

27TH ANNUAL HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR -

# COMING HOME

Sunday, September 12, 2021



*History Told, Lives Celebrated*





Joyce Bryant



Charles Foulkes



May Ward Rayment



Henry Duncan Graham Crerar



Cemetery Foundation  
Fondation du cimetière



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The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation presents:

# Coming Home

**T**his tour is held annually to acknowledge and applaud the contributions and accomplishments of the various people buried at Beechwood Cemetery.

COVID may have delayed the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 2 by one year, but it won't stop Beechwood from highlighting these important men and women. Hence the theme of "Coming Home", as it took a year to get everyone home from Europe.

While we aren't performing by graveside this year, people are welcome to visit the graves of those highlighted in the Annual Historical Tour. The map shows where these people are buried should you wish to visit them after the play. The grave will be marked with a Canadian flag.

Should you at any point get lost, the yellow and white lines on the road lead you to the St. Laurent gate (white) and the main building (yellow). If you are lost, you can call the office for directions 613-741-9530.

More notable people buried at Beechwood can be found in our Historical Portraits booklet, available both on our website and in hard copy at our main office. We welcome any suggestions you may have for additional people we can include there, and we're also always looking for suggestions for themes for future tours.

Thank you for joining us in 2021, and we hope you'll be back again next year.

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# JOYCE BRYANT

## Section 52, Range 16, Grave 6

Joyce Bryant (Née Turpin) was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, 3rd July 1922 to Constance Muriel and Norman Scott Turpin. Bryant was educated at Rupertsland Ladies College, an independent girl's school until 1935 when she was enrolled in St Mary's Academy.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Bryant worked as an air raid precaution warden with the Women's Voluntary Service. In 1943, Bryant enlists in the Royal Canadian Air Force (Women's Division) and served as secretary to the Director of RCAF Medical Services, Air Commodore A.G. Corbett, ED, CD, QHP. Bryant was awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division) in recognition of her meritorious service throughout the war.

Bryant was then posted to the Department of National Defence in Ottawa in 1946, where she continued to serve in the RCAF until she was transferred to Rideau Hall in 1951, where she served as clerical secretary to Field Marshal Lord Alexander of Tunis and then the Right Honourable Vincent Massey.

After a brief period as a private secretary to the retired Right Honourable Massey, Bryant returned to Rideau Hall. In 1967, the Order of Canada was established, and Bryant was the first permanent member of the Honours Secretariat staff. In 1973, Bryant was recognized for her dedication and service to Government House and was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada.

In 1977, Bryant married her dearest friend and love of her life Bertram Bryant, who passed away in March 1987. Bryant continued to work at Rideau Hall until 1992, having served under eight Governors General.

Retirement did not stop Bryant's public service, as she remained active in various voluntary organizations for fifty years, notably St. Bartholomew's Church, Altar Guild, Anglican Church Women of Canada (ACW), Royal Canadian Air Force Association and the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada. In later life, she gained a passion for writing and would author two books, *Slender Threats: A Memoir* (2007) and *Changes, Challenges, and Chats* (2015). Bryant passed away in her home surrounded by loved ones on the 4th of November, 2017, at the age of 95.



# Slender Threads

## A Memoir

Joyce Bryant, CM, BEM



With a Foreword  
by Christopher McCreery



# HENRY DUNCAN GRAHAM CRERAR

## Section 27, Range G, Grave 226

Born in Hamilton, Ontario on April 28, 1888, Crerar graduated from the Royal Military College at Kingston in 1910 and received a commission as an artillery officer. He took a position with the Ontario Hydro Electric Commission in Toronto, but continued to serve with the militia. At the outbreak of the First World War, Crerar was a Lieutenant in Toronto's 4th Battery, 2nd Brigade of the Non-Permanent Active Militia. He immediately joined Canada's First Division as an artillery officer, and was sent overseas with the First Contingent. He served in France with the 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, then later as the Brigadier Major for the 5th Canadian Divisional Artillery. Crerar was responsible for designing the largest and most successful creeping barrage towards the end of the war, at Canal du Nord. This three-day barrage successfully halted the final German advance. Crerar was awarded a Distinguished Service Order for this, and went on to finish the war as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Unlike many others, Crerar remained with the army after WWI. He attended the British Staff College and returned to Kingston to teach at the Royal Military College. He represented Canada at the 1932 Geneva Disarmament Conference and at the 1937 London Imperial Conference. By 1935, Crerar had been promoted to Colonel and made commandant of the Royal Military College.

Crerar is best remembered for his role in WWII, at the outbreak of which he was promoted to brigadier general. He went on to become chief of the General Staff in 1940 and a lieutenant general in 1941, when he commanded the First Corps. He assumed command of the First Canadian Army on March 20, 1944 and went on to become the first Canadian to gain the rank of full general while still in active service at the front.

The contribution of Crerar's troops to the Allied victory in Europe was immense; their victories had great bearing on the advances of Allied forces through France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

Crerar died in Ottawa on April 11, 1965.





General H.D.G. Crerar

Department of National Defence / National Archives of Canada, PA-166584.

# CHARLES FOULKES

Section 27, Range G, Grave 224

Born in the United Kingdom on January 3, 1903, Foulkes joined the Canadian Army as a private and was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Regiment in 1926. He rose through the ranks to become chief of the Canadian general staff in 1945. At 42, he was the youngest man ever to hold that position. He served with distinction during the Second World War on both the Western and Italian fronts. Following the war, he became the first Canadian appointed chairman of the chiefs of staff committee and served in that post until his retirement. General Charles Foulkes passed away in Ottawa on September 12, 1969.



Photograph by Jack H. Smith.

Department of National Defence National Archives of Canada, PA-133972.



# MARY WARD RAYMONT

## Section 64, Range G, Grave 119

Mary Ward Raymont was born in London, England to Sir Ashley Skelton Ward and Hilda Lewis Ward on January 17, 1917. Mrs. Raymont was educated at St John's School, Bexhill-on-Sea and Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Later in life she discovered she had been adopted from a Canadian family and brought to England.

During the Second World War, Mrs. Raymont served as Sergeant-Major with the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) which tasked women with a range of vital roles during the Second World War. Mrs. Raymont was given the task of driving military personnel to varied locations within the United Kingdom, usually in the blackout of night. She was also trained to fix motorcycles in the dark. ATS women were granted full military status, unlike in the First World War. In December 1941, conscription was extended to include women, who then either entered the ATS or went into nursing with the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Services.

On February 7, 1944, she married Robert Lewis Raymont, and in 1949 they moved to Ottawa, Canada, where her husband continued his military career.

Her work with the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE) included support for increased secondary education in northern Canada and, in 2007, she was presented with a Citation by Governor General Michaëlle Jean for her work as the longest-serving member of the Laurentian Chapter. She was a faithful parishioner at St Bartholomew's Church and her projects for the Church Bazaar were constant for over 70 years.

Mary Ward Raymont died peacefully at her home on February 13, 2021, aged 104.



Josephine Zildig.

Mary Ward Raymont  
Curtesy of her daughter Elizabeth Heatherington





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coming!*

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[www.beechwoodottawa.ca/en/donation](http://www.beechwoodottawa.ca/en/donation)

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