

Ellen, Emma and
Arthur John
Shepperd
Children by Bruce
Shepperd
Home Children

CANADA'S IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
PIER 21



Letter written to the Shepperd family in response to their request for further information about the three Shepperd children who were placed in one of Dr. Barnardo's Homes and subsequently sent to Canada. See scanned images and text about all three children.



ELLEN LUCY (NELLIE) OWEN (NEE SHEPPERD)

BORN: OCTOBER 14, 1897
DIED: FEBRUARY 5, 1984

CHILDREN: ALFRED ERNEST SHEPPERD (DECEASED)
BRUCE DONALD SHEPPERD
RUTH PATRICIA COMPEAU (NEE SHEPPERD)

RESIDED IN LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA. MOTHER WOULD NOT DISCUSS HER MARRIED LIFE. I UNDERSTAND ALFRED ERNEST WAS BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK. MOTHER MARRIED A JOHN STACKHOUSE FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, BUT WHEN BRUCE AND RUTH WERE BORN SHE REGISTERED MY SISTER AND I AS "SHEPPERD". IN LATER LIFE SHE MARRIED JAMES OWEN.

been baptised.

Barnardo's
Dr Barnardo's (a
Company Limited by
guarantee)
Reg Office: Tanners
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Ilford, Essex IG8 1QG

ACS/LFC/ML

1 February 1985

Shepperd Family

According to the
Barnardo records,
when Ellen Lucy and
Emma May Shepperd
were admitted to Dr
Barnardo's on 8th
December 1906 it is
recorded that Ellen
was born on 14th
December 1897 at
Portsmouth; and
Emma on 17th
November 1895, also
at Portsmouth and
both the girls had

When Arthur John Shepperd was admitted to Barnardo's on 7th September 1907 it is recorded that he had been born on 21st April 1899 at Portsmouth and had also been baptised into The Church of England.

The mother, Annie Mary Shepperd, aged 38, had been married to the father, Henry Shepperd but sadly he had died from apoplexy on 26th May 1905 at Portsmouth.

The father had been married before and by his former wife had had 11 children and by his second marriage, Emma and Ellen's mother he had had 10 children (only 8 named in our records). He had been a dealer in second hand articles especially in boots and shoes which he repaired and sold.

Following the admission of the two girls the mother's work had fallen off and she was in very poor circumstances. The mother endeavoured to obtain charing work and had been compelled to seek parish relief and because of her poor condition she pleaded that Arthur and the brother Ernest might be admitted. However, it was felt that although the mother had struggled bravely to support her children that admission for Arthur only be accepted.

Other relatives listed are the 3 brothers, Alfred aged 15 who was an errand boy; Frank aged 14 and Ernest aged 5 were all with the mother.



ARTHUR JOHN SHEPPERD

BORN: APRIL 21, 1899
DIED: SEPTEMBER 14, 1977

CHILDREN: BRUCE DONALD SHEPPERD (STEP-SON)
JAMES ARTHUR SHEPPERD
HELEN ANN SILLS
AILEEN VIOLA MILLS
JEAN LORETTA PROUSE
FRANKLIN JOHN SHEPPERD
ARTHUR DONALD SHEPPERD
RONALD ELWOOD SHEPPERD (DECEASED)

RESIDED IN MEAFORD, ONTARIO, CANADA. WORKED AS A FURNITURE REFINISHER IN KNIGHT'S FURNITURE FACTORY.

There were 2 sisters Annie J. aged 17 and Lily aged 2, also with the mother.



EMMA MAY WEBER (NEE SHEPPERD)

BORN: NOVEMBER 17, 1895
DIED: 1969

CHILDREN: PATRICK FRANKLIN WEBER
ISABELLE MacIVOR

FARMED IN ARTEMESIA TOWNSHIP IN GREY COUNTY, ONTARIO, CANADA.

There was a paternal uncle, George Shepperd aged 60 who was a labourer, though his address was not known.

There was a maternal uncle, William Clark aged 41 who was a brickmaker, though unemployed, and his address was not known either.

All ages are as at the time of admission in 1907.

When Ellen and Emma were admitted to Barnardo's they went to our Salmon Lane in the East End of London and then came to our Girls Village Home here at Barkingside prior to sailing on The SS Sicilian, arriving in Portland

on 10th March that year.

There is very little recorded about the girls once they arrived in Canada though we do know that Emma went to a Mr Paige in Vineland, Ontario and then to a Mrs Donaldson in Peterborough and later that year Emma wrote home saying she was very happy that home and had learnt to milk. The last record information was when Emma was living in Markdale, Ontario.

There is nothing recorded about Ellen except that she went to the employ of a Mrs Donaldson in Land, Ontario.

When Arthur came into Barnardo's he went to our Leopold House in the East End of London and then to our home in Felixstowe; prior to sailing to Canada on 21st May 1908 on The SS Dominion, arriving in Quebec on 31st May that year.

He was placed with a Mr Vanluvan of Novar, Ontario and was said to be active and willing and did fairly well. In 1911 it is recorded that the mother had written to Arthur, who was said to be bright, active and useful. In 1914 he went to the employ of a Mr Pearce of Sprucedale and continued to make excellent progress. He was said to be well behaved and thoroughly trustworthy. In 1928 it is recorded that Arthur was happy and prosperous and in touch with relatives. The last recorded information was a letter from him when he was living in Meaford, Ontario, and he sent a donation with this.

There is nothing further recorded in our records.

Miss L F Clargo
Deputy Head of After Care