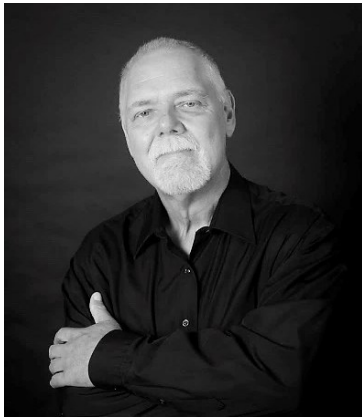


Historically Speaking

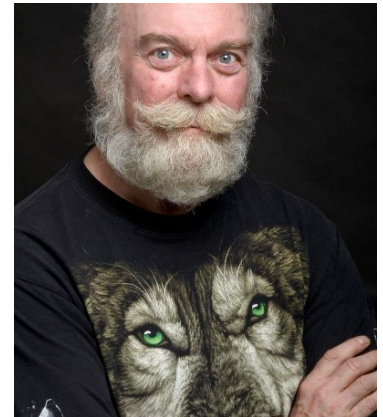
The Newsletter of the Cobourg and District
Historical Society

September 2024 — Issue 349

The Role of Cobourg Newspapers in Creating Community



Our September meeting will explore the importance of newspapers in Cobourg from the perspective of two local newspaper reporters: Robert Washburn and Wally Keeler.



Robert Washburn is an award-winning educator in the Journalism Program at Loyalist College where he teaches new

and emerging technologies in journalism. A practicing journalist for 40+ years, he is well known locally for his weekly current affairs radio show *Consider This Northumberland*. Robert worked full-time at the *Cobourg Star* from 1988 to 1997. He continued to work in the community as a columnist, part-time reporter, and advocate for local news.

Wally Keeler, in the 1960s and 1970s, had a regular beat at the *Cobourg Sentinel Star* as a court reporter in the Old Bailey in Victoria Hall. Tuesdays were Cobourg Police Day and Thursdays OPP Day. Wally also covered the culture beat, coffee houses, folk music and poetry in the basement of the Anglican Church and has been a long time poetician in Cobourg's poetry scene.

Note that due to having two presenters this meeting will be somewhat longer than our usual meetings. Join us on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 for an informative presentation in Cobourg's Victoria Hall. Doors open at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. There will be coffee/tea and the usual cookies so bring a friend or two! Members free and guests are \$5.00.

Our Previous Meeting

History of the Murray Canal

About 50 CDHS members drove or carpooled to Brighton's Owen Gibb Community Hall on Tuesday, May 28, to learn about the history of the Murray Canal from Brighton historian Dan Buchanan.

The Murray Canal, completed in 1889, is a



part of the Trent-Severn waterway. It runs in a straight line for approximately 5 miles



between the Bay of Quinte and Presqu'ile Bay on Lake Ontario. The canal was proposed as early as 1796 and land was set aside by the government of Upper Canada. However, the Welland Canal and the Rideau

Canal were seen as more important and construction was delayed. Work finally begun in 1882 but due to problems with unstable banks it was not completed until 7 years later.

After the meeting most members enjoyed lunch and conversation at the Whistling Duck in Brighton prior to their return to Cobourg.

If you missed our meeting, Dan's book with the complete details of the canal is available at <https://www.amazon.ca/History-Murray-Canal-Dan-Buchanan/dp/1039195253>

Events of Our 2024/2025 Programme

<p><i>The Role of Early Cobourg Newspapers in Creating Community:</i> Robert Washburn and Wally Keeler will explore the importance of newspapers in Cobourg from the perspective of two former local newspaper reporters.</p>	<p>Tuesday, September 24, 2024</p>
<p><i>Agriculture in Northumberland: A History of the Family Farm:</i> Paul Burnham will use the Burnham family's experience to illustrate the history of agriculture in Northumberland. The Burnhams arrived with the earliest European settlers to the area and have since been very much involved in farming as a way of life in Northumberland.</p>	<p>Tuesday, October 22, 2024</p>
<p><i>Celebrating Colonel John Weir Foote:</i> Foote was a Canadian military chaplain and politician who received the Victoria Cross for his actions during the 1942 Dieppe Raid. Born in Madoc, he eventually made his home in Cobourg. Presented by Rob Mikel and Virginia McLaughlin</p>	<p>Tuesday, November 19, 2024*</p>
<p><i>The Story of Our Garden Club:</i> The Cobourg and District Horticultural Society was founded in 1859 and has been in operation ever since. The club even continued to hold virtual monthly meetings with speakers during the pandemic. Let's learn more and dream about summer in January by celebrating the club's 160+ years in operation with presenter Sarah Holland.</p>	<p>Tuesday, January 28, 2025</p>
<p><i>Crime and Punishment in Northumberland County: A Historical Perspective.</i> At one time, the county had four correctional centres but only one remains. Presenter John L. Hill, retired criminal lawyer and author, will share anecdotes about his experiences that shed light on their operations.</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 25, 2025</p>
<p><i>What are Rebellion Boxes?</i> to be presented by Darryl Withrow. Rebellion boxes are some of the most prized artifacts in the Sharon Temple's collection. These small wooden boxes were handcrafted by prisoners from the Rebellion of 1837 as they waited in jail for their trials.</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 18, 2025*</p>
<p><i>CDHS Annual General Meeting</i> followed by <i>British Home Children</i>. Marg Graham and Dianne Conway will tell the home children's stories, dreams, nightmares and their contributions to life in Canada.</p>	<p>Tuesday, April 22, 2025</p>
<p>Dinner and presentation of the unsolved murder in Madoc <i>Who Killed Charles St. Charles</i> by author Gord Pitts. Further details will be available nearer to the meeting date.</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 27, 2025</p>

***Several of our meetings have been rescheduled from the usual fourth Tuesday to accommodate usage of Victoria Hall by the Northumberland Players.**



What's In A Name?

A common question about Brighton history is “Why Cankerville?” The name refers to an early community at the intersection of today’s Number 30 Highway, Alexander Road and Tilling Road. In the first

canker

[kang-ker]

noun

1. a gangrenous or ulcerous sore, especially in the mouth.
2. a disease affecting horses’ feet, usually the soles, characterized by a foul-smelling exudate.
3. a defined area of diseased tissue, especially in woody stems.
4. something that corrodes, corrupts, destroys, or irritates.

Synonyms: scourge, cancer, blight

decade of the 1800s, a group of people stopped at this spot and decided to take advantage of the intersection of Butler Creek and the Percy Road. Maps from the 1850s call it the “Old Percy Road”, but early on it was just a trail to the settlement in Percy Township which had been established as early as 1798 in order to harvest oak timber for the British Navy. It was the main north-south road until replaced by the Brighton and Seymour Gravel Road in the 1850s.

These early entrepreneurs set up stores and blacksmith shops at this strategic location, planning to make money from the routine north-south traffic. This was good for travellers

and merchants alike. Land grants had been issued to loyalists but there were few actual settlers interested in moving to the area until the 1820s.

However, as time went by, the squatters began to feel the heavy hand of government. When legitimate land owners occupied their land, they were annoyed to find that a community of merchants and tradesmen was already well established on the creek and road. Tension between the two groups simmered through the 1820s and 1830s as settlement grew and the rightful owners pressured the squatters to move along.

This situation gradually worked itself out as land owners gained control of all parts of their land or were compensated by people who had established themselves without legal right. We have no evidence that there was any violence involved in this tense situation, although one can't help but think of certain western movies that ended quite differently.

The one lasting result of the conflict between the squatters and land owners was the name Cankerville. The legitimate landowners coined this term as a way to describe their anger and frustration toward the early settlers who stopped here to do business but had no legal claim to the land. It was a name that demonstrated very clearly how unwelcome the squatters were in those early settlement days.

The name was never legally applied to the place but it has passed down through generations in common parlance, often with a note of derision in light of the nature of the name. Another approach to the name might be to explain it in the context of growing antagonism between the more prosperous class in Upper Canada, often referred to as the Family Compact, and those less fortunate.

Land grants were given to members of loyalist families with the clear intent of creating an elite class that would control the province. This was a natural step for those steeped in the British system of privilege. However, there was pushback from others who worked hard to make a new home without such advantage.

This material was authored by Dan Buchanan, "The History Guy of Brighton" and originally appeared in *The Brighton Beacon: Summer 2023 Issue*. Reproduced by permission.

Our Meetings are Available!

Videos of many of our recent meetings are available online and can be viewed when convenient.

A Night of Mystery

Maureen Jennings is a British Canadian writer, most well known for the *Detective Murdoch Series*, the basis for the television series *Murdoch Mysteries*. Maureen details where she gets background material and ideas for her books.

<https://youtu.be/hDSrwWwPsRQ>

Father Francis Patrick Duffy: The most celebrated U.S. Army Chaplain in the Great War

Randy Barber speaks on Father Duffy, a Roman Catholic priest, who was born in Cobourg in 1873 and ordained at St. Michael's Church on September 6th, 1896. As chaplain of the famous Fighting Sixty-Ninth, Father Duffy came to be memorialized in Times Square, New York City.

<https://youtu.be/0sr2x8MB2pg>

The NHL: A Centennial History

The NHL – now in its 107th season – has endured through two world wars, the Great Depression, the failure of numerous franchises and the predations of the short-lived World Hockey Association. Today it is one of North America's Big Four professional sports leagues. Thousands of players and hundreds of coaches and general managers have come and gone since the league's initial season in 1917-18, but only four presidents and one commissioner have guided the fortunes of this remarkable enterprise. Author D'Arcy Jenish speaks on the history of the NHL through the lens of these five men – Frank Calder, Merv Dutton, Clarence Campbell, John Ziegler and Gary Bettmann.

<https://youtu.be/wQ77qA4E964>

Cobourg Ingenuity

Over 50 patents were filed by ingenious Cobourg residents between 1870 and 1918. Our presenter, Ken Strauss, explains patents and why they matter. You will hear the stories of some of Cobourg's successful inventors, our dabblers and our simply weird!

<https://youtu.be/Yxla2ZMV5vc>

The History of the Murray Canal

Author Dan Buchanan presents the history of the Murray Canal, a 5-mile long canal linking

Lake Ontario with the Bay of Quinte. It was constructed between 1882-1889 to provide an alternative to shipping via the treacherous waters surrounding Prince Edward County.
<https://youtu.be/AhloB8Gd050>

Rum Runners – The Story of Ben Kerr and Prohibition

Dan Buchanan explains how Ben Kerr ended up in the quiet town of Brighton. It is a story of prohibition from start to finish, beginning in Hamilton and developing through the decade of smuggling and speakeasies. Of course, this all happened because politicians deemed it so. What on earth were they thinking? The presentation explores all that and more.

<https://youtu.be/qdol6QLKEI>

The Wreck of the HMS Speedy

HMS Speedy was lost in a storm off Presqu'île Point in 1804 and its remains have never been found. Or have they? Dan Buchanan presents a fresh look at the events around the loss of the Speedy as well as new information about the search in the early 1990s for the remains of the Speedy. What did they find? Was it really the Speedy?

<https://youtu.be/UksbrVDXQZw>

The History of Cobourg as Told by Street Names

Former Cobourg Mayor Peter Delanty presents Cobourg's history through its street names. How did Amherst then Hard Scrabble finally become Cobourg?

<https://youtu.be/VCWXtBqom7Q>

Our Town: Cobourg

This is not a CDHS meeting but is a professionally produced documentary of Cobourg's history from the series *Sketches Of Our Town* produced by Conrad Beaubien.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sq7gSV45r9Y>

Our Lighthouse Turns 100!



After the east pier was extended, a fixed white mast light was established at its outer end in November 1886. This pierhead light was in addition to the existing white light maintained in the tower located farther inland on the east pier.

In 1910, Randolph, McDonald & Company of Toronto erected a “reinforced concrete gas beacon” on the west pier. T.H. Brewer supervised the erection of a temporary wooden fog alarm building on the east pier to house a one-and-a-half-inch diaphone plant powered by a four-horsepower engine with an air compressor. (A diaphone is an innovative design for a foghorn using compressed air and a slotted piston similar to that of a Wurlitzer organ stop. It was patented by John Pell Northey of Toronto in 1906. As was common in Cobourg’s past, state-of-the-art technology was

favoured. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0WRoOP5zeE> for a sample of the sound and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdL4wiE8rYk> for details on how it works.

The present pyramidal, concrete, lighthouse on the east pier was built in 1924 and saw a long list of lighthouse keepers hired to operate and maintain the structure, even up until 1980. Most recently, it was looked after by Murray Ribble from 1964 to 1980. He lived with his family in a small house on the pier. Later he moved to what is now the coast guard house.

Renate Leis’s article, published in *Northumberland News*

(https://www.northumberlandnews.com/opinion/columnists/cobourg-pier-and-lighthouse-neglected/article_3b9532c6-abdd-5c49-a443-37d7b5502c60.html) notes that the family lived

there all year around and while it was a little paradise during the Summer, Fall and Spring, it was not so comfortable during the winter months. “Winds, ice and snow danced around the house from all sides, but the family loved it anyway,” she wrote. The lighthouse duties were suspended in 1980 and the Ribble family said goodbye to the house and the lighthouse keeping watch at the end of the pier.

In 2013, Unlimited Painting of Brighton was hired to paint the lighthouse at a cost of \$56,500. Over a three-week period, loose and flaking paint was removed and a white elastomeric Carboline coating was applied. This is a type of “paint” that can expand and contract with temperature changes. Once the contractors were finished, town staff painted red maple leaves and the town’s name on the white tower in a move that upset some local historians.



The first lighthouse consisted of a square, wooden tower with a height of 16 feet.

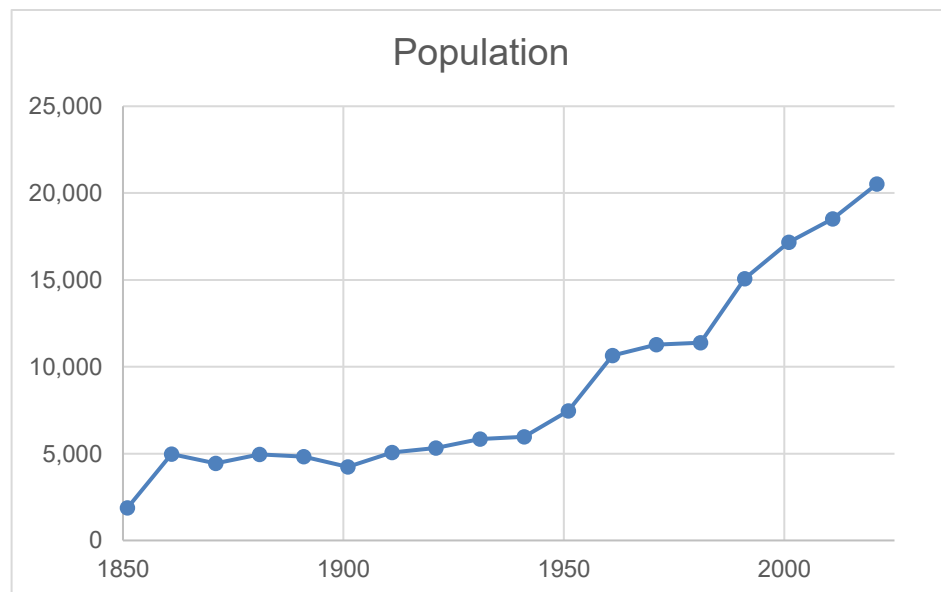
Portions of this history of our lighthouses were originally published online at <https://www.lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=1091> and in an article by Bill Hodgins in *Northumberland Today*. Thanks to MetroLand for permission to use.

Cobourg in Numbers

History is frequently told in terms of the lives of important people, winners of battles and inventions that changed how people lived. For towns it is interesting to tell their stories in numbers and in comparison to other towns.

- Incorporated 1837 (8th earliest in Ontario)
- First weekly newspaper 1831 (10th earliest in Ontario), first daily newspaper 1976
- First railway 1854 (22th earliest in Ontario)
- First gas supply 1855
- First electricity 1888 (45th earliest in Ontario); electrical utility taken over by Town of Cobourg 1932; connection to Ontario Hydro 1916
- First waterworks 1888; waterworks taken over by Town of Cobourg 1931
- First distributed chlorinated drinking water 1917
- First sanitary sewer 1893
- First library 1857 (54th earliest in Ontario)
- First hospital 1904
- With a 1901 population of 4,239, Cobourg was the 34th largest town in Ontario but only 52th largest by 1961 with 10,645 residents
- Over the last 150 years Cobourg’s population has grown, on average, by about 0.9% per year.
- A growth spurt in 1910-1911 resulted in 45 new homes with a total value of \$98,500.

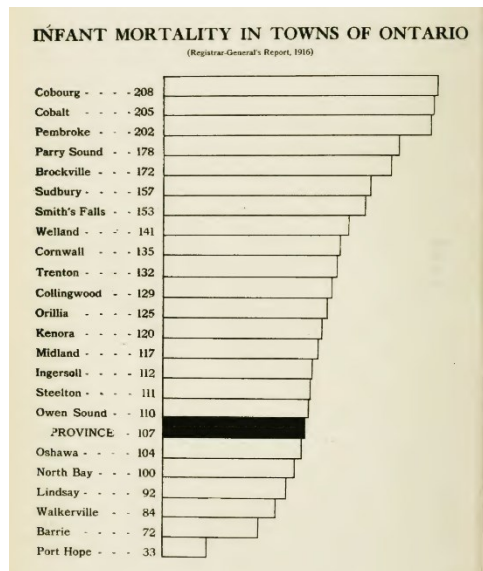
1851	1,871
1861	4,975
1871	4,442
1881	4,957
1891	4,829
1901	4,239
1911	5,074
1921	5,327
1931	5,834
1941	5,973
1951	7,470
1961	10,645
1971	11,282
1981	11,385
1991	15,079
2001	17,172
2011	18,519
2021	20,519



<https://ia803207.us.archive.org/18/items/urbangrowthlocal00bloo/urbangrowthlocal00bloo.pdf>
<https://ia802200.us.archive.org/6/items/31761114677727/31761114677727.pdf>

Infant Deaths in Cobourg

In the early years of the last century the number of children who died in their first year was



shocking. The graphic to the left shows the death rate (deaths per 1,000) for infants in Ontario's small towns.

More than one fifth of all children born in Cobourg did not celebrate their first birthday! One might assume that

the high death rate in Cobourg relative to the provincial average and especially relative to Port Hope was the result of a local epidemic of the usual childhood disease such as scarlet fever or diphtheria. However, based on the self-congratulatory report from a Ministry of Health bureaucrat published in 1918, that was not the case:

"After deducting all extraneous and institutional deaths, we have left for the town of Cobourg a practical death rate

of 1.5 per 1000 which reflects most creditably upon the health conditions of the town."

<https://dn790003.ca.archive.org/0/items/ontariodepthealth1917ontauoft/ontariodepthealth1917ontauoft.pdf>

DR. G. H. FIELD, M.O.H.

I have the honour to submit herewith my report for the year 1917, which will, without taking up too much time or space, give you a synopsis of the health conditions of Cobourg for the year that has just passed.

We have been singularly free from contagious disease during the past twelve months, and with the exception of three or four cases of diphtheria, some few cases of mumps, and four cases of scarlet fever, we have enjoyed an immunity from these scourges of the first few years of life.

No deaths from such diseases have been recorded.

In the matter of typhoid fever, never in the history of the town have we had such a year, there being only six cases of this disease recorded, with no deaths; and we must congratulate ourselves upon this fact, which shows that with our sewage and water systems on a sanitary basis we have at last achieved an enviable position in this respect.

Typhoid fever is the index of the sanitary status of any municipality, and looking back on our record for 1917 we would appear to have achieved that most desirable state where we can consider typhoid fever a negligible disease as far as Cobourg is concerned.

During 1917 there were in the town of Cobourg 88 deaths, 52 marriages and 91 births.

This includes the death returns from the House of Refuge, where, owing to the age of the inmates, who come from all over the county, there is to be expected quite a mortality.

With the Cobourg Asylum and House of Refuge both in active operation here during 1916, the total number of deaths was 100, or 12 more than this year, which discrepancy is to be accounted for by the changing of the Cobourg Asylum into a Hospital for Returned Soldiers, where the death rate would naturally be much lower.

As a matter of fact only one death at the Cobourg Military Hospital is recorded for the year 1917.

After deducting all extraneous and institutional deaths, we have left for the town of Cobourg a practical death rate of 1.5 per 1,000, which reflects most creditably upon the health conditions of the town.

Cobourg Crimes – circa 1914

When discussing today's apparent epidemic of petty crime in Cobourg we are often told that "things are different now".

There were 22 arrests for vagrancy and 77 for "Drunk" or "Drunk and disorderly" in Cobourg in 1914 and early 1915. These accounted for almost half of the 212 offenses logged.

The following are some of the more interesting reported offenses. The descriptions are as originally reported so many contain quirks of spelling and expression. There are numerous cases where the same alleged miscreant is listed as the victim in another crime. The same name often appears for multiple occurrences of the same or similar offenses – an early version of current "catch and release" problems!

Abuse of a horse	Brought three turkeys in the Port Hope market, with The purpose of re-selling them
Assaulting mother-in-law Augusta Ward	By force or violence break prison with the intent to set himself at liberty
Assault and beat Alfred Wilson	Charged with marrying a minor, Violet Parcels, and bigamy.
Assault and beat Frank McAnerin	Charged with stealing one hog and one goose and threatening to shoot Joseph Lywood-report lists the accused as a "Jew"
Assault and beat his wife Ellen Heenan	Charged with trying to cash as Forged army cheque To Sgt. C.W. Wilson from Capt. Lesser, Paymaster, 44 Battalion ---W.W.I Related
Assault and beat Ida Smoke	Created a disturbance while drunk on Covent Street
Assault and beat Joseph Bothwell	Created a disturbance while drunk on First Street
Assault and beat Mary Walker, his wife	Created a disturbance while drunk on First Street -See McNamara 1915
Assault and Beat William Purdy	Damaged hoses belong to: W. A. Johnston, William T. Lightle, William Benson, David Heaslip Also charged with stealing an axe and wrench --- See Wright, Laverne 1915
Assault and strike Russell Randall	Delivered deteriorated milk to the Baltman Cheese Factory
Assault Ella Wilson Glyott	Did not carry on the front of his automobile in a conspicuous position
Assault James McKinnion and creating a disturbance; screaming an swearing on George Street.	Discharged a firearm near Nunn Street
Assault Miss D. L. Lloyd	Dunham Hotel Sell liquor during the rime prohibited by the Liquor licence
Assault William May and Richard May at the Albion Hotel yard	Forcibly detained the lands of Mary McGurty Fraud
Balmoral Hotel Stole a diamond ring from H. Wannamaker	
Balmoral Hotel Stole a horse and buggy from Albert Dodge and a hat from Cyrus W. Field and a raincoat from W.H. Johnston	
Beat and Assault Florence Watkiss	
Beat, ill-treat, abuse and overdrive a horse.	
Begging without a licence	
Belleville resident, Henry Clark, drunk on First Street, Cobourg	
Broke into passenger coaches on C.N.R. and Stole mirrors, brass fittings and emergency equipment -John Blakely was accomplice	

Fraud --See John Henry 1915
 Hit a girl with an axe.
 Idle person without any visible means; vagrant
 Indecent assault of Violet Cox (14yrs.)
 Informs the court that he was improperly accused
 of being a person who drinks to excess by John
 McCaughey
 Insane and dangerous at large
 Insane and dangerous to be at large
 Insane and dangerous to be at large
 Keeper of a licensed tavern allowed Walter
 Walker on premise, knowing Walker is prohibited
 from such locations
 Keeping of a vicious dog
 Let out an Automobile for hire
 Loitering on King and Division street and using
 insulting language
 Man from Grafton was drunk and disorderly at the
 King Edward Hotel
 Oliver Anielah writes to inquire about the legality
 of his underage wife Leaving him for William H.
 Lowe in Bowmanville
 Operate a motor vehicle without a light after dark
 Operated a automobile without lights after dusk
 and before dawn on Division Street.
 Refused to pay poll tax
 Resident of Port Hope, Richard Morrison, was
 drunk on George Street.
 Rode a bicycle on the sidewalk
 Seduction -L. Buchanan accuses foreman of the
 Weston Shoe Company of seduction
 Selling a bag of potatoes weighing less than 90
 lbs.
 Set fire to hay on Second Street
 Shooting charges -letter from lawyer indicates
 that McDonald mentally unfit for trial
 Sold liquor to Mary Ann Mills a person prohibited
 from consuming alcohol.
 Soldier on service charged with insolent or
 disorderly Behaviour towards a superior officer ---
 W.W.I. related
 Steal 2 loads of straw belonging to Edwin
 Campbell
 Steal a pair of canvas tennis shoes, belonging to
 Miss.Reynar

Steal a quantity of fish belonging to George
 Thompson And McDonald Co.
 Stole 3 black hens and 1 speckled rooster,
 property of Solomon Bray
 Stole 3 dollars and a pocket knife from A. Denton
 Stole a 16 foot ladder belonging to James Edward
 Austin
 Stole a bicycle
 Stole a bicycle belonging to Thompson
 Macdonald
 Stole a Bicycle from William Casey
 Stole a bullterrier dog from W. Mahon
 Stole a coat, gloves, and a scarf which were
 property of A. Wilgrass; theft occurred during a
 train ride
 Stole a Massy-Harris bicycle belonging to George
 Bushey
 Stole a pair of trousers from John F. McGuire,
 Swanye Street
 Stole a pen, a pencil, and a magnifying glass --
 stolen from a Cobourg Separate school, young
 boys
 Stole a silver ring, and gold brace buckles
 belonging to John F. McGuire
 Stole flowers from the premises of David
 MacNaughton
 Stole milk from Mrs. Leggett and Glen Stacey
 Stole milk from Mrs. Leggett and Glen Stacey --
 See Leipkah, Peter 1915
 Stole milk from Mrs. Leggett and Glen Stacey --
 See Leipkah, Peter 1915
 Stole money from William Train (Father) and
 Jamie Train (Mother)
 Stole one automobile tire
 Theft
 Threw an egg -being a missile
 Threw an egg, bring a missile which is dangerous
 to the public
 Threw rubbish on King Street
 Took milk tickets from G. Wait Howard is
 suspected of stealing other items by J.P. Hinman
 Toronto resident charged with driving on King
 Street at a greater rate of speed than 15Mph.
 Toronto Resident who did not pay tolls on the
 Cobourg and Hope roads

Trespass on the property of Canadian Northern Railway

Trespassed upon the dwelling house of Henry Mills

Under the influence of Alcohol while on prohibition list -Mrs. Erskine lodged complaint
Unlawfully enter a railway tram without paying

Unnecessary noise with a motor vehicle by cutting out the muffler

Use a motor vehicle without a light on between dusk and dawn.

Use grossly insulting and abusive language to Fannie Earl

Use profane and grossly insulting language to his wife on Albert Street

Used a automobile after dark with no lights

Used blasphemous, abusive, and grossly insulting language towards M. Davey

Used grossly insulting and abusive language to Mary McLaughlin

Used profane and blasphemous and grossly insulting language towards William H. Blakley
Vagrant - "would not talk in English"

Was assaulted by John Derew

Was disorderly in or near King Street

When meeting a funeral procession, did not stop his Motor Vehicle

Wilfully try to assist Herbert Pattison, a prohibited Immigrant to Canada

Wilson family presses for charges against Dr. Whyte For prescribing medicine to induce a miscarriage

The original documents for these cases and hundreds more are available at:

https://archives.trentu.ca/uploads/r/trent-university-archives-4/5/4/e/54e098428e39e1465ff7113531df9e19ac7be248421821d114c16c7e8541a7e0/84-020_United_County_of_Northumberland_and_Durham-Case_Records_1914-1917.pdf

The Final Solution: A Triumph of Neglect.

The Globe-Nicholson file factory has been an important feature of Port Hope's downtown for almost 170 years. On July 14 of this summer the factory was heavily damaged by a fire. The Ontario Fire Marshal's Office has not yet released their final report but it is believed that the fire was initiated by vagrants living in the abandoned building.



Member Matters

New Members

Please welcome our newest CDHS family member: Chantal Diotte and family.

CDHS Executive

After serving for several terms, George Kamphorst would like to retire from his position as our Treasurer. If you are interested in this position please contact any member of the CDHS Executive (see last page of this newsletter) to discuss the position.

Paul Harris Fellowship

The Rotary Club of Cobourg recognized former CDHS President Leona Woods with a Paul Harris Fellowship on July 12, 2024. This award is in recognition of her contributions that make a difference to the community. Particularly, the award recognizes her chairing the citizens' group that erected the Fern Blodgett Sunde and the Battle of the Atlantic Statue in Victoria Park. Paul Harris was one of the founding members of the Rotary Club International and this is a prestigious award. In addition to receiving a certificate and a pin, a donation of \$1,000 in Leona's name was made to Rotary International. Leona was surprised and honoured to be recognized in this way and acknowledges that she could not do the volunteering she does without the support of a great many people.



From left to right are award recipient Leona Woods, Rotary Past President Scott MacCoubrey and current Rotary President Bruce Rennie

Civic Award



CDHS President Carla Jones was presented with the 2023 Major Award in Heritage at Cobourg's 21st Annual Civic Awards ceremony.

Lynn Hardy, RBC Wealth Management, presented the award.

Congratulations, Carla, and thank you for your commitment to the Town of Cobourg!

Announcements

Lakeshore Genealogical Society

October 11, 2024 Linda Corupe, UEL, will present: **Really and Truly the Father**

One of our favourite speakers, Linda is a skilled researcher and will present about those children termed “illegitimate” in the early to mid-1800s in Upper Canada. Linda notes that many of the early bastardy oaths, also known as “Oaths of Affiliation,” have not survived. However, those from eight different districts and counties are still available, including 289 from the Newcastle District and somewhat later from the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham. In Upper Canada, after 1837, fathers were liable for the costs of raising such children so these oaths became much more common and were considered the first step in a legal battle.

The dates covered by the Newcastle District oaths are 1837-1850 and 1851-1861 for the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham,. The presentation will include examples of various types of oaths as well as explanations of the procedures involved and the consequences of the swearing of such affidavits. For additional information please visit Linda’s website at <https://lindacorupe.com/>

This meeting is a Zoom only event. Email LGSregister@gmail.com to register.

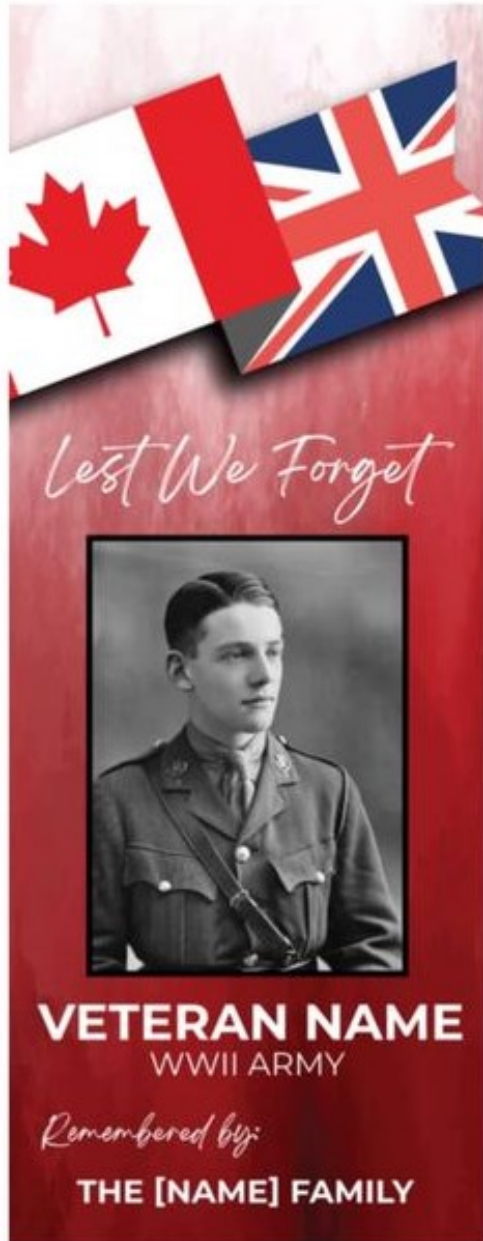
November 13, 2024 Janet Few will present: **Sons of the Soil**

Every family has ancestors who worked on the land. How can we find out more about them, the farms where they worked and the lives that they led? This session covers a range of sources, many of them under-used, which help to shed light on the working lives of our rural British ancestors.

Janet is an experienced family, social and community historian who lectures regularly on historical records, immigration records, methodology and skills, one-place studies, and places and ethnicities throughout the UK. She has been involved in surname research since 1982. Janet completed her doctorate at the University of Exeter, researching migration patterns in nineteenth century North Devon. In her quest to track down those who left North Devon for their new homes she has worked with many records for countries across the English-speaking world.

This meeting is a Zoom only event. Email LGSregister@gmail.com to register.

Remembrance Day Banners



A partnership between the Cobourg Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and the Town of Cobourg, to honour and remember our veterans.

The banners will be sponsored by loved ones and hung from the light posts along King Street throughout November each year for the lifetime of the banner.

Banners are 16" x 48" and will be printed on both sides on outdoor vinyl.

The cost to sponsor a banner is \$275
(design, printing and HST included)

For more information, please contact:

Banner Orders:

Jen Robison | poppy@cobourglegion.ca

Artwork and Design:

Alison Sprayson | alison@ourbrightideas.ca

**Deadline to Sponsor a Banner and
Submit artwork: October 1, 2024**



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