII in 1936, from which time she was the heir presumptive. She was educated privately at home and began to undertake public duties during the Second World War, serving in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. In 1947, she married Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, a former prince of Greece and Denmark, with whom she has four children: Charles, Prince of Wales; Anne, Princess Royal; Prince Andrew, Duke of York; and Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex.

When her father died in February 1952, Elizabeth became head of the Commonwealth and queen regnant of seven independent Commonwealth countries: The United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, and Ceylon. She has reigned as a

constitutional monarch through major political changes, such as devolution in the United Kingdom, accession of the United Kingdom to the European Communities, Brexit, Canadian patriation, and the decolonisation of Africa. Between 1956 and 1992, the number of her realms varied as territories gained independence, and as realms, including South Africa, Pakistan, and Ceylon (renamed Sri Lanka), became republics.

Her many historic visits and meetings include a state visit to the Republic of Ireland and visits to or from five popes. Significant events have included her coronation in 1953 and the celebrations of her Silver, Golden, and Diamond Jubilees in 1977, 2002, and 2012, respectively. In 2017, she became the first British monarch to reach a Sapphire Jubilee. She is the longest-lived and longest-reigning British monarch. She is the longest-serving female head of state in world history, and the world's oldest living monarch, longest-reigning current monarch, and oldest and longest-serving current head of state.

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



Editors Notes:

I know the Queen and Royal family come under a lot of criticism both in the U.K. and Canada but do the positives outweigh the negatives?

In Britain they are constantly criticized for the costs incurred each year. The Queen of England receives a Sovereign Grant, paid in two-year arrears, from the HM Treasury to pay for the salaries of her household staff, official travel expenses and the upkeep of the palaces, according to the BBC. The Sovereign Grant is equal to 15% of the Crown Estate's total profits, so when profits rise, so does the size of the grant. Other sources of money for Queen Elizabeth II are her personal investment portfolio and private estates, which include the Balmoral and Sandringham Estates she inherited from her father.

On the other side of the ledger, how many people owe their lively hood to the tourists that take tours through the various properties and other sites attributed to the Royal Family. Tours, hotels, restaurants, Royal historic sites, gifts and souvenirs, department stores, and even those employed directly by members of the Royal family, etc. etc. etc.

The Travel & Tourism sector in the United Kingdom contributed GBP66.3 billion to the GDP, 3.4% of total GDP in 2016 and is expected to rise by 2.2% pa, from 2017–2027, to GBP84.6 billion, which could comprise up to 3.6% of the total GDP in 2027.

In 2011, visitors to London spent £9.4 billion, which is a little more than half of the total amount international visitors spent in the whole of the United Kingdom the same year.

According to Deloitte – Oxford Economics, in 2013, the tourism sector employed 700,000 people, accounting for 11.6 percent of the London's GDP.

The 2019 Trip Advisor Travellers' Choice awards for destinations named the British capital "London" top in the world rankings, up from second place in 2018. Why?



The Royal Society of St George

Early February 1894, Bloomsbury Square in central London. Two men were hard at work fine-tuning the constitution of the Royal Society of St George (RSSG), an association which, unbeknownst to them, would survive for over one hundred and twenty years. From their offices in the metropolis, these two individuals, Howard Ruff, a Buckinghamshire-born agriculturalist and solicitor Harry W. Christmas, embarked upon a mission to awaken patriotic Englishmen and Englishwomen and establish 'on a permanent basis a patriotic English society'.

In 1883, a St George's Day dinner was chaired by the Welsh journalist, entrepreneur and Conservative M.P, John Henry Puleston, and attended by, as reported in the Wrexham Advertiser, 'Englishmen, Scotsmen, Irishmen, Welshmen and the English Colonies'.

Though the object of the earlier Society of St George was to establish a 'sort of brotherhood over the whole world', given the diverse ethnic make-up of the members. The society attained The Royal Charter of Incorporation which was presented by HM Queen Elizabeth II in 1963 and this was followed up with its own Armorial Bearings granted under Letters Patent in 1990.

(from work completed by Lesley Robinson, February 12th, 2014) <https://rssg.org.uk/additional-resources/history-of-the-society/>

The Royal Society of St. George BC Branch

www.stgeorgebc.ca;

Contact: [stgeorge@telus.net;](mailto:stgeorge@telus.net)

Readers Comments

2020-11-14 1:36 PM

Dear Steve,

I share your great newsletter with a large group of my genealogy Workshop people.

So many of my group have British heritage and they all enjoy and look forward to each new issue.

I just thought you might like to know of this correction.

People who want to check this Pub out will need to know.

Cheers and thanks so much.

Stay safe and stay well.

Marlene

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Hello Marlene,

Thanks for sending this newsletter. I did read one thing under We Hear From Readers section a John Hickson wrote to Steve about the Best "English" Style pub outside of the UK. He said it is the Crow and Gate in Cedar, Vancouver Island. It is actually in Nanaimo. Dave and I just went there for lunch this past September. It is a great pub. Not sure if it matters or if you can send him a message to correct it but it might be nice for them if they did fix it just in case anyone feels like checking it out!!

Thanks, stay warm and safe and talk soon! Astrid

2020-11-17 3:27 PM

Hi Steve,

Your newsletters and trivia communications are wonderful. I enjoy reading all of them, especially in these troubling times. I do hope you and Lil are well

Hi Steve,

Many thanks, another enjoyable read. I've added it to our website. I hope all is well with you and your family.

Best wishes,

Liz

Elizabeth Margaret Lloyd

General Secretary

The Royal Society of St. George

The Premier Patriotic Society in England

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen



2020-11-13 1:22 PM

Steve,

Speaking of Ireland, it will be interesting after Brexit for a number of reasons. People born in Northern Ireland can apply for an Irish (EU) passport because Ireland doesn't recognise them as being not part of Ireland. So after Brexit, they can still get an EU passport as well as a UK one. They can now, but having two EU passports wasn't worth it. How did we as a world get so screwed up? We're still very tribal, which has merits, friendly competition, but it's all getting out of hand these days! Forgot about the Golden Rule! I guess it's DNA trying to find out what will work next!

Cheers, John

2020-11-17 3:27 PM

and are heeding the good D. Henry's words: Be Kind, keep calm and stay safe.

All the best, Pat Morris.





THE EARLY YEARS - THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE IN VANCOUVER

Christine and I moved from England to Regina in 1967 following university graduation because “it seemed like a good idea at the time”. I remember thinking, as I accepted a job offer from the Saskatchewan government, that a couple of years in Canada sounded more interesting than starting work for the council in our home county of Surrey! Within a few years my parents, my brother and his family had all moved to Regina, and our two year time frame went out the window! We soon discovered that there was a branch of the Royal Society of St. George in Regina and we became members.

When we moved to Vancouver in 1982 I assumed that there must be a branch here too. I later found out that there had been a St George Society in Vancouver in the early 1900s, and that it subsequently alternated between active and inactive status, eventually succumbing in the early 1960s.

On arrival in Vancouver in 1982 I discovered that the St. George Society had been restarted around 1981 by Dr. George Cooper. On tracking him down to North Vancouver in 1987 I was disappointed to learn that the society only operated for three years and had been inactive since 1984. I offered to help Dr. Cooper reactivate the society again but he insisted that he no longer wished to be involved. He gave me the records, membership list, a gavel and an account bank book with a small balance, and wished me luck!

Determined not to be defeated, in 1987 my Mum Iris, my Dad Ben and I decided that we would restart the Society ourselves. I recall sitting around their kitchen table discussing the situation. We decided to elect ourselves at an “extraordinary annual meeting” without notice! In accordance with

the constitution that had been provided to us by Dr. Cooper, we “passed” the required resolutions to elect ourselves as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively and duly recorded these proceedings in the minutes.

The next task was to try to contact as many former members of the Society as possible. We worked our way down the list of members we had been given, telephoning each name and asking those whom we were able to reach if they would help us get the Vancouver society up and running again. Some were more open to this suggestion than others! Eventually we were able to co-opt enough willing, former members to form a provisional board to carry matters forward. Thus it was that the Vancouver St. George Society rose phoenix-like from the ashes!

Over the next few years our board met monthly at the Elephant and Castle pub in the Pacific Centre Mall. Leaders and members came and went through the deliberations and events of those early years, and are reflected in the records in the RSSG, BC which I hold in safekeeping on behalf of the Society. Needless to say, the contents of this archive are the stuff of many interesting anecdotes and insights concerning our evolution as a society, culminating in the Society attaining the status of a Branch of the the RSSG in the United Kingdom in 2008. I hope in the future to document the history of the Society in Vancouver in more detail, based on these and other archival records. In the meantime I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has information that could be added to our archives.

Roger A. Dawson

Vice-President,

The Royal Society of St. George, British Columbia
Branch



History of St. George

The Man, The Myth, The Legend. St. George was born about 280 A.D. of a Christian family that was wealthy and of noble origin, in the city of Capadocia, a city of the Eastern Empire, in Asia Minor. The medieval legend of St George and the dragon says that a dragon made it's nest by a fresh water spring near the town of Silene in Libya. When people came to collect water, they inadvertently disturbed the dragon and so offered sheep as a distraction. After time, there were simply no sheep left for the dragon and so the people of Silene decided to chose a maiden from the town by drawing lots. When the results were read, it was revealed that the princess was to be the dragon's next victim. Despite the Monarch's protest his daughter, Cleolinda, was offered to the dragon. However, at the moment of offering, a knight from the Crusades came riding by on his white stallion. St George dismounted and drew his sword, protecting himself with the sign of the cross. He fought the dragon on foot and managed to slay the beast and saved the princess. The people of Silene were clearly very grateful and abandoned their pagan beliefs to convert to Christianity.

<http://rssg.org.uk/additional-resources/history-of-stgeorge/>

Hi Steve,

Thank you so much for this, I have had several of our group reply to me to say how much they enjoyed it. In fact we all enjoy every one of your Newsletters immensely. I don't know how you find the time to do all the research that is required for it. All of them are filled with such interesting facts and certainly are informative – I love reading about the Brits that came here and how they contributed to the place we live in today.

Anyway, thank you for all your hard work. We all enjoy it. Cheers, Betty.

**Director, South Vancouver Island,
The Royal Society of St. George**



Churchill Society of British Columbia

The Churchill Society of British Columbia was founded in 1979 and is devoted to the memory of this outstanding world leader to ensure that his ideals and achievements are not forgotten and are utilized by succeeding generations.

The Society promotes interest in and education of the life, times, philosophy and literary heritage of Winston Churchill. [http://winstonchurchillbc.org/;](http://winstonchurchillbc.org/)

Sir Winston Churchill Society of Vancouver Island

Web: churchillvictoria.com



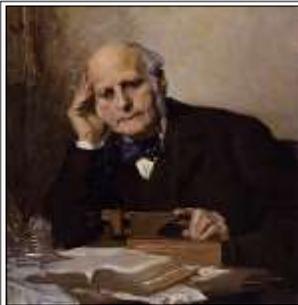
The Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada, Vancouver Island

The Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada (RCS) is a non-partisan society, independent of governments. The RCS engages with its youth, civil society, business and government networks to address issues that matter to the Citizens of the Commonwealth. Its primary focus is to the promotion of young people throughout the Commonwealth.

https://rcs.ca/legacy/rcs_vancouver_island.html; email: info@rcs.ca

The Mainland of British Columbia Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) is one of the 10 branches of the RCS in Canada. It was founded in 1959 and currently has some 150 members. The Branch adheres to the objectives of the Society which are to promote the spreading of knowledge regarding the peoples and countries of the Commonwealth, and to promote the ideas and principles agreed to by the association of free, sovereign and independent states which together constitute the modern Commonwealth.

www.rcs.ca;



Sir Francis Galton,

FRS (/ˈɡɔːltən/; 16 February 1822 – 17 January 1911), was an English Victorian era statistician, polymath, sociologist, psychologist, anthropologist, eugenicist,

tropical explorer, geographer, inventor, meteorologist, proto-geneticist, and psychometrician. He was knighted in 1909.

Galton produced over 340 papers and books. He also created the statistical concept of correlation and widely promoted regression toward the mean. He was the first to apply statistical methods to the study of human differences and inheritance of intelligence, and introduced the use of questionnaires and surveys for collecting data on human communities, which he needed for genealogical and biographical works and for his anthropometric studies.

He was a pioneer of eugenics, coining the term itself in 1883, and also coined the phrase "nature versus nurture". His book Hereditary Genius (1869) was the first social scientific attempt to study genius and greatness. As the initiator of scientific meteorology, he devised the first weather map, proposed a theory of anticyclones, and was the first to establish a complete record of short-term climatic phenomena on a European scale. He also invented the Galton Whistle for testing differential hearing ability

Born 16 February 1822

Birmingham, West Midlands, England

Died 17 January 1911 (aged 88)

Haslemere, Surrey, England



1843: The Christmas card introduced commercially by Sir Henry Cole (1808–1882)



The British Isles

The British Isles is the name of a group of islands situated off the north western corner of mainland Europe. It is made up of Great Britain, Ireland, The Isle of Man, The Isles of Scilly, The Channel Islands (including Guernsey, Jersey, Sark and Alderney), as well as over 6,000 other smaller islands.

England

Just like Wales and Scotland, England is commonly referred to as a country but it is not a sovereign state. It is the largest country within the United Kingdom both by landmass and population, has taken a pivotal role in the creation of the UK, and its capital London also happens to be the capital of the UK.

It is perhaps understandable then that England is often (although incorrectly) used as a term to describe the whole of the UK.



The Nanaimo British Club

Nanaimo British Club

We are an established club in Nanaimo, catering to the needs of the local British community. A Club whose function is to promote social activities and to represent itself within the community to the best of its ability

[https://nanbritclub.ca/;](https://nanbritclub.ca/)

Contact: [nanbritclub@hotmail.com;](mailto:nanbritclub@hotmail.com)



1676–1678: First working universal joint devised by Robert Hooke (Born:28 July 1635

Freshwater, Isle of Wight, England.
Died: March 3, 1703 (aged 67)





Morris Dancing

is a form of English folk dance usually accompanied by music. It is based on rhythmic stepping and the

execution of choreographed figures by a group of dancers, usually wearing bell pads on their shins. Implements such as sticks, swords and handkerchiefs may also be wielded by the dancers. In a small number of dances for one or two people, steps are near and across a pair of clay tobacco pipes laid one across the other on the floor. They clap their sticks, swords, or handkerchiefs together to match with the dance.

The earliest known and surviving English written mention of Morris dance is dated to 1448 and records the payment of seven shillings to Morris dancers by the Goldsmiths' Company in London. Further mentions of Morris dancing occur in the late 15th century, and there are also early records such as bishops' "Visitation Articles" mentioning sword dancing, guising and other dancing activities, as well as mumming plays.

While the earliest records invariably mention "Morys" in a court setting, and a little later in the Lord Mayors' Processions in London, it had assumed the nature of a folk dance performed in the parishes by the mid 17th century.

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

During the 1980s, the Vancouver Morris men, focused on the South Midlands Morris, commonly referred to as Cotswold Morris (after the Cotswold Hills, which run through the South Midland counties). By the mid 80s they had incorporated folk song into our repertoire, while in the early 90s they expanded their dance styles to include Welsh Border Morris (from the border area between England and Wales) and Molly dancing (from East Anglia). Also, in the 90s, they added our first mummers play (a

form of folk theatre). During the 90s they also performed Northwest Morris (primarily from Lancashire) for a number of years - however, this is not included in the current repertoire. They started performing the Thaxted version of the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance (a unique dance from Abbots Bromley, Staffs.) in 2010.

The Vancouver Morris Men

<http://vancouvermm.weebly.com/>

Black Sheep Morris (Bowen Island)

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/bowenblacksheep/;](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bowenblacksheep/)

Drumbeggar Border Morris (Gabriola Island)

[https://dbm-gabriola.weebly.com/;](https://dbm-gabriola.weebly.com/)

Hollytree Morris (Victoria)

<https://www.facebook.com/163961690971535/posts/hollytree-morris-dancers-of-victoria->

Island Thyme Morris Dancers

http://www.islandnet.com/~jcarver/is_thyme.html;

Quicksbottom Morris (Victoria)

[http://www.quicksbottommorris.ca/;](http://www.quicksbottommorris.ca/)

Tiddley Cove Morris (Vancouver)

http://tiddleycovemorris.net/Tiddley_Cove_Morris/

Vancouver Island Morris Dancer

<http://vecds.bc.ca/island.dance/morris.html;>



Howard Ruff

(BIRTH: 12 Feb 1851 – DEATH: 29 Oct 1928 (aged 77)).

Founder of the Royal Society of St. George. It was not until the 23rd April, 1894 that the Society was formed in London by Mr Ruff. He was struck by

the neglect of English patriotism and on each recurring St George's day – England's Day. First known as the Society of St George, it was through Howard Ruff's enthusiasm that Queen Victoria consented to become the first Royal Patron. King Edward VII granted the prefix "Royal" in 1902 and along with Queen Alexandra were Patrons of the Society.





The United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada, Vancouver Branch

The Vancouver Branch UELAC is a non-profit Canadian heritage society run by volunteers with an enthusiastic passion for the Loyalist era of our history. Considered to be Canada's "first refugees," the United Empire Loyalists stand as one of the founding families of Canada. The UE Loyalists, or in a broader context the Loyalists of the American Revolution, were those who were Loyal to the King, those who fought against the rebels who sought to break away.

The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada is an organization dedicated to enriching the lives of Canadians through knowledge of the past, in particular the history of the United Empire Loyalists and their contribution to the development of Canada.

The United Empire Loyalists were generally those who had been settled in the thirteen colonies at the outbreak of the American Revolution, who remained loyal to and took up the Royal Standard, and who settled in what is now Canada at the end of the war. <http://uelac.org/Vancouver/index.php>

United Empire Loyalists <http://www.uelac.org/>

Chilliwack Branch <http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>

Thompson-Okanagan Branch [https://uelac-thompsonokanagan.com/;](https://uelac-thompsonokanagan.com/)

Victoria Branch <http://www.uelac.org/uelvictoria/>



Union Flag (the Loyalists' Flag)

Days before she died in 1603. Queen Elizabeth I, who never married, named James VI of Scotland, son of her cousin Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, as her heir. He became James I of England. On his accession, he declared his intention to be the first British Monarch to be known as King of Great Britain. Consequently, he ordered a flag to be

devised to mark the union of the two thrones. This was called the Union Flag and was introduced in 1606.

So as not to give priority to either flag, (the Banner of Saint George or the Banner of Saint Andrew) the field of the new flag was made blue and the Red Cross of Saint George, edged in White, was imposed on the White Saltier of Saint Andrew.

This was the flag under which the United Empire Loyalists' entered Prince Edward County after leaving the Thirteen Colonies following the American Revolution in 1776. Hence, the term "Loyalist Flag".



John George Ventris Field-Johnson

Agriculturalist, newspaper writer b. Eng.; d. Nov. 23, 1908, Vancouver. Supported concept of PNE. In 1908, called a meeting in a real estate office on New Westminster Ave., now Main St. and drew up a constitution. Some felt a Vancouver exhibition would detract from New Westminster's Royal Agricultural Show; others wanted a site within a five cent ticket ride of Vancouver. A by-election defeated a \$25,000 grant to the Hastings Park site so memberships were sold and building began. The PNE opened in 1910. It was opened by then Prime Minister Sir Wilfrid

Laurier as the Industrial Exhibition. Two attractions at the PNE were named as heritage sites by the City of Vancouver in August 2013. The Pacific Coliseum and the Wooden Roller Coaster were added to the list.





The Monarchist League of Canada

The Monarchist League of Canada is a group from across the country, united in their interest in and loyalty towards Canada's constitutional monarchy. As an inclusive and outward-looking organization, the League is strengthened by the diverse backgrounds and experiences of its members, and is able to project its message nationally in a contemporary manner owing to its credibility and high visibility in the Canadian media.

Since its inception in 1970, the League has gained a national reputation as the leading voice of intelligent monarchical opinion in Canada. Our overall task is to promote the full expression and a better understanding of the history and real benefits of a uniquely Canadian constitutional monarchy. We present the positive face of the Canadian Crown as an essential part of national identity, and as the central pillar of our parliamentary democracy. We frequently work with MPs and members of provincial legislatures of all parties to further cement the role of the monarchy under which every member of a diverse society can find an equal and respected place.

www.monarchist.ca

E-mail: domsec@monarchist.ca;



Jane Austen Society of North America, Vancouver Region

The first Jane Austen Society meeting in Vancouver took place in May, 1981 under the auspices of the late Joan Austen-Leigh, a collateral descendant of Jane Austen and one of the founders of the Jane Austen Society of North America. Conversation centered around a BBC dramatization of "Pride and Prejudice."

When Austen-Leigh pulled out an old book "Jane Austen's Sailor Brothers" written by the descendants of Francis Austen, Jane's brother, it was suggested that joining the Jane Austen Society of North America would be an opportunity to learn about the author's life and times as well as her remarkable literary achievements.

In addition to the monthly program, each spring the Jane Austen Day celebration includes a formal luncheon, special guest speakers and a dramatic or musical presentation. In December, members look forward to toasting Jane Austen's birthday and sharing a special Christmas luncheon. In short, we have a lot of fun and we like to think that Jane would approve! <http://www.jasnancouver.ca/>;



The Great British Fry Up is Britain's Favourite Breakfast

The five most popular items to make up the perfect fried breakfast were sausage, bacon, fried egg, baked beans and mushrooms, but it seems each region has a difference of opinion on what they would choose on their plate.

In Northern Ireland, 40% of Belfast residents felt a fry up wasn't complete without potato bread, while Brummies were the biggest fans of vegetarian sausage.

The rather unhealthy choice of fried bread was chosen by more Cardiff residents than any other city. Over a quarter of Dublin residents picked white pudding as a breakfast favourite, and black pudding was rated most highly by Edinburgh.

One in ten Glaswegians love haggis as part of their breakfast, a quarter of Leeds residents chose the simple white toast as their top choice, and one in ten Liverpoolians went for the slightly more healthy wholemeal toast. Some 21% of Londoners prefer cooked tomatoes, while half of Manchester residents would add mushrooms to their dream fry up.

<https://www.greatbritishfoodawards.com/blog/fry-still-britains-best-breakfast/>



"Col. Richard Moody RE arrives in Victoria"

December 25th 1858 was a day like no other.

After two months sailing from Plymouth UK across the Atlantic; travelling by rail across the Panama Isthmus; and then north along the west coast of North America, Richard Clement Moody (b. Feb.1813), and family, arrived in Victoria. Christmas Day would not ever be the same again for some years to come.

Colonel Moody, 8 members of his family and another 150 other Royal Engineers, would have had similar feelings of destination and hope fulfilled as a young couple once had many years earlier, in the First Century CE, when they arrived in Bethlehem, and gave birth to a new era of belief, social order, and divine encounter.

But, disembarking in the Nineteenth Century CE in front of Governor James Douglas and his colleagues of the Hudson Bay Company, both Colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, would have rejoiced and sang carols of praise and thanksgiving.

Col. Moody's family arrival in Victoria included his wife, Mary (nee Hawks b. Apr.1829); four children: Josephine (b. Nov.1853), Dick (b. Oct.1854), Charles (b. 1856), and Walter (b. 1858); and two servants. Three Royal Engineer support personnel accompanied Col. Moody: Capts. J.M. Grant, R.M. Parsons, and H.R. Laird.

Together, they re-enforced British rule and tradition to a new land. They introduced protocols, policies, developments, and practices of English justice, democracy, and rule of law to prospectors and miners, to local residents and adventure seekers.

The first assignment Gov. Douglas gave to Col. Moody was to negotiate resolutions, first, to the Pig War in the San Juan Islands and, second, to the Ned McGowan War in Yale, B.C. In both these confrontations, he was accompanied by other colonial officials including Justice Matthew Begbie.

Other major responsibilities of the Royal Engineers included moving the capital of the Colony of B.C. from Derby along the Fraser River west to New Westminster; building North Road from New Westminster to Burrard Inlet; and establishing Stanley Park as a military reserve. In all of Col. Moody's leadership activities, they made Gov. James Douglas look good and receive history's accolades.

Col. Moody's family life, rooted in Sapperton, included the birth of three daughters: Susan (b. Jan.1860), Mary (b. Nov.1861), and Margaret (b. Jan.1863); and one son to a woman from the Katzie First Nations.

By 1863, funding from the British Parliament had been depleted and the coffers of resources and revenues were emptied. The work of the Royal Engineers in the Colonies came to an end in November 1863.

Col. Moody and his extended family returned to England to reside in Lyme Regis, Dorset until his death in March 1887. December 25th, and other Christmas traditions, in the British Empire evolved further into an era of diversity and inclusivity, adaptability and variability.

Submitted by David A. Spence



His Excellency, Major-General, The Honourable Richard Clement Moody FICE

FRGS RIBA was a British Imperialist.

Born: 13 February 1813, St. Ann's Garrison, Bridgetown, Barbados. Died: 31 March 1887 (aged 74), Bournemouth, England



Old English Car Club

The Old English Car Club and Registry is a club for people who are enthusiastic about English cars. Our members aren't all English, they aren't all old, and some of the English cars they own aren't old either.

Our mission is the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of English vehicles of all marques and years. Our club includes some 350 member families who own about 612 vehicles representing over 50 marques of English cars, trucks and motorcycles.

We enjoy finding others who own (or would like to own) English vehicles and share our enthusiasm. Guests are always welcome at our meetings and events. If this seems interesting, we would love to have you join us!

<https://www.oecc.ca/>

The Old English Car Club has 5 active branches based in:

Kamloops - serving the Thompson Valley. The branch is called the Thompson Valley Branch.

Cranbrook - serving the Kootenays. The branch is called the Kootenays Branch.

Nanaimo - Serving Central Vancouver Island. The branch is called the Central Island Branch.

Vancouver - Serving the Vancouver Coastal Region. The branch is called the Vancouver Coast Branch.

Victoria - Serving Southern Vancouver Island. The branch is called the South Island Branch.



1706: World's first life insurance company, the Amicable Society, founded by William Talbot (1658–1730) and Sir Thomas Allen, 2nd Baronet (c. 1648–1730).



Pub Names

At No 1 is the 'Red Lion' and the 'Crown' is at No 2. Pubsgalore reckon there are 467 Royal Oaks in the UK and the Mail's source reckoned a more modest 434. The Royal Oak is the third most popular pub name in the UK, according to the Daily Mail (in 2011) and the website Pubsgalore. There have also been 8 Royal Navy ships named HMS Royal Oak, the last one being sunk by U-47 at Scapa Flow on 14th October 1939 with the loss of 833 lives. The name is taken from 'The Royal Oak Incident' when the future King Charles II hid in an oak tree after the Battle of Worcester in 1651. The story of Royal Oak starts back in September of 1651 after the Battle of Worcester, the last battle of the English Civil Wars, when supporters of the monarchy of Charles I fought parliamentary forces led by Oliver Cromwell. At that time, Charles II, was a mere claimant to the thrones of England and Scotland. His father, Charles I, had been executed just a few years earlier. After this battle, Charles II became a fugitive. Apparently Charles II watched from a safe perch in the branches while parliamentary patrols searched the countryside below. During the next decade and especially after the restoration of the monarchy and Charles II to the throne in 1660, people told and retold the story of the oak tree.



1767: The carbonated soft drink invented by Joseph Priestley (Born: 24 March 1733 Birstall, Yorkshire, England)

British Isles Related Organizations

Times Past Entertainment

Bringing History, Fantasy & Adventure to Life. Combine talent (some over 30 yrs) with a variety of costumes & characters and you have Times Past Entertainment

[https://www.facebook.com/timespastentertainment/contact@timespastent.com;](https://www.facebook.com/timespastentertainment/contact@timespastent.com)

Rogue Folk Club

The Rogue Folk Club is a registered non-profit Society in the Province of British Columbia. It was formed in the Spring of 1987 to present concerts of Celtic, Folk and Roots Music in Vancouver. The Club is a founding member of the North American Folk Music and Dance (formed in 1989), and has been a member of the Vancouver Alliance for Arts and Culture since its inception.

<http://www.roguefolk.bc.ca/>

Anza Club

WELCOME TO THE ANZA CLUB

Nestled in the heart of Mount Pleasant, the ANZA is Vancouver's favourite, one of a kind Social Club.

Our downstairs members lounge features a pool table, games and dart boards and is a sweet spot to catch your favourite game or cozy up with friends by the fireplace. Everyone is welcome.

<https://www.anzaclub.org/>

British Canadian Business Association

The British Canadian Business Association was created with the ultimate goal of 'giving back' to the business communities in the UK and Canada.

Having experienced firsthand the challenge of making professional and personal relocations work, our directors recognized the need for a dynamic and

well organized resource dedicated to providing businesses with the support they need.

Today, the BCBA supports companies and individuals on both sides of the Atlantic, openly sharing our network and expertise with likeminded organizations to simplify the process and increase the chances of success.

<http://bc-ba.com/>

British Canadian Newspaper

The British Canadian Newspaper is a division of Meade Marketing Services Ltd., based in Mississauga, Ontario. We've been publishing the newspaper now for nearly 10 years. We also publish Totally British Magazine, which is 3 years old. We are big supporters of the British community in Canada, and we use our publications to help develop a sense of community.

<https://www.thebritishcanadian.org/about>

Gypsy Celts Slow Jams

Gypsy Celts Slow Jams Monthly—dates and venues vary. All acoustic instruments welcome. We play via sheet music and by ear. A relaxed setting to improve skills and learn new Irish, Scottish, & Old-Time tunes. For more info, phone 250-477-9702



Enjoy a good old traditional breakfast of Boiled Eggs and Soldiers

Ingredients:

4 free range eggs

4 slices of wholemeal bread

20 g sunflower spread

Method:

Cook the eggs in boiling water for 3-5 minutes. Toast the slices of bread then spread with sunflower spread.

Cut the toast into soldiers and serve with the boiled eggs.

<https://recipes.sainsburys.co.uk/recipes/breakfast>



British Canadian Chamber of Trade & Commerce

The objectives of the British Canadian Chamber of Trade and Commerce (BCCTC) are to promote the development of British trade, commerce and investment in Canada; to represent the opinion of the British business community in Canada on trade, commerce, finance and industry; to help create better understanding between the Canadian and British business communities; and to provide opportunities for members to meet for business and social networking.

<https://www.britishcanadianchamber.com>



English Country Dance in Vancouver, B.C.

English Country Dance is a form of social folk dance, originating in Renaissance England. It is the precursor of several other folk dances, including contra and square dance.

Most commonly, the dances are in long ways sets and progressive. Multiple sets of pairs form two long lines, pairs travel along the lines, meeting new pairs and repeating the series of dance figures a number of times. Each dance is prompted by an Instructor. The dancing is friendly and the atmosphere is informal. If you've seen a Jane Austen film, you've seen English Country Dancing. Wonderful new dances and tunes are being written all the time; this includes the work of some talented instructors!

Class dress is casual and comfortable, with shoes (NOT street shoes) for dancing on a wooden floor. On special occasions (biannual Ball and yearly Holiday Dance), some dancers dress in costume. This is an added bonus but not mandatory as many dancers prefer regular attire.

Learn to dance the way it was done in the days of Jane Austen...

Welcome!

No experience necessary - all dances taught on the spot.

<http://www.vcn.bc.ca/vanecd>

email: ecdvancover@yahoo.ca;

Victoria English Country Dance

<http://vecds.bc.ca>



Vancouver Folk Song Society

The folk music of England and Ireland is a tradition-based music, which has existed since the later medieval period. It is often contrasted with courtly, classical, and later commercial music. ... The term is used to refer both to English traditional music and music composed or delivered in a traditional style.

The Vancouver Folk Song Society recently celebrated its 56th year, making it the longest running folk song club in Canada

The VFSS is for singers, musicians, and people who like to sing with others. We welcome performers and listeners of all ages and abilities. Members range from beginning musicians to professional performers. Yes, we welcome folk music in any language and from any culture. <https://vfss.ca/>





Vancouver's Kitsilano

Beach was originally called Greer's Beach after Sam Greer, a homesteader who set up a seven-acre farm at English Bay in June 1884. When the Canadian Pacific Railway came to town, Greer was one of the numerous "squatters" it had to evict from the 6000 acres the company had been granted as part of the deal to locate its western terminus at Burrard Inlet.

Sam Greer Farmer b. 1843, Northern Ireland .; d. April 6, 1925, Vancouver. In 1882, "Gritty" pre-empted 160 acres at Kitsilano Beach (popularly known as Greer Beach), part of 6,000 acres given by B.C. to the CPR in 1884.

Greer spent years fighting the CPR to keep his land, in court and mano-a-mano. Once he used an axe to chase off the officials who came to evict him and another time he was successfully evicted but managed to get an injunction allowing him to reoccupy the land and have the CPR's crew and equipment removed. Greer fortified the property with barricades and weapons to prevent CPR construction crews on his property.

In 1887, New Westminster sheriff Thomas Armstrong tried to remove Gritty, his wife and six children. Gritty shot several times, hitting the sheriff and his deputy. After a second posse arrived, he gave himself up and his farm was razed. In 1891, convicted by Judge Begbie of wounding a sheriff, he served a term in the New Westminster jail where he often ate lunch on the beach. His daughter Jessie Hall was a leading Vancouver socialite.

http://www.vancouverhistory.ca/whoswho_G.htm

Source: Photo by Don Coltman, City of Vancouver Archives #677-740
<https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/>



Big Ben

is the nickname for the Great Bell of the striking clock at the north end of the Palace of Westminster in London; the name is frequently extended to refer to both the clock and the clock tower. The official name of the tower in which Big Ben is located was originally the Clock Tower; it was renamed Elizabeth Tower in 2012 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom.

The tower was designed by Augustus Pugin in a neo-Gothic style. When completed in 1859, its clock was the largest and most accurate four-faced striking and chiming clock in the world. The tower is a British cultural icon recognized all over the world. It is one of the most prominent symbols of the United Kingdom and parliamentary democracy, and it is often used in the establishing shot of films set in London. The clock tower has been part of a Grade I listed building since 1970 and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1987. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Ben



Augustus Welby

Northmore Pugin (Born: 1 March 1812, Keppel Street, Bloomsbury, London, England, Died: 14 September 1852 (aged 40) Ramsgate, Kent,

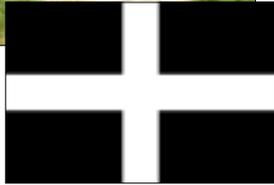
England) was an English architect, designer, artist and critic who is principally remembered for his pioneering role in the Gothic Revival style of architecture. His work culminated in designing the interior of the Palace of Westminster in Westminster, London, England, and its iconic clock tower, later renamed the Elizabeth Tower, which houses the bell known as Big Ben.

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



The Vancouver Cornish Society

Our Mission:



To provide communication regarding heritage/genealogical information pertaining to Cornwall,

United Kingdom, to members in the Pacific Northwest region, promote the preservation of public and private Cornish heritage/genealogical material and to cooperate with other organizations in the furtherance of mutual objectives.

The Cornish Society are the people with an interest in the history and culture of Cornwall, United Kingdom; in the contributions of Cornish immigrants; and in Cornish heritage and genealogy. We live mostly in the Northwestern United States and British Columbia.

[http://www.nwcornishsociety.com/;](http://www.nwcornishsociety.com/)

Contact: [crobert5@shaw.ca;](mailto:crobert5@shaw.ca)



Cornwall, United Kingdom is the homeland of the Cornish people and the cultural and ethnic origin of the Cornish diaspora. It retains a distinct cultural identity that reflects its history, and is recognized as one of the Celtic nations. It was formerly Brythonic kingdom and subsequently a royal duchy. The Cornish nationalist movement contests the present constitutional status of Cornwall and seeks greater autonomy within the United Kingdom in the form of a devolved legislative Cornish Assembly with powers similar to those in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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



Frederick Buscombe

(September 2, 1862 – July 21, 1938), was the 11th Mayor of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. He served from 1905 to 1906. A glassware and china merchant, he was a President of the Vancouver Board of Trade in 1900.

Buscombe was born in 1862 in Bodmin, **Cornwall, England**, to Edwin and Isabella Oliver Grilles Buscombe. He immigrated to Canada with his family in 1870, settling near Hamilton, Ontario, where his father became a builder. He first worked in Hamilton for James A. Skinner & Company, a glassware and china company, as a travelling salesman from 1878 to 1891. In 1891, his job with the company brought him west to Vancouver, where he established an office with his brother, George. Prior to 1891, he visited the Vancouver area twice, in 1884 and 1886. He served as a partner of the company in Vancouver until 1899, when he bought out the company, and established Frederick Buscombe & Co. Ltd. china, glassware and earthenware with his brother, which grew to be one of the largest businesses of the kind in the Canadian West. He was also president of the Pacific Coast Lumber & Sawmills Company, and director of the Pacific Marine Insurance Company. In 1899, he commissioned the Buscombe Building, located at 342 Water Street & 403 West Cordova Street, in Gastown, Vancouver, which is now the site of a restaurant and various businesses.



2020-11-13 11:40 AM

Steve,

Thanks for the recent newsy letter. To my knowledge, Northern Ireland is not a country as such. It has no ancestral claim to being a country. It is more like a province. So Great Britain is made up of three countries, England, Scotland and Wales, and Northern Ireland. I also thought the term Great Britain was a shortened version of Greater Britain, England Scotland and Wales. It, as many believe, does not pertain to the concept of being great, even though that adjective did indeed used to hold some relevance.

That said, it still puzzles me that Northern Ireland has it's own football team and plays in International competitions between countries. That's something to do with how the FA was originally set up and emotional attachments. Friendly historic competition between friends I suspect.

By the same curiosity, we do not have nor compete as, a Great Britain football (soccer) team, but do compete as a Great Britain Olympic Games team. However the way devolution is going on over there, it may be appropriate to keep the FA international breakdown as it is.

Curiouser and curiouser, as old emotions die hard.

Keep the letters coming., Thanks and all stay healthy,
John Hickson

Unable to confirm if still active?

- ♣ British Canadian Society, South Cowichan
- ♣ Cowichan Brit Club
- ♣ British Canadian Social Club
- ♣ The Nanaimo British Club
- ♣ Irish, Scottish & Old Time tunes—All Welcome!

North Ireland a Country, a Province or a State? Even the Irish don't agree.

Unlike England, Scotland and Wales, Northern Ireland has no history of being an independent country or of being a nation in its own right. Some writers describe the United Kingdom as being made up of three countries and one province or point out the difficulties with calling Northern Ireland a country.

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

What is a country? A nation with its own government and economy, occupying a particular territory. A country is a political state, nation, or territory which is self controlled. It is often referred to as the land of an individual's birth, residence, or citizenship. A country may be an independent sovereign state or part of a larger state, as a non-sovereign or formerly sovereign political division, a physical territory with a government, or a geographic region associated with sets of previously independent or differently associated people with distinct political characteristics. It is not inherently sovereign.

North Ireland has a land mass. Belfast has been the capital of Northern Ireland since its establishment in 1921 following the Government of Ireland Act 1920.

North Ireland has its own Parliament in Belfast. The Northern Ireland Executive together with the 90-member Northern Ireland Assembly may legislate and govern for Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland is a country, but not a sovereign country. If you look up the dictionary definition of "Sovereign country" and "country" you will understand. The reason northern Ireland is not a sovereign country is because it was formed from another country, however Northern Ireland has a local devolved government same as Wales and Scotland, and is run the same way , which should make North Ireland a country.