

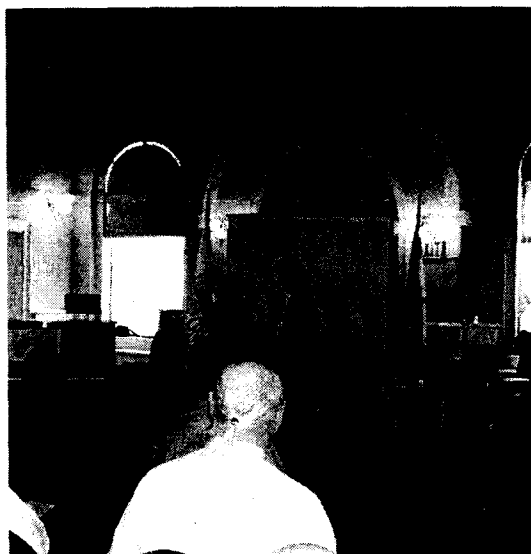


The Journal

Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4 Telephone 905-875-4156
www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

March 2009, Vol. 24 Issue 1

Spring Edition



*Brad Clements presents Visual Arts Award to
Martyn Mitchell for his Martin Street Painting*

Our society presented a visual arts award to Martyn Mitchell for his acrylic painting of the Martin Street School circa 1920. This is large mural that measures 7' by 3'. This mural has been hung in the lobby of the school and is a source of pride. The painting shows the school when it had a glass dome atop the roof and before the expansion on the south side of the original school. The artist has also added in a pair of Purple Martins which are the mascots of the school.

Martyn is a graphic designer who paints as a hobby. He is very talented and has done a number of landscape paintings including the Champlain bridge in Montreal.

Richard Laughton was our Educational award winner and has been recognized for the website he has created with extensive records on the soldiers from the Milton area who were killed in battle during WWI.

The site contains an alphabetical listing of soldier names and related information. For each soldier you can read a biographical summary, look up photographs, attestation papers, details of the battle where they were killed, their name in the Book of Remembrance in Ottawa, details on where they were buried and on which cenotaph their name appears

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Heritage Awards

The Milton Historical Society and Heritage Milton recognized seven local citizens for their contributions to preserving and publishing our local heritage on Saturday, Feb 21st at Hugh Foster Hall. The recipients were paraded into the hall by a young bagpiper at the beginning of the ceremony. Joyce Hayward and the Milton Song Spinners did an excellent job of entertaining with their wonderful voices.

Thanks go to Mayor Krantz and Brad Clements for their help in handing out the awards and to the MHS and Heritage Milton volunteers for help with organizing this event and to the Canadian Champion and Milton SNAP for their coverage.

and a diary kept by the battalion.

This website is a great resource for anyone who wants to find out more about these soldiers. The website is located at <http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/Research/Web%20Sites/index.html> and select Milton Soldiers of the Great War.

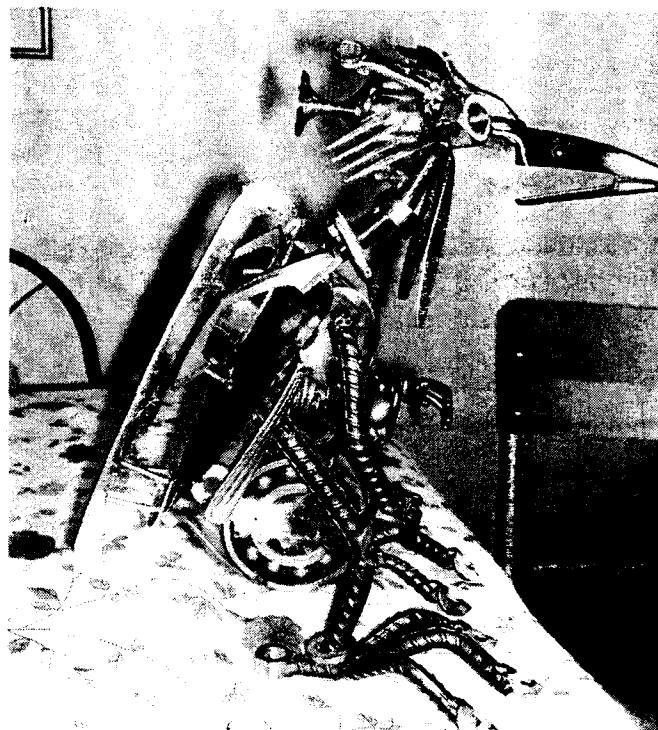
Heritage Milton presented five awards to individuals for their efforts at constructing or restoring buildings that enhance the community. Karmen Kostacelinov and Emil Geogiev were recognized for their restoration of the Thai Restaurant building at 181 Main St. East. This building was built in the early 1900s as the Winn shoe factory. Brad and Don Clements were recognized for their restoration work of the Dewar block at the corner of Main and Martin.

The third award was given to the Vanbook Equestrian Centre for restoration of a barn in the north part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Steve McKirby received an award for their construction of a new home at 8 Mill street and the last award recipients was to Gridiron Developments for their infill construction of an apartment building at 426 Pine street.

Executive News

The Milton Historical Society held its annual meeting in January and the following members were acclaimed for 2009. We wish them all the best in the coming year.

President	Bruce Carlin (second year of 2 year term)
Secretary	Kaye Hogg
Treasurer	Helen Comber
Membership	Edna Laird
Publications	Gloria Brown
Plaquing	Marsha Waldie
Special Events	Nancy Cuttle
Journal	Bruce Carlin
Town Liaison	Audrea Lear-Costigan
Research	John Challinor II
Marketing/Publicity	John Challinor II
Programming	John McDonald



Iron art—This strange creature was created from a variety of metal parts including skate blade, metal goblet, door handles, cutlery and many more items.

From the Archives by Marsha Waldie

Archival Collection: We now have records of all the Halton Cemeteries which were recorded by the Halton-Peel O. G. S. These records certainly add much to our research resources. We thank John McDonald who helped to complete our collection.

Thanks to Mayor Krantz for donating a 150th anniversary road sign and a report about Lime kilns of the area. Don't turn any thing out before contacting the Society. We need your help to save our past.

Web Site:

New on our home page. Keep updated to all MHS future events and meetings by registering your email address

Blacksmith Shop News

Schedule of Blacksmith Classes for 2009

Registrations now accepted.

Level One - Mar. 21, April 18 or Oct. 24

Level Two - May 1, 2, 3 or Nov. 20, 21, 22

Carriage Shop gets a new look!

The next time you are in the carriage shop you will notice a fresh new look. In early March the shop and downstairs washrooms were given a fresh coat of paint to brighten its appearance. The window trim and baseboards have received fresh paint and all the interior doors are now also painted. Thanks to Antero the painter for a job well done and to Milton Home Hardware as our paint supplier.

The Ontario Artists Blacksmith Association held their annual meeting in February at the Waldie shop. Members came from all parts of Ontario to see demonstrations of blacksmithing techniques and to socialize with fellow blacksmiths and to have fun. The Milton Historical Society put on a chili lunch for the group which numbered close to 50. This was a successful day for both societies.

Room Rental: Carriage Shop Meeting Room available to all members and community groups. Please don't hesitate to inquire or mention to others who might be interested

Milton Guides to visit Blacksmith Shop

Volunteers from the Milton Historical Society will host some local girl guides at the Waldie Blacksmith shop this spring and will showcase blacksmithing, pioneer living and the role of local archives. If you are interested in helping please call the archives and leave a message.

Victoria Day:

The blacksmith shop will be open and will have flags and decorative fans for sale to celebrate the Victoria Day weekend. Flags will be available as of Sat. May 2nd. Limited supply

Garage Sale – Make spring cleaning pay!

Are you spring cleaning now that the warmer weather is here? You may want to set aside some of those articles for a garage sale to be held at the Waldie's blacksmith shop on Saturday, June 6th from 8 AM to 2 PM. Tables will be available on a first come first served basis. The rental price for a table is \$10.00 for members. June 6th is the date of the Milton street festival so we hope for a good sized crowd to visit the shop.



Victoria Park view of the cenotaph and town hall.

The best items to put for sale are collectibles and books. For more details speak to Gloria Brown.

Poem: For want of a nail the shoe was lost.

For want of a shoe the horse was lost.

For want of a horse the rider was lost.

For want of a rider the battle was lost.

For want of a battle the kingdom was lost.

And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

Author unknown

History of one of our Parks: compiled by Valerie Grimshaw Past President 1983

Victoria Park: This park was established about 1854 when the County Court House was built. It serves as a quiet oasis in a busy town with paths for walking, band shell for concerts and lovely shade trees to refresh the stroller. It sits on approx. 2 acres of land which were donated to the Town, along with the land on which the Court House was built, by Hugh Foster, whose descendants still reside in Milton. It was officially named Victoria Park in 1909 and a bandstand was opened, which included a showing of various moving pictures. Band concerts were a regular feature during the summer

This was also used in the mid 1850's by the Milton Cricket Club who practiced twice a week on the grounds. Later the Lawn Tennis Club had their courts in the property and eventually other features were added eg. ball diamond, playground equipment, shuffle board court etc. The Soldiers' Monument was erected in 1926 in honor of the fallen.

WALK OF FAME OFFICIAL INDUCTION CEREMONIES TO COINCIDE WITH TOWN HALL EXPANSION OPENING

The Walk of Fame, a legacy program established during the Town of Milton's 150th anniversary celebrations by Milton Historical Society to recognize Milton's best, will become a permanent and very visible part of the community's history with the official opening of the Town Hall expansion later this year.

The 26 inaugural Walk of Fame inductees, current and former citizens of the community who achieved national and/or international recognition as top achievers in top-level fields of endeavour, including athletics, arts and entertainment, business and industry, government and public service and health and science, will be formally inducted during official opening ceremonies.

The first group of citizens to be inducted includes athletes Harry Barnes, Bruce Hood, Mike Kasycki, Bob Kranstz, Darlene Kranstz, Enio Scisizzi, Tiger Ali Singh, Tiger Jeet Singh, Leon Stickle, John Tonelli and Ed Whitlock; businesspeople Allan Burton, F.H. Deacon, Susan Delacourt, Jim Dills, P.L. Robertson and Bertram Stewart; artists and entertainers Peter Appleyard, Albert Casson, Ernie Coombs, David James (Smith) Elliot and Douglas Leiterman; public servants Betty Kennedy and the Honourable James Snow; and health and science professionals Chris Hadfield and Dr. Wallace McCutcheon.

In future years, working with Milton Council, Milton Historical Society will make Walk of Fame member recommendations. Once ratified by Council, those approved for induction will be formally recognized and inducted during Mayor's New Year's Levee activities.

Unlike most community recognition programs, Walk of Fame members will only be inducted as worthy nominees are identified. The Walk of Fame will not be an annual program.

Milton Historical Society is currently preparing a list of Walk of Fame nominees for consideration by Mil-



Do you know any of these people? Carroll's Main street grocery store photo from 1953

ton Council later this year. If ratified by Council, the nominees will be inducted into the Walk of Fame at Town Hall during the Mayor's Levee on January 1, 2010.

P.L. Robertson Induction Ceremony

On March 31st the Canadian Manufacturing Hall of Fame will induct six new members for their contribution to manufacturing accomplishments in Canada and one of them will be P.L. Robertson. For an individual to be selected they must be Canadian by birth or a naturalized Canadian and the company must be a Canadian-based manufacturing entity whose innovation and solutions contribute significantly to the Canadian economy.

The event will be held at the St. Clair Center for the Performing Arts in Windsor. The Milton Historical Society will be sending three representatives to attend the dinner and ceremony. Ken Lamb, Jim Dills and Bruce Carlin will attend. Ken and Jim produced the book "P.L. Inventor of the Robertson Screw" about ten years ago and no doubt they will be pleased to see the recognition that is well deserved.

Guest Speakers

Our January guest speaker was Laurie Wells, who spoke on "Memories and the Restoration of SS#7 Nassagaweya School. She is the current owner of the old school and gave an extremely interesting talk on the original school, its appearance when she

purchased it, the restoration she has done and her future plans. She brought with her some old pictures of students and teachers and some old artifacts from the school, and answered many questions afterwards. Laurie is an architect by training and was the recipient of a Heritage Milton award in 2008 for her restoration efforts at the school.

February guest speaker

Audrey Allison presented a historic overview of the early settlement of Nassagaweya township at our February meeting. Her slide show included historic pictures of the many villages and hamlets in the township, some of which are now only a memory like Knatchbull or Darbyville or some which now include only a few solitary buildings. These small villages had their economic base as lumber mills or a blacksmith shops. The Nassagaweya historical society has recently completed a book entitled “**North of the 15th: A Nassagaweya History**’ and it includes histories and photos of families some of whom have lived in the township many generations.

Robertson Women’s Missionary Auxiliary celebrates 120 years

2009 will be the 120th anniversary of the Robertson W.M.S. which was named after Mrs Gladden Robertson (nee Ewers) 2nd wife to Dr. W. Edgar Robertson, who was born in Milton. Both were missionaries under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church of the United States. Their years in China were eventful and included several close calls with danger during the First World War. Upon returning to Milton both took leadership positions in the Knox Presbyterian church within Milton. (Excerpts from Jim Dills paper printed Feb 29, 2008.

New Members: Welcome to our society

Vanessa Jaselmann
Nathan Laanstra
Peter Simundson
Sam Falzone
Anne Fisher

THE ASSOCIATED CLOTH-ING CO.
TO WILLIAM BEWS D-
A Full Assortment of Cloths, Hats, & Shoes

1916 invoice to Dr. William Bews for \$15.00 for purchase of a coat and vest. Invoice by Wesley Crozier

Have you renewed your Membership?

Thanks to all who have renewed their 2009 membership with the Milton Historical Society. Your support helps us to operate the blacksmith shop, archives, guest speakers and other events to celebrate Milton’s heritage.

Ontario Genealogical Society Annual meeting Oakville May 29-31

This conference will be held at Sheridan College. Conference 2009 features include nine workshops and thirty-five presentations. If you are looking for genealogical information, don’t miss this opportunity.

Global Financial Cycles

(Excerpt from the Milton Tribune “The Early Days)

History teaches us that financial markets rise and fall forcing humans to adapt and make due with what they have and to find low cost ways to entertain themselves.

During the difficult times of the 1920’s the radio entertained as well as local dances and parties. Sports were very popular. Although the times were very difficult, in some ways families were brought closer together as they would have to pool their wages to ensure that everyone was taken care of. They were difficult times and made people appreciate things that much more when better economic times arrived.

Milton Historical Society



A charitable organization with a mandate to preserve the heritage of the town of Milton.

We meet the 3rd Thursday from September to June. 8 p.m.

- Guest speakers
- Offers smithing classes, school and group tours
- Milton Historical Society Archives
- A working restored blacksmith shop
- Publisher of Milton's History



www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

905-875-4156

16 James Street, Milton

L9T 2P4

The MHS has placed an ad in the Milton Community Services Guide as part of outreach activities. If you know someone who is interested in history, why not invite them out to one of our events.



This keystone graces the top of the doorway to a downtown restaurant. Do you know the name of the location?

(Answer at bottom of page)

Milton Historical Society

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Thursday, April 16

"A HISTORY OF THE LORNE SCOTS"

with Richard Ruggles

Saturday, May 2nd

Victoria Day Flags and Fans on Sale

At the Waldie Blacksmith shop 9 am– 12 noon.

Thursday, May 21

"EXPLOITATION OF THE DIONNE QUINTU-
PLETS: A CANADIAN TRAGEDY"

with Donald Zaldin

The Spirit of Harriet Tubman

Tuesday, March 24

10-11 AM John Elliott Theatre

9 Church St. Georgetown

Ontario Genealogical Society Annual meeting

May 29-31

Sheridan College, 1430 Trafalgar road

Oakville

Saturday, June 6th 9 AM— 2 PM

Milton Historical Society Garage Sale

Waldie Blacksmith Shop

Thursday, June 18

MHS ANNUAL "SUMMER POT LUCK DINNER"

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) are held at The
Waldie Blacksmith Shop,

16 James Street Milton at 8:00 pm

Wednesday, July 1st

Canada Day Celebrations

Milton Fairgrounds

Keystone quiz!

(Sushi Ya Japan Restaurant— 8 Martin St.)



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June 2009, Vol. 24 Issue 2

Summer Edition



From left Ron Hobbs, Victoria Hobbs, Bruce Carlin, Jim Dills and Ken Lamb

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P.L. Robertson inducted to Canadian Manufacturing Hall of Fame

A gala dinner and awards presentation was the setting for the induction of six new members to the Canadian Manufacturing Hall of Fame including the posthumous induction of P.L. Robertson. The ceremony was held at the St. Clair Centre for the Arts in downtown Windsor on March 31st.

Representing P.L. Robertson were his grandson Ron Hobbs and daughter Victoria Hobbs and three members of the Milton Historical Society, Ken Lamb author of the book "P.L. Inventor of the Robertson Screw", Jim Dills who prepared the book for publishing and Bruce Carlin, the current president of the society.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event

was the Honourable Perrin Beatty. After the dinner the presentations were made to the award winners or their descendents. There was an audio visual presentation for each of the award winners listing their business and personal accomplishments. A special souvenir program was produced and included congratulatory messages from the Prime Minister and the Premiers from each award winners province.

P.L. Robertson will also be recognized in the naming of a soon to be built elementary school located at 351 Scott Boulevard. The Historical Society helped lobby for this recognition through a petition that was circulated at last year's 100th anniversary dinner.

Milton Street Festival

Antiques shoppers were able to choose from a variety of collectibles including glassware, dolls, furniture, silverware, books and much more at the street festival held June 6th. The



Mandy Sedgwick and Mirella Marshall have a laugh at the recent street festival-sale.

weather was great for shopping and a steady flow of visitors toured the shop. The event was a financial success with part of the profits given to Cy Stein and his country musical accompanists who played for an hour after the flea market ended. Thanks to Gloria Brown for organizing this event and to the vendors who rented tables and to those who donated items for sale with the proceeds going to the historical society.



Brother and sister, Bill Service and Jessie Hamilton enjoying themselves at the S.S. # 7 Ceremonies

Nassagaweya S.S.# 7 Bell Rings Again

Laurie Wells our January guest speaker opened her home recently to have an official bell ringing and flag raising ceremony. A large crowd gathered in the early afternoon at her rural dwelling and were treated to great hospitality. Visitors were encouraged to sign a book which was put into a time capsule to be opened at the schools 200th anniversary in September 2072.

Visitors included a former school teacher and past students as well as young people from the area. The time capsule included a piece of slate found during renovations, some original square nails along with the list of names of attendees. The time capsule was placed up in the bell tower. Also, the British flag was raised as the Canadian Flag had not been created before the school was closed in 1960 to be replaced by the Brookville Public School.

Several members of the Milton Historical Society attended the event. It was an especially meaningful event for longtime member Jessie Hamilton who along with her brother Bill are both former students of the

school. Many thanks to Laurie Wells for opening her home and congratulations on a wonderful job of rebuilding the bell tower and installation of the bell.

St. Paul's Church Update

There have been a lot of meetings and much activity surrounding the future of the physical buildings of St. Paul's church. A delegation of four members from the church made a presentation to the executive of the Milton Historical Society at our June meeting. The message that was delivered was essentially that the buildings are in a poor state and that both the sanctuary and Christian education center do not meet the long term needs of the church. The group described issues of poor layout, poor wheelchair access, the well known problems with the roof and masonry troubles.

The Milton Historical Society has taken the position that we are in favour of preserving the Sanctuary because of its heritage and architectural value. St. Paul's Sanctuary has impressive brickwork, a prominent church tower, large stained glass windows on three sides of the church and the historic interior including the organ, wooden floors and pews and an ornate ceiling. This building is majestic and inspires visitors by its size and beauty.

The Milton Historical Society has taken the following steps. The executive passed a motion in April opposing the demolition of St. Paul's church and to have the sanctuary formally designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. This motion was submitted to the Mayor and Members of Council.



St. Paul's church, Milton circa 1907

The executive has received presentations by both members of the church council and members from St. Paul's who have formed a lobby group known as Save Our Sanctuary (S.O.S.) who do not view the problems stated as reason enough to demolish the 1891 sanctuary. Following the presentations the executive of the MHS has decided to circulate a petition that supports the motion passed in April and a copy is in the carriage room for anyone wishing to sign.

In the meantime members of the congregation have voted to accept the recommendation of the churches development task force to pursue a feasibility study with a developer that would include a 80 unit life lease retirement residence on St. Paul's property.

It remains to be seen at this time what if any of the exterior parts of the building could be saved should the life lease plan come to realization.

Heritage Milton has also received representations by both a delegation from the Church and a delegation from Save Our Sanctuary. Heritage Milton passed a motion in principle to recommend designation of part or all of the church, with the town to enter into dialogue during the summer. What are the implication of designating a property? The following points were taken from the Heritage Milton website.

The Ontario Heritage Act gives the municipality the authority to protect buildings of historical or architectural significance. Designation helps to:

- Preserve the essence of a neighbourhood
- Increase the value of a property
- Protects examples of architectural styles not common today

Designation:

- Does **not** impose onerous obligations or expense to maintain a property
- Does **not** restrict the use of a property
- Does **not** restrict the sale of a property

Designation does recognize and enforce the cultural value of and community appreciation for heritage properties and provides protection against inappropriate treatment

Presently a feasibility study is underway for the life lease development. We will keep you informed of fu-

ture developments regarding St. Paul's.

Thanks to Gloria Brown and Jim Dills for the photographs, newspaper articles and a choral uniform from St. Paul's. These have been arranged in a nice display in the carriage shop.

Oldest cars in town at Waldie's Blacksmith Shop, of course! By John Challinor II

The oldest automobiles to be found at Milton Downtown Business Improvement Area's upcoming Cruisin' On A Hot Summer Night Classic Car Show will be parked in front of Waldie's Blacksmith Shop on James Street.

With the permission of Milton DBIA, the Board of Directors of Milton Historical Society has invited local owners of pre-World War II autos to park their cars on the street and around the shop for the public to enjoy.

Complementing the display of old cars will be a demonstration of blacksmithing by representatives from the Ontario Artist Blacksmith Association.

The Society will also be selling refreshments and light snacks, books of local history and memberships.

The Cruisin' On A Hot Summer Night Classic Car Show takes place on Friday July 17, 2009, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is free and the show will take place, rain or shine.



Gayle Waldie relates her memories as a Girl Guide and notice her numerous badges and awards!

Milton Girl Guides Visit Waldie's

Over twenty Milton Girl Guides visited with us in May to learn about the art of blacksmithing, about pioneer life and the importance of archives. We were fortunate to have a special guest appearance from

Gayle Waldie who had been a girl guide in her youth. Gayle brought along many souvenirs of her time as a girl guide including badges, summer hats, her gold cord and other memorabilia.

Thanks to blacksmiths Darwyn Hourie and Fred Johnson for their demonstrations and to Kay Bounsall for her archives presentation and to Linda Naranjo for her Pioneer interpretation. The girls enjoyed trying on Linda's hoopskirt.

Victoria Day decorations brighten the downtown area

Thanks to Nancy Cuttle for leading the Victoria Day sale of fans, flags and bunting in early May. The blacksmith shop was brightly decorated to celebrate the event and a number of other homes and businesses have their decorations still up deciding to keep them on display to Canada Day most likely! Well done to all who helped with this celebration.

Waldie's part of Milton Doors Open

On September 26th Milton will host its first Milton Doors Open. Doors Open is a concept that involves opening buildings or sites of architectural or heritage value to members of the public to encourage an appreciation of local heritage. In Milton there will be several churches open as well as the Christie Lime Kilns, Halton Region museum as well as the Waldie's blacksmith shop and archives. We are hoping to have many visitors.

This Fall the Vaughan Historical Society will have a bus tour coming for a visit to Milton to view local historical points of interest and also to visit the Blacksmith shop. As a point of interest, our guest sign in book for 2008 shows that there were approximately 750 visitors who signed in as they toured the blacksmith shop. There were doubtless more who did not sign in.

Volunteers—Blacksmith Shop Saturdays

Thanks to those who have volunteered to greet visitors to the blacksmith shop over the coming summer months on Saturdays from 10 AM to 12 PM. Volunteers greet guests, point out the various brochures about our society, assist with questions and inquiries about our books or items that are for sale. We still have a number of weekends where we could use some help. If you are able to volunteer, please leave a message at 905-875-4156 and we will follow up with you.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

by Brenda Whitlock

Thanks must be given to Jim Dills for donating a copy of "Our Duff Family History 1800-2004" by James McEwen Duff. Our own 'Family History' section is growing rapidly with complete genealogies, notes and newspaper clippings.

We would also like to thank John Conway for donating two discs. On one is the scrapbook of the Milton District Hospital Auxiliary from 1959 and on the other are the names and photographs of the Presidents of that organization from 1959 – 2009. This coming year is the 50th anniversary of the Auxiliary – if members have mementos and photographs of that organization we would be most interested in seeing them. Mr. Conway also gave us a biography of his wife, Shelagh, who was a founding member of the Milton Historical Society, President of the MDH Auxiliary, and also Librarian of the Milton Public Library at the time the new building was constructed.

Brad Clements is turning out his basement much to our delight! This event has recently brought forth a complete run of 'The Canadian Champion' from the 1970s and we will eventually receive more. Brad also gave us the record book of the original Milton Historical Society. The founding meeting was held on January 26, 1934 and the people present were Fred Dewar, Ed Syer, John Willmott, R. B. Galbraith, R. M. Clements, Charles Jones and Dr. Robert Anderson.

Dr. Anderson was elected as President, John Willmott the Vice President and Chas Jones the honorary President and that R.M. Clements as Secretary. The minutes include many notes about key areas such as early area businesses, lists of Doctors names and some cor-

respondence. The minutes do not indicate that this first society was viable for any period of time as they only indicate the appointment of the executive and nothing further about any meetings held.

The Journal editor would like to thanks Brenda for a recent generous donation towards the archives.



Members of the Lorne Scots await inspection by senior commanders and Mayor Krantz.

Lorne Scots Freedom of the City

Victoria Park was the location for the recent Freedom of the City and Transfer of Command ceremony of the Lorne Scots (Peel, Halton and Dufferin regiment).

The Freedom of the City Ceremony tradition originates from British Military history. British cities of the past were opposed to having regular standing armies. They were opposed to the warlike appearance of troops in the streets disturbing the peace. So it became a custom for any military unit to request the permission of the chief magistrate, the lord mayor, before entering a community. City authorities would only grant permission once they were assured of the troops best behaviour and the purpose of the presence.

The Freedom of the City is one of the most prized honours that a community can bestow upon a military unit. Citizens of a municipality express their affection and esteem for a military unit by granting this honour. This gives a unit the privilege of marching through the community with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed!

The Lorne Scots are a unit of the Canadian Army Reserve Reserve (Militia) with long standing traditions

and ties to the Peel, Dufferin and Halton regions. Soldiers from the regiment have served in the War of 1812, the Boer war, World War I and have also served on many peace keeping missions. Over 30 soldiers have either served or are preparing to serve in Afghanistan.

The pomp and ceremony of the troops in Victoria Park was very impressive. On display were 100 members of the Lorne Scots Militia, and about 40 cadets and a drum and pipe band. The bandstand held past commanding officers of the Lorne Scots as well as family members of some of the senior commanders.

There was also an official change of command for the Lorne Scots from Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Orange to Lieutenant Colonel Andre Phelps. After the Victoria Park ceremony the militia paraded down main street up to the legion for a celebration.

Victoria Park was used in 1916 during a march and recruitment drive from Camp Borden to Hamilton of the 164th battalion, a predecessor to the Lorne Scots. Milton was one of the towns that the unit stopped in where they paraded on Main Street, were fed at the fairgrounds and treated to a music concert at the Methodist church (St. Paul's).

Publications

Halton's Scotch block publication written by Jim Dills and Gloria Brown is moving nearer to completion. The document is in its final proofing stage. It totals over 200 pages. It contains something over 50,000 words and 400 pictures. The section on the heritage homes that remain is illustrated with colour photos and amounts to about a 20-page section. The hope is to have the book ready for sale in Mid September. More details to follow.

June Potluck Dinner

Over forty members brought a variety of appetizers, entrees and dessert and socialized at the Waldie Blacksmith shop and carriage room at our June 18th summer meeting. There was wine and soft drinks and something to suit everyone's tastes. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Adopt A Grave Program!

Evergreen Cemetery are looking for individuals to look after a garden for one of our early settlers. Call Marsha for details.

Welcome New Members

Sandra Pollen and Dr. Grant Woodall
Mac Phillips
Donna Starkey
Roy J. Hawthorne
David Hobden
Anne Fisher
Ron Burns
Phil Prestidge

Single Memberships are \$20.00
Double Memberships are \$35.00

2008 Financial Report

The 2008 Milton Historical Society financial statement has been received and the balance sheet and general account activity are included. For the complete financial statement please contact Helen Comber.

Milton Tid-Bits

1. Betty Kennedy is a member of the Milton Walk of Fame. She was a panelist on the long running CBC

television network show, Front Page Challenge from 1992 to 1995. She was appointed a Canadian Senator in 2000

2. Galbraith Boulevard is named for Robert Bessey Galbraith (1879-1949) who was a local dry goods merchant and a member of Milton Council for several years.

3. One of Milton's early arenas was the Brown street arena which was built in 1921-22. The arena was demolished due to concerns about the integrity of the roof. The Milton Memorial arena was built in 1972 as a replacement.

4. In 1906 the first electric power was generated from the new town powerhouse located on Main street next to the old post office at Main and Martin street.

5. The Milton Choristers are celebrating their 40th anniversary. This choral group performs several concerts each year for the public.

6. Halton county is named for Major Matthew Halton, secretary to the Lieutenant Governor Sir Francis Gore who was in that position from 1806 to 1811 and again in 1815 to 1817.

7. The census records for Milton's population in 1881 was 1302.

8. In 1921, under bylaw 557 the Milton Public Library became the successor to the Milton Mechanics Insti-

Milton Historical Society MONTHLY PROGRAMS

June 30th 7 PM Trafalgar Historical Society The Old brick Schoolhouse on Dundas Street just west of Palermo. Trafalgar Historical Society Alan Skeoch guest speaker.

July 1st Canada Day celebrations Milton Fairgrounds. MHS volunteers will help with the cutting of the Happy Canada day cake at the New Citizenship ceremony

July 17th 5 PM to 10 PM Cruisin on a Summer Night on Milton's Main street. Waldie's blacksmith shop will be open with vintage cars on display.

September 17th—MHS general membership meeting

September 19th—Halton Scotch Block Book Release tentative date

September 23rd—Vaughan Historical Society bus tour visit to the Milton Historical Society.

September 26th Milton Doors Open—Waldie Blacksmith shop will be open for visitors.

October 15th—MHS general membership meeting

November 19th Lorne Shields "Bicycle History as Captured Through the Lens of the Camera"

December 18th - Potluck dinner and Christmas party

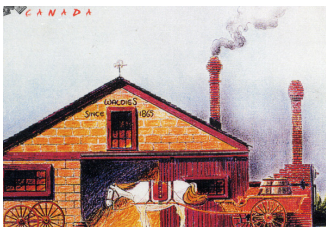


The Journal

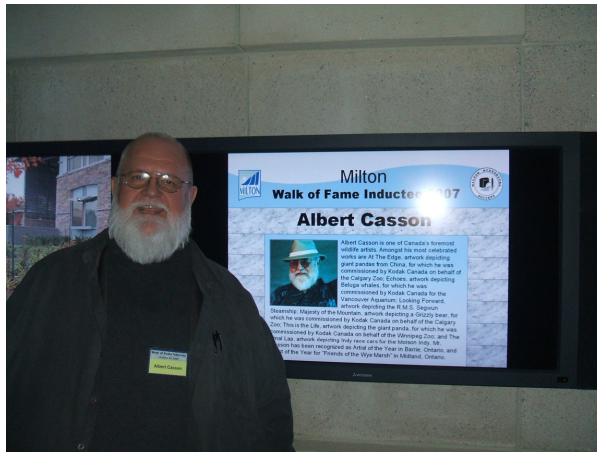
Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4 Telephone 905-875-4156
www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

Date December, 2009
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Winter Edition



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Albert Casson,, artist and one of the recent inductees into the Milton Walk of Fame

Town Hall Undergoes latest redevelopment

The expanded Milton Town Hall was officially opened on Thursday, Oct 29th. Invited guests listened to speeches and words of thanks to the many people who made the Town Hall expansion a success. Accolades were passed on to the architect, the construction company, the politicians and to those who helped see the project to its finish.

Members of the Milton Historical Society played an active part in the opening ceremonies and preparations beforehand. Society members acted as tour guides for staff and visitors to the West Wing or older part of Town Hall. Visitors were treated to facts about the history of County Court House and how it became the current

Town Hall thanks to concerned citizens and the first Milton Historical Society membership. Thanks to volunteers Mirella Marshall, Nancy Cuttle, Anne Ptolemy, Helen Comber, Mandy Sedgwick, and Ed Goodall.

As part of the Official Opening ceremonies the 27 Milton Walk of Fame inductees were introduced and formally recognized by the Town of Milton that same evening. The inductees were led by a bagpipe procession and seated in the main lobby of town hall.

The accomplishments of each inductee were read aloud and the inductee or their representative took the stage to speak to the crowd. One of our members, Jim Dills, was inducted in recognition of his leadership as executive director of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association (CCNA) from 1979 to 1987 and for his induction as the first CCNA honorary president.

Another nominee, Ed Whitlock, was inducted on his achievements as a long distance runner and holder of eleven world age group records on the track. Ed is also the husband to our archivist Brenda Whitlock. Congratulations to Jim, Ed and all the other inductees. Thanks to John

Challinor II for his leadership in coordinating the induction ceremony.

The induction ceremony was followed by a ribbon cutting and opening of the hallway where the Walk of Fame floor tiles are installed. In addition to the floor tiles there is an electronic screen which displays the photographs and brief summary of each inductee's accomplishments.

One of the highlights of the renovation in the West wing is the Walk of Fame hallway which has floor tiles containing the names of the twenty seven inductees. These inductees are residents of Milton who have received national or international recognition in the fields of sports, arts, business and science.

There is also a large wall mounted display case just outside the Mayor's office which has been made available for Heritage Milton and the Milton Historical Society to display heritage items. As part of the official opening a number of artifacts and old photographs as well as a prisoner ball and chain from the old jail-house .

The Jasper Martin clay sculpture was created by society member Nancy Cuttle and donated to the Town in 2007 as a 150th anniversary present. The sculpture is displayed in a wood framed case with a glass front and is located on the ramp leading to the Milton room. There is also a beautiful Windsor bench built from wood salvaged from a 200 year old oak tree that had to be removed for development a few years ago. Thanks to Councillor Cindy Lunau for pursuing this project and seeing it through to completion. The bench was made by Mr. Peter Lister a cabinet maker for over 40 years and it was built using traditional woodworking techniques including mortise and tendon, tongue and groove, through tendons and plugs.

Correction Notice : In the September Journal there is a story about one of our members who has a hobby of metal detecting and his name was incorrectly printed as Ron Brown, his real name is Ron Burns.

Relic from the Past

A WWI relic was brought to the archives by Mayor Krantz and a friend of a relative of WWI soldier Private R.S. Regan. The relic is an engraved gold time piece and it was awarded to each soldier from the



Engraved timepiece given to WWI veteran Pte. R.S. Regan, photo courtesy of Jim Dills

Town of Milton who fought in the Great War. The information from our archives was shared with the person researching this relic.

Richard Regan enlisted in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force on his 30th birthday, Nov 12, 1914. He was married and was born in Bermondsey, London, England. Pte Regan went overseas in 1915 with the second contingent. In June 1916 he was wounded and shell-shocked. In 1917 having recovered he was sent back to France where he sustained a further wound. He was reported admitted to eighth Stationary Hospital, Wimereux.

Seven to be inducted into Milton's Walk of Fame by John Challinor II

Seven more prominent Miltonians will be inducted into the community's Walk of Fame during special ceremonies at 2 p.m. on January 1, 2010, at Town Hall. The latest inductees are:

Matthew Banks – Matthew is a producer, director and actor, most notably with Blue Man Group, an international arts ensemble best known for their wildly popular theatrical shows and concerts around the world that combine music, comedy and multi-media

theatrics to produce a totally unique form of entertainment. He was an original part of the cast that helped establish Blue Man Group's presence in Las Vegas;

Gail Brown – Gail is an internationally-recognized Scottish bag pipe player, teacher and composer. She became the first woman to play with the Highland Fusilliers of Canada in 1970, the same year the band won the Cowal Championships in Dunoon, Scotland, one of five major United Kingdom championships. As a teacher, Gail's Grade 1 band, the famed Shotts and Dykehead Caledonia Pipe Band, won the World Championships;

Father Mark Curtis – Known as Canada's Singing Priest, Father Mark performed more than 250 concerts across Canada and the United States between 1995 and 2007, recording nine albums and raising millions of dollars for numerous charitable organizations. He has entertained such luminaries as the Royal Family and two Canadian Prime Ministers and was co-host for Nite Lite Live, sharing his music and pastoral ministry;

Dr. William Edgar Robertson (1879 – 1939) – Dr. Robertson served as a medical doctor and missionary in China from 1906 to 1927 during that country's challenges with political turmoil, famine and disease. He founded the American Presbyterian Church Mission Hospital at Heng Chow and ministered up to 30,000 patients annually. After the hospital closed, Dr. Robertson continued to serve the Chinese public until such time as the level of civil unrest placed his family in personal peril.

Bob Izumi – Bob is Canada's first professional fisherman and one of the most respected sportsmen in Canada. In addition to being a professional angler, Bob is an author, radio host and TV personality. His show, Bob Izumi's Real Fishing Show, is seen across North America. He is also the founder and chairman of Fishing Forever, a non-profit organization devoted to conservation;

Peter McMullen (1911 – 1966) – Known as "Hard Rock" and "Gentleman Jim," Peter was a professional wrestler during the pioneering days of the sport, competing at a national level before television coverage began; and



Dr. Clarkson Freeman and granddaughters Ina and Jean Freeman. Photo 1905 from the Milton Images website.

Dr. Clarkson Freeman (1827 – 1895) – Dr. Freeman served as a battlefield surgeon with the Union Army under Ulysses S. Grant during the American Civil War, tending to the injured during two significant battles – the taking of Petersburg and Richmond. He was recognized by General Grant for his bravery and professionalism in the theatre of war. He later served as Mayor of Milton from 1870 to 1872;

"Our inaugural group of inductees, who were honoured in 2007 during the Town of Milton's 150th anniversary celebrations, were a large and diverse group who had earned national and/or international acclaim in athletics, arts and entertainment, business and industry, government and public service and health and science," explained John Challinor II, Director, Milton Historical Society and the founder of the Milton Walk of Fame. "Our latest group of inductees are equally diverse and just as worthy of this great honour."

"Like this group, future inductees will only be added to the Walk of Fame as credentials permit, rather than allow the honour to be dictated by the need to recognize someone on an annual basis," added Mr. Challinor. "We encourage Milton residents to submit nomi-

nations for this highest civic recognition to Milton Historical Society, outlining why their nominees should be considered for such an honour.”

These seven join 26 others who were inducted in 2007.

The criteria to become a member of the Walk of Fame is as follows:

- Nominee must be born in Milton or spent formative or creative years here;
- Nominee must have lived in community for minimum of ten years;
- Nominee's accomplishments must be national and/or international in scope;
- Nominee's achievement must be best-in-class in his/her best-in-class field of endeavour and extended for minimum two calendar year period.
- Nominee's achievement must fit into following fields: athletics, arts and entertainment, business and industry, government and public service and health and science.

From the Archives

Wondering what was in the Milton Historical Society Journal In 1985? That information is now available at the click of a button from the Milton Historical Society website. There are 25 years of Journals that were scanned by our website administrator Richard Laughton, many thanks to him.

By the way, the April 1985 version tells the story of the Town Hall move from the Main street location to the old County Court house in Victoria Park. Funny that almost 25 years later the Town Hall expansion has just been completed in October of this year.

Please note that there are copies of current local historical society newsletters that are available in the archives for reading. If you are interested in United Empire Loyalists history you may be familiar with the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada website, www.uelac.org. You can view past editions of the Loyalist Trails Newsletters online or subscribe to their current e-mail distribution list.

Microfiche reels of the Canadian Champion have been ordered for the period 1969 to 1992. The histori-



Alex Cooke Memorial Award winner Emma Brew and proud mother.

cal society has previously acquired microfiche from earlier editions of the newspaper.

Marsha Waldie has been busy researching several historic homes in Milton as part of the MHS house plaquing program. As part of her research of 159 Martin Street she found that one of the owners in the late 1950's was a Dr. Colin Lucas.

Dr. Lucas was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1959. He was the son of a former Nassagaweya woman, Mrs. Christena (Laing) Lucas. He was member of a number of scientific societies and a professor at the Banting and Best Department of Medical Research in Toronto.

Welcome to Shigeru Otsuka who is volunteering at our archives. Shigeru visited the Archives at the Milton Doors Open ceremony and became interested in learning more about local heritage. Thanks to Brenda Whitlock and Marsha Waldie for giving her an orientation to the archives.

Alex Cooke Memorial Award Winner

Congratulations to Emma Brew the 2009 E.C. Drury High School winner of the Alex Cooke Memorial Award. This award is given annually to local high school students who have achieved high marks in history and who are planning to pursue post secondary studies in the social sciences.

Blacksmith Shop News

A three day advanced blacksmithing course was held Nov 20 to 22. Thanks to the instructors Darwyne Hourie and Larry Maughan.

The blacksmith shop has been decorated for the holidays and many thanks to Nancy Cuttle, Marsha Waldie, Gloria Brown and Gayle Waldie for their efforts.

An automatic timer has been installed for the operation of the outside lights at the blacksmith shop. The automatic timer will take away the need for someone to manually turn lights on and off the lights for the hours of darkness and will improve safety and security of the building.

The Milton Theatre Players Group are renting the carriage room for their rehearsals three times weekly. This is a welcome source of revenues to the society. Thanks Marsha for promoting the use of the shop.

Authors Meet Readers at book fair.

The Historical Society teamed up with the Halton Region Museum, Nasagaweya Historical Society and several local authors to promote local history and raise funds on Saturday, Nov 28th.

Thanks to members and authors Ken Lamb, Jim Dills, John McDonald, Lou Bradley for being on hand to discuss their books and to autograph copies that were sold. The day was very successful with over 40 books or DVD's sold as well as several memberships. Thanks also to Audrey Allison of the Nasagaweya historical society for bringing heritage books from this township.

Oral History Workshop

Mirella Marshall and Mandy Sedgwick attended a recent half day oral history workshop with Patricia Skidmore-Skuce and found the workshop very informative. The workshop was sponsored by Halton Region museum and the Oakville Public Library.

Welcome New Members

Barbara Alderson Whitehead, Glenn Fletcher, Barbara Fitzsimons, Diane Harman, Shigeru Otsuka, Klaus Streck



New Display Case at Milton Town Hall-West Wing, photo courtesy of Town of Milton.

A reminder that membership renewals for 2010 will be gladly accepted at our January meeting. Memberships are \$20.00 for single members and \$35.00 for couples and students are free.

Calendar of Events

December 31st 11:45 PM New Year's Eve Bell Ringing. Come join the Mayor and other party goers as we ring in the New Year. Bruce Carlin from the MHS has been asked to help ring the bell at Victoria Park. Come and join in the celebrations.

January 1st 1:30 to 3:30 PM – Mayor's Levee at Milton Town Hall

Come witness the induction of 7 new Miltonians to the Milton Walk of Fame and tour the renovated West Wing of Town Hall. The ceremonies get underway at 1:30 PM including guided walking tours followed by the Walk of Fame ceremony at 2 PM.

January 21st 8:00 PM MHS General Meeting. The Annual General meeting will be held with elections for the executive for 2010 and followed by a program of Show and Tell.

February 18th 8:00 PM MHS general meeting – Topic to be announced at January meeting.

Sunday, February 21st – Heritage Week Awards at Halton Region Museum.

President's Message – 2009 by Bruce Carlin

As 2009 comes to a close I would like to thank our member volunteers and the executive for their contributions to the society this year. Thanks to Jim Dills and Gloria Brown, through their efforts we were able to publish and have a successful launch of the Halton's Scotch Block book. Our archives continued to acquire and archive historic documents and photos and respond to inquiries from all corners of the world. The society has raised its concerns about the future of the St. Paul's church building, we have celebrated in the official Town Hall opening and also participated in the Milton Doors Open event.

We have been entertained and educated by guest speakers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank John McDonald who has done an admirable job of lining up our guest speakers over the past few years. John has stepped down from this post to pursue other interests but I don't think we have seen the last of him. John is currently working on the history of Major Halton and we hope to have him back in late 2010 to hear about his research findings. Major William Mathew Halton was secretary to Francis Gore who served as Lieutenant General of Upper Canada (1806-1811, 1815-1816). Halton county is named after William Mathew Halton. I would like to thank David Hobden for agreeing to take over the position of our programs coordinator.

At our January general meeting we will hold the annual meeting including the election of the 2010 executive and followed by a Show and Tell so check in your attic for any old objects, photographs or other souvenirs to share with our members

I would like to wish all our members Happy Holidays and Best wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year's and if you are looking for something to do New Year's eve and New Year's day come out to the Town Hall for our Bell ringing ceremony and Mayor's levee.

Heritage Award Nominations 2009

The Milton Heritage awards are held annually to recognize heritage projects completed by local citizens. The awards ceremony is a joint project between Heritage Milton and the Milton Historical Society. The Historical Society presents awards for projects in the areas of writing, visual arts and educational accomplishments. Heritage Milton presents awards to worthy historical restoration projects of local residential or commercial buildings.

If you know of a person or group who has completed a worthy heritage project in 2009 that matches the above criteria why not nominate them for a Heritage award. Attached at the back of the newsletter is a Heritage Nomination Form. Complete and submit the form by January 21st, 2010. This year's Heritage Awards program is scheduled to be held at the Halton Region Museum on Sunday, February 21st.

2010 Milton Historical Society Membership Form

Name:	
Address:	Postal Code
Telephone:	
e-mail address:	
2010 Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Single \$ 20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Double \$35.00
Mail or drop off payment to: Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4	

Heritage Award Nomination Form 2010



Heritage Awards are presented to deserving candidates for projects that they have completed in 2009. The nominee must be a resident of Milton and they must have completed a project that relates directly to our local heritage. Awards may be presented for the categories of Writing, Education and Visual Arts. If you would like to nominate someone who is deserving of recognition for a heritage project, please complete this form and submit it to the Milton Historical Society no later than Jan 21, 2010. The Heritage Awards will be presented at the Halton Region Museum, Feb 21st, 2010.

Heritage Category (Please check off one of the categories below)

- ☐ **Writing (Novels, Biographies, Newspaper columns, Poems or any other written form that describes the local heritage of the Milton area)**
- ☐ **Visual Arts (Models, Sculptures, Prints, Paintings, Video productions, Theatre, etc)**
- ☐ **Education (Books, Class Projects, any project that teaches people about our heritage).**

Nominee: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Description and merits of the heritage project. Feel free to attach another page if you need more space to describe the project:

Your name _____

Your telephone # _____

Please submit this nomination form to the Milton Historical Society . You may submit your nomination by mail: Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4 (Nomination must be received no later than Jan.21, 2010. You can e-mail nominations to miltonhistoricalsociety@bellnet.ca. For more information, contact Bruce Carlin Phone 905-875-4588 or by e-mail: bdcarlin@gmail.com.



The Journal

Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4 Telephone 905-875-4156

www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

September, 2009

Fall Edition



Image from Picsearch

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You're invited...

to the introduction of a new book on Halton's historic Scotch Block – the people and their stories



at historic

Boston Presbyterian Church

Third Line, Halton Hills, north of Five Sideroad

Saturday October 3, 2009, 10.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Introduction and comments by the authors at 10.30 followed by signing of purchased copies. Limited copies at \$40

Light refreshments

More than 200 pages and 400 pictures have been written and compiled by Jim Dills and Gloria (Stark) Brown

Published by Milton Historical Society

Scotch Block history published

The Milton Historical Society is proud to release its newest publication entitled "Halton's Scotch Block – The People and Their Stories". This book is the cooperative effort of Jim Dills and Gloria Brown.

The 200 plus pages contain more than 400 hundred photos in a soft cover book that focuses on the people and their stories, compiled from written, published, archival and anecdotal sources.

The book recounts stories of the early tragedies, rebellion, agriculture development, logging, social, educational and religious progress of this unique corner of

Halton (County) region. A special colour section presents some of the homes that remain as treasures of the developing years.

A book launch is planned at Boston Presbyterian Church located at 9185 Boston Church Road, just north of 5 sideroad in Esquesing township, Halton Hills. This event will take place on Saturday October 3 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Introductory comments will be at 10:00 and light refreshments will be provided. Books will be for sale at \$40.00 and may be signed at this time. Society members receive a discounted price of \$36.00.

The society wishes to thank the following individuals and companies for their financial support.

Mrs. Barbara Snow
Andrews Scenic Acres
Milton Home Hardware
Chudleigh's
Given Road West Communications

Congratulations to Glenn Brown, grandson of Gloria Brown on his winning of the gold medal in the Pi-broch (Classical music of bagpipes) held recently at the Northern meeting in Inverness, Scotland. Glenn was interviewed on the BBC and

there are only 3 other living Ontarians who have earned this distinction. Well done.

Historical Items Unearthed

Ron Brown is a long time resident of Milton who as a young boy dreamed of finding buried treasure. He has turned those dreams into reality since taking up the hobby of metal detecting over ten years ago. Over the years he has found a variety of metal objects including rings, coins, medals and other jewellery items. One of the rewarding parts of Ron's hobby includes the look on peoples faces when he finds and returns a lost item to the original owner as he did this past summer. While visiting the Sauble beach area he came across a couple who had lost their keys in the beach sand. Ron took his metal detector and with the couple retraced their steps and to everyone's relief the keys were found buried in the sand.

Locally Ron has found some very interesting items including an 1825 British schilling in the area around the Millpond formally known as Livingston park. This find earned him the "Find of the Month" award on the Canadian Metal Detecting website. Finding historic items involves planning and review of archival materials such as old photographs and maps. Most metal items are found from 3 to 6 inches deep and the best time to search is in the Spring and Fall when soil moisture is higher. Ron uses specialized tools for digging which minimize damage to sod. There is also a code of ethics for metal detectors which includes always getting permission from property owners before searching. If you have lost a metal keepsake or are just curious what may be buried underground a metal detector may be the answer.

Doors Open comes to Milton

Milton will hold its first Doors Open event on Saturday September 26th from 10-4. Waldie Blacksmith shop and the MHS Archives will be one of 14 locations on the tour.

In 2000, the City of Toronto launched the first Doors Open event in North America. In 2002, the Ontario Heritage Trust launched Doors Open Ontario, the first province-wide event of its kind in Canada. Every year, Doors Open Ontario attracts large crowds across Ontario. From April to October, residents and visitors are



Ron Brown with a display case of recent items found

invited to discover first-hand Ontario's hidden heritage treasures, some of which have never been open to the public.

Mirella Marshall and Nancy Cuttle have been working on the Doors Open Milton committee and are looking forward to a busy day. There will be displays about House Plaquing and preserving our history through Heritage Designation. The Archives will be open with displays about how we archive our materials. Our many publications will be on display and of course our wonderful blacksmiths will be demonstrating their skills.

We are still looking for members to help act as hosts for this event. If you have a couple of hours and want to help us put our best foot forward, there is a sign-up list upstairs on the Archive Table.

St Paul's Update

Milton's Heritage Preservation Issue

The St. Paul's United Church Council is actively pursuing redevelopment options for St. Paul's Church to address ongoing structural issues and the future needs of their congregation.

These options include the demolition of the historic 1890 Sanctuary building and rebuilding a smaller church along with an 80-unit seniors condominium at least six storeys high.

Several individuals and groups have come together to

express concern over the proposed options. A petition has been initiated by Milton Historical society to give members of the community a chance to speak up. As of September 1st we have over 600 signatures!

Who are the groups involved?

Milton Historical Society was formed in 1977 to help preserve the abandoned former Halton County Courthouse and Jail. Today this grand architectural stone building located in Victoria Park is part of our Historic Character Area and our present Town Hall.

MHS believes St. Paul's United Church is a signature architectural, cultural, historical and social landmark on Milton's Main Street.

A letter was sent to Council and our petition continues to give citizens an opportunity to speak up.

St Paul's Save the Sanctuary Committee, a large group of members of St. Paul's congregation who do not oppose redevelopment to meet future church needs but want to look at options that will save the Sanctuary, petitioned Heritage Milton to recommend heritage designation of the Sanctuary.

The **Neighbours of St Paul's** want to preserve the historic character of their neighborhood and the downtown. They want to work with St. Paul's to find a solution that will save the Sanctuary.

Ontario Heritage Trust through the Ontario Heritage Act gives the municipality the authority to protect buildings of historical or architectural significance.

Designation recognizes and enforces the cultural value of and community appreciation for heritage properties and provides protection against inappropriate treatment. It does not impose onerous obligations or expense, or restrict the use or sale of property.

Heritage Milton, an advisory board to the Town, has listened to all parties and supported, in principal, the designation of all or part of the church, with a dialogue to continue over the summer.

Milton Town Council listened to all parties at the July council meeting and in August formally acknowledged the "Save the Sanctuary Group" request to designate. Town Staff will be working with appointed representatives of St. Paul's Church to develop a conceptual building scheme which will meet the stated needs of the Church while preserving the heritage attributes of the sanctuary building.

When a formal development/demolition proposal has been received, the application will be brought to Council and heritage designation of the property will be considered at that time.

Further, the St. Paul's property will be included in the Town's Intensification /Infill Study to ensure that any proposal will take into account the historic character and appearance of the surrounding area and that new development integrates with other potential infill sites along Main Street.

What does this mean ?

Democracy works! People sent letters to Council, sent letters to the papers, held meetings, signed petitions; and Council listened. When it comes to preservation versus progress, Church versus State and individual versus community interests; there are many differing opinions. Unfortunately, divisions are inevitable but how fortunate we are to live in a society that supports discussion and compromise.

Our Town of Milton Official Plan addresses the issue of respecting and honouring our town's rich history. The St. Paul's issue brought forces for and against preserving our historical buildings in the downtown core. As a result of public input, the Town has acknowledged and taken concrete steps to address the issue.

This is the beginning of a process. Milton Historical Society will continue to educate and advocate for the preservation of our historical legacy. Where appropriate we will work with other organizations to keep these issues in the public eye. We encourage all our members to participate however they are able.

Nancy Cuttle

As more and more heritage buildings are demolished and dumped into landfill, we empty our landscapes of these precious heritage treasures. What defines us as a people becomes diminished.

The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander, Chairman Ontario Heritage Trust

Tornado hits Milton

Nature showed its power early in the evening on August 20th. Right around dinner time the skies turned dark and accompanied by heavy rain and winds along

with intense lightning bursts the storm struck Milton



Photo taken from Andrews Crescent (Line of Townhouses that back onto Thompson right beside tracks) looking west

resulting in many damaged or downed trees, branches, fences and even felled traffic signal poles in the center of town.

Several roofs were damaged including a sizeable piece of roof from the Wakefield professional building. A study of the damage resulting from the storm indicates that a small scale tornado touched down in Milton. Although such a ferocious storm is quite uncommon this region has seen other destructive tornadoes in the past.

Halton's Pages of the Past by Gwen Clarke makes mention of a great storm that took place in 1792 which felled trees in wide swaths in the Halton area and was reported to have caused much damage to the nearby Mississauga Indians settlement. Surveyors who came later were able to substantiate the swaths of land where the trees were leveled.

The next significant storm of note in the Halton area was a twister in 1890 and it struck a section of Esquesing, Concessions 1, 2 and 3 causing damage to buildings owned by Wm. Center, Malcolm Chisholm and Alex MacNabb. A swath of damage 150' wide was reported to have been left by the hurricane.

On June 7, 1933 the brick school at the corner of Bell School line and Derry road was struck by a tornado and half of the roof is reported to have been lifted off. Students were in class at the time of the storm. Windows were smashed and chimneys were toppled and

one of the students Wilda Pelletterio (formerly Prosser) was trapped under bricks and other debris. She was rescued and suffered fractures to a knee and ankle. Considering the damage to the school it was fortunate that there were not more severe injuries or fatalities from the storm.

More recently the Hornby area experienced a tornado on June 20, 1951. Barns belonging to Russell King were practically demolished as was the huge barn of Albert Marchment on the ninth line Trafalgar.

History teaches us that powerful storms have struck this area in the past and they can be expected to do so again in the future. August 20th was one of those events and we are thankful that the damage in this area was restricted to property damage and not personal injuries.

FROM THE ARCHIVES – August 2009

We have had many visitors to the Archives this summer and many enquiries. Mr. Leitch came from Wandsworth, London, England to research the Leitch and Peacock families. He is a descendant of Thomas Leitch, a tailor on Main Street, Milton in the 1860s and also of the Peacock family. We managed to help him with the Peacock family but were of little or no help with the Leitch family! In truth, the main object of his visit was a Peacock family reunion in Burlington.

We also had a visit from Mr. Roy Hawthorne of Mayfield Heights, Ohio. He is a descendant of Robert Hawthorne, our very first blacksmith. Roy is his great-great grandson and sent us information on Robert Hawthorne's descendants which is a useful addition to our files.

A lady in Toronto is researching the Huffman family and spent a Saturday morning with us using our files and also sent us many additional details regarding the family. A lady from Prince Edward County is doing research into the Brick industry in Milton and we hope she will be kind enough to let us have a copy of her research once she has finished scouring the countryside. We enjoy the fact that we usually receive as much information as we give in these situations.

We also had the satisfaction of re-uniting two branches of the same family. We had two queries regarding a picture we have on Milton Images which shows the Rasberry/Satherwaite family. We asked the two different ladies who were making enquiries whether we could exchange their e-mails. They said 'yes' and discovered that their great-great-grandmothers were sisters! They are now happily exchanging information.

We found information and also two photographs for Dr. Robert J. Burns, who was researching the Cartwright House, the old stone farmhouse on Tremaine Road which was, unfortunately, demolished a few years ago.

We would like to thank Thelma Bousfield who donated various items including a photograph of the house on the corner of Prince and Pearl; Ellen Mountain for two 'Yankee' brand screw-drivers; Jim Coulson for various items regarding his father, Harold; and Helen Howard for various items including old P. L. Robertson wall calendars. We are very pleased that people are remembering us when they find items of local interest.

The Society would also like to extend sincere thanks to Richard Laughton who has created and maintained our web page. He has also donated many items to the Society and has helped considerably with boring jobs such as hauling heavy pieces of equipment around the Archives and trying to get them to work! Much of our equipment is donated by various companies and organizations and sometimes needs a little tender loving care. This is the case with a microfilm reader and printer recently donated by the kind people at the Registry Office. When it is up and running we shall be able to read the microfilm of "The Canadian Champion" and also print the articles. Richard has also helped to enlarge the already large files on our WWI soldiers which were originally compiled by John Chalinor and Jim Dills.

We would also like to thank all the people who have been helping us this summer particularly Kaye Boun-sall, Kaye Hogg and Susan Platt. As the Archives grow and we get more and more enquiries, we need all the help we can get!



A view of scaffolding around the old part of town hall

Brenda Whitlock, Walter Eadie, Marsha Waldie, Gloria Brown - Archives

Milton Town Hall Renovations

The recent town hall expansion is mostly complete with employees moved into the new part of Town Hall. There have also been renovations ongoing inside and outside of the 1865 portion of Town Hall. On the exterior renovations have included the repointing of the stonework by Clifford Restorations Ltd. and roofing work done by Custom Cupola and Steeple Co. Ltd.

The roofing work includes replacing the roof of the old Town Hall. Approximately 7,000 slate tiles have been replaced. In addition flashing, roofing hips and downspouts have been replaced or repaired. The new roof should serve the Town Hall well for many years to come according to Richard Andrushko of Custom Cupola.

Interior renovations are ongoing which will include a Milton Walk of Fame walkway to recognize Miltonians who have made significant contributions nationally in their fields of expertise. The official opening date for the Town Hall is Thursday, October 29th, 2009 from 4 to 7 PM. Details will be forthcoming as we approach the opening.

History of Milton's Police—Ed Goodall

The Milton Police Department was established in 1857 when Daniel M. Bowman was appointed Chief

Constable with a salary of 20 pounds per year. His job was to enforce all Town bylaws, Criminal Law of the province, to serve summons and warrants, and attend sessions of the Mayor council meetings. He was also responsible for all monies from fines or fees in the discharge of his duties that were paid into the Town funds. In 1860 the Chief's salary was converted into dollars for the sum of \$50 per year and the duty of Pound Keeper was added to his roster. (This is the first part in a series looking at the History of the Milton Police).

Artillery Gun at Victoria Park

Richard Laughton has finished the research and writing and attach on his 1st Draft of an article on Field Gun #9563 located in Victoria Park, Milton.

He was able to identify the Canadian Expeditionary Force unit responsible for the capture of this German Field Gun on September 27th 1918, the details of the battle and more or less the exact position. Richard has produced a thorough twenty page report replete with maps and information taken from war diaries.

History Courses—Town of Milton

The Town of Milton is offering a range of history courses this Fall and Winter including

- History of Canadian Music and Art
- History of Dance
- History of Rock 'N' Roll
- History of Women in Art & Music

For more information please see the website at <http://www.milton.ca/commserv/csguide/csguide12.pdf>. These courses are offered at the Milton Seniors Activity Center.

Calendar of Events

MONTHLY PROGRAMS & Other Heritage Events
Milton Historical Society
invites you to attend the following presentations

Thursday September 17th
"The Halton Connection to the Nobel Prize for Mathematics" with Frances Hoffman

Saturday October 3rd
A launch for the new book
"Halton's Scotch Block
The People and Their Stories"
With Gloria Brown and Jim Dills
at Boston Presbyterian Church
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Thursday October 15th
"Holland During World War Two"
with Bill Tielemans

Saturday, October 24th
9 AM to 5 PM
Blacksmithing Beginner Class

Thursday November 19
"Bicycle History as Captured Through
the Lens of a Camera"
with Lorne Shields

November 20, 21, 22
Blacksmith Beginner Level Two
Contact MHS for details or to register

Knox Presbyterian Church Presents
St. Andrew's Luncheon
Monday November 30, 2009
12 Noon

"Halton County and the 1918 Influenza"
a historical look at what happened locally
during the great influenza epidemic with John McDonald

Limited Number of Tickets \$12.00
available from Knox Church Office (905) 878-6066
all proceeds benefit Knox Church restoration project

Thursday December 17
"MHS Christmas 'Pot Luck' Dinner"
6:30 pm

Unless otherwise noted, all events are held at
The Waldie Blacksmith Shop
16 James Street Milton and commence at 8:00 pm

We look forward to seeing you! Bring a friend!!