



Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and
District Historical Society

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The Good, the Bad and the Weird

Chris Robins will present *"The Good, the Bad, and the Weird: An overview of typical medical care for local residents in the 1800s"*. We will examine the surgeon's tools – our presenter will come equipped with the tools needed from simple bloodletting to brain surgery – and deal with misconceptions about the surgeon's trade. Next, we will delve into important "firsts" for medical care that happened locally; followed by recipes and directions for do-it-yourself medical care at home. Struck by lightning? Corns? Rheumatism? Chilblains? Chris will have the cures. A few recipes will be made up and provided for those attendees who are brave enough to try them. However, medicines requiring laudanum or hard liquor will not be provided due to a lack of sense of historical significance by the local constabulary.

Chris has been a History teacher in Cobourg for over 30 years and his family has lived in the area for almost 200 years. His interest in early medical practices stemmed from being a participant in War of 1812 re-enactments for over 10 years. In that time he put together presentations on military medical care during the War of 1812. Later he expanded his studies into what civilians were doing in that period..

Join us on Tuesday, September 27, in Victoria Hall's Citizens' Forum. Doors open at 7:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:30 PM. Coffee and cookies will be available before the meeting. 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

Museum Secrets: Trenton and Belleville Bus Trip

The first stop on this year's biennial bus trip was a tour of Glanmore House in Belleville. Glanmore has been a National Historic Site for almost 50 years.



The house was built in 1882-1883 for the wealthy banker J.P.C. Phillips (1842-1912) and his wife Harriet Dougall Phillips (1839-1915). The grand interior features beautiful hand-painted ceilings and ornate woodwork. Every aspect even including details such as door hinges was built to the highest standard. Many of Glanmore's rooms have been restored to their appearance in the 1890s and include period furnishings. Highlights



include objects donated by Bertram and Cecilia Couldery. Not only are there beautiful examples of oriental cloisonné, marquetry furniture and silver but also an amazing collection of animal portraits by Horatio Henry Couldery. Some say that these paintings constitute “one of the most extraordinary collections of Victorian dog and animal paintings in the world.”



We then enjoyed lunch at the Legion in Trenton followed by a tour of the National Air Force Museum which is also in Trenton. There we saw exhibits highlighting the social history of WWI and WWII in uniforms, letters and other memorabilia; the Cold War, the evolution of the RCAF and the story of the Halifax Bomber.





Future Meetings

Tuesday, October 25, 2016, Citizens' Forum, Victoria Hall	<i>Rum Running</i> presented by C.W. Hunt
Tuesday, November 22, 2016, Art Gallery of Northumberland, Victoria Hall	The event will be hosted by Dan Buchanan and includes a social evening. Further details in our next newsletter.
Tuesday, January 24, 2017 Victoria Hall's Citizens' Forum	<i>Champlain's Journey at Rice Lake: Did he turn east or west?</i> presented by Stewart Richardson

Cobourg Historical photos

John Draper

In October 2015, someone started a Flickr web page called Cobourg Yesteryears. It was probably Dianne Lagrois Brock who also started a related Facebook page. Whatever, it's a great way to see photos of Cobourg as it once was. The Flickr page currently has 943 photos including multiple subjects. The photos generally do not have dates so are more curiosity value than useful for historians but one could spend hours browsing.

The citizens of Cobourg are generally very interested in history and there are several organizations that help preserve it. We also have Heritage districts and our Town Hall is designated as a National Historic Site (<http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=7550>).

Cobourg Yesteryears

The Facebook page was started about six years ago and has gradually grown since then. It is a closed group which means you have to get Dianne's approval to join. That means it only includes people who either live in Cobourg or are genuinely interested. There are currently 2022 people in the group. To join you need to have a Facebook account, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/395744833503/> and ask to join. There are a lot of photos on the account but there is no organization of them – Facebook is not meant to do that.

Flickr account

This was started in 2015 and now has 943 photos organized into 12 albums. Photos are generally larger and can easily be downloaded. It's a great collection. Flickr is operated by Yahoo but you do not need a Yahoo or Flickr account to view the photos. Some photos were uploaded as recently as 13 June 2016. Go to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/136519498@N04/> to begin enjoying the many photos.

Cobourg Buses



Cobourg buses are such a familiar sight that many residents largely ignore them. What is the history of our buses?



Carter's Coach Service was an early provider of transit services in Cobourg. In 1952 the service was sold to Burley Bus Lines who operated a city service for the Cobourg and Port Hope area. Burley also served the Oshawa and

Kitchener areas. In May, 1970, Burley was acquired by CT Limited. Charterways Transportation, a private sector operator, and served Cobourg from 1970 to 1998. The 1976 Cobourg Town Council contracted with a private operator to provide transit:

Moved by Councillor Bowen, seconded by Councillor Tracey:

"Whereas the Cobourg Bus Study and Evaluation has been reviewed by the Transit Study Committee; now therefore be it resolved that the total service be contracted out by public tender; a one bus system - 15 to 30 passengers; Monday to Friday inclusive operation; hours 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Thursday and 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM on Fridays; a one hour route consisting of three loops as indicated in the study subject to the following amendments: County Fair route to be amended with a stop at the County Home only while proceeding westerly and that the route be via Elgin and Court House Road rather than the driveway off Burnham Street; the Elgin route

approved subject to the detour proposal during the construction of the Division Street Subway; the central route be amended by changing Ontario Street to William Street and changing the south eastern route from the Church and Perry area to Green and Queen area; that the exact cash fare system be used with rates of 35¢ for adults and 20¢ for children and senior citizens; all of which is subject to receiving subsidy from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications; And further be it resolved that tenders be prepared and called immediately for the service."

Transit fares have varied over the years. In 1976 the adult fare was 35¢ which is equivalent to about \$1.44 today when inflation is considered. In 1997 the adult fare reached \$1.60 which is equivalent to about



\$2.32 in our inflated dollars. Although it costs taxpayers about \$10 per ride to run the bus service, the user pays only \$2.00 today.

Membership Matters

In Memoriam

Moira Anne Hayes (née Carmichael) April 8, 1940 - August 31, 2016

Those of you who were members of CDHS in its early years will remember Moira and Stephen Hayes. The Hayes and their young children, Catherine and Jonathan, moved to Cobourg in 1973 when Stephen became the minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Moira was actively involved in Victoria Hall Volunteers and Northumberland Orchestra Society and as a family they took a great interest in the community.



When The Cobourg and District Historical Society was started in 1980 they were among the first members and Moira served as President from 1988 to 1989. The Hayes family moved away after 16 years but remembered the town and their time here with great affection. Moira always spoke of their Cobourg years as happy ones.

Sadly, Moira died in August in Ottawa. She will be missed.

New Members

Please join me in welcoming our new members. They include Margaret Johns and Caroline and Earl Arsenault.

Announcements

Cobourg Museum Foundation Annual Dinner

The 2016 Annual Dinner of the Cobourg Museum Foundation on Wednesday, October 19 at the Cobourg Lions Centre. Roderick Benns, an award winning journalist steeped in Canadian history and particularly its leadership. Benns is the founder of Fireside Publishing House and author of the first two books in the *Leaders and Legacies Series* on Canada's Prime Ministers as teens will address the dinner.

Tickets at \$60 are now available at the Heritage Centre, 141 Orr Street, Cobourg, (905)3737222 or from any member of the Museum Foundation Board. They can also be ordered by email to cmfdinner@gmail.com. Purchase prior September 23 or in a group of 8 or more for a \$5 discount. For additional information contact Stanley Isherwood at (905)372-0698 or by email to info@cobourgmuseum.ca.

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