



The River Round Up

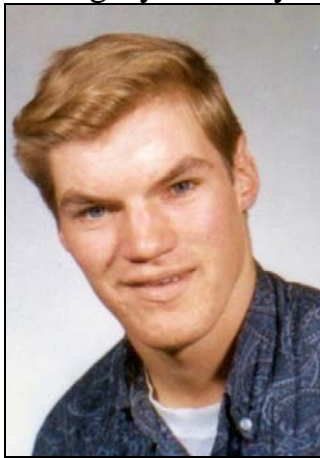
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Gregory Buckley



Gregory Bernard Buckley was born August 1st, 1949 and spent the first six months of his life at the Little Flower Orphanage in Sydney. In February, 1950, Carrie & Abraham Beranger of RB welcomed baby Gregory into their home. The family also included older brother John who had been adopted years earlier and foster sister, Margie Lamey. The family expanded later on to include brothers John & Robert Brown, Peter Doucette and George Richards. Gregory claims that there were no better parents in the world than Carrie & Abraham and notes how fortunate he was to be so loved. Carrie & Abraham owned a corner store in the lower end of the river. Gregory's biological sister, Joyce Buckley was a foster child of Mary Sampson and also lived in RB. Another sister, Yolande, was later located living in Quebec and they have met on several occasions.

Gregory graduated from St. Peter's High in 1968. He then attended Eastern Tech. (now known as CBU) in Sydney for two years and graduated with a Diploma in Applied Arts. Gregory was part of the first graduating class of the newly built Eastern Tech and as part of their curriculum the students were asked to design a School Ring and Gregory's was the winning entry. The school ring was used until the

school changed its name. In 1970, Gregory returned to RB and soon discovered that business was not what he was meant to do. During his school years he had worked at Lawrence Stone's garage and had learned a few things about car repair. He returned there for a while before he began working for Bucky's garage as a self-taught auto mechanic and where he remained as an employee for many years.

On May 15th, 1976 Gregory married Lucy Burke, daughter of Ora & Sam Burke of French Cove. They had two children: Greg Jr who died in infancy and Amanda (Mandy) who now lives in Rockdale with husband Floyd and children Ryan & Julia.

Gregory spent many years as an umpire with the Richmond Amateur Baseball Association, umpiring both men's and girl's baseball teams. As a young lad Gregory and his friends played ball in the field where Bucky's home is now located. Bats were made of a flat board with a tapered end for a handle. It was of great excitement one day when Robert Touesnard showed up at the field with a brand new store bought bat. It was Gregory's turn at bat when he took a great swing and the bat slipped out of his hand and hit his sister, Margie, in the head, breaking the bat in two. She suffered a major headache but the biggest concern was the loss of the "real bat". Gregory also played shinny hockey at Jim's Rink and coached the Gentlemen's Hockey Team (over age 35 men) for a number of years. Following his years as an auto mechanic, Gregory tried his hand at carpentry, building homes with Bobby Boucher and Terrance Sampson. He then went to work in maintenance repair for Edward Steininger who owned a chain of arcades across N.S.

In December, 2004 Gregory's health suddenly deteriorated forcing an early retirement from the work force. His favorite place these days is Tim Horton's with cousin, Dolores and buddies Archie MacDonald & Maynard Boyd. He is grateful to his many good neighbors who visit regularly. Gregory the people of River Bourgeois wish you many more years of happiness and better health. *Sharon Chilvers*

Alvina & Joseph Landry



Back Row: Gervase, Ethel, Charlotte, Cletus; 2nd Row: Agnes, Alvina, Laura; Front Row: Melda & Theresa; Inset: Joseph

Joseph Landry was born in 1892, son of Theodore & Charlotte (Richard) of the Southside. Joe married Lina, daughter of Celeste (Landry) & Syprien Burke and they had a daughter named Mary. Lina passed away in 1913. In January 1917, he married Alvina born in 1890, the daughter of Abraham & Henrietta (Boudreau) Landry of the North Side. They lived with Joe's parents on the Southside. They had one of the first telephones in RB and were often the bearer of bad news to the neighbors. Phones were used only for emergencies. Alvina often recalled the day of the Halifax explosion. She was making bread at the time and the strength of the explosion was so severe that her dishes rattled and her bread collapsed in the oven. Joe was a fisherman & farmer and in 1930 he fell in his boat breaking a rib and damaging his lungs. TB would set in and several months later he passed away. Alvina found herself widowed with nine children ranging in age from seven months to twelve years. She received a small widow's pension until her children left home. Son Gervase and new bride Jane moved in with her until she received her old age pension check in 1955. She passed away at age 86. Joe & Alvina had nine children and a whopping "256" direct descendents. Their children were:

Ethel: (RB) 1918-1996, married George Bowser of Hfx. They had seven children: Marie & Ann, Sackville; Rita, Joan & Leo, Dartmouth; Yvonne, Pleasant Bay; Blair, deceased in 1963; eleven grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren.

Cletus Lorenzo: (RB) 1919-2004, married Margaret Boudreau of Petit De Grat. They had two children, Claire in Lr. Sackville, and Georgie deceased in 1999; two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren.

Gervase Alfred: (RB) 1921-2006, married Jane MacPhee of False Bay. They had two children: Lola in Poulamon and Melvin in Halifax; two grandsons.

Charlotte Marie: (RB) 1923, married Fred LeBlanc of the Southside. They had fourteen children: Joe, Sharon, Peter, Kenneth & Gerald, all in RB; Helen, West Arichat; Emily, BC; Stella, Gladys and Keith in Dartmouth; Susan, Halifax; David, Mount Unicake; Lloyd, Kentville; Darlene, L'Ardoise; thirty-two grandchildren & twenty-four great-grandchildren.

Leo Huntley: (RB) 1924-1925.

Agnes Emelia (Petit De Grat) 1925-2002, married Arthur David. They had twelve children: Blaise, Claire, Monica, Huntley, Cecil, Hubert, Wanda & Randall, all in Petit De Grat; Nancy & Noreen in West Arichat; Judy & Donald in Halifax; twenty four grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Laura Anna: (RB) 1927-1968, married Joe Richard of the Southside. They had fourteen children: Albert & Anthony in NB; Elaine, deceased in 1945; Terry, Linda & Sylvia, RB; Estelle, Port Hawkesbury; Carol, Thorburn; Theresa, deceased in 1953; Sally, Calgary; Earl, Halifax; Donna, Black River; Debbie, Oban; Allan, BC; thirty-five grandchildren and twenty-nine great-grandchildren.

Theresa Marie: (Evanston) 1928-1952 married James McNamara. Son Earl died in infancy.

Amilda Lillianne (Burton, NB) 1930, married Don Clattenburg of Halifax. They had two daughters: Carla, Ottawa; Carina, Burton; three grandsons.

Thanks to Helen P, Linda C. & Emily L. for their help in putting our grandparents story together. Sharon. PS Thanks to Anne Louise Touesnard for restoring the photo.

One Year Later



The RB Seniors 50+ Club celebrated the 1st Anniversary of their exercise program. A few have come and gone but the majority of its members remain faithful and new ones keep joining the group. Trainer Theresa Sampson puts everyone through the paces for an hour every Mon., Wed. and Fri. Pounds may not have all disappeared but everyone agrees that they are in much better health than they were a year ago. Knees & shoulders are more mobile & less painful and sugar levels have dropped drastically. We don't promise miracles but we can guarantee lots of laughs and better health. Membership fees are \$5 per year. In the fall a "walkabout" program was started

on Tuesdays & Thursdays where members of the community began walking in different locations around RB. That project is now on hold until spring. Our first year of funding from the New Horizons for Senior's program to pay our trainer is now complete. We have had several fundraising events to continue the program and on March 6th a concert will be held at the Tara Lynne Center featuring Robert Bouchard. The concert is sponsored by Antigonish Mutual Insurance and all proceeds will go towards paying our trainer. Cost is \$10 and it starts at 7:30pm. Thanks for contributions from the Municipality \$500 and from St. Peters Lions Club of \$250.

Knits for the North



Deirdre Boyd & President Elaine Burke with the knitted goods
Pictured are 30 lbs of hats, mitts, gloves & scarf's donated by people in RB and surrounding parishes in response to the CWL Advent Project *Knits for the North*. These items have been sent to the First Nations people of Sandy Lake in Northern Ontario. The CWL is very grateful for everyone's support.

Search for the grave of Gus Samson

Gus Samson of RB who died at sea in 1932

"I'm from Massachusetts and part of my ancestry flows down through my maternal grandmother whose maiden name was Amanda Sampson and whose parents immigrated to Massachusetts in the late 19th Century from southern Cape Breton. I've been putting together some research for a newly found Sampson cousin who lives in Pennsylvania whose 91 year old father was born and raised in the RB area. The parish there is St. John the Baptist. As I was assembling their family tree, I came across an incident that involved two of the uncles of the 91 year old man I just referred to who is living today in New Jersey, not far from his daughter in Pennsylvania. The two uncles were Sampson brothers Gustave, age 29, and Wilfred, age 43, both bachelors who lived with their family in RB and died together at sea in 1932. They

were sons of Elias Samson (1865-1929) and Eliza Fougere (1865-1948) who raised a family of about 12 children. I'm trying to find out where one or both of these brothers are buried in Nfld. and wonder if there might be an incidental notation in your original register that recorded the cemetery name. They shipped out together in 1932 aboard a salvage vessel, the *SS Sandbeach* whose mission was to salvage an old wreck off the coast of Nfld. Shortly after leaving Corner Brook on the west coast heading back to Halifax on December 5, 1932, the vessel was destroyed by an explosion and all hands were lost. The bodies of a few of the crew were found the following morning washed ashore at various places along the west coast. One of the Sampson brothers, 29 year old Gus, was recovered amid the washed up bits and pieces of flotsam that had come ashore at Heatherton (near St. George's on the west coast). This much I have learned from a Nfld. author by the name of Robert Parsons who wrote of the tragedy in a couple of his books, an excerpt of which was picked up when I searched the web. The only evidence I had at the time were death records from NS, one of which I have attached here for your reference should you find it helpful. The civil records contained the notation "Officially reported drowned *SS Sandbeach* off Nfld". The church records from St. John the Baptist at RB were available to me only as transcriptions of a selected set of data fields from the original registers. But in neither case, civil nor Catholic Church, did the records contain any information about a burial. The inference that I draw from these bits of data is that, firstly, there was communication between Nfld. & NS in some form, perhaps through the salvage company as intermediary. In any case St John's at RB made an entry into their register for the deaths of both brothers but no burial took place there."

Kind Regards, *Tim Nolan, North Andover, Massachusetts* nolan.tim@comcast.net

-RB Church records indicate that both brothers were lost at sea. Also included in the record is that a funeral mass was held for the brothers on December 12th, 1932. Further searching by Mr. Nolan has uncovered that St. Joseph's Parish of St George's, Newfoundland confirms the death of Gus Samson is entered in their register. *Don Pottie with thanks to Sharon Digout & Sylvia Pottie. PS Gus & Wilfred were brothers of James & Cyril Sampson who resided in the homestead now owned by Basil & Linda Burke of the Southside.*

Children's Christmas Mass

The children of RB and those visiting participated in the Christmas Eve Mass at St. John the Baptist Church. The children who participated were: **Star-Yasmine Sampson**; **Mary-Emma Martell**; **Joseph-**

Jeffrey Martins; **Angels**-Mila Zinck, Erin Cunningham, Ella Boudreau; **Shepherds**-Christian MacDonald, Daniel King; **Wise Men**-Carson MacDonald, Josh Grimes, Mylan Touesnard; **Narrator**-Alex Poaps; **Choir**-Julia Burke, Meghan Merrick, Emma Landry, Bethany King, Brenna Cunningham, Melanie Poaps, Emily Poaps, Jillian Fougere, Grant Sampson; **Guitar**-Hailey Sampson, Dylan Abbott, Jillian Burke. Thanks to the Religion teachers and their leader Linda Burke for organizing such a wonderful event.

Births

Bouchard-Udam: Alexander Richard 8lbs 15 oz. born November 22nd to Catherine & Steve of Pickering, ON. Congratulations to the parents, grandparents Richard & Genie Bouchard and great grand mom Margaret Bouchard.

Deaths

Burke: Mark Anthony, 61, passed away on January 20th. Our condolences to his wife Marie, children: Mark, Mitchell, Melissa & Melanie, his sister Claudette and their families.

Kyte: Robert Victor, 70, passed away January 25th. Our condolences to his wife Theresa, children Wanda, Lydia & Valerie and brother George, sisters Lydia & Anne and their families.

Pottie: Margaret, 97, of Rockdale passed away January 22nd. Our condolences to her granddaughter Sheila Pottie of RB and her family.

RB gets hit by storm

On January 2nd RB was hit with a major nor'easter (heavy rain & hurricane force winds creating high surf, which caused severe beach erosion and coastal flooding).



Roderick Burke's boathouse (above) was in deep water and surrounded by buoys that look like bowling balls. Hundreds of these buoys used for mussel nets and stored on the Church Point Wharf were scattered throughout the shoreline. A lawn chair

also made its way down from Leo Landry's shore. Many of the roads were flooded and debris covered. The owners of homes near the shoreline found themselves with a well watered lawn and plenty of debris.



*Dwight Sampson looking for the bridge at Richard's Pond
Thanks to Barbara Sampson for the photos.*

Bits & Bites:

- ... Happy 80th Birthday to Bernard Sampson and Blaise Boyd.
 - ... **Valentine Tea** Feb. 9th from 2-4 Seniors Bldg.
 - ... **Cribbage** every Mon. night 7pm, Seniors Bldg.
 - ... **45 Card** game every Sunday 7pm, Seniors Bldg.
 - ... **RBCSS** is selling tickets on **Spring Cleaning** your home - Up to 40 hours maximum. Ceilings, walls, dishes, cupboards etc. Tickets are \$10 or 3 for \$25. Call Sharon @ 2512 or Valerie @ 3308.
 - ... **Bingo** every Friday 7:45pm. Rising jackpot with \$500 consolation to go.
 - ... **Seniors Mini Bingo** Wed., Feb. 17th @ 1:30pm.
 - ... **Seniors Mtg.** Tuesday, Feb. 9th @ 1:30pm.
 - ... **CWL** meetings will resume in March.
 - ... **Next CAP Site Mtg.** Wed., Mar. 10th @ 7pm.
 - ... **RBCSS Mtg.** Wednesday, Feb. 24th @ 7pm.
 - ... **The RB CAP Site new web address is** http://ns4.seaside.ns.ca/~rbcap/roundup/roundup_archives.html
 - ... Anyone wishing to book the TLC should call Mike Fougere at 535-3308. People requiring use of the Funeral Home, call Marie & Conrad Fougere at 535-2621. Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 535-2939 to open the church for any special functions i.e. weddings, baptisms etc.
 - ... The Round Up is available at Bucky's Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$20.00 delivered in RB, \$30.00 within Canada and \$40.00 internationally per year.
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