



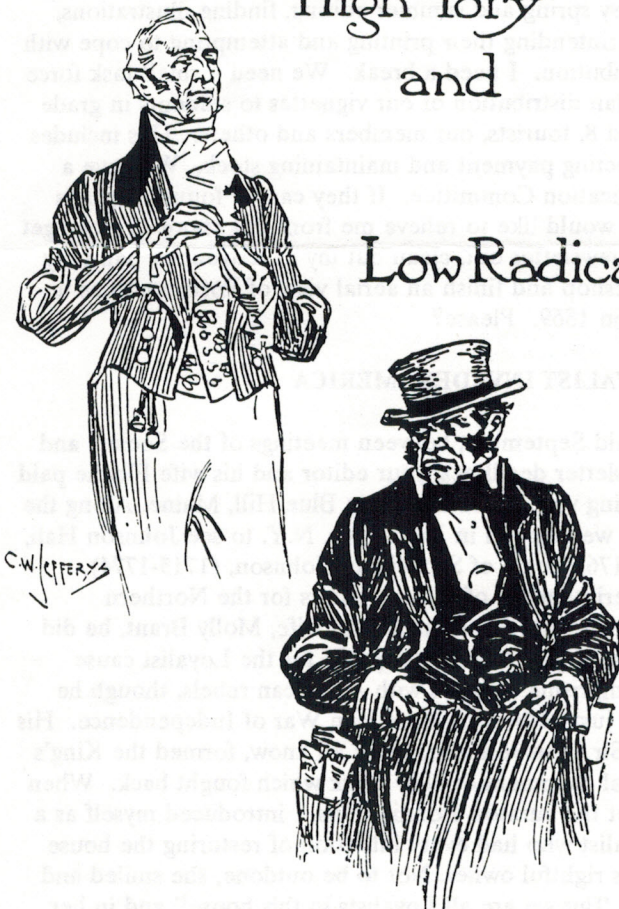
Vol. 20 No. 7

Editor: Jim Warren

1 Oct. 1993

High Tory and

Low Radical



OCTOBER THEATRICAL

The ordinarily taciturn Don Redmond, intrepid editor of Historic Kingston, assumes a different colouration for our October meeting. Having delved into the British Whig and other newspapers of our first year, 1893, he has produced and will present 'The Founding of the Kingston Historical Society - A Reenactment' sharing the bill with Margaret McKay and Richard Linley. This should be a lively compendium of the daily events, some comic, some tragic, of the same year that the Kingston street railway switched from horses to electricity. An electrifying experience on Wednesday 20 October at 7:30 p.m. in the

Wilson Room, Kingston Public Library. Breaking from our usual tradition, laughter and enthusiastic applause will be permitted.

YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!

Our satiation with Meech, the Constitution and a Federal Election, not to mention Unemployment and the National Debt, should not deter us from the important task of getting out to vote. Cynicism with political marketing and the emergence of an unprecedented number of fringe parties makes a minority government most likely. Even more important to cast your ballot. Do it. Monday 25 October. And keep your fingers crossed.

WOMEN'S WORK IN KINGSTON

New member Sharon D. Rudy is one of those bright, young capable women who will do much to carry on the scholarly work of our Society. After her undergraduate studies at the University of Waterloo in History and Economics, she took her MA in American and Canadian History at Queen's and is working on her doctoral thesis. No sooner had she joined our Society than she was pressed into service in September to fill in for our missing guest speaker.

Her theme was the role of women in 19th Century Kingston, and she made an interesting distinction between the works of the rich and poor. For women of wealth, the work was of a charitable kind, organizing fund-raising social events and sponsoring homes for orphans and the destitute. For women in less fortunate positions, serving as maids, washer women, nannies and charwomen were a common lot, often without support from drunken and errant husbands. Toward the end of the century employment as nurses, teachers and office workers became available, including switchboard operators for an expanding telephone system. Too often, the contributions of women in history have been overshadowed by the honours bestowed on their

husbands. As the old chestnut tells us, behind every famous man is a surprised woman. My wife suggests also: a weary woman.

MURNEY TOWER VICTORY

Our Murney Tower Museum has enjoyed an unusually successful season despite the recession. Attendance to 6 September was 7154, up from 4760 last year. Expenses were down from \$31,000. last year to \$13,700. this year. The museum actually showed a slight surplus. Best of all for visitors, there were new displays, men in uniform and lively programs. We all owe our thanks to Chairman Ken Rutherford, Treasurer Beverly Lazier, KHS Treasurer Desmond O'Meara, our President Frank Milledge. An outstanding volunteer was Peter Gray and there were others. Our summer staff was remarkably imaginative and energetic, providing military uniforms, new displays and bilingual guidance to visitors. The Senior Interpreter Robert Doak was ably assisted by Chris Rosser and Lynne Bellinger. All worked longer hours than contracted, never without a smile.

Now, Ken Rutherford needs two interested volunteers to work with the Museum Committee in planning for next year's operation. If you have had previous museum, marketing or tourism experience or even a good sense of what makes museums attractive, call Ken Rutherford at 548-8674 and offer your help. You will be joining a great team.

TRUE TALES OF KINGSTON

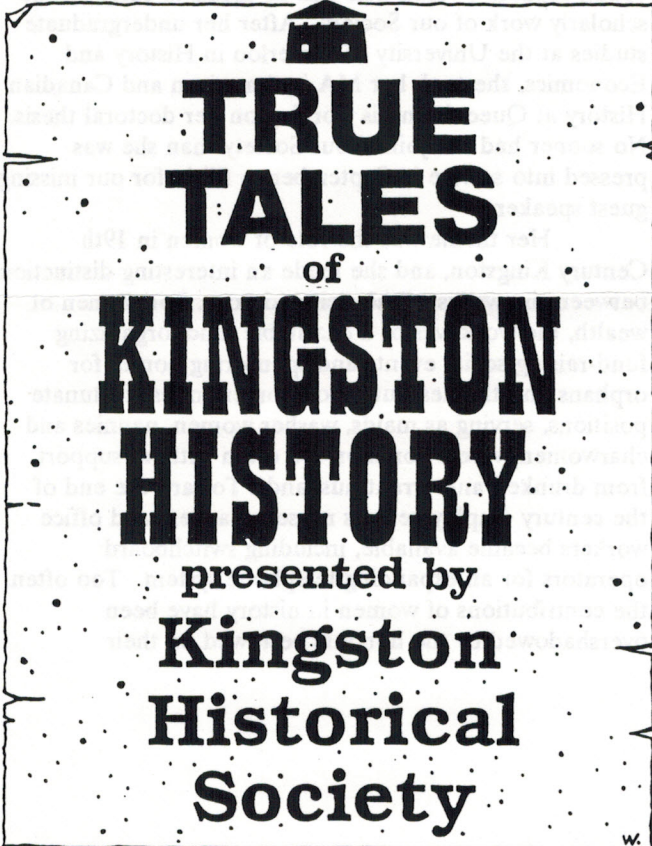
The city's Tourist Office, across the street from City Hall in the old Kick & Push station, has been selling our historical vignettes with great vigour. Visitors and local students are snatching them up, depositing (one hopes) a Looney for each one. Three have ordered complete sets at \$15. plus \$2. handling charge. Twice I have replenished the tourist office stock. As editor, I have had a busy spring and summer editing, finding illustrations, superintending their printing and attempting to cope with distribution. I need a break. We need a small task force to plan distribution of our vignettes to students in grade 7 and 8, tourists, our members and others. This includes collecting payment and maintaining stock. We have a Publication Committee. If they can be found, perhaps they would like to relieve me from this chore so I can get the newsletter out, clean out my eavestroughs, paint my workshop and finish an aerial view of Portsmouth as it was in 1869. Please?

LOYALIST INVADES AMERICA

In mid September, between meetings of the Society and newsletter deadlines, your editor and his wife Florrie paid a flying visit to old friends in Blue Hill, Maine. Along the way, we stopped in Johnstown, N.Y. to see Johnson Hall, the 1763 home of Sir William Johnson, (1715-1774), Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department. With his second wife, Molly Brant, he did much to gain Mohawk support for the Loyalist cause during rising troubles with American rebels, though he died just before the American War of Independence. His son, Sir John Johnson, as we all know, formed the King's Royal Regiment of New York which fought back. When I met the curator, Bonnie Pulis, I introduced myself as a Loyalist who had every intention of restoring the house to its rightful owner. Not to be outdone, she smiled and said, 'But we are all Loyalists in this house!' and in her 18th century costume, swept us along on a guided tour of the house. It is beautifully maintained and furnished in a curious melange of Georgian and Iroquois. She completed her victory over my fumbling attack by presenting me with the state's 80 page history, and interpretive treatment with maps, pictures and building plans. Their address is Johnson Hall, Hall Ave., Johnstown, N.Y. 12095. The telephone is (518) 762-8712. It is open May through October. Plan on a visit next year.

SIR MACKENZIE BOWELL

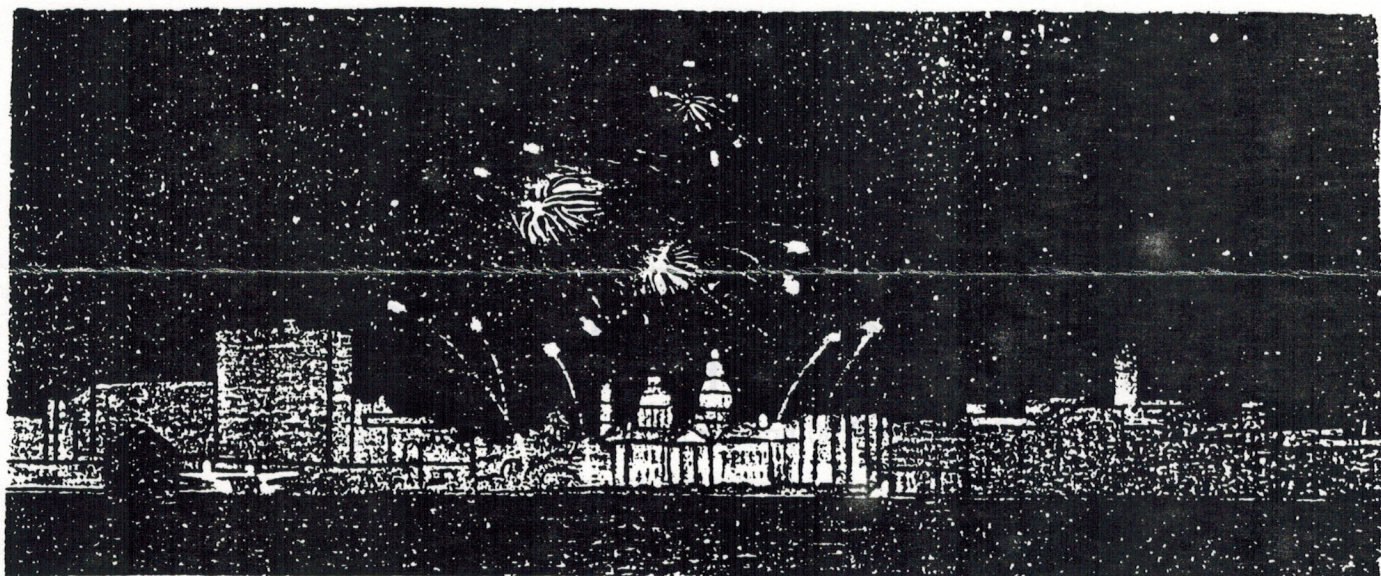
John Grenville advises us that a bronze plaque to mark the gravesite of our fifth Prime Minister, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, will be unveiled on Sunday 24 October at



**TRUE
TALES**
of
**KINGSTON
HISTORY**
presented by
**Kingston
Historical
Society**

Belleville Cemetery, west of Belleville on the Trent Road. Sponsors are the Hastings County Historical Society and Parks Canada, now called the Department of Canadian Heritage. The ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. in the Mausoleum of the cemetery. Gerald A. Boyce, noted Belleville historian, will give a talk on the late Sir Mackenzie and all are invited to attend.

the buildings have retained their original character. Newer buildings, including commercial ones, have seen the advantages of maintaining a degree of architectural consistency. The result is unity with diversity, a subtle quality which Kingston developers and their architects might well emulate. Our business people may have an excuse. Their endless concern with the bottom line



ART 100

Art aficionado and columnist Bill Fittell reports that more than eighty oils, watercolours, pastels and drawings have been loaned by members and friends of our Society to our historic art exhibition in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Public Library. It will be opened by artist and teacher Ralph Allen on Sunday 17 October at a reception with wine and cheese from 2 to 5 p.m. Included will be watercolours from the library's heritage collection and a Curiosity Corner to determine the artist or location of unidentified works. There will also be a draw for 'Calico Kingston', a unique work by British-trained artist Madeleine Lamontagne of Mallorytown. Shown above is a 1985 etching by member Nan Yeomans entitled 'Waterfront Celebration'. Her work may also be seen this month at Kingston Frameworks, at Princess and Montreal, including her 1950 series 'Kingston Shipyards Crane'. Try to see them all.

leaves them little time for historic study. Architects should know better. If they are truly professional, they should be capable of adapting modern technology and efficient construction to the scale and charm of neighbouring streetscapes. I am not suggesting a pastiche of historical details applied mindlessly to mediocre modern, but buildings whose fundamental character, inside and out, respects traditional qualities of harmony, proportion and delight to the eye. That, too, can generate business.

ARCHITECTURAL CONSISTENCY

Humming along Highway One on the coast of Main is like watching a moving picture of historical architecture. Many of the small towns date from the 18th century, and since industrialization and modernism passed them by,

PROCLAMATION

by command of His Majorness, the President of the Society

The *Ancient & Honorable* **KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

will hold a

CENTENNIAL DINNER

at

The Garrison Restaurant, Fort Henry

on

Friday, 10th December, 1993

at 1900 for 1930 hrs

(7:00 pm for 7:30 pm, for those with only half a clock)

The **PROGRAMME** will comprise:

Reception and cocktails - 1900 hrs, Wellington Room:

Wassail Bowl

Greetings and Good Cheer!

Dinner - 1930 hrs, Victoria & Bonnycastle Rooms:

Welcome

The Grace

The Loyal Toast

Dinner (selected from *Her Majesty's Bill of Fare*)

Coffee

President's Remarks, *etc., etc.*

Cost: \$40. per person (includes all of the programme above). An optional Wine Bar will also be available with a selection of fine wines available by the glass or bottle.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from Virginia Martyn, Unit 80, 1 Place d'Armes, Kingston, Ont, K7L 6S5; or telephone 542-6828; also at Society Meetings in October and November.

Note: Available seating in the Garrison Restaurant restricts attendance to a **maximum of 100 persons**, so please purchase tickets early to avoid disappointment!



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



***Parks Canada (Bellevue House National Historic Site)
and
the Hastings County Historical Society***

***are pleased to invite you to the unveiling of a plaque
marking the gravesite of
Sir Mackenzie Bowell
Fifth Prime Minister of Canada***

Guest Speaker: Mr. Gerry Boyce

***The ceremony will take place
at the Belleville Cemetery in the Mausoleum
(west of Belleville on Highway 2, watch for the cemetery on the south side of the
highway, just west of the turn-off for the bridge to Picton/Prince Edward County)
on Sunday 24 October 1993 at 2:00 p.m.***

Reception following

For further information please phone Bellevue House at (613) 545-8666

Canada

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