



# Street Stories

## Pakenham Place

GPS: [49.1149670,-122.2619066](#)

Long before Mission existed, King George III gave a large silver cup to a family called the Pakenhams. They were of aristocratic blood and counted the Duke of Wellington among their relatives. Then, in 1902, a member of this family—a Frederick Edward Pakenham—settled in Hatzic and became a fruit farmer.

Born in Ireland about 1871, Pakenham was educated in Cheltenham College, England and married a Nancy Yeomans.



*Tom Pakenham, son of Frederick awarding coveted Pakenham Cup to veteran soccer player Paddy Moran, a member of the Bradner Redshirts which beat Mission City 1-0 in 1958.*

Remembered as “genial and good-hearted,” Pakenham was active in the community, acting as band master for the Mission Community Band and as a member of the Mission Black Perceptory, the local company of militia.

In 1911, he sold his land and joined the 131 Battalion. Eventually Pakenham would serve in World War I, before returning to Canada to live out his final years in New Westminster, where he died of pneumonia in 1923.

However, this man’s memory lives on in Mission--not just with the Hatzic street that bears his name, but for an act of generosity he performed in 1909. In that year, he donated the family heirloom—the silver cup—for a soccer competition to be held annually in Mission for Valley teams east of New Westminster.

The Pakenham Cup has been called the ‘Granddaddy’ of soccer cups in Canada. It remains second only to the Stanley Cup as the oldest sports trophy in the country, having been in contention now for over 100 years, though the competition was suspended during World War I.

Amazingly, this cup has a habit of getting lost. It vanished for the first time in 1927 and remained lost for 21 years until it turned up in a second-hand store. In 1966, an interleague dispute led to the cup being hidden and a rumor spread that the trophy had been stolen by vandals. A substitute was bought and used until 1971 when, mysteriously, the original cup was recovered.

Another oddity of the cup occurred in 1951, when the final game of the competition ran to more than four hours and the two teams—Bradner and Mission—decided to call it a draw and share the honors.

*By David Buss;*