

# Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and District

Historical Society

October 2023 — Issue 342

## History of the Cobourg and District Historical Society

Our October meeting will both explore both the history of the CDHS and provide an update on the Northumberland County Archives and Museum (NCAM) project. We will have three presenters:



Our President, Carla Jones, will present the history of the Cobourg and District Historical Society using documents and photos from its founding and early days. She will remind us of the significant people and events that are part of our past.

Carla's presentation will be followed by an update on the Northumberland County archives project.

Katie Kennedy is Curator for NCAM, focused on authentic community collaborations. Katie graduated

from the University of Ottawa with a BA in

Classical Studies and is completing the Ontario Museum Association's Certificate in Museum Studies. Katie was born and raised in Northumberland County but gained experience in economic development further afield including working with the planning committee for the 2010 Olympics. Katie is thrilled to be working with her home County, building a new cultural space for all generations to connect and explore.





Abigail Miller is Archivist at the Northumberland County Archives and Museum. She is responsible for building the strategic vision and overseeing operations at NCAM.

Abigail graduated from Memorial University with a BA in archaeology and folklore and the Museum Management and Curatorship program at Fleming College. Abigail was born and raised in Northumberland County and takes pride in building and managing a new Category 'A' museum facility for Northumberland's residents.

Join us on Tuesday, October 24 for two informative presentations. Doors open at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Bring a friend or two! Members free - Guests \$5.00.

## **Future Meetings of our 2023/2024 Programme**

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

The Bowmanville POW camp, also known as Camp 30, was a Canadian-run POW camp for German soldiers during World War II and was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in September 2013. Speaker Marilyn Morawetz, Chairperson for the Jury Lands Foundation whose mission is to rejuvenate this Canadian historic and architectural significant site will present.

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Cobourg was first called Amherst and then Hard Scrabble and in the 1820s the name was changed to Cobourg. Peter Delanty, Mayor of Cobourg 2000 – 2010, will present the history of Cobourg as told by street names. Several streets were named for the early prominent citizens, for ancestral heritage and business people. Commencing in the latter 20<sup>th</sup> century, new streets would be named after Mayors.

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

To be advised

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

D'arcy Jennish is a journalist, historian and playwright. He has written ten books and will present the history of the National Hockey League -- born in a Montreal hotel room on November 26, 1917. Mr. Jennish wrote the book *The NHL: 100 Years of On-ice Action and Boardroom Battles*. It's certain to be an interesting story that both hockey and non-hockey fans will enjoy.

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

### **Annual General Meeting followed by a Member Show & Tell**

Members are invited to bring something of historical interest like special objects, jewelry, letters, family diaries, medals of family members, old tools and documents or any treasures to display for fellow members to see and admire. Tables will be set up around the room to display items brought.

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

### **Social Event & Outing in Brighton, Ontario**

Join us as we drive/carpool our way to Brighton, Ontario's community centre to hear Brighton resident and historian Dan Buchanan, The History Guy, present The History of the Murray Canal, which is now part of the Trent-Severn waterway. It is a story that is both complex and compelling.

Presentation from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Following the presentation, we will meet for lunch at a local Brighton establishment before returning to Cobourg.

## **Cobourg to Rochester Ferry Memories**

### ***Warren Hoselton***

My father, Hawley Hoselton, (also the founder of King Street's famed Dutch Oven) worked on board the Cobourg to Rochester Ferry with his younger brother Gordon as waiters. Their father, Charles Jasper Hoselton, worked as a Chef. This would have been mid-1940s. Charles Hoselton went on to be head Chef at the British Hotel.

I have included a few photos from the period. The first shows my grandfather taken behind the old British Hotel at King and George Streets.



**British Hotel Kitchen & Wait staff - Chef Charles Hoselton -  
1944 Cobourg ON**



5 WATERFRONT COBOURG, ONT. AS SEEN FROM AN AEROPLANE



WATERFRONT, COBOURG, ONT., AS SEEN FROM AN AEROPLANE.

COPYRIGHT CANADA, 1919 BY CANADIAN POST CARD CO., TORONTO

Cobourg to Rochester Car Ferries

Facts from Dominion of Canada, Department of Transport Publication, 1949.

	<u>SS Ontario No. 1</u>	<u>SS Ontario No. 2</u>
Official No.	125983	137978
Port of Registry	Montreal	Montreal
Built - year	1907	1915
- at	Toronto	Toronto
Length	317'	307' 5"
Breadth	54'	54'
Depth	18'	20' 2"
Gross Tonnage	5146	5568
Registered Tonnage	3229	3376
Horse Power of Engines	3000	3500
Owners: The Ontario Car Ferry Co. Ltd., Montreal		
Last trip from Rochester	31/07/49	28/04/50
	Capt. Wright	Capt. Bryson
Both vessels towed to Port Dalhousie by		
Tug "Rival" (Capt. W. Bryson)	14/06/50	15/06/50

These ships were built by Polson Iron Works, Toronto. The ships carried a crew of 45 men and could carry 1,000 passengers each and 30 freight cars. When taken out of service in 1950 they were cut up for scrap.

***Our Previous Meeting***

## **John Turner: Canada's 17<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister**

Steve Paikin, Toronto based journalist, author, and documentary producer, provided an outstanding presentation at our September meeting. Steve has 40 years in journalism and is the author of 8 books including, most recently *John Turner: An Intimate Biography of Canada's 17th Prime Minister*. Among his many honours, Paikin is an Officer in the Order of Canada. He is also a member of the Order of Ontario. Many will recognize him as the longtime anchor and senior editor of TVO's flagship current affairs program *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*.

Although he served less than three months as Prime Minister, Turner was an extremely influential figure in Canadian politics.

In response to an audience question Paikin provided a few tantalizing details of Turner's interactions with Princess Margaret as he escorted the princess during her 1958 visit to Canada. Want to know the full story of their relationship? You'll have to read Steve's book! Available from Amazon at

<https://www.amazon.ca/John-Turner-Intimate-Biography-Minister/dp/1989555837>



## These Shoes are for Dancing!

Tom and Eileen James recently visited Cobourg to donate a historic family heirloom to the Northumberland County Archives. Although Tom and Eileen now live in British Columbia their ancestor, Marguerite Pentland (1820-1899), lived in Cobourg when the Prince of Wales visited to open Victoria Hall in 1860.

Many local dignitaries – Mayor Cleveland, Deputy Mayor Beatty, several Cobourg Councillors, Northumberland Warden Martin, Brighton Mayor Ostrander – together with representatives from CDHS, Museum Foundation, Northumberland County Archives and Victoria Hall Volunteers attended the brief presentation ceremony.

The shoes are of fine leather, outstanding workmanship and are beautifully preserved. No information was available on their producer, but they are obviously unusual for a small town in Upper Canada. They are for almost child-sized feet although Marguerite was forty and had had 12 children by the time she danced with the Prince of Wales.



*Tom and Eileen James with local historian Robert Mikel*



## Member Matters

### ***New Members***

Please join me in welcoming our newest CDHS members:

- Maria Kordas-Fraser
- Teresa Harvey
- Barb Robins
- Barbara Anne Achen
- Peter Thomas
- Mike Efford & Ann Standish
- Kenneth & Wendy Wren

## Announcements

### ***A River Runs Through It***

The Friends of the Library, in collaboration with the ACO and the Capitol Theatre, will host an illustrated talk about the history and potential future of the Ganaraska River. The presentation by historian Robin Long will be illustrated with photographs from Robin's family collection. This talk will be followed by *Reimagining the Fle Factory: How might an industrial ruin be redesigned to be a community focal point*.

Used books will be for sale during the intermission. All event proceeds will go to improvements to the children's section of the Port Hope Public Library.

Visit <https://capitoltheatre.com/community-events/> for more details and to purchase tickets.

### ***Lakeshore Genealogical Society***

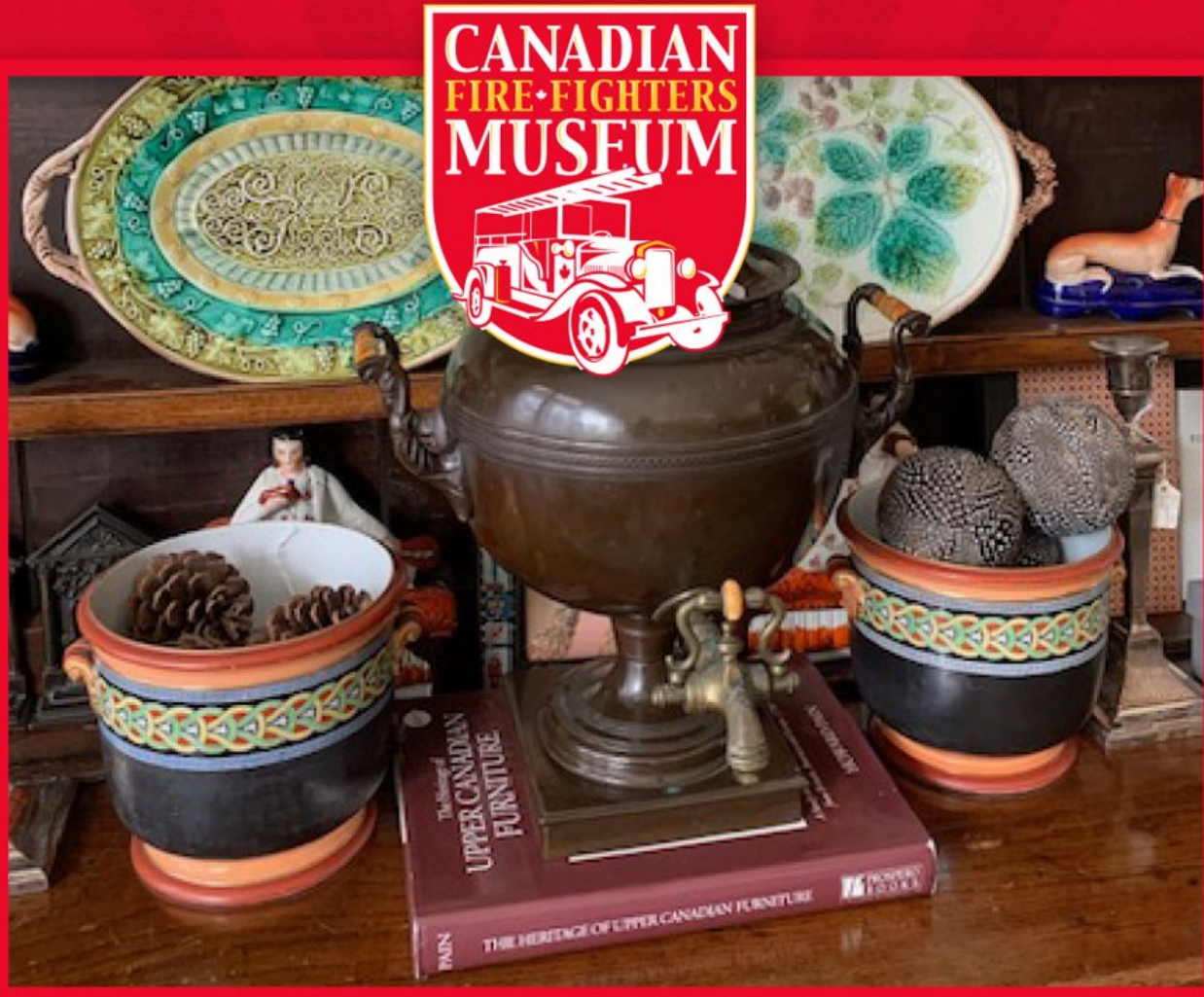
The LGS has scheduled a number of presentations for the remainder of 2023. For more information visit <https://www.lakeshoregenealogicalsociety.ca/calendar>. All are at 7pm.

***Wednesday, November 8, 2023 Sacrifice: Researching Canada's War Dead, 1914-1945***

***Guest Speaker: Glenn Wright***

Canada's participation in the two World Wars came at a horrible cost in fatal casualties: about 65,000 between 1914 and 1919 and another 45,000 between 1939 and 1945. Our war dead are well documented and, in this presentation, Glenn will review the major resources – archival, published and online – for both world wars as well as many of lesser-known resources, where to find them and how to use them to research an ancestor who gave his or her life in the service of our country.

**Pre-registration by email to [LGSregister@gmail.com](mailto:LGSregister@gmail.com) is required.**



**NORTHUMBERLAND  
ANTIQUE/VINTAGE  
SHOW & SALE**

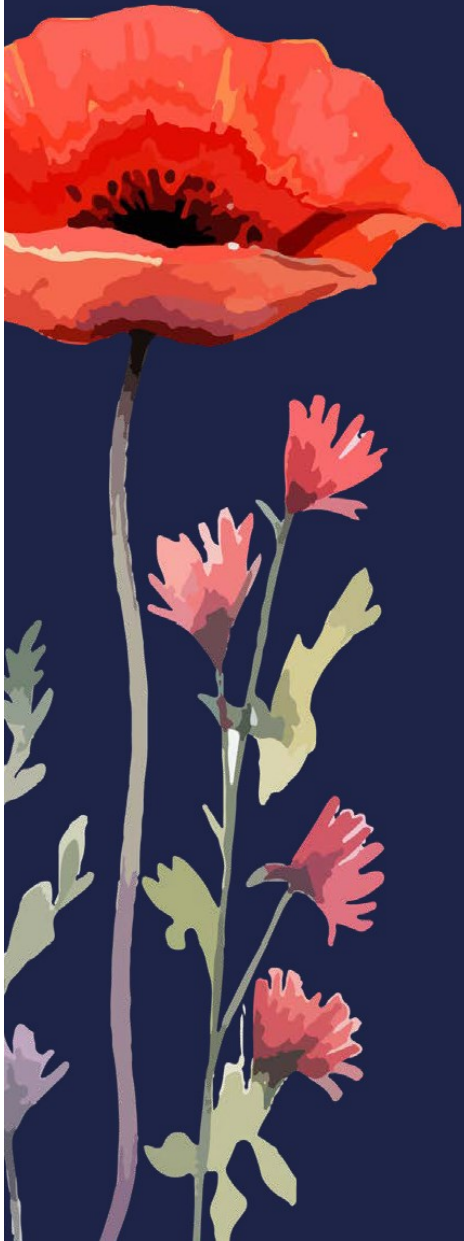
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15th | 10am - 4pm**

**COBOURG MEMORIAL ARENA  
206 FURNACE STREET | COBOURG**



# For the Fallen

A service of remembrance



Saturday **NOV 11** 7:30 PM

Artistic Director: Lynn Janes  
Accompanist: Robert Grandy

**Advance Tickets \$20**

Tickets available online at  
[orianasingers.com](http://orianasingers.com)  
or \$25 at the door

Profits will be donated to support services for  
Veterans and their families

Victoria Hall | 55 King Street West  
Cobourg | Ontario

Supported by  **Cobourg**  
Ontario's Feel Good Town



## CDHS Executive for 2022 – 2023

President	Carla Jones	<a href="mailto:cgrucelajones@gmail.com">cgrucelajones@gmail.com</a> (289) 252-1684
Past President	Leona Woods	<a href="mailto:leonawoods@sympatico.ca">leonawoods@sympatico.ca</a> (905) 372-7624
Vice-President	Randy Barber	<a href="mailto:randy.barber1947@gmail.com">randy.barber1947@gmail.com</a> (905) 377-9421
Secretary	Jennifer O'Rourke	<a href="mailto:orourkevintagephotography@gmail.com">orourkevintagephotography@gmail.com</a> (289) 252-2267
Treasurer	George Kamphorst	<a href="mailto:gfkamphorst@gmail.com">gfkamphorst@gmail.com</a> (905) 375-8563
Membership	Brian Murphy	<a href="mailto:brianincobourg@gmail.com">brianincobourg@gmail.com</a> (289) 634 2727
Programme Co-Chairs	Carla Jones Randy Barber	<a href="mailto:cgrucelajones@gmail.com">cgrucelajones@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:randy.barber1947@gmail.com">randy.barber1947@gmail.com</a>
Programme Committee Members	Diane Chin George Kamphorst Leona Woods	<a href="mailto:dianemchin@gmail.com">dianemchin@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:gfkamphorst@gmail.com">gfkamphorst@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:leonawoods@sympatico.ca">leonawoods@sympatico.ca</a>
Members-at-Large	Hannah LeBlanc  Diane Chin	<a href="mailto:h18leblanc@gmail.com">h18leblanc@gmail.com</a> (905) 376-4937 <a href="mailto:dianemchin@gmail.com">dianemchin@gmail.com</a> (289) 435-2015
Newsletter Editor	Ken Strauss	<a href="mailto:ken.strauss@pebblebeach.ca">ken.strauss@pebblebeach.ca</a> (905) 377-9854