

It's Bronze for St. Patrick's A witty and lively speaker, Dave DelPapa, highlights our meeting Thursday March 17th in the Milton Public Library. Dave will describe how unusual bronze workings are made. And he will show some of the pieces from his personal collection. Why not arrive at 7:30 and have a cup of coffee and chat with friends before the program gets under way. We'll see you March 17th at the Library.

Date Set for Our House Tour Robin Barbetta has taken the first steps on the road to our house tour. The date for the big event is Saturday, September 10th. Robin is ~~anxious~~ anxious that all members set aside that day. It's an ambitious undertaking and Robin will need all the volunteers she can get to make a success of the venture.

LACAC IS ON ITS WAY Our Society is well represented on Milton's newly-formed Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. At the Committee's first meeting March 1st, Don Hayward was elected chairman and Val Grimshaw, vice-chairman. Other Society members on the nine-member committee are Len McNeil and Councillor Blanche Hinton, who represents the town administration. June Andrews, who headed up the Campbellville Historical Society and who spoke to us some months ago on the compilation of Campbellville's local history book, is another member of the Milton LACAC.

Val Grimshaw Elected to Third Term At our January meeting Val Grimshaw was elected President of the Society-- it's Val's third term. Other members of the executive elected were: Vice-Presidents Don Hayward and Audrea Lear-Costigan; Treasurer Jessie Hamilton; Secretary Jean Butts; Special Events Director Robin Barbetta; Publicity Director Ken Lamb. Jim Dills is Past President. Mel Robinson is Research Director.

Also at the January meeting the recently appointed curator of Halton Regional Museum, Ernie Buchner, gave every indication that the Museum is going to be a lively local centre. Ernie has all sorts of plans for co-operation with schools, community groups, our Society and others. Watch for some interesting new programs at the Museum.

Let's Hear It for the Researchers Mel Robinson has been working hard at his research lately. As a result quite a few more of the Society's plaques will soon be appearing on downtown buildings. One of these is the former Thompson House on Main Street-- also formerly known as the Ford Hotel and the Farmers Building. This building was the site of a Halton County Council meeting in 1855. Mel has also done the research on Marjorie Powys' home at Mill and James Streets; the former Dr. McColl home at 75 Victoria; the Downs family home at 75 Mary Street; and Mrs. Raspberry's one-time private nursing home at 72 Martin Street.

Meanwhile Bus Norrington has started researching pioneer farms in rural Milton. The Canadian Champion carried an interesting article on Bus' new role.

Rave Reviews for Dinner Theatre The Milton Players made history February 25th and 26th with their first dinner-dance-theatre date. Our Society gave the event solid support-- a party of 20 attended the Friday performance. Val Grimshaw rated the evening "great fun". President Penny Saddington of the Milton Players was extremely pleased with the turnout both evenings. Looks like a tradition in the making.

Double feature We'll enjoy an unusual program at our June 16 meeting -- the last session before the summer break. We'll start the evening with a tour of the Consumers Glass Company plant on Chisholm. Meet at the plant at 6:45 Thursday June 16. If you need a ride please call Robin Barbetta at 878 1871. Incidentally Robin has this advice: be sure to wear closed-toe shoes. The Company insists on these for getting around the plant. We'll take about 45 minutes visiting this modern plant. Then we're off to Bus Norrington's for coffee, cookies and conversation. Sounds like a great evening.

Busy September We have a busy and exciting September ahead of us. Two outstanding events--the House Tour Saturday September 10 and the Festival of Countries Saturday September 17. Please reserve these dates-- the program organizers will need your help. Specials events director Robin Barbetta says eight houses have been confirmed for the tour which last from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. September 10. Tickets are priced at \$6. Royal Trust's real estate division is printing the tickets and brochures for us. Robin is anxious to line up volunteers for the day-- why not call her at 878 1871 and reserve your spot. And please invite your friends and relatives to attend the house tour.

Fall Festival Audrea Lear-Costigan is already busy planning the Society's program for the Festival of Countries Saturday September 17. We will again be holding forth at the Town Hall with a theme of "Canada 1983". More details a little later. Right now Audrea reminds us that the Canadian Pavilion will be operating from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Which means there's an opportunity for all of us to help out at our Town Hall activities while still having time to enjoy the many other interesting Pavilions.

Hear This! Historical groups like ours are paying increasing attention to oral history. In our organization, Len McNeil is interested in this work and we'll soon be hearing the evidence. Len has completed taping an interview with Charlie Anderson, whose Main Street barbershop is the oldest family business in Town. Slides taken by Len illustrate many of the chief points of the interview. Look forward to seeing and hearing this at a meeting this fall.

75th Anniversary Jim Dills is planning a program November 17 to mark the 75th anniversary of a leading Milton industry, P.L. Robertson. Len McNeil is hoping to tape an interview with a Company executive for the occasion.

Silver Start-up It's that time of year again. The Society's regular programs

begin Thursday, September 22. We'll meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Milton Public Library. Our guest speaker is Oakville writer and lecturer Cindy LeBrocq. Her specialty is "antique silver"-- and she'll describe many of its fascinations with the help of several of her pieces. Cindy comes highly recommended. Val Grimshaw has heard her and describes Cindy as powerful and amusing. Let's all turn out and get the season off to a strong start.

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Festival of Countries Audrea Lear-Costigan has completed arrangements for the

Society's participation in the Festival of Countries program Saturday September 17. Once again we're sponsoring the Canadian Pavilion at the Town Hall. Our "corner" of this popular show will feature movies of various Provinces as well as a ventriloquist and other entertainers. Once again Audrea has succeeded in lining up interesting prizes for our draw, including a weekend trip. It's hard to find a better entertainment bargain than the Festival of Countries - a whole day's entertainment for a \$3.50 Passport.

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House Tour Re-visited Special events director Robin Barbetta is still working hard

to put together a complete report on our House Tour September 10. But early signs are all favorable. The house owners seemed pleased. Society volunteers looked happy-- especially at the Grimshaws' get-together for helpers after the event. And unaudited figures indicate we took in more money than we spent. Some homes had more than 200 visitors. For our guests it was a six-hour event. But for the Society, and especially for Robin and President Val Grimshaw, it represented many months of work. And how's this for enthusiasm? Val says four homeowners already have stated they "wouldn't mind" having their houses included in our 1985 tour!

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Historic Surveys Early land surveys in this region-- coming after work done by

the British military-- form an intriguing chapter in local histories. At our October 20 meeting in the Milton Library we'll hear from Richard Jordan, a member of a survey firm that traces its local roots to 1837. He'll give an illustrated presentation on surveying during the mid 1800's. Planning and settlement of our neighboring community of Norval will be given feature treatment in Mr. Jordan's presentation.

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P.L. Robertson Night This is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the important

P.L. Robertson firm in Milton. Our November 17 meeting in the Library will pay tribute to this industrialist who played such a key role in the development of our town and of industry generally. Jim Dills is gathering material for the program. If you knew Mr. Robertson and have a choice anecdote or two, Jim would love to hear from you. His telephone number is 878 6061.

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Dates to Remember Please mark these dates on your calendar so you won't miss any

of our coming programs: Thursday Sept. 22 (Cindy LeBrocq); Thursday Oct. 20 (Richard Jordan); Thursday Nov. 17 (P.L. Robertson Night); Thursday Dec. 15 (Christmas Party and a movie); Thursday Jan. 19 (Annual General Meeting). See you there!

Our Christmas meeting will be Wednesday December 14 at the Library, starting at 7:30. Come and exchange greetings with your friends. Enjoy Milton's Madrigal Singers, as well as the movie "Olden Days Coat", a delightful story by novelist Margaret Laurence. Refreshments, too, of course. If you would like to donate some cookies, or other edibles, by all means bring them along.

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A double feature for our Annual Meeting, Wednesday January 18, 7:30 at the Library. Len McNeil presents his slide presentation featuring Charlie Anderson, whose barbershop is the oldest business on Main Street. Charlie's father opened the shop before World War I. Len's slides trace the Anderson family from their roots in the Old Country.. then follow Charlie on a walk from his home to the shop as he comments on many of the buildings en route. Charlie also recalls many events of a long career.

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In the business part of the meeting, President Val Grimshaw will review what has been a most successful year. And we'll be electing a new slate of officers for 1984. If you wish to nominate someone for any position, contact Val. But please make sure you have the consent of the person being nominated.

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All out for P.L. Our November meeting to honour industrialist P.L.

Robertson and the company's 75th anniversary, was one of the best attended events ever. More than 100 people came, many of them present or former employees. Jim Dills and Len McNeil made excellent presentations. Another feature was the unusual display of early Annual Reports, group photos and newspaper clippings. Many people helped make the evening a success: Oliver Hull, Norm Stover, Bruce Kitchen, Joe and Ed Gooch, Doug Ptolemy, Wilf Gazley-- all Robertson people. Former Company president Gordon MacKenzie impressed the meeting with his keen memory of corporate affairs. Doug Hill-- a one-time "P.L." employees as was his father, Cliff-- video-taped the meeting.

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Research Flourishes This has been a banner year for honoring historic homes. Ten plaques are ready to be nailed up-- that's 20 for the year and 30 in all. Val Grimshaw and Mel Robinson say the program is now moving ahead on its own momentum-- people are clamoring (virtually) to have their homes researched. Meanwhile, Bus Norrington has studies under way on seven district farms.

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Cemetery Restoration Thanks to our successful house tour this fall the Restoration Fund now stands at \$2500.

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Reminder February meeting is Wednesday the 15th at the Library. After that we hope to get back to our traditional "third Thursday".

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HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FRIENDS.