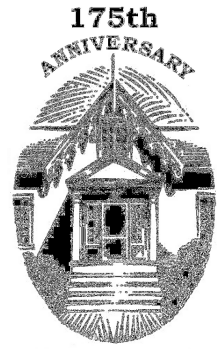




Peterborough Historical Society

393rd Bulletin

January 2013



Honorary President T.H.B. Symons

Past Honorary President Catharine Parr Traill

**PHS Meeting,
Tuesday January 15, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Peterborough Public Library
Aylmer Street, Peterborough**

**Lace Up, Canada's Passion for Skating
Presented by Jon Oldham and Kim Reid**

Join Jon Oldham and Kim Reid from the Peterborough Museum and Archives as they talk about the travelling exhibition: *Lace Up, Canada's Passion for Skating*.

Get a sneak peek of the exhibition from the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Jon and Kim will also offer a behind-the-scenes look at some of the work that goes into the preparation of traveling exhibitions.

Jon Oldham is the Programming Assistant and Kim Reid is a Curator at the Peterborough Museum and Archives. Between them, they have more than 30 years' experience designing, installing and displaying exhibitions and both were involved in the development of nationally-traveling exhibitions, *The Noble Experiment-Temperance and Prohibition* and *Voices of the Town-Vaudeville in Canada*.



... from the President

As I sit at the keyboard just before Christmas preparing this article for the January Bulletin, I am reminded how quickly time passes. It is hard to believe that my two year term as President for the PHS is coming to a close. I have enjoyed working with such a talented and dedicated group who, month in and month out, strive to preserve and present the rich history of our community. There is a wonderful rhythm to the year long activities of the PHS, starting with the traditional Hogmanay celebrations on 1 January, the AGM in February, the heritage awards in April, the Spring Fling, summer teas, our annual PHS outing in June, heritage luncheons, fall school programs and wrapping with the Christmas Festive Sale and the Open House sponsored by the Board. As well there are the Society's monthly lectures and the special events that the PHS participates in such as the Stone House tour. Central to all of these activities is Hutchison House Living History Museum. Without our tireless and talented staff Gale and Erin, along with the continued support of our many volunteers, we simply could not sustain these programs. This has been a very special year for Hutchison House as we celebrated the 175th anniversary of the building of the House and successfully completed the addition of a new shingle roof. While there is still work to do on this magnificent heritage structure, the Society is indebted to the generosity of our members and the generous support of the City that has enabled us to carry out the much need repairs. It is a constant challenge to find the necessary funds to keep Hutchison House operating, but I am confident we will meet this challenge. I would like to extend a personal thanks to the members of the Board for their contribution to the success of our Society's many heritage initiatives over these past two years and to all the members of the PHS, my best wishes for a healthy and fulfilling 2013.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

Remember When

My interview with Terry Hawkins covered his early years growing up on Bonaccourt Street and some of the "antics" he and his friends engaged in. Born in Nicholls hospital in 1937 Terry attended Queen Mary and PCVS before going on to a distinguished career in academics, teaching at Ottawa, Cobourg and Peterborough. While teaching, he completed an M.A. and later a Doctorate in Education at the University of Toronto. He later moved into administration and spent the last 13 years of his career as Superintendent for the Peterborough Board. Growing up on Bonaccourt near the War Time housing, Terry commented on the social divide at Queen Mary between the kids from Weller and Homewood and his gang of friends. "The more memorable experiences about school [were] the fights. I would never go anywhere without two or three rocks in my pocket . . . we had stone fights." The games he played were simple and didn't require expensive equipment. "We used to play chestnuts. You would peel the nut and put a hole through it and a string through the hole and hit the other nut. It was so popular that if some one had the misfortune to have a chestnut tree on their property, it was nothing to have fifty kids descending on their property after school, throwing boards, rocks, everything to get the nuts." The old quarry near Jackson Creek was closed but the open city dump provided hours of entertainment. Terry lamented that as a kid, he loved smashing milk bottles that in later life became one of his prize collections and the subject of his publication, Milk Bottles from the Dairies of Peterborough. Like kids everywhere, he was intrigued by the steam train that ran near his place. He recalled placing rocks on the tracks to see what would happen. One large rock prompted the conductor to stop the train and get out and remove the rock. This was great fun and next day he and his friends put an even bigger rock on the tracks. Same result, except this time when the train stopped, 10 railway police got out and chased after them. Terry managed to escape, not without numerous scratches from

running through a bush. In wintertime, they played road hockey. “We played road hockey because we could use horse buns for a puck and goal posts . . . that worked in the cold weather, in the warm weather it brought new meaning to a slap shot.” He chuckled over the story of the great sling shot caper. The city was cutting down a tree and left a perfect Y at the end of the day. “We got a big inner tube out of a truck [in the dump] and made a giant sling shot. . . . then we got a cabbage out of the garden and fired it . . . we went down the street to see where it had gone . . . the cabbage had gone through the front wheel of a bicycle of an old guy who had a carrier full of groceries . . . he was lying on the boulevard and it looked like coleslaw all over the road. We helped him pick up his groceries . . . by this time the police had come by and commended us [for] being fine young men helping this poor guy ... we quietly drifted away and hid in Jackson Park. When we came back the cops were waiting for us and made us dig out the sling shot.” When asked what his mother thought of these escapades, he jokingly remarked, “she knew everything . . . she said she had eyes in the back of her head.” With the old quarry, Jackson Park and open fields for a “playground” Terry, I am sure, was typical of his peers that found entertainment outside in relatively harmless activities with little or no equipment. How different it is today, where sophisticated technology provides the bulk of entertainment. I am reminded of my nephew asking me to come see him finger paint – on the computer! It just isn’t the same.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

**Peterborough Historical Society Annual Heritage Awards –
Call for Nominations Deadline 5 March 2013**

The PHS Heritage Awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in heritage preservation and promotion and are named in honour of former Peterborough citizens who made significant contributions to the broader heritage community. This year the Society has added a new award to recognize the contribution of Martha Kidd to the preservation of Peterborough’s built heritage. The nomination forms are available through the PHS website or at the office on 270 Brock Street. The deadline for submission is Friday 8 March 2013. The awards will be presented at a special ceremony for winners and their family & friends in April.

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Nominees must reside within the boundaries of Peterborough County. They may be individuals, businesses, institutions, organizations, groups or members of the media. Nominations will be considered for projects completed in the calendar year 2012 and will be evaluated by an independent Awards Committee. If you are aware of a deserving project or person, submit an application. Individuals may also nominate themselves or their own project.

The six awards are listed below:

**The Samuel Armour Award** recognizes the development and/or delivery of programs, activities or curriculum based local history material that engages students in exploring the diverse history of the region.

**The J. Hampden Burnham Award** recognizes the completion and presentation of a major project in any media such as a painting, video, web design, newspaper articles, etc that promotes awareness of the history of the region.

**The George Cox Award** recognizes the sympathetic redesign or sensitive new construction that respects the existing character of significant cultural resources, such as buildings, cultural landscapes, period gardens or the preservation of manuscripts, photographic collections, etc.

**The F.H. Dobbin Award** recognizes the publication of a major work, either fiction or non-fiction that focuses on Peterborough's past.

**The Charlotte Nicholls Award** recognizes a substantial donation either financial or in kind services towards the commemoration of a historic structure, artifact, cultural landscape, etc.

**The Martha Kidd Award** is a new award that honours the memory of Martha Kidd and recognizes outstanding work in the preservation of our region's built heritage.

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### **Hutchison House Report**

Congratulations to the Hutchison House volunteers. The annual Festive Sale at the end of November was a great success. This year the volunteers raised a record profit of over \$3,700 for the museum through the sale of wreaths, Empire cheese, baked goods, jams, jellies and preserves, pies, and attic treasures. Well done! Thank you everyone who helped with the sale, donated to the cause, and/or came out to shop. It takes the whole team to make it happen and we've got one of the best teams in town.

We're hoping many members of the PHS will come help usher in the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Hutchison House Museum at our Hogmanay celebration on January 1, 2013. Admission prices: adults \$5.00; children \$2.00; family rate \$15.00 (2adults/2+ children). The event begins at 1:00 PM New Year's Day and continues until 4:00 PM.

On January 16<sup>th</sup> we will once again host a Fireside Tea & Dessert as part of Snofest. Reservations must be made in advance at a cost of \$5 per person. Sittings will take place at 1pm., 2pm., and 3pm. Participants will enjoy a delightful dessert and a choice of tea or coffee, served in the homey comfort of the Keeping Room.

The ever popular Heritage Luncheons are back for another year beginning Wednesday, 6 February. Our seasonal menu promises to dispel your mid-winter blahs and post-Christmas humdrums. Luncheons will also be held on March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. For more information please call the office for details and to book tickets at 743-9710.

Best wishes for the new year!

**Gale Fewings**

**Peterborough Historical Society  
AGM and Dinner  
February 19, 2013**

**Be sure to mark your calendar on 19 February for our annual general meeting at Princess Gardens. As usual, we will have a social hour, dinner, a special guest speaker and a brief business meeting. The AGM will be part of a city wide celebration of Heritage Week so watch for further details.**



January 2013



Hutchison House Volunteers at Festive Fair  
November 2012





## HISTORIC SITE

# The Bridge Works

The area from Sherbrooke Street to the CPR tracks and east of George Street was a major manufacturing site from the 1870s, when it was occupied by Robert Romaine's brick factory. From the 1880s to 1900 it was the home of the Central Bridge Company, then known locally as the Bridge Works, a fairly large complex of buildings that manufactured road and railway bridges, and whose other uses included a pea warehouse and roller-skating rink. Over many years warehousing and manufacturing facilities shared the block, as did Canadian Tire from the 1960s to the 1980s. A spur track close to the main line of the CPR and extending up to the Quaker Oats factory serviced the area, and included a landmark circular turntable to let the engines turn around on a very tight radius.

Donated by Katharine N. Hooke

Erected by the  
**PETERBOROUGH  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



*Bulletin* submissions for the February issue due by Wednesday, January 16, 2013. We welcome articles of historical interest.

### *The Bulletin*

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

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### **Hutchison House Museum**

Owned & operated by the  
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Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P9

Phone 705-743-9710

email: [info@hutchisonhouse.ca](mailto:info@hutchisonhouse.ca)

### WEBSITES:

[www.hutchisonhouse.ca](http://www.hutchisonhouse.ca)

[www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca)

### Memberships:

Individual: \$35.00

Family: \$45.00

Student: \$15.00

Call the PHS office 705 740-2600.