

Overview of *Moonrakers at Peace and War*

Writing in her comprehensive book about the farm labourers of Wiltshire, Avice Wilson summarized her thoughts on farm labourers who emigrated in the 19th century, “A population of Moonrakers came into existence in many parts of the world, their rate of success unknown; but their harsh background (in Wiltshire) must have equipped them to deal with the worst adversities emigrants had to face.”¹

Moonrakers at Peace and War is about the lives of four generations of Moonrakers, the Hardings from Hindon, Wiltshire, and the Garretts from Warminster-Bugley, Wiltshire, who emigrated from England to the New World. The adversities faced by the Hardings and Garrett families were similar to those encountered by hundreds of thousands of immigrants arriving in North America in the 19th century. Through imagined conversations we learn about the Moonraker families and come to appreciate their contributions in the face of poverty, war, disease and death.



Brooke Broadbent has degrees in Adult Education, Canadian history and is the author of over 100 articles about history, personal growth, education and training. This is the fifth book he has published in Canada, the United States and Great Britain.

Moonrakers at Peace and War is about time and place, but it is also about people, the kind of people who pull up stakes and take their chances in a new country. This book puts faces on our collective history. An intriguing Canadian family portrait.
Rita Donavan, author

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¹ Avice Wilson, , *Forgotten Labour, the Wiltshire agricultural worker and his environment 4500 BC to AD 1950*, 2007, p. 246.

