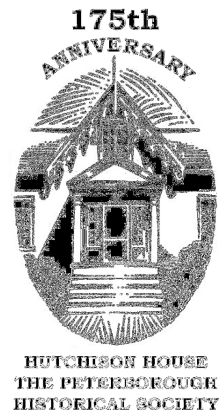




Peterborough Historical Society
385th Bulletin
May 2012



Honourary President T.H.B. Symons

Past Honourary President Catharine Parr Traill

PHS Meeting,

**Tuesday May 15, at 7:30 pm
Peterborough Public Library
Aylmer Street, Peterborough**

From MacDonald to Pearson: A Peterborough Perspective

Presented by Roderick Benns



The teaching of Canadian history has been in decline for some time, especially courses that emphasize our leaders. Yet a new kind of Canadian nationalism is on the rise that may yet change how we approach our history. It is fascinating that two of the greatest Canadian prime ministers had real connections to the city of Peterborough, exactly one century apart from one another. Together we will explore the life and times of some of Canada's most interesting leaders, with an emphasis on John A. Macdonald and Lester Pearson.

Roderick Benns, Publisher, Fireside Publishing House

Donations Wanted for Plant Sale May 12

Donations of perennials, annuals, gardening tools, garden ornaments, outdoor pots and gardening books are needed for resale at the Hutchison House Annual Spring Plant Sale on May 12.

The sale will take place in the accessible parking lot from 9:00 am to noon. This important fundraising event will also feature a special Mother's Day Brunch with servings at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00am. The cost for the brunch is \$7.00 if pre-booked and \$8.00 at the door.

Donations of gardening tools, ornaments, pots and books can be dropped off at the museum anytime between now and the sale. Plants should be brought in beginning Wednesday, May 2. Please label plants with the name, colour and preferred growing conditions.

Hutchison House Museum is participating in a province-wide marketing initiative to promote heritage gardens as tourist attractions. A picture of the museum is featured in the 2012 Attractions Ontario booklet. The gardening committee is working extra hard to ensure that the museum looks great this summer.

Please help to make the Plant Sale a successful fund-raising event.

Barb McIntosh

... from the President

City Council, meeting as Planning Committee, adopted the new Cultural Plan for the City of Peterborough. This is a comprehensive document that will shape future development of the community. More than just a plan to promote culture, in its broadest sense, it is intended to influence every aspect of the city's development, whether it be on the cultural side, parks and recreation, urban infrastructure, transportation and so on. If the plan lives up to its expectations, each action of the city will be viewed through a "cultural lens" to ensure we are creating a dynamic, livable, "culturally sensitive" city. For example, the recent improvement to the Hunter Street Bridge was a Public Works project but viewed through the perspective of the Cultural Plan, it has great heritage value and should be improved in a manner that respects its heritage character. Furthermore, it was also deemed appropriate to install public amenities, such as the small parkettes at either end of the bridge where interpretive panels are to be installed that tell the story of the many bridges built across the Otonabee River as well as the significance of the current bridge. A cultural perspective on a public work will enhance the overall character of the work. A key recommendation of the Plan was the creation of a Cultural Council to advise and promote the goals of the plan. A public meeting will take place to discuss the composition of the Council and its mandate. Members of the Peterborough Historical Society are encouraged to attend the meeting at the Evinrude Centre on Saturday April 28 to bring their voice to the discussion. Our heritage – whether it be historic buildings, our rich cultural traditions or the people who have contributed to our past, is a key ingredient of the overall Cultural Landscape and it will be an important element in the role of the Council. Details will be available through the local media.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

War of 1812 Lecture



Michael Eamon, Bob Garcia, Elwood Jones, Enid Mallory,
Dennis Carter-Edwards

Members of the Society were treated to an excellent evening for our monthly lecture in April. Three experts on the War of 1812 discussed their individual research projects. Enid Mallory spoke about her research for her new book on Captain James Fitzgibbon and the Green Tigers – a guerilla group of British soldiers who were active along the Niagara peninsula. Michael Eamon is preparing an exhibit on Personalities of the War for Library and Archives Canada which will be displayed at the Canadian War Museum. He spoke about the challenge of representing the conflict through images, using both contemporary portraits and art work from many years after the war ended. Bob Garcia, a Research historian with Parks Canada, spoke about his work on the new display at Fort Wellington and the critical role that the fort and its garrison played in protecting the vital communication route along the St. Lawrence River. Bob described the relocation of the Brown's Bay wreck – an old gunboat that was the first underwater archaeological excavation in

Ontario - that will be placed in a new exhibit building at the Fort. Elwood Jones gave an informative overview of all the presentations and pointed out the War had a Peterborough connection both through the settlement of naval officers like Spillsbury and the service of First Nations chiefs from Rice Lake. He also noted the War hampered the Reform Movement which was tarred with the brush of disloyalty for another generation after the War. The audience also got into the discussion with some interesting questions about the war, the obvious one being who actually won the war. While both sides might claim victory, the First Nations who participated, lost their Homeland and charismatic leader Tecumseh who sought to unify First Nations in resisting European encroachment. The meeting was well attended and it was a great start to the Bicentennial commemoration of the War.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

**Peterborough Historical Society
Day Trip - Steaming Up the Scugog
Cruising the Kawarthas with the PHS
Wednesday June 20 – 9:00am to 4:00pm**

Come with the Peterborough Historical Society for their annual summer outing. This year we will be travelling to historic Port Perry and return by coach where we will board the Double Decker cruise ship “The Woodman” operated by Scugog Island Cruises and travel the historic steamer route pioneered by the likes of Captain George Crandell on his side-wheeler. The weather will be great, the company congenial, and a delicious hot meal and interesting historic commentary will make for a great day. Join us for an enjoyable outing and support the work of the Peterborough Historical Society.



Purchase tickets from
Hutchison House, 270 Brock St.
705-743-9710
or Peterborough Historical Society
705-740-2600
\$80 per person
\$25 Income Tax Receipt
The Coach will leave 9:00am sharp from the
Coach Canada Terminal
and returning at 4:00 pm



Wheel chair accessible

Ticket sales for the Boat Trip have been slow and we need to confirm with the boat and bus companies by placing a deposit. Please help PHS by purchasing your ticket early and help make this year's outing another success. We need your support and participation to make the annual PHS Outing possible. This is our major fund raising event the helps support Hutchison House and the many other programs of the Society. Thanks



Heritage Awards

The Peterborough Historical Society presented its annual Heritage Awards 19 April at the Empress Gardens. This year's award winners were truly deserving of the recognition by the Society. While the Charlotte Nicholls award nominally recognizes a financial donation, the Peterborough Examiner's generous donation of its archival collection to the Trent Valley Archives is a priceless cultural resource that will serve the community for years to come. The Society thanks the Review Committee, Dr. Art Turner, Graham Hart and Louis

Taylor for their work. Thanks also to Graham Hart for once again serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the event. The PHS also would like to thank Linda Harrison, Executive Director of Empress Gardens and the staff for hosting the event and providing the refreshments after the ceremony.

Dennis Carter-Edwards



Karen Taylor being presented the Samuel Armour Award by President Dennis Carter-Edwards.



Ken Brown being presented the F.H. Dobbin Award by President Dennis Carter-Edwards.



Gord Young being presented the J. Hampden Burnham Award by Elwood Jones



Nicole Riva representing Ed Arnold and the Peterborough Examiner receiving the Charlotte Nicholls Award from Elwood Jones.

Hutchison House Report

Susanna Moodie and Catharine Parr Traill featured prominently at Hutchison House this past month. In March the museum purchased the DVD "*Sisters in the Wilderness*" produced by the CBC in 2004. This proved to be a very timely purchase because the Royal Ontario Museum booked a bus tour for April and the theme of the trip was the sisters' arrival to Upper Canada. Adapted from the award-winning book by Charlotte Gray, "*Sisters in the Wilderness*" is a tale of perseverance and survival on the Canadian Frontier.

We've shown the film to many of our adult volunteers already and will set up another time in the near future for those who were unable to view previous screenings. The movie is a visual treat and one that helps to illustrate the life and times of yesteryear. Members of the Society are welcome to join us for the next showing. A date and time have not yet been set but we are taking names of people who are interested, so contact the museum office to get your name on the list.

May promises to be a busy time for Hutchison House as we have several events coming up this month in honour of our 175th year. We hold our annual Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, May 12 (9:00-11:00am). We will also be offering a special Mother's Day Brunch throughout the morning. Guests will enjoy a hearty 'French toast casserole' with fresh fruit on the side and a choice of beverage. Sitzings will take place at 10:00am and 11:00am. Space is limited and we do strongly suggest booking seats in advance at a cost of \$7.00 per person. A small number of tickets at \$8.00 each will be available for folks who show up at the door.

Thursday, May 24th is a special day for the House. The museum opened to the public on this date in 1978. Therefore it seems fitting that we have scheduled our 3rd annual Rhubarb Spring Fling to coincide with the 34th anniversary of Hutchison House Museum. We are taking reservations for advance tickets at \$6 each and there will be a very few tickets available at the door for \$8 per person. Patrons will enjoy fresh rhubarb pie and ice cream with tea or coffee. Sitting times for this event are 1:00pm, 2:00pm and 3:00pm.

We'll be kicking off the summer season with a bang on Sunday, June 3rd from 1:00 -3:00 pm as we celebrate the 175th Anniversary with an Open House. The afternoon will feature refreshments baked on the cooking hearth, tours of the house and gardens as well as hands-on activities for young and old alike. To help us celebrate the occasion members of the Peterborough Handweavers and Spinners Guild, the Kawartha Rug Hooking Guild, and the Embroiderers' Guild of Peterborough will each demonstrate their craft. Also, Dennis Carter-Edwards and Don Willcock will enlighten our guests about the home remedies and medicinal practices that were prevalent in the early 1800s. The afternoon will begin at 1:00pm with greetings from the PHS and special guests. It promises to be a very delightful afternoon and everyone in the community is welcome to attend.

For more information on coming events and programs please visit our website at www.hutchisonhouse.ca or call the office at 705-743-9710.

Gale Fewings

Bennery Corkery

Longtime members will remember with fondness and affection Bennery Corkery, who died at her home on March 8, 2012 age 82. Bennery was the founder of the Friends of Hutchison House and for many years organized wonderful trips for the "Friends" to New England, Pennsylvania, Ottawa and Quebec, raising thousands of dollars for the benefit of the Museum. She grew up near Boston and was familiar with the roadways of the Eastern Seaboard and environs and took us to many interesting sites that we might otherwise have missed. Bennery played many volunteer roles at Hutchison House. In 1982-1984 she served as office assistant to her dear friend Betty Farquharson who had stepped up as

volunteer curator and helped to get the museum back on its feet after a difficult period. For both it reflected an interest that began in the earliest days of the creation of the museum when Betty was the first chair of the newly –formed Volunteer group. Bennery was born in Worcester, Massachusetts and attended the Kathryn Gibbs School of Boston and the 1951 Class of the Yale School of Fine Arts. She worked at TimeCorp in New York until her marriage to John Corkery, a prominent local lawyer, in 1960 when she came to Peterborough. She was predeceased by her husband and she leaves her six children and their families, including sixteen grandchildren. We will miss her.

Jean Cole

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WEBSITES:

www.hutchisonhouse.ca

www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca



Mark Your Calendars

PHS General Meetings

Tuesday, May 15, 2012 Topic: From MacDonald to Pearson by Roderick Bennis
Wednesday June 20, 2012 - Steaming Up the Scugog

Hutchison House Museum

The Heritage Luncheons Wednesday June 6, 2012

Spring Plant Sale and Mother's Day Brunch

Saturday May 12 – 9 to 12

Rhubarb Spring Fling Thursday May 24, 2012

175th Anniversary and Open House Sunday June 3, 2012

The Bulletin

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Publisher **Marilyn MacNaughton**

Photographers **Doug Lavery,**
Erin Panepinto et al

***Bulletin* submissions for the June issue due by Wednesday, May 16, 2012.**

We welcome articles of historical interest.

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Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for Peer Christensen's painting "A Winter Afternoon, Brock Street, 2011" Tickets are \$20 each and only 500 will be available for sale. Hurry and get yours.