



# The Journal

[Milton Historical Society](#) 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4 Telephone 905-875-4156

Mar 2014 Vol. 29 Issue 1

## Spring Edition



*The Walk of Fame inductees and/or inductee family representatives included, from left to right, Janet Cottrelle, grand-daughter of inductee George Richardson Cottrelle; Mildred Martin, grand-grand-grand niece of inductee the Honourable Joseph Martin; Peter Irwin, nephew of inductee Edward Dennis Hunter; Jim Marshall, nephew of inductee Edith Rainsford Dick; and inductee George Newton Hood.*

### President's Message

While we ponder the question of "will this winter ever end?" activities at the Milton Historical Society, continue uninterrupted.

You will see elsewhere in this journal information about upcoming speaker sessions and events. A Victorian Tea and a potluck supper are two of the events coming up. Please do join us for fellowship and refreshments on the third Thursday of each month.

The Milton Historical Society is always seeking both new and long-time residents of the region to serve as volunteers at its site in historic downtown Milton – 16 James Street.

The Historical Society is looking for outgoing, flexible individuals who enjoy learning and making new connections.

There are many different areas for which people can volunteer: greeters, walking tour guides, archives assistants, helping with refreshments for speaker sessions, special events, maintenance, and more.

Volunteers are essential to our operation; the Milton Historical Society would not be able to operate on a regular basis without them.

If there is a topic you would like to see in this journal or a monthly speaker topic, let us know. We would like to have more input from our members. This is your Society and we are here to serve you.

In the meantime, if you haven't done so already, please renew your membership. There are advantages to membership – reduced prices on publications, for instance.

On behalf of the board of directors of the Milton Historical Society: we look forward to welcoming you to our next event.

Jan Mowbray

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## 2014 Milton Walk of Fame Inductees

Five new members were inducted into the Milton Walk of Fame on Saturday, February 22nd at the Milton Room in Town Hall. Government officials were present to support the inductees including Mayor Gordon Krantz, Region of Halton Chair Gary Carr and MPP Ted Chudleigh.

The five inductees were recognized for their contributions in a range of leadership positions. Family members and descendants of the nominees were present to receive awards and to share their personal recollections. The recipient names and biographies follow.

Thanks to Jan Mowbray and John Challinor for their leadership roles for the 2014 Milton Walk of Fame. Thanks also to those who supplied refreshments for the guests.

### **George Richardson Cottrelle (1880 – 1953) Canadian business leader, wartime government executive**

George Cottrelle was appointed Oil Controller for Canada by Prime Minister Mackenzie King, responsible for gas rationing – a job federal Minister C.D. Howe described as “the toughest of all jobs during World War II. In no other country was the very difficult task of gasoline rationing handled with such success. His contributions ranked with the finest civilian service.” Mr. Cottrell was awarded the Order of the British Empire for his service to Canada during the war. Born and raised in the Township of Esquesing and educated at the Agricultural College in Guelph, Mr. Cottrell began his career as an international industrialist in New York before returning to Canada to serve as an executive with Canadian Bank of Commerce, Union Trust, Ontario Department of Agriculture and Sawyer-Massey, where he served as President. He also served as an executive with Maple Leaf Gardens, helping to finance construction of the building in 1931 and later working with the hockey club. His name was inscribed on the Stanley Cup in 1942. Mr. Cottrell served as a member of the Board of Directors of several organizations, including Asbestos Corporation, Brazeau Collieries Limited, Foster Wheeler Limited, Hamilton Bridge Company, National Sanatorium Association, St. Lawrence Corpora-



Jim Marshall accepted the Walk of Fame for his aunt Edith Rainsford Dick. From left to right, MHS President Jan Mowbray, Jim Marshall, Mayor Gordon Krantz, MPP Ted Chudleigh and Region of Halton Chair Gary Carr

tion, Western Canada Flour Mills Company Limited and Union Gas Company of Canada.

### **Edward Dennis Hunter (1918 – 2010), International banker, Canadian-American diplomat**

Edward Hunter started his banking career as a teller with the Bank of Nova Scotia in Campbellville, where he was born and raised, and went on to serve seven decades across three continents with the venerable Canadian bank in executive leadership roles in Greece, Lebanon, Puerto Rico, Santa Domingo (Ciudad Trujillo) and the United States. He also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company of New York. He led Canadian-American diplomatic relations at a business level through his presidencies of The American Association of New York, The Canadian Society of New York and the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce, for which he was awarded Order of Canada and American Medal of Honour recognition. He also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Museum.

### **Edith Rainsford Dick (1906 – 1978) National nursing pioneer, Government Nursing executive**

Born and raised in Milton, Edith Dick served in leadership roles with the Government of Ontario's Department of Health (now Ministry of Health) for more than 30 years, most notably as Director of Nursing. Ms. Dick is credited for developing psychiatric nurs-

ing provincially as well as developing, improving and upholding nursing standards nationally, which led to its becoming a self-regulating profession under the auspices of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario. She was recognized for her pioneering leadership in nursing by both RNAO and the Canadian Nurses' Association. During World War II, she served as a Major (Principal Matron) of two Canadian hospitals in England and France, for which she was awarded the Royal Red Cross First Class Award by King George VI, just one of 132 Canadians to receive this recognition since the award's inception in 1883.

### **George Newton Hood (1955 - ) Provincial government executive, University executive**

Towards the end of his career with the Government of Saskatchewan (1981 – 1991), George Hood ultimately led the construction of the \$200 million Rafferty-Alameda Dam that now protects two Canadian provinces and one U.S. state during times of flood. Between 1985 and 1991, Mr. Hood shepherded the then controversial infrastructure project through negotiations that involved the offices of the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Canada, the federal Minister of Environment, the Premiers of Saskatchewan and Manitoba and the Governor of North Dakota. The resulting court challenge led to a review that changed the face of modern Canadian environmental law. Critics credit the legal process associated with the Rafferty-Alameda dam for the creation of federal environmental law in Canada. Mr. Hood authored an account of the project in 1994, entitled, *Against the Flow, Rafferty-Alameda and the Politics of the Environment*. He returned to Ontario to serve as Vice Principal of Advancement (1998 – 2006) at Queen's University, where he raised more than \$312 million in a single year – a record that still stands at Canada's most internationally prestigious post-secondary institution. Mr. Hood was raised in Milton.

### **The Honourable Joseph Martin, K.C. (1851 – 1923) lawyer, Premier of British Columbia, Cabinet Minister, Government of Manitoba, Member of Parliament, England**

Born and raised in Milton, the Honourable Joseph Martin served in the Government of British Columbia from 1898 to 1903, including as Premier in 1900, and Attorney-General and Minister of Education from 1898 to 1899; the Government of Manitoba from 1882 to 1892, including as Attorney-General and Minister of Education from 1888 to 1891; the Domin-



Anne MacArthur Elementary School Official Opening (l to r ) MHS President Jan Mowbray, Principal Kathy McArthur and school trustee Nancy MacNeil.

ion Parliament for Winnipeg from 1893 to 1896 as a Member of Parliament; and Member of Parliament for East St. Pancreas (London) in England from 1910 to 1918. In Manitoba, he took part in the abolition of French as an official language as well as the end of the separate school system. He advocated for the Torrens' system of land registry. Mr. Martin was an advocate of free trade and unrestricted reciprocity between Canada and the United States.

### **Anne MacArthur Elementary School official opening**

To celebrate the official opening on February 18th, 2014, and to welcome the approximately 800 children, an official opening ceremony was held. Guests included Trustees Donna Danielli and Nancy MacNeil (in photo), Superintendent Gord Truffen, School Council members, local councillor Rick DiLorenzo, and the President of the Milton Historical Society, Jan Mowbray."

In the photo, School Principal Kathy McArthur is accepting a framed photograph of Anne J MacArthur, for whom the school is named. The picture was donated by the Milton Historical Society. A copy of the latest edition of Biographies was donated to their library as well.

### **2014 – A winter to remember!**

The winter of 2014 has been a shocking reminder of how severe a winter can be in southern Ontario. Beginning with the Ice storm in late December and



followed by long periods of very cold weather with lots of snow it has been a long cold winter for all. The snowbanks are much higher than we are used to and our heating bills are higher than average for certain. As we start a new month, we anxiously wait for the weather to warm up and to begin melting the snow and ice.

The severe cold weather of early January was cold enough to freeze a water pipe at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. The frozen pipe did spring a leak but very, very fortunately the thawed pipe leaked on a Saturday morning when members were in the archives and able to quickly turn off the water supply and mop up the water. The pipe was repaired and extra insulation added to help prevent a repeat of frozen pipes. The accumulation of ice and snow caused part of an eavestrough to fall down on the south side of the building. Thanks to Mandy for coordinating repairs.

## **2014 OABA annual meeting at the Waldie Blacksmith shop**

On Feb 8th, the Ontario Artists Blacksmith Association (OABA) held their February meeting at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. The Milton Historical Society hosted the meeting which included a chili lunch, coffee and buns. There were approximately fifty blacksmiths and friends who traveled from around the province to view blacksmith demonstrations, to socialize and to have some fun.

Thanks to the executive members who volunteered to help serve the chili to our guests and thanks to all who cooked up the chili for the occasion. Thanks also to the Hunters of the J. Scott Early funeral home for allowing OABA members to use their parking lot. The event was a success and our chili sales and shop rental go towards the operation of the society.

There are three blacksmith classes scheduled for this spring and the first course is March 22nd. Our blacksmiths, Darwyne Hourie and Larry Maughan will be the instructors for these upcoming classes.

## **2014 Family Day activities at the Waldie Blacksmith shop**

The Milton Historical Society was open to the public



An example of a hand caned chair completed by Stuart Hill

on the recent family day. Stuart Hill demonstrated the art of caning a chair to our visitors.

Stuart started caning about ten years ago when he needed to make a canoe seat. He took a course at the Royal Botanical Gardens to learn the technique of hand weaving cane. Caning a chair includes six different steps of stretching the flexible strip of cane across the chair seat or chair back and requires lots of concentration as well as time. Thanks to Stuart for his demonstration.

Ann Kornuta brought with her a presentation which includes historic black and white photographs of some of Milton's prominent public buildings in the downtown core alongside the very colourful paintings she has painted of the same buildings. Milton's DBIA has recently made banners from three pieces of Ann's art which will be placed along Main street in the downtown area. Congratulations to Ann for her art work combining local heritage with artistry.

## **2014 Financial Statement**

Attached on page five is a review of 2012 and 2013 revenues and expenses. There was not much change in overall revenues and expenses with the exception of our publication expenses for the Milton Area Biographies, Volume 3 release near the end of 2013. Sales of the book have been good through the holiday period. The complete financial statement was presented at the annual general meeting in January.

## MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## CURRENT YEAR ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

		2013		2012	
		\$		\$	
REVENUE					
Memberships			1,315		1,649
Programmes	Gross	4,329		3,915	
	Expenses	<u>944</u>	3,385	<u>877</u>	3,038
Donations			2,095		1,869
Donations in			0		685
kind Publications	Gross	5,059		3,493	
	Expenses	<u>8,296</u>	(3,237)	<u>1,158</u>	2,334
Grants			2,958		1,545
Rentals			4,416		2,389
Gift shop	Gross	764		415	
	Expenses	<u>569</u>	195	<u>698</u>	(283)
Archive Project			1,412		
HST refund			709		1,564
Investment income			544		<u>1,458</u>
Total Net Revenue			<u>13,792</u>		<u>16,248</u>
EXPENSES					
Scholarship			300		300
Professional fees			600		600
Building lease			1		1
Membership			95		95
Resource Centre					
	Utilities	2,834		3,111	
	Taxes	1,550		1,506	
	Maintenance	1,939		1,873	
	Computer	1,089			
	Insurance	4,837		4,887	
	Amortization	1,249		1,249	
	Misc	<u>1,406</u>	14,904	<u>1,159</u>	13,785
Bank Charges		8		195	
HST		<u>2,019</u>		<u>1,249</u>	
Total Expenses			<u>17,927</u>		<u>16,225</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR					
(excess of revenue over expenses)			(4,135)		22

Jnaudited - See Notice to Reader

Padgett Business Services

## Chudleigh's Halton Day Act

MPP Ted Chudleigh has introduced a Private Members Bill 142 to the Ontario legislature seeking to formally proclaim Major William Halton day as September 22nd. The bill passed second reading on Feb 20th and has gone to committee before third reading. Major William Halton was known for his strong administrative skills in the early settlement of Upper Canada and for his humanitarian concern for veterans of the war of 1812 and their families. Halton county was named in honour of William Halton in 1816 and it is hoped that the bill be passed into law in advance of the 200th anniversary of Halton county's anniversary.



Gayle Waldie serves an OABA member hot chili and buns at the February meeting.

## Welcome New Members !

We welcome new members Muriel Rayner, Patricia Koberrnick and Chris Walton. If you haven't renewed your 2014 membership we invite you to do so at our monthly meetings.

Single Memberships are \$20.00

Double Memberships are \$35.00

Students—Free

## Garage Sale—Spring Cleaning

Keep us in mind if you are doing spring cleaning and de-cluttering your home. The Milton Historical Society is looking for any donated items for our annual Spring garage sale. We accept any items except large furniture and clothing. The proceeds go to fix some of the damages from the winter weather. If you have items to donate, please drop off on Wednesday or Saturday mornings in the first two weeks of April. For pickup of items, please phone 905-875-4156.

## Milton Historical Society

### MONTHLY PROGRAMS

March 20: 8 PM—Doug Massey and Keith Clark will be making a presentation on the Battle of Beaver Dams Project

April 12th: Milton Historical Society Garage Sale

April 17: 8 PM —Mandy & Mirella will be talking about their experiences moving heritage buildings.

## Here is your 2014 MHS Executive!

At the January general meeting the executive for 2014 was elected and the results are as follows. Congratulations to the new executive of the Milton Historical Society.

President—Jan Mowbray was elected to be the MHS

President for a two year term

Treasurer—Sue Paul

Secretary—Karin Tomosky

Plaquing/Past President—Marsha Waldie

Membership—Susan Platt

Heritage Milton representative—Mirella Marshall

Publicity/Marketing—Barb Fitzsimons

Monthly Programs—Vacant

Publications—Gloria Brown

MHS Journal/Blacksmith programs—Bruce Carlin

Special Programs—Pam McLean

Waldie Blacksmith shop Maintenance—Mandy Sedgwick

May 15: 8 PM—Andrew McCausland will be giving us a history of the McCausland Company and taking us on a tour of the stained glass windows his family have installed and maintained at Grace Anglican Church

May 25th: Victorian Tea at Willow Grove Heritage Farm, 5576 Regional Road # 25

June 19th: Potluck Dinner 6:30 PM





# The Journal

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June 2014 Volume 29, Issue 2

## Summer Edition

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*L to R - Susan Platt and Helen Comber*

### President's Message

I would like to thank the volunteers who continue to support the Milton Historical Society's activities throughout the year.

The Board continues to assess its functions and looking for different ways to promote the Society's goals – the preservation of the achievements of those who came before us, as we plan future events that honor those achievements.

Many hands make light work and make the work more fun: join in the fun – volunteer to help out for a couple of hours on a Saturday morning in the Blacksmith Shop – welcoming visitors, answering questions – generally acting the part of host or hostess to visitors to our doors. You might be amazed at the distance some of our visitors have travelled. One Saturday morning I welcomed a tour group from Russia. They had a translator with them, thank goodness.

They were extremely interested in the work of our blacksmiths. There is always a nice display in the Carriage Room, arranged by Gloria Brown.

Once a month we man a table outside Casa Americo for MHS – please stop by and say hello. We always take the hardy Mascot with us. Take a picture of yourselves during the market display and email it to us – we'll post it on the MHS Facebook page.

### New for 2014:

Watch for the launch of the first Milton Lego Competition. This is in partnership with the Milton Public Library. No charge for children - adults \$5 each. \$20 for team entries. Rules and entry forms will be posted at the end of June.

And watch for the Doors Open Milton event, which will take place September 27 across Milton. WWI is the theme; some highlights – Milton Concert band will be playing WWI songs at the Milton Centre for the Arts; Country Heritage Park will display steam tractors from pre WWI up to and including the WWI era.

Have a great summer everyone. And don't forget to renew your membership. Consider a membership as a gift for any history buffs in the family.

Jan Mowbray

## **Victorian Tea at Willow Grove Heritage Farm**

Members of the Milton Historical Society, friends and neighbours enjoyed a wonderful Victorian Tea at the home of Karin Tomosky and Larry Chambers on the first day of June. The weather was nice and made for a perfect afternoon. The tea was held indoors with tables and chairs arranged in several rooms across the main floor. The table settings were laid out with fine tablecloths and excellent china settings.

Along with tea there were scones, clotted cream, jam and honey fresh from Willow Grove farm. There were also a variety of sweets and some home-made punch and lemonade to quench thirsty visitors.

Guests were treated to live music from the duo of Bill Freeman and Ken Backer who played some old time tunes a variety of instruments including a dulcimer and a mountain style banjo.

There was a very special guest who dropped in for tea, Indira Naidoo-Harris who is the newly elected MPP for Milton, stopped by to socialize and extend greetings. There were two sittings set out for tea and all proceeds from the tea were donated to the Townsend Smith Foundation which is raising awareness and funds to build a hospice in North Halton. Approximately four hundred dollars were raised for the Townsend Smith organization.

In keeping with the theme of the Victorian Tea most of the guests dressed in period costume.

Thanks go to Karin and Larry for hosting the tea. This event involves a lot of planning and work and was a big success due to Karin's leadership.

Thanks to all those members who volunteered with the tea and/or who attended as guests. Please see the photo gallery on page 6.



*June 8, 1944 Canadian Champion Wartime Ad exhorting readers to save and recycle waste paper*

## **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day landing in Normandy**

### **Excerpts from the June 8th, 1944 Canadian Champion**

June 6, 2014 marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landing in Normandy. The D-Day landings led to the establishment of a third front of fighting in Europe and helped speed up the end of the war. The Canadian Champion reported the following. June 8, 1944 Canadian Champion.- Front Page News

### **350 Attend the Prayer Service on Invasion Day**

An Invasion Day Prayer service was held at St. Paul's United church on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Reverend Mr. Moore officiated and Rev. S.A. Kirk gave a wartime litany as well as other parts of the service. Miss Marjorie Dawson sang as a solo "The Lord is my Shepherd". The joint choir of the three churches sang an anthem "Lord of our Life and God of Our Salvation". There was a period of silent prayer, a special invasion day prayer, prepared by the Church of England.



## **Invasion of Continent Started Tuesday Morning**

by Michael O'Mara Canadian Press Staff Reporter

The article describes the size of the invasion force as involving 11,000 aircraft, 4,000 regular ships and additional thousands of smaller ships. The invasion was pre-ceeded by aerial bombing of the German defences at Normandy, France as well as a bombardment by more than 640 naval guns ranging in size from 4 to 16 inch shells. There was also an aerial invasion involving massed flights of parachute and glider forces which was described as a 50 mile train of transports and gliders that soared across the English Channel.

The reports indicate that a 50 mile stretch of French coast was in Allied hands after the first day with the depth inland up to 12 miles in some places. The number of troops involved in the invasion was not mentioned in the Champion but it is estimated that close to 150,000 troops participated. Lt -Gen. H.D.G. Crearer, the Canadian Army Commander sent a personal message to Canadian Troops where he indicated that the lessons learned at Dieppe "will prove to have been an essential prelude to our forthcoming and final success".

## **German Prisoners Believe War Lost**

London CP – Excerpt.

German Prisoners of War in Britain now are broadcasting to the German people and to the German forces saying the war is lost and that captivity under the British is better than fighting against them.

## **From the Archives**

Submitted by Gloria Brown

A wonderful collection of glass negatives have been donated to the Milton Historical Society from Dr. Deb Stark of Ariss, Ontario.



Photo of the mailbox at the Stark Farm. Mailbox inscriptions read E. R. Royal Mail Canada (E.R. initials represent

The pictures depict early farm life on her grandparents farm, Abram and Eleanor (Gastle) Stark on the 5th line, Trafalgar Township. There are over 80 negatives showing everything from hoeing fields, building silos, haying, etc.

One of the most interesting is of a mailbox, with the inscription E. R. Royal Mail was begun in 1908. E.R. are the initials for Edward Rex. How many people recorded this event? A number of pictures are taken at the Gastle farm on Walker's Line.

Thanks to our volunteers at the archives for keeping our information updated and helping researchers who contact our society. We encourage other members to become involved in either the archives or greeting our many visitors down in the shop! Please speak to Gloria or Marsha.

Thanks again to Anila Naeem for her presentation on the history of irons at our May meeting. Anila created a very nice powerpoint presentation and brought out a number of fine examples of early irons. Who knew that in times past you could load your iron with red hot coals and iron away unless you dropped one of those coals on the floor or had a coughing attack from the smoke!

## **Sleepy Valley Boys Music from earlier times**

If you attended the recent Victorian Tea, you had the opportunity to listen to the Sleep Valley Boys play some old time music. As their schedule permits the Sleepy Valley Boys hope to play their music in front of the Waldie Blacksmith shop this summer. The "Sleepy Valley Boys" are Ken Backer and Bill Freeman. They have been performing together in various musical situations for many years.

Ken Backer writes "The Sleepy Valley Boys" is our latest endeavour. Most of our songs are traditional old-time tunes from the Eastern mountain regions like the Blue Ridge Mts. and the Appalachians. We accompany our songs with traditional instruments from that area - the mountain dulcimer and fretless mountain banjo. As well, we dress the part for an old-time look.

## **Blacksmith Courses make for a busy spring**

There were a series of introductory blacksmith classes held this spring at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. The one day courses were held in March and April and were full classes. The students learn about blacksmith basics and make decorative hooks and other items. There are more courses scheduled in the Fall. During the summertime we will have blacksmiths demonstrating to visitors as well as selling some of their articles. Many thanks to our volunteer blacksmiths Larry Maughan and Darwyne Hourie for teaching the art of blacksmithing.



L. to R. Angus Agnew, Mark Langsford and instructor Larry Maughan



L. to R. Carol Cronin, instructor Darwyne Hourie and Carol's daughter.

## **Memories of Milton LEGO® contest**

The Milton Historical Society and the Milton Public Library are sponsoring a "Memories of Milton" LEGO® building contest. There are three categories, Architectural, WWI memories and Milton Life. Entries are free, the contest will start in July and the selecting of winning entries will be made at the end of September. For more information, contact Jan Mowbray or the Milton Public Library.

## Ontario Volunteer Service Award to Marsha Waldie

Marsha Waldie was the recipient of a 2014 Ontario Volunteer Service Award in the category of forty years of contributions to the Milton Historical Society. The Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration organized the awards evening which included a pin and a personalized certificate given to each of the award recipients.

The ceremony was held on April 29, 2014 in Mississauga and MPP Dipika Damerla for Mississauga East presented the commemorative pins. Marsha was accompanied by her sister Gayle at the event. After the presentations there was a reception for the award winners. Marsha has been a leader for the Milton Historical Society contributing on a number of levels including historical home research and plaquing, biographical research, day to day oversight at the Milton Historical Society offices and much more. Congratulations Marsha and well deserved!

## Milton Garage Sale raises funds for building repairs.

This spring's garage sale raised over eight hundred dollars to go towards repairs for the MHS building. Special thanks go to Lou Bradley for donations of articles. Great job Gloria Brown and Pam McLean for leading this successful fund raiser.

## Milton Area Biographies News

The Milton Area Biographies Volume 2 has been reprinted so that means that all volumes 1, 2 and 3 are in stock.



Marsha Waldie and sister Gayle at the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards ceremony this spring.

## Richard Laughton—Mr Fix IT

Thanks to Richard Laughton for keeping all of our computers, microfilm machines and other equipment in running order. Earlier this spring, one of the computers failed. Thanks to Mirella Marshall for donating a computer to replace the defective machine and to Richard for all the work involving software and hardware to keep our systems operational.

## Calendar of Events

June 20th Campbellville 100th anniversary celebrations at Mohawk Raceway 7-10 PM includes fireworks, free admission

June 21st there will be a series of events in the town of Campbellville. Go to [scottandkat.ca/scott-fox-to-appear-at-campbellvilles-100th-anniversary/](http://scottandkat.ca/scott-fox-to-appear-at-campbellvilles-100th-anniversary/)

July and August—Milton Historical Society is open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings 9 till noon.

September 18th 8:00 PM—MHS general meeting guest speaker to be announced



## Victorian Tea—2014— Photo Gallery



*L to R*—Ann Scott, Indira Naidoo-Harris, Nancy Cuttle, Karin Tomoskey Chambers and Marion Valavik



Participants at the recent Victorian Tea (L to R) Evelyn Gillies, Karin Tomosky, Indira Naidoo Harris, and assistant in behind, Margaret Lawson, Larry Chambers, unknown, Mrs. Faye



*L to R* - Margaret Lawson, Evelyn Gillies and Mary-Jane Wingfield



Bill Freeman and Ken Backer ,making music (The Sleepy Valley boys)



A selection of punch greeted visitors by the front door!  
Perfect thirst quencher for a warm afternoon.



# The Journal

October 2014  
Volume 29, Issue 3

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*WW I Display of photos, books and articles at recent Doors Open—Milton.*

### President's message...MHS

Well, an indifferent summer followed a cold wet spring, which followed a freezing winter but at least fall has been fairly nice so far. No matter the weather, I hope you had a great summer.

With fall, activities are stepped up again and pretty soon it seems our summer is distant memory.

The first speaker session focussed on the Stark family. James Stark was a farmer, 1787 – 1864, some of his descendants were on hand for the presentation, making for a more personal event.

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, Doors Open Milton took place under the auspices of the Milton Historical Society. The theme was WWI. Venues included the Waldie Blacksmith Shop, where

Gloria Brown and Kay Bounsall had prepared a wonderful display of newspaper articles, photographs and memorabilia relevant to the period. Also available was a new version of the Downtown Walking Tour featuring WWI highlights. There were also a variety of activities at Country Heritage Park and the Milton Centre for the Arts.

Our working committee consisted of representation from the Milton Public Library, the Milton Centre for the Arts, Milton Concert Band, the Steam-Era and Country Heritage Park – thank you to them all for their work in pulling this together. We're already thinking about next year. As I mentioned above, with fall, comes the start of a new series of speaker presentations and there is a very interesting line-up for your interest. Membership is key to our survival, so we have an invitation for you: Bring a friend to one of the speaker sessions, and your name will be entered into a draw. If your friend subsequently joins the Milton Historical Society, another ticket in your name will go in the draw - you have an extra chance for every friend you sponsor who becomes a member. The winning ticket will be drawn during the December Potluck. We continue to need volunteers to

help during Saturday open hours at the Blacksmith Shop: 9am to noon. These volunteers act as hosts - greeting/welcoming people to the Shop, answering questions visitors might have, encouraging visitors to sign in the ledger at the entrance to the blacksmith shop, taking monies for book sales and providing any other information as needed. These volunteers are important, they are our MHS ambassadors. On behalf of the board, we look forward to seeing you at the next event.

Jan Mowbray

### **Doors Open - Milton WWI Downtown Walk booklet produced**

A WWI commemorative downtown walking booklet was produced for the recent "Doors Open - Milton" which was held on Saturday, September 28th. The booklet includes descriptions of 27 buildings or monuments in the downtown area and their connection to WWI. In addition to the Victoria Park cenotaph and the German field gun there are residential properties that were built during WWI and include a short description of the architectural style, the owner of the home as well as the builder.

Included in the eleven page booklet are the churches and the Commemorative plaques, Honour roles and stained glass windows in honour of church members who served in WWI. The Old Town Hall on Main street was the scene of many recruitment drives during the war as well as community meetings and receptions during the war years.

Thanks to Anne Fisher from the Town of Milton for producing this bulletin. This bulletin is free and summarizes very well the architecture and monuments of the WWI era.

(Editor's note, the WWI booklet is undergoing some edits, for more information, contact Marsha Waldie).



Stark Family L to R (Front ) Dr. Howard Dobson, Dr. Deb. Stark, Bob Stark (Back ) George Gastle, Joan Gastle-Haddon, Gloria Stark Brown

### **Milton Concert Band - WW1 Commemorative Concert**

As part of the recent Culture Days, the Milton Concert Band held a one hour concert in commemoration of the start of World War I. The band played a number of WWI era popular and military tunes including such well known songs as "Keep the Home Fires burning", "It's a Long Way to Tipperary", "Roses of Picardy", and "Salute to Canada" military marching song. While the band played, there were Milton photographs of the 164th battalion parading on Main street and at Victoria Park. Thanks to Joseph Resendes and the concert band for this entertaining and educational concert.

If you would like to hear more WWI era songs, there is a good website with a wide selection of WWI recorded music and lyrics. Go to <http://www.ww1photos.com/WW1MusicIndex.html>



## On the Eve of War: Ontario in 1914

There has been much written in newspapers, magazines and other media about the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the First World War. The Toronto Star has posted stories about two young Canadians who hiked along the path that the Canadian Expeditionary Force followed over the course of the war. In another edition of the Star, there is an encyclopedia of WWI terms.

### Population

The 1911 Halton census includes a total population of 22,208. The most populous townships were Trafalgar, Esquesing and Nelson townships with 3,988, 3901 and 2910 respectively. The urban centers were less populous with Milton at 1654, Georgetown at 1583 and Burlington at 1831.

**Occupations** - There was a rapid period of industrialization that began in the late 1800's and continued on into the early 1900's. People were moving from the farms to the cities during this period of time. Working conditions were poor with no unemployment insurance, no pension plans and long work hours. Unions started to form to lobby for the workers rights. In 1914, the minimum income needed to sustain a family of five needed to pay for food, light, housing was \$14.59 per week and even skilled workers had difficulty to earn this income. A skilled ironworker in Hamilton earned \$19.25 for a 55 hour week. Labourers in manufacturing industries in Ontario only averaged \$12.21 per week. Women cotton spinners who averaged only \$7.41/week. There was no health care coverage.

**Transportation** – In 1914, Milton had two railways as we do today. The CNR station was completed in 1903 and was located nearby to Main and Bronte.

**Culture** – During the pre-war years, there was more time for leisure and the movie theatres became a common sight in most Ontario communities.



*Milton Concert Band performs WWI era music at recent Culture Days in Milton*

**Society** – There were Halton Agricultural Society, the Halton's Women's Institutes, the Independent Order of Daughters of the Empire (I.O.D.E.) had been established in 1911, the Rebekah Lodge # 79 had been in existence since 1905 in Milton, the St. Clair Lodge Master in 1914 was Alex Armstrong, the I.O.O.F. Milton Lodge # 92 Noble Grands had William E. Dent as their leader in 1914. Milton also had the Milton Mechanics Institute which was the forerunner of the Milton Public Library and Miss Maggie Mackenzie was the head Librarian in 1914. At this time women in Ontario did not have the right to vote.

In 1914 Ontario was an economic power and political driver in Canada. There had been waves of immigration from Britain, the USA, Europe and elsewhere. Culturally, Ontario was predominantly British before the war.

By 1911 new industries such as mining, iron and steel making and secondary manufacturing employed more workers than any other sector in Ontario cities. During the war years, Canada saw over one billion dollars in war contracts and 60% of that came from Ontario alone.

Southcentral Ontario was the home of many manufacturing industries.

### **Military**

The 164<sup>th</sup> battalion Halton and Dufferin began recruiting late in 1915 and departed for England in April 1917. The 164<sup>th</sup> was assigned to the 13<sup>th</sup> brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> division of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. In February, 1918 it was decided that the 5<sup>th</sup> division would be disbanded so the 164<sup>th</sup> battalion soldiers and officers were assigned to frontline battalions, mainly the 102<sup>nd</sup> and the 116<sup>th</sup> battalion, CEF. Sizeable numbers were also drafted to the 21<sup>st</sup> battalion, the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and to the Canadian Machine Gun battalion in Seaford, England. Members of Milton were reported to also have been drafted into the 8<sup>th</sup> Reserve battalion.

The 116<sup>th</sup> battalion took part in actions including the Battle of Amiens in August of 1918. The soldiers were transported to the front lines by railcar. The Battle of Amiens included one of the heaviest artillery barrages of the war and during this battle, the battalion captured many pieces of equipment from the German army as well as 450 prisoners. The casualties of the 116<sup>th</sup> were very heavy. The battalion started with 900 men and two days later at the end of the action there were 240 who were present at roll call. Many of the victims of the battle came from the 164<sup>th</sup> battalion. (From Canadian Expeditionary Force Study group, contributor Richard Laughton)

### **Archivists unravel Mystery of the Charcoal Portraits** submitted by Gloria Brown

Early in July, Marsha had a phone call from a lady in Guelph who wanted to give the Historical Society two pictures. The following week, on a Wednesday morning she arrived with two large charcoal portraits of two young ladies.



Charcoal drawings of Lillian Main above and sister Pearl Main below





Her name was Mrs Rosemarie Mazzocca and she had rescued them from the porch of a friend's house in Hamilton. The portraits had come out of a barn. On the back of the younger woman's picture, was a piece of brown paper that had writing that said Mrs. Burnfield, Milton, Hwy 25 South, small brick house, east side.

On Saturday morning, Gloria looked in the Evergreen Cemetery records and found Robert Burnfield and his wife Lillie Main, both buried in the Main family plot. Marsha then went on the computer and pulled up a picture from Bruce street school that Joe Willmott had loaned Jim Dills when Bruce street school closed. It was the class from 1896 and he had identified only three girls. One was Lillie Main (Mrs. Burnfield) and her sister Pearl (Mrs Cartwright).

On the following Wednesday, Jim brought in a booklet "From Crown to Crown" that the government had published when land was being purchased for the School for the Deaf. This was the farm owned by Mr. and Mrs. Burnfield, but was originally owned by her grandfather James Main and father William Main. On the following Saturday, Walter Eadie went into the Census records and found out information on Pearl Main. She married Elgin Cartwright. In 1945 they moved to Lewiston, New York and they also are buried in Evergreen cemetery.

### Wartime Letter from Captain A.C.

**Bastedo**—The Canadian Champion - Thursday, Aug 27th, 1914 From Quebec - Valcartier Camp

We arrived safely in camp yesterday and are busy getting things in shape. I thought you would be glad to hear something concerning affairs here. No one seems to know when or where we are going abroad. Secrecy seems to be in the ascendent.

Our corps is part of composite corps consisting of the Queen's Own rifles, 38th Brantford rifles, G.G. Bodyguard, 25th Dragoons, 20th Halton



A class at Bruce St. school in 1896. Most of them are dead now, according to Joe Willmott who loaned the photo. In the front row the fourth girl from the left was Mabel Campbell. Sixth from left in the second row is Pearl Main (Mrs. Elgin Cartwright) and third from the right is her sister Lily Main (Mrs. Burnfield). In the third row, Fred White is second from the right side.

1896 Bruce Street school photograph Pearl and Lillie Main

Rifles, 37th Haldimand Rifles, 39th Norfolk rifles, 43rd D.C.O.R., and the 51st Sault Ste. Marie rifles, about 1200 men in all.

We are No.1 Co. of the 6th Regt., 2nd brigade. The City Corps that is the Q.O.R. and the 43rd, are not yet in camp. We came in 172 all ranks - 6 officers, and by long odds have the best contingent so far. None of the others have so many men nor are they in such good shape.

Sergt. Lorne Bradley is col. sergt of the company. The Milton company comprises the 2nd section of the company and is afforded the premier place as regards efficiency so far.

The training here will consist largely of rifle practice and night marches. The men will be worked hard. The new rifle, Mark III, Ross, is a beautiful weapon, beautifully sighted and seems very serviceable. It seems very easy to shoot with and the scoring is good.

This is a very large camp, but the men on the whole are very raw and will need considerable work before they get into shape, particularly those from Eastern Canada, as they compare most unfavourably with the troops from Ontario.

Your truly,  
A.C. Bastedo, Capt.



## Milton Book Fair– November 22nd

Volunteers Pam McLean and Gloria Brown have been busy planning and organizing the Milton Historical Society book fair. A number of local historical society organizations have been invited to display books, pamphlets and other historical documents. As of press time, Halton Region Museum, the Halton and Peel Genealogical Society and Esqueusing historical society had confirmed their attendance. Also, our own MHS member Stuart Hill will demonstrate book binding. The book fair runs from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. This is a good opportunity to get some Christmas shopping for the History buff on your list.



## Remember to Remember by Tom Bochsler

Beny-sur-Mer, Normandie © Tom Bochsler

Photographer Tom Bochsler is our November guest speaker and his presentation is timely because of Remembrance Day. It is also a personal way of showing recognition and thanks to all military and service personal that make Canada the best place to live.

It is a moving message with images he made on trips to France and Belgium, including Vimy, Juno Beach, Menin Gate and other War Memorials and Cemeteries.

He calls it the trip that has meant the most to him, out of his trips to Asia and many countries in Europe, for professional and personal reasons over the past 45 years. It illustrates the respect that many citizens there, still show for the efforts of our Canadian troops that gave us our freedoms.

As part of Tom's presentation, we are looking for a volunteer to read the poem "In Flanders Fields" by Lt Colonel John McRae. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Carlin at [bdcarlin@gmail.com](mailto:bdcarlin@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

October 16th MHS general meeting 8 PM at Waldie Blacksmith shop—Native Peoples of Halton and Peel—Guest speaker Mark Rowe

November 20th MHS general meeting 8 PM at Waldie Blacksmith shop—Remember to Remember—Tom Bochsler

Nov 22nd—Milton Book Fair 10 am to 2 PM at Waldie Blacksmith shop. A good opportunity to shop for the history buff.

December 18th—MHS Christmas Potluck dinner—6 PM at Waldie Blacksmith shop.



# The Journal

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



*Santa's elves spreading cheer at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. (l to r. Barb Fitzsimons, Kay Bounsall and Karin Tomosky Chambers.*

## The Spirit of Christmas shines at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop.

When the Milton DBIA planned to have horse drawn wagon rides to celebrate the holidays, the MHS was invited to participate. Executive members Barb Fitzsimons, Karin Tomosky Chambers and Gloria Brown decided to open up the doors of the Waldie Blacksmith shop to welcome the downtown visitors.

The wagon rides were scheduled for Dec 4 and 11 in the evenings and the embarkation point was in front of the Knox church. Barb Fitzsimons invited the holiday revellers to come visit the Waldie Blacksmith shop after their wagon ride to warm up and enjoy some refreshments and family activities.

The Waldie Blacksmith shop was beautifully decorated both inside and out. Garlands of evergreen branches and three wooden Rudolph reindeers with noses glowing greeted visitors to the front of the shop. Inside, visitors were invited to register their visit. The gas fireplace had a welcoming glow and radiated heat to warm visitors as the children enjoyed creative activities including colouring, decorating Christmas cookies or watching the blacksmith hammer metal into different shapes.

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## President's Message

Another busy year is on its way into the history books – the New Year is practically upon us. Where has it gone?! On behalf of the board of the Milton Historical Society: our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

But before that, we hope to see you at our final event of the year – the Annual Potluck Dinner. I believe it's mentioned elsewhere in this News Letter but along with your "pot" – remember to BYOU (Bring Your Own Utensils – cup/glass, silverware, plate). Come and enjoy a relaxing evening of fellowship as we have fun with a couple of new games, some old carols to sing and good food to eat.

Jan Mowbray

Tables and chairs were placed in the carriage room which was beautifully decorated with Christmas tablecloths as well as ornamental flashing candles and Christmas figurines and of course a Christmas tree with old style tree ornaments. The Display case was filled with a variety of miniature homes, old style Christmas cards and other ornaments. There were also lots of holiday refreshments including hot apple cider, hot chocolate and marshmallows and assorted cookies and other sweets. Thanks to all the volunteers who brought many smiles to all the visitors which numbered about 75 each evening.

### **Book Fair a one stop shopping trip for local heritage!**

The Milton Historical Society book fair was held on November 22nd at the Waldie Blacksmith shop. Both the blacksmith shop and carriage room were filled with tables displaying books and CD's for sale. Vendors included the Nasagieweya, Oakville, and Esquesing historical societies as well as Global Genealogy, the Halton Region museum and the Halton- Peel genealogy society. Local authors, John McDonald, Jim Dills, Hugh Beaty and Marsha Waldie were also at the event to sell copies of their books. There was a good turnout for this event and the funds raised will go towards the activities of the Milton Historical Society. Thanks to Pam, Gloria, Jim and Marsha for all their efforts with publicizing the event and reaching out to the local societies and authors.

### **Hugh Beaty - Extra Ordinary**

The biography of Hugh Beaty was one of the new publications on sale at the November 22nd book fair. Mark Cullen, the well known gardening author and expert, interviewed Hugh over a series of sit down meetings and the book is a collection of the questions and answers of these meetings. The book captures Hugh's memories as a young person growing up on a farm on the fourth line



Young and mature enjoy making crafts at one of the holiday open house events at the Waldie shop.

south of Omagh, living through the Depression years, getting married, enlisting for WWII and his return home to farming after the war. Hugh could have remained a farmer but he decided to share his agricultural experiences and sold his farm at the age of 58 to be a representative of SHARE which is an agricultural development support agency that was started by some farmers in the Brampton area. Hugh and his wife Melba went to Brazil on behalf of SHARE and Hugh's responsibilities included training and overseeing the operation of a dairy farm with some local farmers. This book includes some funny stories, some tragedies, and some extra ordinary events during Hugh's war experiences and SHARE experiences. Hugh has a very modest and unassuming nature. This book is a nice collection of Hugh's life experiences and a good read for local historians.

### **News from the Archives**

Over the course of the summer and continuing on we have been fortunate to have a new talented volunteer helping at our archives, Emma Leeder in her own words tells us a bit about herself. "Hi there, my name is Emma Leeder!



I am a recent graduate from the University of Guelph and have a major in Anthropology, my interest lies in museum studies in relation to educational programs and community outreach in a museum setting (both online and offline) which is what brought me to the Milton Historical Society.

I live on one of the old streets of Milton and so have always had an interest in the history of my own house, the neighbourhood and the town. Volunteering with the Historical Society seemed like a natural step where I could gain experience in archival/museum work and be a part of a vibrant organization that benefits the local community.

I have been working on a few different projects at the MHS. The main one has been making digital records and an online database of the many photos, articles, indexes, etc that make up the archives. I have also been updating the MHS Twitter and Facebook pages to try and grow the Society's online presence and community outreach via social media. I have really been enjoying my time with MHS and hope to continue to work with this group. Through this work I can put my educational background to use while gaining valuable experience in this field and benefit the preservation of history in Milton."

### **Letter printed in the December 17th, 1914 Canadian Champion from Captain A.C. Bastedo of Milton.**

(Forward—From Milton Remembers World War I by John Challinor II and Jim Dills)

Lieutenant A.C. Bastedo wrote a number of letters to the Canadian Champion in the Fall of 1914 reporting on the Milton soldiers and their experiences at Valcartier army base in Quebec. He originally joined the 4th Battalion of the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force on September 22, 1914 while a student at the University of Toronto. Lieutenant Bastedo is thought to be the first young man from Halton County to enlist. He continued his correspondence with the Champion and this December letter was written from England and the Salisbury Plains where the Canadian Expeditionary Forces trained.

Captain A.C. Bastedo was killed a few months later during the Battle of Langemarck near Langemarck, Belgium on April 23, 1915. He received the 1914-15 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory medal posthumously. His family received the Memorial Cross. Lieutenant A.C. Bastedo was a Captain prior to his enlistment.



Visitors to the recent Milton Historical Society book fair speak with book vendors.

Born in Milton on April 30, 1886, Lieutenant Bastedo was the son of John and Ida Bastedo of Toronto. His name has been engraved on the walls of the Hall of Memory at Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres Belgium, on the Roll of Service at the University of Toronto, on the Memorial Windows at St. Paul's United Church, Milton and on the Cenotaph (A.C. Bastedo) at Victoria Park, Milton.

Major Panton:

Dear Sir, -You will no doubt be interested in the doings of the Canadian forces in England, and while hearing from other sources yet, perhaps, I can give you more detail about the doings of that small force which Milton sent forth to the wars.

To the wars it was, for we will undoubtedly soon see a great deal of real fighting. So far it has been preparation, but we feel that now we are getting ready to start for the firing line and it will not be many weeks before we do so. We are said to be in much better shape than the first Canadian contingent which went to South Africa, and while we realize that we are not just like British regulars, yet we have the confidence that our men will bear themselves well and do justice to Canada, and be a great help to the Empire.

I am proud to say that of the men who came from Milton every man is doing the very best he knows how and every man has proved himself to be a good soldier. Indeed they are so good that several other officers have envied them and asked if certain of them could be transferred to other companies, or if they couldn't trade men for them, etc. They are all smart on parade and among the best shots in the regiment. Sergt. Bradley holds the crossed rifles for the best shot in the 20th Regt. at home, but I am afraid that

he will have to hand it over to Pte. Palmer. The men are all looking well and standing the wet climate perfectly, a different looking lot of soldiers than marched out of Milton last August. Proud as I was of them then, I am much prouder today and expect to be still more so when we come home again.

There are several rumours about as to when we are going away. Some say that we are to be sent to the east coast for fear of the Germans landing a force there, and there is quite a scare about it by the inhabitants. Others say that we will go to France before many days. Again we are likely to go to Egypt to fight the Turks. Of course rumour isn't very important. However, there is no doubt that we will go where and when we are wanted, and we all hope that it will be soon.

We receive the Canadian papers though always a few days late. The most striking thing about them is that they always seem full of great victories for us and reverses for the enemy, victories which the English papers seem to report nothing of. The Toronto papers rather lend the idea that the allies have everything in their grasp and that any day news may come that the war is over. The people here are led to believe quite differently and all appear to realize the great seriousness of the struggle, the danger that the Empire is in and the results of failure to overwhelm Germany. We frequently meet officers who have returned wounded from the front and from them we gain a true account of the events. They say the Germans attack with great bravery, that they seems to have endless quantities of men, line after line advancing seemingly never ending, and it is only with the greatest daring and physical endurance that our troops are able to stop them at all.

When the time comes for the allies advance into Germany, which they will have to do in order to crush the Germans, the great struggle will begin. Then will the suffering be greatest and the need for men be shown. I am told that the Germans have hundreds of miles mined inside their own borders, and are prepared to stand for months against the combined forces of the world. They have been preparing for this war for so long. The fact of the possession of the 12 centimetre guns, howitzers which possession was a secret to the nations, shows something of the manner in which they have laid their plans. What else they have no one knows, and when we consider that they are the leaders in the manufacture of warlike materials and that they have amongst them the greatest scientific men of the age, it is not surprising that they may spring any number of men destructive inventions upon the armies at their doors.

We get great opportunities here for seeing things. When we were in Plymouth harbour, H.M.S. Hawk passed within a few feet of our boat. Six hours later we heard the news that



Our boys leaving for the war, August 17th, 1914. Photo taken in front of the Milton Armoury. Captain A.C. Bastedo in center.

she was blown up by a German submarine, one of the very boats which were looking for us. The Germans had six submarines after our fleet and failed to locate us. They would surely have sent us all to the bottom had they caught us, even though we were protected by perhaps the greatest escort that ever crossed the seas. We had nineteen war vessels in all from the super dreadnaughts down to light cruisers. Only seven escorted us from Gaspe bay, but twelve others joined us later and formed a second circle around us further out to sea where we couldn't see them. It appears that a submarine is so deadly that one can cripple a whole fleet of armour clad vessels if it gets among them. I was down at Yarmouth one day when there was a German scare. Indeed, the Germans dropped shell within a mile of the coast, so perhaps the danger wasn't all scare after all.

Salisbury plain is situated near the old historic town of Salisbury, where Cromwell stabled his horses in the beautiful old cathedral, the finest in England, and near where Charles I was captured. All about are pleasant little villages, beautiful, inviting places where we go sometimes for a dinner or for a change from camp life which grows wearisome at times. The plains are admirably situated for a great training ground and as the land is not very fertile, they are used almost entirely for that purpose. The aviation corps have their headquarters near here, so we are constantly attracted by the biplanes soaring overhead and awaken sometimes in the night to hear the buzz of a machine passing along.

The camp here is not dry like in Canada, but we have a canteen open for an hour at noon and at night. Light beer only is sold. The canteen is run very strictly much more so than used to be the case at Niagara. If we had not the can-

teen the men would only go to some of the neighbouring town where under the existing license laws, the bars are open all day until midnight and on Sundays the same as week days. We are always glad to get the Champion. I distribute them to the Milton boys and I think that every word is read several times. You see the mail bag is a most welcome affair and news of any sort from home receives a warm reception.

By the way I am not the assistant adjutant of the 4th Batt., and never have been so. I was gazetted that way, but it was wrong. I was given command of D Co., and then, when the new organization of a 4 company regiment instead of 8 companies took place, a major was in command of each, with a captain second in command. Now we are going back to the old organization again.

I met to-day a sergeant of the Cameron Highlanders who had returned from the front wounded. I asked him if he was going back to join his regiment soon. He replied, "I'm going back, but hardly to join my old regiment, for out of a thousand men we have only eighty five left and not one officer." That's a pretty extreme case, but I am told it is true. The Cameron Highlanders is Corp. Peak's old regiment.

Major Ballantine and I have just returned from a few days in London where we had the good fortune to hear Lloyd George speak on the war finances. He impressed me very much. He appeared to be in perfect master of his subject and in every way demonstrated himself to be the great man that I have always thought him. A most interesting thing about the Parliament was the entire absence of the jangling and noisy jingo talk which I have so often heard in the Toronto Legislature. The whole government seems to be united and working together during this time of crisis.

We saw a fine demonstration of King Henry IV, at his majesty's theatre, better than any company I have ever seen in Canada. Major Ballantine is a Shakespeare student and was great company. London is dark at nights. All the lights out at 10 PM for fear of Zeppelin raids. I will try to write you again when I have something more important to say. I hope that Milton is prosperous as usual.

Yours sincerely,  
A.C. Bastedo  
Captain.



**Jessie Josephine Hamilton**  
**September 1, 1918-October 23, 2014**

Jessie Hamilton passed away peacefully at Allendale Long Term Care Facility on Thursday October 23, 2014 in her 97<sup>th</sup> year. She was the eldest daughter of the late William Henry Service and Ellen Peer and will be sadly missed by her brother and sister, William (Archie) Service of Acton and Viola Bartholomew of Guelph as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Jessie was predeceased by her beloved husband Robert Hamilton in 1963 and her beloved daughter Carol in 2006. She was also predeceased by her brothers and sisters: Alexander, Elvera (Parchem), Edith (Ferrier), Dorothy (McDonald) and George. Her good friend and business partner "Bus" Norrington predeceased her in 1988.

Jessie was a well-known and respected citizen of the Milton area all of her life. She was born on the Service family farm in Nassagaweya Township, married in 1939 and moved into the Town of Milton in 1943. She was involved in numerous organizations including the Halton Museum Auxiliary, Milton Hospital Auxiliary, Halton Centennial Manor, Milton Lawn Bowling Club, Milton Horticultural Society and was a founding member of the Milton Historical Society. Jessie was always a model citizen and proud of her community. She loved to dance right up to her last days and practiced yoga well into her 90's.



## Annual General Meeting

The 2015 Annual General meeting will be held at our January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. At the meeting we will have our general elections for the 2015 Milton Historical Society executive. All executive positions are open for nomination with the exception of the President Jan Mowbray who is going into the second year of her position. After the general elections there will be a Show and Tell so all members are invited to bring with them an interesting item to speak about with other members at the meeting.

## New Members

Welcome to the following new members Sandy McInnes, Eileen Bush, Danielle Masanto, Tom and Savanna Cahill and Jane and Tony Trischler.

A reminder that memberships for 2015 can be purchased anytime. Individual Prices are \$20.00 for the year and a family membership is \$35.00.

## Blacksmith News

We have had another busy year with our blacksmiths demonstrating the art for visitors to the shop. The blacksmith classes schedule for 2015 has been produced and we thank our two volunteer blacksmiths Mr. Darwyne Hourie and Larry Maughan for instructing blacksmith hobbyists on the art of blacksmithing.



Recent blacksmith class participants, October 2015

## Calendar of Events

December 18th MHS Potluck dinner at 6:30 PM Waldie Blacksmith Shop

December 31st 11:45 New Year's Bell Ringing at Victoria Park

January 1st—Happy New Year's

January 15th—Milton Historical Society annual general meeting and elections followed by a Show and Tell session. Bring an interesting historical item to speak about.

February 14th— Ontario Artists Blacksmith Association February meeting

February 19th—Milton Historical Society general meeting—Satish Tarachandra of Milton will speak about Napoleonic and War of 1812 Military strategies and will bring with him a display of Military battle scenes that he has created.