



ROOTS & BRANCHES

WETASKIWIN BRANCH

Alberta Genealogical Society

*BRINGING THE PAST
TO THE PRESENT
FOR THE FUTURE! ©*

Website: www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch

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Articles may not be reprinted
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EXECUTIVE: President: Alice Hoyle

Secretary: Pam Cooke

Vice President: Nelda Layton

Treasurer: Leroy Koop

BRANCH MEETINGS: Third Tuesday of the Month.
Except July, August, December

PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

Alice Hoyle

What happened to August? Last week, I was thinking about how quickly the summer passed, and in particular, how quickly August had zipped on by. I thought to myself, "is August the month that goes by the quickest?" and then of course, I realized I was forgetting that I have always thought that December was the month that just zipped on by. I am usually trying to create gifts for Christmas and I think that's why the month goes by so quickly.

The same 'speedy advancement of months' could apply to our genealogy. I suspect we all think we have lots of time to create that family history; to collate all our photos and get them organized; to organize our genealogy files. Time and time again, 'life' shows up to create obstacles and we don't progress with our projects the way we thought we would.

I have been watching several knitting podcasts on YouTube: a recurring theme is that the podcaster is trying to finish up what the knitting world calls a WIP (work in progress). In order that the person is not overwhelmed by the number of WIPs they have, they designate a day and time slot each week to work on their WIPs.

Wouldn't this be a great idea to adopt for our genealogy projects? I'm planning to incorporate this idea to my genealogy "stuff" that needs to be organized. What about you? Do you have projects that have been lingering and are taking up room in the back of your mind?

I hope you had a wonderful, productive, creative summer. Looking forward to autumn.....

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Sharon Aney

In the past 6 months I have celebrated 3 significant anniversaries... our genealogical society's 25th, the 65th of the local Catholic Women's League and our 60th wedding anniversary.

Of course it is fun to have a party and to rejoice in the congratulations.

But I have come to realize that anniversaries are also an opportunity to reflect

- on the hopes and dreams that were at the outset of the relationship or the organization
 - Did we really have a plan for the future?
 - Or did we just assume that everything would work out well?
 - What were the successes and failures?
 - Joys and sadness?
- on the people who came into our lives... especially
 - the children we begat, raised and have become so proud of
 - folks whose only connection at first was the common interest or religious belief who had become friends
- on the people who left our lives by death or by moving elsewhere
 - our parents, in-laws, other relatives
 - our fellow members and co-workers

Think about it

OUR BRANCH CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

The August 2025 edition of Relatively Speaking also includes an article I wrote about our 25 years.

Sharon Aney

S. Aney

On May 31, 2025 we hosted 75+ people to join us in the celebration of our 25th anniversary. The organizing committee (Alice Hoyle, Lee and Carole Koop, Alma Daigle, Bob Maynard and Sharon Aney) had arranged the day at the Seniors Centre.

*Wetaskiwin Branch
Celebrates*



*Years
May 31, 2025*



Sharon Aney compiled a history of the branch in a "Special Edition" of Roots and Branches. It was a summary of accomplishments and activities of our branch and our members:

- Establishment of the Branch and early days
- Volunteer Research
- AGS - Relatively Speaking: Member Contributions
- Kenneth Young Awards
- Other AGS awards
- Website
- Branch publications:
 - School Days,
 - Christmas Memories,
 - Covid-19 Pandemic
- Projects:
 - Cemetery Recording,
 - Genealogy For Youth,
 - 2006 Genfair
 - 2021 Virtual Genfair,
 - Family Search Centre;
 - advocacy, volunteers
- City Of Wetaskiwin Archives advocacy
- Collectibles Market
- Speaking To Interested Groups

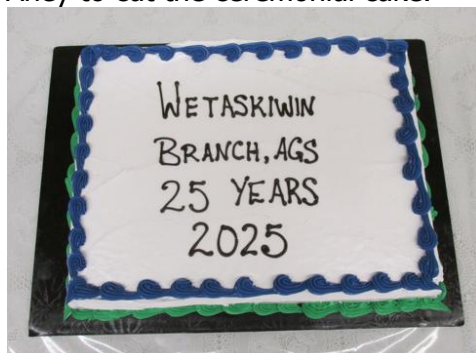


Lorraine McKay & Robin Sheehan
greeted arrivals

Thank you to Carole Koop and Rosella Plaquin for photos of the day.



We were pleased to welcome back charter members Leah Jaburek and Patricia Ware who joined active charter members, Alice Hoyle and Sharon Aney to cut the ceremonial cake.



Our feature speaker was Bob Layton, a former 630 CHED broadcaster. As genealogists and family historians, the crowd appreciated Mr. Layton's helpful hints on how to write "our stories". He stressed the importance of those stories to our present and future families. His humorous descriptions of circumstances which he had turned into writing opportunities made the idea of a story feasible to everyone.

The auditorium was ringed with display tables.

Our branch had two tables: one with our display board and one exhibiting several albums detailing our activities and accomplishments.



Alice Hoyle, President with Branch table



Rosella Plaquin, historian, creator of Branch albums



Pam Cooke & Brian Wildcat brought books and photos of Maskwacis history.



Sharon Aney brought six books she had written about various branches of her family.



Bob Maynard had many generations of his English genealogy on display.



Rosella Plaquin showcased how she preserved our branch activities by creating albums of pictures, documents, newspaper articles, etc



Lee Koop
treasurer, webmaster and
behind the scenes organizer



The Family Search Centre Director, Nelda Layton



Claudia Malloch recapped the connection between our society and the LDS FHC



Heritage Museum and City Archives



Leah Johns, Archives director, Dr. Karen Ablarle
Museum Curator & CEO with Sharon Aney

Their representatives spoke about the mutual support and the benefits we share.



Carole Koop had arranged door prizes and table centerpieces.



The noise level was considerable as people visited with each other, viewed the displays and discussed them. It was a very successful day, capping our first quarter century.

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## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES BEHIND OUR MONTHLY PROGRAMS



Claudia Malloch

Every month, our meetings feature carefully chosen educational segments designed to enrich your genealogy journey. You might wonder about the choices I make for these programs. There's a thoughtful method behind those decisions! Here's a glimpse into how we select our topics:

- **Broad Applicability:** We aim to choose topics that will interest or benefit the majority of our members.
- **Timeliness:** We focus on recent changes in tools, websites, or information that are frequently used.
- **Empowerment:** Our ultimate goal is to help you navigate the vast ocean of genealogy resources and select what's best for you.

For instance, the ever-evolving world of AI has transformed how we approach tasks like writing family histories or crafting articles. Our previous program on AI is already outdated due to rapid advancements. Here's how AI is making waves:

- Assisting in writing family histories or personal stories.
- Crafting talks or articles with ease.
- Even our daughter used AI to write a heartfelt Father's Day poem, turning her thoughts into beautiful verse.

### **Other Constantly Evolving Topics Include:**

- Updates and additions to FamilySearch, Ancestry, etc..
- The dynamic nature of DNA research and its applications.
- New or improved research methods and websites.

We strive to ensure our topics engage more than just a handful of members. For example, instead of focusing solely on research in a specific location, we're open to broader presentations. If you're interested in watching presentations on diverse research places or methods, let us know—your feedback can shape our future programs!

Additionally, we can notify you about webinars on topics of interest that you can watch for free. Just share your preferences and we'll keep you informed.

This information was shared during our June meeting, which, due to its length, meant not everyone received the feedback paper. Your input is invaluable to us as we plan for the upcoming year.

#### **Actionable Steps:**

Share your topic preferences for future programs.

Let us know if you're interested in webinar notifications.

Provide feedback on past programs to help us improve.

Your voice matters and we're keen to ensure our content is as beneficial as possible. Would you like to explore how AI could help with your genealogy projects?

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JUNE MEETING PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS

(We ran out of time at the June meeting, so some members have submitted their comments.)

MAVIS NELSON - Never Quit!

I have not been as excited about finding more family members or things about them. I thought I had enough relatives and was having a hard time keeping up with the family trees for both my side and Neil's. Most of my older cousins have passed away. In my mind, the next generation was not interested in our family history. But I was so wrong.

I have been asked by the younger generation: what crops did my grandpa seed when he homesteaded? and what crops did my uncle seed when he took over the homestead land?.

In Neil's family, the next generation are asking where their grandparents were born and when did they come to Canada. I am now excited to help the younger generations find out about our great families

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## NELDA LAYTON Things I Have Done and Learned This Year

As the coordinator, I schedule volunteer consultants to work at the FamilySearch Center (FSC), update and maintain the FSC, promote and advertise the FSC to the community, and plan and present classes to interested members of our community. The classes are posted on the wiki for our FSC (just google the official name of our Center.) Side note - Center is spelled "er" because FamilySearch is based in the United States.

- Volunteer Consultants – Every shift has two consultants working in the FSC. Each has a different level of expertise but all are very willing to do whatever they can to help patrons find their ancestors with verifying sources using the FamilySearch website as well as the FamilySearch Portal that provides free access to premium genealogy sites. Consultants have gained their expertise from doing their own family history research and I provide additional training as needed.
- Updating and Maintaining the FSC – This year I facilitated several updates to our FSC. We got a new printer, new task chairs and tables, and should be receiving two new computers soon. We now have a banner on our wall that says "FamilySearch Center". FSC's all over the world are becoming standardized using similar décor.



- Promoting Community Involvement – I set up and facilitated an information display at the fall and spring "Wetaskiwin Parade of Programs" events at "Co-op Place." I also helped participants in the "Helper Room" at the "Edmonton Family History Fair" in October 2024.
- I also had a display at the "Wetaskiwin Genealogical Society's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" at the end of May.
- Christina Max at the "Wetaskiwin Times" runs a free weekly advertisement for our FSC.
- Monthly Classes - As the teacher of these classes, I have learned so much about family history research. (The teacher always learns the most!) Here are some of the classes that we had at the FamilySearch Center in 2024-25.
  - What's New at "FamilySearch"
  - Using Memories Gallery and the Fan Chart View
  - Using the Research Wiki
  - Navigating and using the "Ancestry" and "My Heritage" websites
  - Beginner Genealogy Mistakes
  - I Didn't Know You Could Search Like That
  - Sharing "what participants learned" at "RootsTech", a worldwide online genealogy conference (in March 2025)

- Using the “FamilySearch” apps
- How does DNA fit into your family story?
- Genealogy Software Programs
- Using “Record Seek” to create sources
- Hints and Merging

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PAM COOKE Genealogy: What I Learned This Year (2024/25)

I submitted a new story to Roots and Branches this year about my husband’s great grandfather and a revised one to Relatively Speaking for their February food issue on our Thanksgiving traditions.

The story of Dan Minde began with wanting to write about his portrait, commissioned by artist George Littlechild in 2016 and Dan’s family photograph from 1918. I found the images almost 100 years apart are powerful, an old photograph became a contemporary portrait, and an ancestor was revitalized.

Dan Minde, a leader and former chief was Brian’s great grandfather, an ancestor that his family still frequently talks about. In 2016 when we wanted to give our son Nigel a George Littlechild painting, George suggested that we commission a portrait of Dan Minde from the 1918 portrait of his family. George’s most significant, local artwork is the 16 panels of Maskwacis history that he painted for the new Ermineskin school in 2000. George also has a passion for history and genealogy, partly influenced by his experiences as a 60’s scoop survivor.

My mother-in-law, Theresa always spoke about her grandfather and how he ensured that she received a high school education, which led to her becoming a lifelong advocate for education. The story about Dan Minde flowed easily and his influence was nicely supported by quotes from his accomplished descendants.

Renewed interest in Dan’s story led me to send for more BMD records on his children from the provincial Archives. Sadly, we learned his daughter Julia (1905 -1941) and her husband both died of tuberculosis within two months of each other, leaving several children behind. It also revealed more info on Dan’s first wife, Brian’s great grandmother and her maiden names, Saddleback and Allard, as listed on her children’s marriage certificates. She died young, about 1909, within 3 years of Brian’s grandfather’s birth, leaving 3 children behind. I have not been able to locate any BMD records for her.

I also enjoyed submitting our Thanksgiving traditions, a more contemporary story to Relatively Speaking. The RS editor asked for some minor edits and updates which improved the story. Both these stories reminded me that most stories are not static but continue to evolve, with new information or further research.

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## **ROSELLA PLAQUIN - A Gold Mine Of Information!!**

On a hunch I got Alice to pick up the history book "Forest, Furrows and Faith", a History of Boyle and Districts and it paid off. Up to now I only knew the maiden name and birthday of an aunt on my Dad's side of the family - his brother's wife.

From this book I was able to learn about her parents who came from Scotland. I was able to learn about their occupation and then the homestead information. It also gave the names of her siblings and their spouses with vital stats. There was even a photo of her parents taken in 1940.

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ALICE HOYLE

In April I went on a knitting tour to Scotland, specifically to the Shetland Islands. This was on my bucket list for quite some time as some of my ancestors emigrated from Scotland in 1825. While in Scotland, I had the calmest, most magical experience – I felt like I belonged there. While at some of the smaller towns/villages, I thought to myself "I could live here".

What I learned:

Scotland is a very friendly place: in the shops, in the restaurants etc. everyone was helpful, full of information about Scotland and the area where the tour had stopped. In most of the places we had free time until we had to be back on the bus so that allowed us to ramble around the town and interact with the local people.

I did not know that the Shetland Islands once belonged to Norway. The people living on Shetland paid taxes to the Norwegian king. By 1469 the King of Denmark ruled both Denmark and Norway. He mortgaged Shetland to Scotland as part of his daughter's wedding dowry, and from that time onward Scottish influence grew stronger on Shetland.

While on Shetland, I noticed a strong Norwegian influence: in the language, in the knitting patterns and knitting styles, in the names of places.

Also a surprise to me: there are Viking ruins at the south end of Shetland. Part of our tour was a trip to these ruins and they reminded me of what I saw when I was at L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland last summer.

When reading a book I bought on Shetland, I saw this passage which I thought was interesting: "some people confuse the term 'Viking' with 'Norse' and wonder what the difference is. The author said a friend told her "Norse are Vikings who have become respectable".

I am always interested in history, so in addition to the 3 separate knitting classes I took while on Shetland, I was able to learn a lot of new information about Scotland. I hope my Scottish ancestors will be pleased.

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## WOMAN OF ASPENLAND

Re-printed with permission from the  
Wetaskiwin & District Heritage Museum  
<http://www.wetaskiwinmuseum.com>

### GAIL (MURDOCH) DERAEE



Gail Elizabeth Murdoch was born April 20th 1939, to parents Anne (McCrae) and Stuart Murdoch.

The second of four children, she describes her childhood as "really good, we had no restrictions. We got to go outside and play and Coleman is really hilly so we got to climb through the hills". This extra freedom came partially from her mother working as a nurse throughout her childhood.

After high school graduation, she started training as a nurse in 1957, working as a waitress on the side. While working a brief stint in Ralston she met her first husband, Allan Jackson.

Gail graduated from the nursing program in 1960, and married Allan in 1961. In 1965 Glen was born, and Gail was forced to quit, as maternity leave did not yet exist. Glen would be followed by Joanne in 1969, however, she would die in a car accident in 1989. Gail's marriage to Allan would last until 1995, and she kept a good relationship with the family even after the divorce.

Following this she moved to Camelot Apartments, where she befriended her second future husband Terry DeRae. Theirs was an unexpected romance, as they'd known one-another through work since 1980 and did not get along at all. It was only after Gail felt guilty about avoiding her new neighbor and went for a visit that their relationship abruptly turned around. They married in 2000, having a happy marriage until Terry's passing in 2017.

Throughout her life, Gail was an active volunteer. She could be found often at the Wetaskiwin First United Church. She helped with Meals on Wheels and was part of the United Church Women's Unit 4, as well as a Secretary for the UCW. Outside church she volunteered at the Wetaskiwin & District Heritage Museum, the Toastmaster's Club, and helped with MS bike rides. She even volunteered in Nicaragua, where she prepared aid bundles and fundraised for buildings and services.

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*Life is uncharted territory.
It reveals its story one moment at a time.
Leo Buscagli*

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## RESEARCH REQUESTS

### Who was A. Bye?

by Leroy Koop

Towards the end of the Wetaskiwin Branch's 25th Anniversary Celebration on May 31st, I was approached by an attendee. I was asked if I would be interested in researching the given names of her husband's great-grandparents from Norway, known to them only as the A. Bye family. I accepted the challenge with no promise as to how much time I would be able to allot to the research during summer. I gave her my email address and I asked her for her full name so I wouldn't block her email address by mistake. Her married surname was instrumental in proving the research.

On June 3rd an email was received with the following information;

***"Following is what little information we have about my husband's great grandfather, A. Bye. It comes from a local history book.***

***A. Bye and two sons came to Canada from Vedalsuran, Norway in 1891. Later Mrs. Bye and two daughters and their youngest son, Edward came. Their oldest son was Chris and one of the daughters was Annie. Edward worked in BC before coming to Wetaskiwin in 1895. Mr. Bye died in 1908 here on his farm."***

My client wanted to know:

***"The first names of Mr. and Mrs. Bye and their children and birth dates and deaths, and any information about the siblings of Edward and Annie."***

The date 1891 and that the Bye family came from Norway made me think of a Norwegian farmer coming to Alberta to apply for a homestead. The first search went on the Alberta Genealogical Society (AGS) Homestead Database. Although there were many applications with the name Bye, only six had "A" as an initial for the given name or the first letter on the name. Unfortunately, the townships of all six were far away from Wetaskiwin. The chance that Mr. Bye's given name started with an "A" went quickly to zero in my way of thinking.

Since the original request said that Mr. Bye died on his farm in 1908, I asked my client if she knew the legal land description of the farm where he died. It turned out to be SW1/4 28-44-23-W4, east of the Samson Reserve No. 137. Back to AGS Homestead Database resulted in the following Homestead Applications for 28-44-23-W4:

| Surname | Given Names           | Sec.  | Twp. | Rge. | W_of the |
|---------|-----------------------|-------|------|------|----------|
| BYE     | Christian E.          | NE 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |
| BYE     | Ellen                 | NW 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |
| BYE     | Ellev                 | SW 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |
| BYE     | Elling Iverson        | NW 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |
| BYE     | Elling J. (died 1895) | SW 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |
| BYE     | Ingvold               | SW 28 | 44   | 23   | 4        |

Ancestry.com also showed a Lars Bye involved with the SW1/4 section.

The transcriptions of the given names were an issue. The baptism later found for the father, Mr. Bye, had the given name as Ellef, which will be used from here on. Note that the given names above; Ellen=Ellev=Elling=**Ellef**.



2018 County of Wetaskiwin  
Owners Map

In 1892 Ellef applied for a homestead on the NW1/4 of section 28. He received approval in 1904. His son Christian, known as Crist, also applied in 1892 for the NE1/4 and received his approval in 1901. Son Lars applied for the SW1/4 in 1892 as well but his application was cancelled, possibly due to not abiding by the rules of the application or death.

Ellef's oldest son, Ingvald, who at the time was living in Ontario, came to Alberta in 1894 and applied for his brother Lars' SW1/4 section. Ingvald, however, was not well and as a result Ellef applied for the SW1/4 section himself in 1895. Ingvald passed away in 1895. Ellef's application was approved

in 1903. The map above shows that the SW1/4 and the NE1/4 sections (bordered in green) are still owned by the Bye family in 2018.

Thus far I had obtained the father's name as Ellef and the names of three sons, Ingvald, Lars and Christian through reviewing homestead records. Where to next?

It was decided to review Ellef's application for the NW1/4 section.

1976  
No. 105

**APPLICATION FOR A HOMESTEAD ENTRY.**

I, Ellef Simon Bye  
do hereby apply for a Homestead Entry, under sub-clause 1 of clause 35 of "The Dominion Lands Act" for the NW Quarter Section of Section Number 28 of the 44th Township, in the 23rd Range, West of the 4th Meridian.

E. J. Bye  
District.  
3. April 1902

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF  
CLAIM FOR A HOMESTEAD ENTRY**

By a Person who has not previously obtained Homestead Entry.

I, Ellef Simon Bye do solemnly  
swear that I am over eighteen years of age; that to the best of my knowledge and belief the land in respect of which my application is made, is of the class open for Homestead Entry; that there is no person residing on the said land, nor are there any improvements thereon, and that this application is made for my exclusive use and benefit, with the intention of residing upon and cultivating the said land, and not directly or indirectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons whomsoever; and that I have not heretofore obtained an entry for a Homestead on Dominion Lands.

Subscribed and sworn to this 3rd day of August 1902, before me.  
E. J. Bye Land Agent.

Does the middle name start with an I or a J? Is the middle initial on the signature at the bottom an I or a J? Some documents in this homestead file show J as the initial and one shows the middle name is Jensen.

I decided that the transcriber indeed had the middle name right, that being Iversen. Norway was known for patronymics. Here is what GOOGLE states:

*"In Norway, patronymics, surnames derived from a father's name, were historically used, particularly before the 1920s. A child's surname was formed by adding "-sen" or "-son" (for sons) or "-datter" or "-dotter" (for daughters) to the father's given name. For example, if a father's name was John, his son might be named Ole Johnsen (or Johnson), and his daughter Anne Johnsdatter (or Johnsdotter)."*

The research now began with the name Ellef Iversen. Wetaskiwin Times on 13 Aug 1908 stated in a small article the Ellef Bye died on 7 Aug at the age of 67 (Article obtained from the Wetaskiwin Archives newspaper collection). Ellef was thus born about 1841.

With this little information I went searching in Norway using Ancestry.com. An Ellef Iversen showed up on the 1865 Norway Census as a single male, 24 years old, born about 1841 in Verdalen, living with his father, Iver Ellefsen, his mother, Marta Maria Thomasdatter and his brother, Bernhardus Iversen. Interesting to note that the Counting District for the census was Byemoen, possibly the source of Ellef's surname in Alberta.

Ellef again shows up in the 1875 Norway Census as a lodger in his parents home. His birth place was shown as Vinne Sogn Værdalen. The census took place in the City of Bymoen Bye Østre Nordre, in the Municipality of Verdal, in the County of Nord-Trøndelag, Norway. Ellef was married to Ingeboranna Larsdatter and had three sons, Ingvald Marius Ellefsen, Lars Ellefsen and Kristian Ellelsen.

It was conclusive that Ellef and the three sons were the ones involved with the Alberta Homestead Applications.

Church baptism records were obtained through Ancestry.com. Ellef Iversen was born 22 Jul 1842 and baptized 25 Sep 1842 in Verdal, Nord-Trøndelag, Norway. His father was Iver Ellefsen and his mother was Martha Maria Thomasdatter.

Ingeboranna Larsdatter was born 11 Mar 1843 and baptized 4 Jun 1843 in Verdal, Nord-Trøndelag, Norway. Her father was Lars Arntsen and her mother was Karen Kirstine Eliasdatter.

From Family Search the church marriage record was obtained for Ellef and Ingeborg Anna. They were married 1 Jul 1870 in Verdal, Nord-Trøndelag, Norway.

Also from Family Search the baptism records for all seven children were obtained; Ingvald Marius, Lars, Christian, Edvard, Anna Margrethe, Elen Marie and Gustava.

In the 1891 Norway Census Ingeborg Larsdtr was listed as married but the head of the household. With her were her oldest son Ingvald and the two youngest daughters, Elen Marie and Gustava. This census was carried out on 1 Jan 1891. The residence place is shown as Værdalen, Verdal, Nord-Trøndelag, Norge. It is assumed that the other children were labourers or servants elsewhere in the municipality.

On 4 Jun 1891 Ingeborg, with the surname Bye, departed England on a ship named Parisian on route to Quebec, Canada.

| Port of Embarkation. | Names of Passengers. | Profession, Occupation, or Calling, of Passengers. | FOREIGNERS.                                |        |      |                                          |        |         |        |         |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------|------|------------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
|                      |                      |                                                    | Age of each Adult of 12 years and upwards. |        |      | Ages of Children between 1 and 12 years. |        | Infants |        |         |
|                      |                      |                                                    | Married                                    | Single |      | Male                                     | Female | Male    | Female | Infants |
| LIVERPOOL.           | No. of Ticket.       |                                                    | Male                                       | Female | Male | Female                                   | Male   | Female  | Male   | Female  |
|                      | 7535                 | Ingvald Bye                                        |                                            | 20     |      |                                          |        |         |        |         |
|                      | 7536                 | Ingeborg                                           |                                            | 50     |      |                                          |        |         |        |         |
|                      |                      | Edward                                             |                                            | 16     |      |                                          |        |         |        |         |
|                      |                      | Anna                                               |                                            |        |      |                                          |        |         | 11     |         |
|                      |                      | Ellen                                              |                                            |        |      |                                          |        |         | 9      |         |
|                      |                      | Gustava                                            |                                            |        |      |                                          |        |         | 7      |         |
|                      |                      | Kristian                                           |                                            | 18     |      |                                          |        |         |        |         |

Along with her were her children except for Lars. Ellef was not on the list either. Ellef and Lars were not found on any other ship passenger lists. It is assumed that Ellef and Lars may have journeyed to Canada earlier since they weren't listed on the 1891 census with Ingeborg. Perhaps the two were scouting Canada for homesteads.

In Ingvald's Homestead Application in 1895 he stated he came from Ontario. Ingeborg and the rest of the family probably travelled with Ingvald in 1894 to Alberta. Ellef, Christian and Lars were already in Alberta by 1892.

Of the seven Bye children four married. Christian married Anna Nelson (1882-1900) on 17 Dec 1899 in the Lutheran Church in Battle River, Alberta (sources: church marriage record and Alberta Marriage Registration from Ancestry.com).

Edward married Hannah Alfreda Johnson (1878-1945) in 1900 in Wetaskiwin, Alberta (source: Alberta Marriage Index from Ancestry.com). Edward and Hannah had eight children (source: information obtained mostly from Find a Grave).

| NAME          | BIRTH       | DEATH       | SPOUSE         |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Lee Albert    | 9 Jul 1901  | 19 Aug 1967 | Darlene Fullen |
| Edna Krestena | 19 Dec 1903 | 16 Jul 1906 | (child)        |
| Ruby Viola    | 1906        | 1987        | Zene Cleland   |



|              |             |             |                       |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| John Richard | 8 Feb 1908  | 31 May 1962 | Katherine Mutch       |
| Gordon W     | 15 Oct 1912 | 15 May 1989 | Eleanor B. ?          |
| Margaret E   | 1914        | 1914        | (infant)              |
| Oriole Pearl | 1918        | 1993        | Stanley Edward Thirsk |
| Colin Ross   | 28 Apr 1925 | 3 Jun 1996  | Enid Elise Charman    |

Mary E. (Elen Marie) married Otto Lundquist (1876-1958) in 1900 in Wetaskiwin, Alberta (source: Alberta Marriage Index from Ancestry.com). Mary and Otto had seven children (source: information obtained mostly from Find a Grave and Newspaper.com).

| NAME        | BIRTH       | DEATH       | SPOUSE                         |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Oscar W.    | 23 Sep 1901 | 29 Nov 1978 | Yvonne Laplante                |
| William     | Oct 1903    |             |                                |
| Walter E.   | 8 Dec 1905  | 7 Aug 1971  | Phyllis Vivian Statz           |
| Nelly E.    | abt 1908    |             | Reginald Cyril Keen            |
| John Lewis  | 1 Jan 1910  | 10 Jan 1966 | Judith O Lena Hendersen        |
| Mary L.     | abt 1912    |             | 1-Norman B. Deitz 2-? Ferguson |
| Clarence L. | 1917        | 1977        | Velma ?                        |

Anna Margaret married Carl Anton "Charles" Rotvik (1869-1953) in 1909 also in Wetaskiwin (source: Alberta Marriage Index from Ancestry.com). In the 1906 Canada Census for Alberta, Anna was listed with Ellef as the daughter. She obviously waited until her father passed away in 1908 before getting married. An interesting note here is that Charles A. Rotvik was a character reference for Ingvald Bye on Ingvald's Homestead Application. Anna and Charles only had one son (sources: information obtained mostly from Find a Grave and Wetaskiwin Archives newspaper articles).

| NAME          | BIRTH | DEATH       | SPOUSE      |
|---------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| Andrew Edward | 1910  | 12 Apr 1999 | not married |

Find a Grave is ok to find birth/deaths of people who are within the provincial year limits allowing regulations to become publicly available. In Albert one has to be born 120+ years ago, married 75+ years ago & died 50+ years ago in order for public accessibility. However, seldom are sources for dates mentioned on Find a Grave. Newspapers.com is also a source of date information, however, once again no sources are usually cited and you need a subscription for access to the actual articles.

The Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery Name List for 2008 states the Ingeborg Bye passed away on 5 Apr 1899 and is buried in the family plot B38 3a. Ellef Bye died on 7 Aug 1908 and was laid to rest at B38 3b.

On Ingvald's Homestead Application dated 20 Mar 1895 he stated that no improvements had been made to the SW1/4 homestead "*except made by deceased brother Lars E. Bye.*"

On Ellef's Homestead Application on 8 Mar 1901 he stated that son Ingvald took possession of SW1/4 on 1 Oct 1894 and lived there only from 1 Oct to 1 Nov 1894. Ellef stated: "*Illness then forced him to abandon homestead. Died in April 1895.*"

Why the early deaths? The Death Registration Index for before 1897 on the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) website was searched. Ingvald Bye was listed but Lars was not. However, six lines down from Ingvald was the name Gustava Bye, their youngest sister. The Death Registrations were ordered from PAA.

|                                                                                  |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No. <b>647</b>                                                                   | No. <b>28634</b>                                                                  |
| Name and Surname of Deceased.<br><i>Ingvald Bye</i>                              | Name and Surname of Deceased.<br><i>Gustava Bye</i>                               |
| When Died.<br><i>June 2/95</i>                                                   | When Died.<br><i>June 22nd 1895</i>                                               |
| Sex—Male or Female.<br><i>Male</i>                                               | Sex—Male or Female.<br><i>Female</i>                                              |
| Age.<br><i>24 years</i>                                                          | Age.<br><i>12 years</i>                                                           |
| Rank or Profession.<br><i>Farmer</i>                                             | Rank or Profession.<br><i>Farmer's daughter</i>                                   |
| Where Born.<br><i>Wardale Norway</i>                                             | Where Born.<br><i>Norway</i>                                                      |
| Certified cause of Death and duration of Illness.<br><i>Tuberculosis 4 years</i> | Certified Cause of Death and duration of Illness.<br><i>Tuberculosis 3 months</i> |
| Name of Physician, if any.<br><i>Edw Sharpe</i>                                  | Name of Physician, if any.<br><i>S. M. Sharpe</i>                                 |
| Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.<br><i>Edw Sharpe</i>          | Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.<br><i>Jan 4th 1896</i>         |
| When Registered.<br><i>June 4/95</i>                                             | When Registered.<br><i>June 4th 1896</i>                                          |
| Religious Denomination of Deceased.<br><i>Lutherian</i>                          | Religious Denomination of Deceased.<br><i>Lutheran</i>                            |
| Signature of Registrar.<br><i>S. Geo Smith</i>                                   | Signature of Registrar.<br><i>S. Geo Smith</i>                                    |
| REMARKS.                                                                         | REMARKS.                                                                          |

Ingvald was only 24 years old and died on 2 Jun 1895 after suffering from tuberculosis for four years. Gustava, only 12 years old, died three weeks later on 22 Jun 1895 after suffering from tuberculosis for three months. The cemetery for them is unknown.

The Death Registration for Christian stated that he passed away on 7 Oct 1908 at the age of 35 years, 8 months. The cause of death was consumption. He is buried at the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery in Plot B38 4b. The Death Registration for his wife Anna stated that she died on 30 Jan 1900, about 6 weeks after their marriage, at the age of 17 years. The cause of her death was inflammation of the lungs. She suffered 3 weeks. Is it possible that both may have had tuberculosis as well? The cemetery for her is unknown.

Edward died on 24 Jun 1955 and is buried at the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery in the family plot B38 2A. His wife Hannah Alfreda passed away on 3 Nov 1945 and is buried in B38 2b (source: both from the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery Name List for 2008).

The death date for Anna Margaret Rotvik nee Bye is 26 Feb 1929. Her husband Carl Anton "Charles" Rotvik passed away on 14 May 1953. Both are buried at the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery in plot D 24 (source: both are from Find a Grave).

Mary E. Lundquist nee Bye was named Elen Marie at birth. She passed away on 28 Jan 1923. She is buried at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Edmonton in plot E 132 2 (source: AGS Cemetery Database). Her husband Otto Lundquist died in 1958 and is buried at Ocean View Burial Park, Burnaby, BC (source: Find a Grave).

### Here is an overview of the Ellef and Ingeborg Bye family:

| NAME                 | BIRTH       | DEATH       | SPOUSE            |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Ellef Bye            | 22 Jul 1842 | 7 Aug 1908  | Ingeborg Bye      |
| Ingeborg Bye         | 11 Mar 1843 | 5 Apr 1899  | Ellef Bye         |
| Ingvald Marius       | 01 Aug 1870 | 2 Jun 1895  | single            |
| Lars                 | 24 Feb 1872 |             |                   |
| Christian Crist      | 13 Jan 1874 | 7 Oct 1908  | Anna Nelson       |
| Edward               | 22 Mar 1876 | 24 Jun 1955 | Hannah A. Johnson |
| Anna Margaret        | 24 Aug 1878 | 26 Feb 1929 | Charles A. Rotvik |
| Mary E. [Elen Marie] | 08 Jan 1881 | 28 Jan 1923 | Otto Lundquist    |
| Gustava              | 23 Oct 1882 | 22 Jun 1895 | child             |



Despite difficulties presented by translations between 2 languages, I followed the documentation that showed that A. Bye was in fact Ellef Bye, born Ellef Iversen.

**May  
MOTHER, FATHER  
and  
FAMILY  
REST IN PEACE**

June 27, 2025