

Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and District
Historical Society

November 2016 — Issue 284

November 22 Meeting

Mark your calendars for this very special meeting beginning at 7 pm in the Art Gallery of Northumberland on the 3rd floor of Victoria Hall. The schedule is:

7:00 Tour the *Northumberland Went to War* exhibit that commemorates the participation of Northumberland County in the Great War.

7:30 Meet in our usual meeting room (second floor of Victoria Hall) for wine and cheese to mark the end of our 2016 meetings and to anticipate Canada's 150th birthday year when we meet again in January.

8:15 Enjoy Dan Buchanan's war presentation entitled *They Went Together*, followed by discussion and additional social time.

This is a meeting not to be missed. Join us on Tuesday, November 22, in Victoria Hall. The meeting begins at 7:00PM. Unfortunately a rum tasting is not included but wine is.

Admission including refreshments is \$5 for non-members. Membership is \$25 for individuals and \$30 for a family. All are welcome, so bring a friend!

Our Previous Meeting

Wind, Water, Barley and Wine

On October 25 we welcomed noted author, editor, and speaker, Orland French. His presentation --*Wind, Water, Barley and Wine* -- was a fascinating audio-visual presentation focused on the geological history of Prince Edward County. The differences in geology allowed it to evolve differently from the Northumberland area.



French has written a number of local history books and articles including *The Rolling Hills of Northumberland*. He now writes articles for *Watershed Magazine* and is working on a novel set at Vimy Ridge.

Orland French was a feature writer for the *Globe* and covered Federal and Provincial Parliament in the Trudeau and Davis years. He was a professor at

Loyalist College and has been active in the Hastings County Historical Society for decades.

The originally scheduled presentation by C.W. (Bill) Hunt on rum running had to be cancelled due to our speaker requiring unscheduled surgery. We hope to reschedule his previously planned talk for 2017.

Future Meetings

<p>Tuesday, November 22, 2016 Art Gallery of Northumberland, Third Floor of Victoria Hall, 7 :00pm</p>	<p>Tour of gallery show <i>Northumberland Went to War: 1914–1918</i> and Dan Buchanan <i>Northumberland at War</i>. Refreshments will be served.</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 24, 2017 Citizens' Forum, Victoria Hall, 7:30pm</p>	<p>Stewart Richardson <i>Champlain's Route to Lake Ontario</i></p>
<p>Tuesday, February 28, 2017 Citizens' Forum, Victoria Hall, 7:30pm</p>	<p>Todd Denault <i>The Greatest Game: The Career of Jimmy Roberts, Gentleman</i></p>
<p>Tuesday, March 28, 2017 Citizens' Forum, Victoria Hall, 7:30pm</p>	<p>Katie Hull <i>Heritage Lost and Found: Managing the Cultural Heritage of the 407E Corridor</i></p>
<p>Tuesday, April 25, 2017 Citizens' Forum, Victoria Hall, 7:30pm</p>	<p>Annual General Meeting of the Cobourg and District Historical Society followed by Richard Randall <i>Historic Cobourg Postcards</i></p>
<p>Tuesday, May 30, 2017 Ballroom, Victoria Hall 7:00pm <i>This meeting is open to the public without charge.</i></p>	<p>Alison Torrie Lapaire <i>The Canadian Flag—What a History!</i> Presentation will be followed by entertainment and refreshments.</p>

Burning Questions

Our older members recall the Cobourg of the past. In addition, many CDHS members have expert knowledge of various historical topics. To tap this wealth of expertise, our newsletter will periodically include a “Burning Questions” section and solicit everyone’s answers to the questions posed. Later newsletters will include the best answers. If there is sufficient interest the topic will be discussed at a CDHS meeting.

Burning Question #8

Do you recognize this man?

Grant Curtis lives in Toronto but his family hails from Cobourg. His great grandfather, John Fairhurst, enlisted in the Cobourg Heavy Battery in 1914 and died May 31, 1916 near Ypres.



Curtis found the photo among family items and thinks that it is likely that the man pictured served with his great grandfather or was perhaps a family friend.

The object on the tripod appears to be a heliograph. This equipment, essentially a mirror, was used for signaling by reflecting sunlight towards a distant observer.

There are several group photographs of the members of the Cobourg Battery but the man in the photo is not recognizable in any of them. Grant hopes that someone may recognize the unknown man based on photos in a family album.



If you have any information about the man in the photo please contact Grant at cnwg2001@yahoo.ca

In Memoriam

by Judith Goulin

Recently Cobourg lost a great woman, Marion Hagen, who was one of The Cobourg and District Historical Society's long-term members. She leaves behind a legacy of community involvement.

Marion was the second president of the society and served as Archives Chair of the Cobourg Archives for many terms in the early years of its inception. She was one of the founding members of the Society for the Restoration of Victoria Hall and one of its most tireless workers. This society was founded in 1971 when the building was threatened with demolition. Marion was the founder and first president of Victoria Hall Volunteers (VHV). She is the only member to have been given Life Member status.

Marion was also one of the founding members of the Cobourg Art Gallery, that later became the Art Gallery of Northumberland. She received the prestigious honour of Citizen of the Year in Cobourg, in recognition of her myriad contributions to our community. In 2012 Marion was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal..

In the 1982-1983 edition of CDHS's annual *Historical Review*, when Marion was president of the historical society, she said: "We of the Cobourg and District Historical Society are beginning to create traditions." Well done, Marion.

Marion Hagen, this dedicated, talented and giving woman will be greatly missed in the Cobourg community.

Membership Matters

Historical Review

The 32nd edition of the Cobourg and District Historical Society's *Historical Review* is now available from our website at <http://cdhs.ca/resources/historical-reviews>. If you prefer a hardcopy version, bound copies are available for \$12.50 each. Please contact Leona Woods at leonawoods@sympatico.ca or (905)372-7824 to order your printed copy.

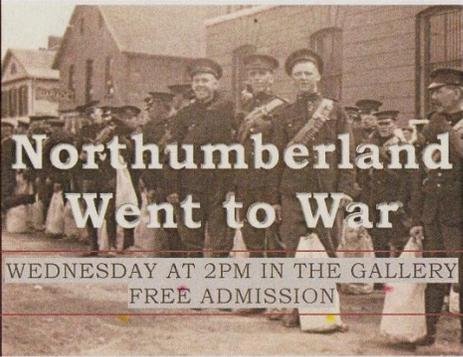
New Member

Please join me in welcoming our newest member Cynthia Chisum.

Announcements

Northumberland Went to War

There are four events in the Art Gallery of Northumberland on the third floor of Cobourg's Victoria Hall during November.



WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9TH
POETRY AND SONGS FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY THE COBOURG POETRY WORKSHOP.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 16TH
NORTHUMBERLAND AT WAR FROM A MILITARY PERSPECTIVE PRESENTED BY ALEXANDER CRAIG, HASTINGS & PRINCE EDWARD REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, BELLEVILLE.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23RD
WORLD WAR ONE NURSING SISTERS: THE PLACES THEY WORKED AND THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY WORKED PRESENTED BY SHER LEETOOZE, BOWMANVILLE HISTORIAN.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 30TH
DANCING IN THE AIR: THE ROYAL FLYING CORP IN CANADA PRESENTED BY DAN BUCHANAN, BRIGHTON'S "HISTORY GUY"

**Northumberland
Went to War**
WEDNESDAY AT 2PM IN THE GALLERY
FREE ADMISSION

Brighton Digital Archive Open House

Held the third Tuesday of each month, from 2 pm to 4 pm and then from 6 pm to 8 pm. Bring your family pictures and documents for the Brighton Digital Archive volunteers to review for digitizing and possible publication on the BDA web site at <http://vitacollections.ca/brightonarchives/search> Next Date: November 15.

Brighton History Open House

Please keep in mind Brighton History Open House 2017 which will be held at the Brighton Community Centre on February 18 and 19, 2017. Displays and the Heritage Tea are open to all on Saturday 10 am to 4 pm and then the show will be presented Saturday evening at 7 pm and again on Sunday at 2 pm.

The theme for History Open House 2017 will be *Brighton One Five OH!*, based on Canada 150, the 150th Birthday

Friends of Hilton Hall Heritage Centre

The Hilton Hall Heritage Centre, 50 Chatten Rd. (north of Hwy401 and east of County Road 30 near Brighton) has a Christmas carol sing scheduled.

Join a joyous celebration of the Christmas season as other Friends of Hilton Hall sing along to all the old favourites led by the talented local band *RandR*. This fun event is now in its third year. Sunday, December 11, 2016, 2 pm; Admission: \$5.00. Further information is available at <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Hilton-Hall-Heritage-Centre-494493324009654/>



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