



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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March UGG-NCR Webinar

Scotland's Ukrainians – Their Story,

Dr. Peter (Petro) Kormylo began his presentation by explaining that he was of Ukrainian and Scottish heritage. His father was a veteran of the Galicia (Halychyna) Division whose members arrived in Scotland after the Second World War as Surrendered Enemy Personnel. After he retired as an educator, Petro completed his Doctoral dissertation, “In which ways is the Ukrainian community in Scotland a diaspora?” He then published the book, “Scotland’s Ukrainians – Their Story”, based on his academic research and writing.



Dr. Petro Kormylo - our March Speaker

This story is told through the various waves of Ukrainian immigration to Great Britain including Scotland beginning in the 1880s until the present. The first wave ended with the First World War, the second wave began after the revolutions in eastern Europe at the end of the First World War and it was the third wave that

arrived in the years during and after the Second World War that built the organized Ukrainian community. Various groups contributed to the establishment of the Ukrainian community - Ukrainian Canadian military, Ukrainian soldiers in the Polish military who served in Scotland during the Second World War, European Voluntary Workers (former Ostarbeiters) and veterans of the Halychyna Division. The Division veterans were housed in 43 camps across Scotland until they were ‘civilianized’ in the late 1940s. About 28,000 Ukrainians arrived in Scotland during these years but many later left for North America and Australia. Individual Ukrainian arrivals to Scotland continued in the 1980s and after 1991. The current war in Ukraine produced another wave from February, 2022.

Several organizations were established in the years after the Second World War including the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (<https://www.augb.co.uk/>), and the Ukrainian Youth Association (CYM) (<https://www.cymbg.org/>) and parishes of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (<https://www.ukrainiansintheuk.info/eng/03/ucc-e.htm>). Ukrainian culture was maintained through the political associations, Saturday Ukrainian Schools, community and parish organizations and Ukrainian dance groups. The non-Ukrainian spouses made significant contributions in maintaining Ukrainian culture by supporting their Ukrainian husbands.

With time, the Ukrainian community adapted and integrated into the local Scottish society but, at the same time, continued to commemorate Ukrainian political, cultural and religious holidays and events. In some cases,

both Ukrainian and Scottish cultural anniversaries are commemorated at the same time. The community has erected various monuments to commemorate their history in Scotland and some projects were supported by the Scottish government.

The arrival of the most recent wave of Ukrainians after February, 2022 has revived the Ukrainian community in Scotland and some of the youth now attend local schools and universities. With the passing of the third wave of immigration and growing assimilation, Petro realized the need for a publication to document the history of the Ukrainian community in Scotland. He was able to acquire and preserve photographs, maps and newspapers documenting this history. He is especially interested in the history of the veterans of the Halychyna Division and has acquired and preserves historical documentation on their internment in Rimini and their experiences in the work camps in Scotland. Petro is proud of his Ukrainian heritage and remains active in the Ukrainian community in Scotland.

Petro concluded his presentation with information on how to access his dissertation, Peter David Kormylo (2021) "In which ways is the Ukrainian community in Scotland a diaspora?" PhD thesis, <https://theses.gla.ac.uk/82517>.

Due to the difference in time zones between Canada and Scotland, Petro was unable to participate in the Q & A, but provided written answers to questions from the audience that are posted on the UGG website.

Ghosts in a Photograph

Myrna Kostash's award winning book "*Ghosts in a Photograph*" is published by NeWest Press and can be ordered directly from their [website](#) (both in Print and eBook formats). It can also be purchased at your local bookstores (see book info below):

Publisher : NeWest Press (Oct. 1 2022)
Language : English
Paperback : 304 pages
ISBN-10 : 1774390574
ISBN-13 : 978-1774390573

Community Events

Saturday, May 25 @ 6:00pm

Celebration of Vyshyvanka

St. John the Baptist Parish is conducting this fundraiser event for Shrine Improvements. You are invited to wear your favourite vyshyvanka (Ukrainian embroidered shirt) and join us for a lively evening featuring a:

- Buffet Reception Ukrainian style
- Delicious Ukrainian tortes
- Cash Bar: red & white wines
- Fashion show with traditional and the latest vyshyvanka
- A chance to bid on Ukrainian artwork

This event takes place at the Shrine (952 Green Valley Crescent).

Tickets cost \$50 per person. To purchase tickets electronically send an e-transfer to pastor@stjbshrine.ca and right after where it says Message (the memo field), please write: Vyshyvanka event tickets. Your ticket(s) will be put in an envelope with your name(s) for pick up at the event.

Tickets can also be purchased at BCU Financial (Ottawa branch).



You're invited to
A Celebration of VYSHYVANKA
A Fundraiser for Shrine Improvements

Saturday, May 25, 2024
6:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine Hall
952 Green Valley Cresc. Ottawa ON

Buffet Reception & Ukrainian Tortes
Cash Bar: Red & White Wine
Vyshyvanka Fashion Show
Silent Art Auction

Tickets \$50 per person

To purchase ticket(s)
• send an e-transfer to pastor@stjbshrine.ca
• BCU Financial;
• in the church hall after Liturgy

Wear your favourite vyshyvanka!