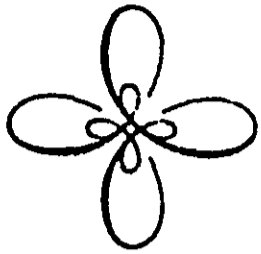
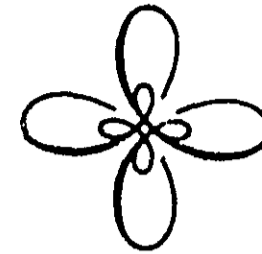


# THE ADOPTION



# RECTANGLE



Parent Finders-Hamilton, Box 221, Jerseyville, Ont. LOR-1R0  
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Parent Finders-Hamilton has been threatening for some time to put out a newsletter, to keep everyone informed as to what is new in Hamilton. I'm sure you all know the old excuse.. "We're too busy". I'm happy to say, that keeping busy has paid off for us, with a total of 9 reunions at our April meeting, 5 in May, and 8 in June. We are glad to see that more adoptees are bringing out their adoptive parents to our meetings. A sincere welcome to all. Our meetings are still on the first Thursday of each month, at 8 p.m. at Olivet United Church (upstairs) at the corner of Empress St. and Prince George St. (just off Upper James below Fennell Ave.) Our next meetings are on Aug. 5th, and Sept. 2nd. All members of the adoption rectangle are welcome...adoptees and fostered people; birthparents; adoptive parents; and social workers. See you there!

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ALL MEMBERS...PLEASE... Be sure to bring back the books that you have borrowed from our PF lending library. There are other people waiting to read these books. If you are unable to attend the next meeting, please mail them back to us. Thank you.

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In May, Parent Finders Inc. of Ontario, held a workshop at the Natl. Adoption Conference at McMaster University, in Hamilton. The conference was run by Parents Concerned. Our panel was on disclosure search and reunion. The panel consisted of Mary Jane Brinkos, an adoptee and adoptive parent; Carol, an adoptee; and Doris, a birth-mother; and Audrey Scammell (Pres. PF-Hamilton), an adoptive parent and former foster parent. Our panel discussion opened they eyes of many adoptive parents and social workers. I really think that they expected to meet a bunch of placard-toting radicals, and were actually quite relieved and pleased to learn that we are civilized human beings who believe in respect for all members of the adoption rectangle, and that we handle our searches and reunions with disgression.

Parent Finders-Hamilton is now having a more personal contact with many social workers across Ontario. Some agencies, when approached by an adoptee or birthparent seeking information, tells them to enter their name in the Parent Finders registry, in case the other party is registered with us. It is working out great, and we would like to thank the social workers who have been doing this, as our registry is growing in leaps and bounds, and we have been having more reunions because of both parties registering with us.

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On June 8th, Audrey was asked by the Hamilton Catholic C.A.S. to speak to a group of prospective adoptive parents, at their workshop, with discussions about disclosure, search and reunion. They were most receptive and understanding, and very open minded. I'm happy to say, that there was not one person there, who objected to

their adopted child knowing his natural heritage, at adulthood. Thanks to Margaret Woods and Beatrice Kemp for their invitation, and Audrey is looking forward to future meetings with them.

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Many members have been asking, "When will adoption records be opened?" and have been told "In the near future" and "Not too far down the road" But the question is, "WHEN?" No one seems to know for sure. But until they do, we will have to keep our noses to the grindstone, and work on your search. BUT...when you have located your birthparents....PLEASE...DO NOT make the contact until you have received your final counselling from Audrey. If the contact is done indiscreetly, you may blow the one and only chance that you had, and disrupt someone's life, with irreparable damage. REMEMBER.....IT MUST BE DONE RIGHT!! If it is done properly, with discession, your chances are much better for a good and honest relationship with your birthparent.

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Parent Finders groups across Canada are amazed at the number of telephone books that we hold in our PF-Hamilton library. They are easier to come by than one might think. All it takes is a single call to your local telephone Co. office, (library divn.) Mention that we are a non-profit organization, and are in the process of establishing a research library, and that you require old and current telephone books. In the past, these telephone directories were shredded, or discarded, but the telephone companies would rather see them put to good use in a library. Hamilton has many duplicates, which we pass on to other groups across Canada. Any group that would like any of these duplicates, kindly contact our office. Postage for the average telephone book has leaped from 87¢ to \$4.96. WOW!! So, please enclose postage, as like everyone else, we operate on a shoe-string budget. If you should over-estimate the cost of postage, the balance will be returned to you. This offer is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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CONGRATULATIONS !



We are very proud of our past-President, Wendie Redmond, and member Sherry Sleightholm, on the publication of their new book, "Once Removed". The publisher is McGraw-Hill-Ryerson. The book is now on sale in most bookstores, and selling like hotcakes. Many bookstores in our area are sold out and waiting for restocking. Therefore, we have purchased a number of these books from the publisher and are selling them through PF-Hamilton to keep up with the demand. The book sells for \$9.95 and the postage is 90¢. Please make your money order payable to: PARENT FINDERS-HAMILTON. Our best wishes to Wendie and Sherry, and hope we can help to make it a best seller.

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REUNIONS

Of our 8 reunions at our last meeting, two of these were matches in the PF-Hamilton reunion registry...Elizabeth, with her birthfather, and Marianne with a full sister, who was fostered. BONUS..Marianne discovered that she is one of ten children, and her sister has contact with most of them, and the birthparents. One member has completed her search, but does not desire contact with her birthmother at this time. She is quite content with "just knowing". Gail has completed her search for her birthfather, only to learn that he passed away.



My adoptive mother had recently died and it seemed as if I needed to know if my "other" mother was still alive. My adoptive mother and I were very close and could talk about most things, with the exception of my adoption. Like many adopted children, I felt I couldn't discuss this with her as it would upset her and make her think that I didn't love her. I think I had a very good relationship with both of my adoptive parents, (my father died 23 years ago) and they informed me very early of my adoption, but didn't dwell on it. Thanks to Clare Marcus' book, "Adopted?" a Canadian Guide for Adopted Adults in Search of their Origins", I knew where to write for my background info. The information took about 3 months to come, and was quite detailed. A strange feeling to read this information about my birthparents and grandparents....a voice from the past! We seemed to share many of the same interests. In August 1980, I joined Parent Finders-Hamilton. They sent all the information I had, including a copy of my adoption order with my birthname, and my birthmothers name to Parent Finders in B.C. Then the waiting began! It was frustrating not to be able to do anything myself, since I was so far away from the beginning of it all. There were many exchanges of letters between myself and Mrs. Chapple in Vancouver, who worked so diligently on my case, exploring the different avenues of approach. The real break-through came by chance in April 1981. Joan Vanstone happened to be going through some Calgary obituaries, and found my grandfather's name. It gave his daughters names and the rest of the information seemed to fit the information I had. After a further delay trying to contact my birthmother through her sister, Audrey Scammell, head of PF-Hamilton finally made the initial contact with my birthmother, in June 1981. She was very excited and happy, and said she had always wondered about me....if I'd had a good home, loving parents, and wanted to talk to me. So of course I then called her...it was extremely exciting...it is difficult at the time to realize it is actually happening. I found out that I have a half-brother and neices and nephews, which is very nice after having been an only child.

I had already made plans to go out to B.C. in July, so decided to continue with these plans, then go to California to see Ruth. While I was in B.C. I met my mother's sister and my "step" grandmother. By the time I arrived in California, Ruth and I had calmed down somewhat, so we had a very nice visit for 8 days and tried to catch up on the last 42 years and get to know each other. How wonderful at last to meet someone with many of the same physical features. It is unfortunate that Ruth and I are so far away, and Ruth has been seriously ill for a number of years so she really cannot travel too far. We do, however, keep in touch regularly by phone and mail. I went down again during the Christmas holidays to see her. I was very warmly welcomed by everyone in Ruth's family. Also, my adoptive family and friends have been very supportive and happy for me to have found Ruth, and have thought it the natural thing to do. I realize I have been very fortunate this way. This past fall I made contact with my birthfather's family - although my birthfather himself died 4 years ago, - and I am hoping to meet them before too long.

I can't thank Parent Finders enough and the individuals involved in my search, who made it all possible. At times it still seems like a dream, but when I receive warm letters from my new family, I realize again, it is indeed "real". THANK YOU PARENT FINDERS!!

Linda

(a)

CONTENTS OF PARENT FINDERS-HAMILTON LIBRARY

Duplicates of telephone books available to other groups: (Please include postage)

BRANTFORD:

Sept 1978 - 1 copy  
Nov. 1979 - 1 copy  
Aug. 1980 - 5 copies

HAMILTON

Dec. 1980 - 1 copy  
Dec. 1981 - 3 copies

Halton-Peel

Feb. 1979 - 1 copy  
Feb. 1980 - 1 copy  
Feb. 1981 - 1 copy

TORONTO

APRIL 1981 - 2 copies

KITCHENER-WATERLOO

Mar. 1980 - 6 copies  
Mar. 1981 - 1 copy

YELLOW PAGES

Toronto, York & E. York 1980 - 1 copy  
North York, 1980 - 1 copy

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PARENT FINDERS-HAMILTON HAS IN THEIR LIBRARY:

CITY DIRECTORIES: (Ontario Cities)

Barrie - 1963, 1971, 1974, 1976  
Belleville - 1978  
Brantford - 1955 1957 1969 1970 1972 1974 1977 1978 1979 1980  
Brockville - 1980  
Chatham - 1977  
Galt-Preston (Cambridge) 1962 1965 1969 1970 1972-73-74-75-77-79-80  
Fort Erie - 1976 1976  
Guelph - 1977 1978 1979 1980 & 1970  
Hamilton & area...see separate listing.  
Kingston - 1978  
Kitchener-Waterloo 1950 1965 1970 1972-73-74-75-76-77-78-79  
London - 1951-53-54-60-62-65-68-70-72-73-74-75-77-78-80  
Lindsay - 1972 1979  
Niagara Falls - 1960 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980  
North Bay - 1974 1960 1962  
Orillia - 1963 1971 1976  
Oshawa-Whitby - 1968 1969 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1977 1978 1979  
Ottawa - 1969 1976  
Owen Sound 1964 1977  
Pembroke 1978  
Peterborough 1978 1980  
Sarnia - 1977 1978  
Sault Ste. Marie - 1967 1970 1975 1977 1978 1979 1980  
Simcoe - 1971 1974 1977  
St. Catharines - 1974 1977 1978 1979  
St. Thomas - 1973 1977 1979  
Stratford - 1967 1977 1979  
Sudbury - 1968 1974 1975 1977 1979 1980  
Timmins - 1963  
Thunder Bay - 1978  
Toronto - 1955 1970 1972 1977  
Toronto E. and N.E. - 1958 1965  
Trenton - 1978  
Wallaceburg 1975  
Welland-Port Colborne - 1969 1970 1972 1974 1975 1977 1978 1979 1980  
Windsor - 1958 1959 1963 1964 1975 1976 1977 1978  
Woodstock - 1968

(b)

CITY DIRECTORIES (cont'd)

CITY OF HAMILTON

1915 1918 1919 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939  
1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953  
1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967  
1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981

HAMILTON SUBURBAN DIRECTORIES (Ancaster, Dundas, Stoney Crk, Burlington)

1957 1961 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974  
1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982

CITY DIRECTORIES (Other than Ontario)

Halifax-Dartmouth - 1975  
Montreal, Quebec. - 1976 (Vol I & Vol II)  
Nanaimo, B.C. - 1977  
Regina, Sask. - 1978  
Vancouver, B.C. - 1978  
Victoria, B.C. (& suburbs) 1973  
Winnipeg, Man. - 1978

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TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES IN PARENT FINDERS-HAMILTON LIBRARY

ONTARIO

Barrie - 1975 1979 1980  
Belleville - 1979 1980  
Brantford & area - 1973 1974 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Brockville-Smiths Falls - 1979 1980  
Chatham-Wallaceburg - 1976 1980  
Cobalt...see Tri-Town  
Cochrane - 1978  
Cornwall - 1978 1980  
Dunnville - 1976-1977; 1977-78; 1978-79; 1981  
Halton-Peel - 1975 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Hamilton-Wentworth - 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1974 1975  
1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982  
Kapusking - 1977 1979 1980  
Kenora-Keewatin - 1979 1980 1981  
Kingston - 1976 1979 1980  
Kirkland Lake...see Tri-Town  
Kitchener...see Waterloo  
Lindsay-Peterborough - 1974 1976 1980 1981  
London - St. Thomas - 1977 1980  
Muskoka (Huntsville) 1972 1979 1980  
New Liskeard...see Tri-Town  
Niagara Region - 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981  
North Bay 1978 1980  
Oshawa-Durham Region - 1976 1977 1980 1981  
Ottawa-Hull 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Owen Sound - 1977 1978 1979  
Sarnia - 1978 1980  
Sault St. Marie (Algoma Region) 1978 1980  
Stratford - 1980  
Sudbury - 1979 1980 1981 1982  
Timmins 1978 1980  
Toronto 1974 1976 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Tri-Town 1979 1980  
Waterloo Region - 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Windsor - 1976 1977 1978 1980 1981  
York Region - 1979 1980 1981

(c)  
TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES (cont'd)

Labrador - 1981

NEWFOUNDLAND

Eastern & Central Nfld - 1979 1980 1981  
Western Nfld - 1979 1980 1981  
Newfoundland - 1981

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND - 1979

NOVA SCOTIA

Cape Breton - 1977 1979  
Amherst, New Glasgow, Pictou - 1980  
Halifax-Dartmouth - 1979 1980  
Western Nova Scotia - 1975 1976 1978  
Anapolis Valley 1979  
South Shore - 1979 1980  
North Eastern N.S. - 1978 1979  
Glace Bay-New Waterford - 1980

NEW BRUNSWICK

Bathurst - 1979 1980  
Boiseton-Doaktown-Stanley - 1979 1980 1981  
Cambellton - 1979 1980 1981  
Caraquet - 1979 1980  
Chatham - 1979 1980  
Chipman-Minto 1979 1980  
Dalhousie - 1979 1980  
Edmundston 1980  
Fredricton - 1977 1979 1980  
Kedgwick-St. Quentin - 1979 1980 1981  
Minto - 1978 1979  
Moncton - 1979 1980  
Perth-Andover - 1979  
St. John - 1977 1978 1979 1980  
St. Stephen - 1979 1980

MANITOBA

Winnipeg - 1977 1979 1980 1981  
Manitoba - 1976 1978 1980

SASKATCHEWAN

Melville-Yorkton - 1977  
Regina - 1979 1980  
Saskatoon - 1978  
Moose Jaw - 1979 1981

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Prince Rupert - 1978 1979 1980  
Prince George - 1978 1979  
Northern B.C. & Yukon - 1978 1979 1981  
Penticton - 1981  
Williams Lake - 1979 1980 1981  
Quesnel - 1980 1981  
Victoria - 1978 1979 1980  
Vancouver - 1977 1978 1979 1980

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TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES (cont'd)

QUEBEC

Baie-Comeau - 1975  
Baie-St. Paul - 1980  
Buckingham - 1979 1980  
Drummondville - 1978 1979 1980 1981  
Haute Gatineau - 1978 1980  
Joliette - 1979 1981  
LaMaurice - 1978 1980 1981  
Laurentian Region - 1979 1980  
Montreal - 1976 1978 1979 1980 (yellow pages) also 1981  
Montreal - (south shore) - 1978  
Montreal (west suburban) - 1978 1980  
Quebec - 1980  
Riviere du Loop - 1979 1980  
Sherbrooke - 1979 1980 1981  
Sorel - 1979 1980  
Ste. Hyacinthe - 1979 1980  
Thetford Mines-Victoriaville - 1979 1980 1981  
Valleyfield - 1979 1980  
Victoriaville - see Thetford Mines

ALBERTA

Banff - 1980  
Lethbridge - 1978 1979 1980  
Medicine Hat - 1978 1979 1980  
Central District - 1977 1978 1979 1980  
Calgary - 1979  
Calgary district - 1980 1981  
Grande Prairie/Peace River - 1978 1980  
Northern district - 1978 1979  
Edmonton - 1978 1979 1980 1981

YUKON

See Northern British Columbia book.

INUGNIITUNUT

1980 (In both English and Eskimo)

ENGLAND

Brighton - 1978  
London - 1978 (Vols. I, II, III, IV.)  
London - 1978 Yellow Pages for Central London  
Southampton - 1979 (white and yellow pages)

\*\* Because of storage space, all our telephone directories for U.S.A. have been donated to the Parent Finders Inc. of Ontario, for their library, which is held in Toronto.