

DR. WILLIAM BROCK  
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Dr. Brock was born in 1844, March 26th, at Scarboro, of Irish descent. He taught school at Wardsville before studying medicine. After graduating from Toronto University, he practiced in Rodney for a few months before moving to West Lorne, about 1874, where he remained until his death in January, 1916, at the age of 72 years.

He was twice married; first wife was Barbara McCallum, daughter of John McCallum of Duart, Ontario. She died May 11, 1880. There was one son by this marriage, William John Brock, who passed away at the age of 37 on active service with the 134 Regiment of 48th Highlanders in Aldershot, England, during the First World War.

His second marriage, November 3, 1883, was to Mary Jane Dundas, daughter of Gustavus and Annie Dundas of Banner, Ontario. Mrs. Brock passed away on May 11, 1928. Their children were: Mrs. C.C. Keele (Annie) of Toronto, and Mrs. M.R. Hunchberger (Gustie) of Niagara Falls, Ontario, and Harold Dundas Brock who was drowned in New York Harbour during the First World War.

Dr. Brock was an Anglican, and was the rector's warden during his residence in West Lorne. He was reeve of West Lorne for several years. He was a staunch Conservative and was president of the West Elgin Conservative Club for years. It was he who induced the late Hon. Finlay G. Macdiarmid to run for member of the Ontario Legislature.

Written by: Mrs. M.R. Hunchberger, daughter

DR. D.F. McDONALD  
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Dr. McDonald came to Rodney from Ilderton, Ontario, in 1879. He built a very fine residence, office and drug store, now being occupied by John Sabolsky, and the W.L. Garton and Son Grocery. He had a very heavy practice, employing a man to care for his horses and to do his night driving, so he could nap along the road.

He died in 1894, at the early age of 50 years, and is buried in Rodney Cemetery.

There was one daughter, Elizabeth, first wife of J.J. Mistele. Their two sons, Charles and Hugh, both graduated as doctors and opened an office in Rodney, where they practiced for a short time. The building was on the site of the present Royal Bank, and was burned in 1893, when a disastrous fire swept away everything on the East side of the Furnival Road from the present Drug Store to the new Library.

After this, the two doctors went to the United States.

DR. HECTOR McLEAN PATERSON  
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Dr. Paterson was born on the first farm west on Back Street, joining Rodney and Aldborough Township, May 24, 1869, the youngest son of Lachlan and Jean McLean Paterson.

His grandfather, Donald Paterson, and his grandmother, Lilly McKay Paterson, and his great grandfather, John Paterson, were among the very early settlers here, coming from Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1818. The first farm settled by them was the birthplace of Dr. Paterson. His grandfather set apart a portion of the land on his farm to be used for a public cemetery for many years. Many of the Paterson Clan are buried there. His father built a very fine home on this farm nearly a hundred years ago--at that time it was counted as one of the finest homes in Aldborough--a white frame house with green shutters (the first house in Aldborough that had shutters). This house burned in 1939.

The doctor's father took his bride, Jean McLean, to this home in 1854. They had a large family--~~six~~ sons and four daughters. All have passed away except Lilly, Mrs. Alfred Goodwin, who celebrated her 95th birthday June 5, 1953, and is still active and bright.

Dr. Paterson attended Rodney Public School (a building which the present one replaced) and Ridgetown High School, and Toronto University, from which he obtained his medical degree in June 1895. He practiced medicine in Rodney, where his first office was above the Dr. Munger Drug store, until 1900. Then he bought the old Barber home (just south of the present Patterson Hardware Store) and remodeled it. On June 12, 1901, he married Minnie Bishop of Kincardine. His office was connected to his house, and he had a very fine practice until his sudden death February 22, 1941.

Dr. Paterson continued

His widow resides in Rodney, and is still very active.

They had no family.

Dr. Paterson is buried in Rodney Cemetery. His parents are buried in the Paterson Cemetery on Back Street on the farm where he was born. They were the last people to be buried in that cemetery.

Written by: Mrs. H.McL. Paterson

DR. THOMAS IVISON BARNBY

Dr. Barnby was born at Maryborough in Wellington Township, December 1, 1897. His parents were Robert Hunter Barnby, B.D.S.T.D., and Fanny Ivison. As a child he lived in Brigdon, Milverton, Belmont, Lambeth, Lucan, where his father was a minister.

He got his High School education at London Central Collegiate Institute and Lucan High School. From the latter he obtained his senior matriculation in 1916. He graduated from The Ontario College Of Education in Toronto, 1917; then joined the Cadet Royal Canadian Naval Air Service and served in the First World War. He taught school for a short time in Toronto, and entered University of Western Ontario from which he graduated in Medicine in 1925. Dr. Barnby interned at Victoria Hospital 1925-1926, and started general practice in Rodney, where he remained 1926-1940. He took several post-graduate courses in United States and Canada. He moved to Windsor in 1940.

On June 4, 1927, Dr. Barnby married Effie Marshall Wilson, of London. They have two daughters, Patricia Ann and Janet. They are now living at 1909 Verdun Avenue, Walkerville, Ontario, with office in the Medical Arts Building, Windsor.

DR. JOHN G. WHITTEKER M.D.L.M.C.C.

Dr. Whitteker was born in Morrisburg, Ontario, and went to Winnipeg in 1916. He graduated from the Manitoba Medical College in 1930. For ten years he practiced in the West, then came to Rodney in 1940, when he bought the practice of Dr. T.I. Barnby.

Dr. and Mrs. Whitteker and son Jack live in a fine brick residence on the corner of Stinson and Clark streets. Dr. Whitteker was interested in horticulture and his lawn was very picturesque.

His office was in his basement, equipped with X-ray, and all modern equipment. He was Coronor for this district. He also served on the High School Board when the New District High School at West Lorne was started.

In April 1953, Dr. Whitteker's health failed, and after several operations he was forced to close his office and he and his family spent several months in Florida.

Written by: Mrs. J.C. Whitteker

DR. HAROLD McCANN  
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Dr. McCann was born at Dutton, 1919, where he attended school. In 1940 he entered University of Western Ontario, and graduated from the Medical School in 1946. He interned in Ottawa Civic Hospital and came to Rodney in March 1947.

He married Yvonne Duckworth of St. Thomas September 25, 1948. He bought the late J.J. Mistele's house on Stinson Street, where he has a fine office attached to his house. He has a very fine practice. This is the first time in many years that Rodney has had only one doctor.

TEMPERANCE LODGE 1874

In 1874, the Rodney Evergreen Templars' Lodge, No.672 was formed in the Rodney Township Hall. A strong, active group of men and women met weekly and pledged themselves not to touch, taste or handle spirituous liquors of any kind.

In 1893, at two o'clock in the morning of January 11, fire broke out in the Erie Hotel, corner of Furnival Road and Queen Street, which was operated by Mrs. Smith and son Ed. It was cold and stormy, with much snow on the ground; but in spite of this most of the villagers hastened to the rescue. They carried everything movable to safety, including several packages of liquor, which later could not be found.

Many of the Templars at this time handled goods that they had pledged not to touch, and at the next meeting of their lodge, strong discussions, accusations, and reprimands caused a large number to withdraw their membership. Not long afterward the organization was dissolved.

Written by: E.G. Lusty

*E. G. Lusty*