



Vol. 21 No. 6

Editor: Jim Warren

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September in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Public Library at 130 Johnson Street.

SIR JOHN'S MEMORIAL

Our annual tribute to Sir John A. Macdonald was carried out on 6 June at Cataraqui Cemetery. The address was given by Dr. Agnes M. Benedickson Chancellor of Queen's University. Fifteen wreaths were laid at Sir John's gravesite where he rests with his first wife Isabella, his mother Helen, his father Hugh, his son John Alexander, his sisters Margaret and Louisa and his brother-in-law the Reverend James Williamson. The committee for the Memorial Service includes Wallace Breck, Margaret Burdsall, Margaret Cohoe, Bill Fittell, Jack Grenville, John Grenville, George F. Henderson, Fred McConnell, Emma Molson and Isobel Trumpour. Our thanks to you all.

ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

We are pleased to note that our own Jennifer McKendry, architectural historian, consultant and former board member of Frontenac Heritage Foundation, has accepted the Lieutenant Governor's invitation to join the Board of Directors of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Incidentally, if you would like to receive the OHF newsletter *Heritage Matters*, call them at (416) 325-5015 or Fax (416) 325-5071.

MYSTERIOUS MISSISSAUGAS

For the first meeting of a new season, we welcome Dr. Brian Osborne who will tell an interesting tale about 'Kingston's Mysterious Mississaugas'. Between 1783 and 1830, the Mississaugas became an experiment in local Indian policy. Sounds sinister, I can hardly wait! As usual, 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday 21

VISION KINGSTON

The line between past, present and future is a tenuous one. It varies with the viewer and the times. As members of the Kingston Historical Society, we may do well to realize that history lies on a continuum. If our lives and those of our children are to be worthwhile, we must use our knowledge of the past and our examination of the present to ensure a healthy future.

To this end, a citizens group called Vision Kingston has been formed. Its purpose is "To create a vision for the future of Kingston, and see it carried out." One of its first activities is to present a counterpoint to a group of developers intent on erecting high-rise buildings beside City Hall, on the waterfront and in the downtown historic district. Despite a new Official Plan which emphasizes compatibility with existing historic buildings, these developers seek to change parts of the Plan which protect our heritage. Their case will be heard by the Ontario Municipal Board on 24 January. Vision Kingston must prepare position papers by 1 December. If you would like to join the cause, call Keith Ball at 546-9693. For more information, call me, Jim Warren, at 544-7410.

CHEERS TO THE ANGUSES

We all join in congratulations to Margaret and William Angus on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary on 28 August 1994. They met in 1927 at the University of Montana. He was her professor. You know these young girls who play up to the teacher. They married in 1929 and moved to Kingston in 1937 where William taught English literature and founded the drama department. They worked together at Queen's for many years. Margaret, of course, continues to astound us with her energetic pursuit of local history. Their son Jim Angus lives in

Toronto. Their daughter Barbara Morgan is in Kingston. Seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren follow.

NEW MEMBER

Our latest member is Nancy Berndt, a third year history student at Trent University. Born in North Bay, she has lived in Kingston since 1979 where she is active with the Maky Ukrainian Dance Group and combines an interest in history with science fiction. This past summer she has been working with Tex Joyner at the PWOR Museum. We welcome her to the Society and hope that her scholarly pursuits permit her to attend our meetings.

HENRY PEARSON GUNDY

Our Society is deeply saddened by the passing of long time member Pete Gundy on 27 July. Joining us in 1948, he became an executive member in 1954 and edited Historic Kingston from 1959 until 1975. Remembered for his dry wit, he contributed eight papers to Historic Kingston. In 1947 Gundy became Queen's University Librarian, retiring in 1966. His academic career took him to McMaster University, the University of Chicago and Mount Allison in Sackville, N.B. He was co-founder of McGill-Queen's University Press serving as Senior Editor. Among many published works was an edition of the Letters of Bliss Carmen in 1981.



JUTLAND WINDOW

Twelve coloured glass windows were installed in the Memorial Hall of City Hall in 1921 to commemorate heroic actions during the First World War. One shows a boy seaman against the backdrop of the Battle of Jutland.

In London, England each year, the Royal British Legion honours the memory of a boy seaman, John Cornwell, for his valour at the Battle of Jutland. The lad died of his wounds at age 16. British Legionnaire Robert Strong wrote to the magazine *This England* in 1993 to locate a stained window which commemorated Cornwell's deed. By chance, our Peggy Cohoe saw the article and linked it with the window in our City Hall. Thanks to the initiative of Peggy and our President Bill Fittell, a ceremony was arranged on 17

August at which Robert Strong and his family were greeted by our Mayor Ken Matthews at City Hall and Lieutenant Bogart Trumppour, RCNVR gave a moving account of the bravery of Boy Seaman John Travers Cornwell V.C. in 1916. Afterward, wreaths were laid at the naval memorial near the Marine Museum, and a reception was held at Branch 9 of the Royal Canadian Legion. What a wonderful example of the resourcefulness of our Kingston Historical Society and its dedication to keeping the past alive!

QUEEN'S CHIEF ARCHIVIST

This Society and the entire historical community extend a warm welcome to Queen's new chief archivist Don Richan. His family came to Nova Scotia from the Orkneys in 1790. Educated in history at the University of Regina with post graduate work at the University of Toronto, he has worked on the Saskatchewan Archives Board, the provincial archives, and in the Archives of the City of Regina. Don and his wife Beth have two sons and two daughters whose interests range from soccer to highland dancing.

GENEALOGY MEET

Saturday 17 September is the date of the next meeting of the Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society. The time is 10 a.m., the place the Wilson Room of the Kingston Public Library, 130 Johnson Street. Dr. Shirley Spragge, retired Queen's chief archivist will tell you "How to be an ancestor hunter: getting the most out of an archives."

The October 15 meeting will feature Bill Lawson, Scottish genealogist with special knowledge of the Outer Hebrides. His topic "In Search of your Scottish Ancestors." Same time and place.

RIDEAU CANAL

In 1972, responsibility for the Rideau Canal was transferred from the Department of Transport to Parks Canada, considering its significance as a cultural resource. The Department of Canadian Heritage is sponsoring a historical research study about the canal being conducted by Jonathan Marshall, a grad student in the University of Waterloo's Public History Program, under the supervision of Dr. Paul Couture, historian with Parks Canada. They are seeking people with stories about the canal who would consent to an oral interview. If you can help or want more information, call Jonathan Marshall at (613) 938-5910 or Dr. Couture at (613) 938-5901.

OLD POST OFFICE

Life is being restored to Kingston's second Post Office at the corner of Wellington and Clarence Streets. No, not the turquoise and aluminum pile across the street, but the classic limestone structure that was built between 1856 and 1859. Until recently the office for the Parole Board, it will become a spanking new office for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Of special interest is the accurate restoration of the historic exterior, including the replacement of windows which had been blocked up to accommodate the old elevator. The interior has been splendidly reworked in a style compatible with the period, including a new elevator and shallower stairs. I snuck above stairs to examine the wood roof structure before completion of a new ceiling. Rotting timbers have been sturdily replaced and the building should be good for another 135 years.

REVISIONISM

History is not the only subject that suffers from reinterpretation. Consider the evolution

of the mathematics problem:

- 1960 A logger sells a truckload of timber for \$100. If his cost of production is $\frac{4}{5}$ of this price, what is his profit?
- 1970 (New Math) A logger exchanges a set L of lumber for a set M of money. The cardinality of set M is 100 and each element is worth a dollar. Make a square array of 100 dots to represent the elements of set M. The set C of the cost of production contains 20 fewer elements than set M. Represent the set C as a subset of set M. What is the cardinality of the set P of profits?
- 1980 A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Underline the number 20.
- 1990 (Outcomes-based, destreamed, integrated math) By cutting down beautiful forest trees, an environmentally ignorant logger makes a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living? In your group, use role playing to determine how the birds and squirrels in the forest feel.

