



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Snowfest
Tea and Dessert
January 14
\$5.00
Advanced Tickets
Required**

**PHS Public Lecture
January 20
Eric Jackson
The Memoir
Challenge**

**Heritage Luncheon
February 4
12:00 and 1:30 p.m.
Cost \$12.00
Advance Tickets
Required**

**PMA Snowfest
Carnival on the Hill
January 17**

**PHS
Annual
General Meeting
March 31
Princess Gardens**

Eric Jackson shares his approach to The Memoir Challenge at the PHS Public Lecture January 20, 2015



Ever thought about writing your personal memoirs or perhaps a family history, but you didn't know quite how to get started ?

At the January public lecture, Eric Jackson will share his personal experiences in undertaking to write his memoir and shed some light on the practical aspects, as well as the process of historical writing.

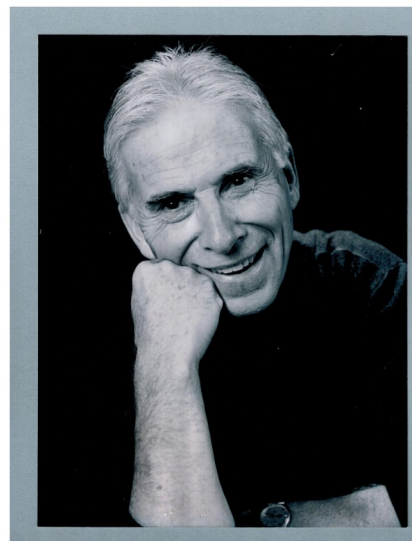
Eric is a former Head of History with the Peterborough County Board of Education. He was a founding member of the Canadian Studies Foundation and Director of one of its affiliated organizations, The Laurentian Project.

In the 1970s, he was a founding member of Peterborough's Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, working closely with the late Martha Kidd, Eldon Ray and others to raise awareness of the community's wealth of

built heritage. He has deep roots in the community. He was born in Warsaw and spent his early childhood years in the village before the Jackson family moved to Peterborough. He attended Prince of Wales Public School and PCVS and went on to graduate with an M.A. in History from the University of Toronto.

Eric is in the final stages of writing a memoir, incorporating several genres: biography, family and social history and autobiography. His narrative runs through a mosaic of settings: late Victorian/Edwardian industrial England, the killing fields of Flanders, the idyllic village of the twenties and thirties and the esoteric environment of academia in the fifties.

The PHS Public Lectures are held in the Aylmer Street Public Library, lower level auditorium, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free but donations are welcomed at the door to help cover administration and rental costs.



From the President

Sometimes it's hard to stay optimistic about the not-for-profit scene in today's economic climate. The competition for audiences and fundraising is formidable and despite our best efforts, sometimes we just can't balance the books.

And then, every once in a while, something happens that yet again kick starts our commitment to the cause. One such sterling moment happened during this year's Hogmanay.

An older gentleman with a distinct Scottish accent came up to me on his way out with this message. "What a terrific event – just like back home. But you know what really makes it special - the staff and the volunteers. You can tell they really love this place. Well done."

As we worry about the challenges, it's important to always keep in mind the things we do well and why we do them.

Barb McIntosh

PHS Highlights of 2015

- In early January, an antiquarian 1881 first edition of the Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada, donated to PHS by member George Bedford to be used as a fundraiser, was sold for \$ 1,400. This sale provided a much need addition to the PHS operating budget.

-Dr. John Wadland, Professor Emeritus, delivered a dynamic and inspiring address , reflecting the early days of the Canadian Studies Program at Trent, as guest speaker at the PHS Annual General Meeting on February 25th. Over 60 people attended the dinner and meeting.

- As follow-up to the Strategic Planning Workshop held in 2014, new mission and mandate statements and operational priorities were approved by the HH Management Committee and the PHS Board. Although the mandates differ. There was overall agreement that the museum and PHS share common goals.

-In April, PHS presented its annual Community Heritage Awards, including the first Martha Kidd Award. Ashburnham Realty won the award for its new residential structure on Bethune that was designed in keeping with the architectural character of adjacent heritage buildings.

-The new Garden Shed was completed in May– the last in a series of capital improvements on the property. David and Enid Mitchell made a major contribution to the project by generously paying for most of the construction material.

-Long-time PHS member and former President, Dr. Elwood Jones was awarded the Janet Carnochan Award by the Ontario Historical Society, recognizing his outstanding contribution to the promotion of local history .

- Refurbished computers were purchased for both PHS and Hutchison House Museum, enabling easier access to up-graded programs and functions.

- All 56 seats were sold for the fall colour cruise on Lake Muskoka held September 25.

- A new PHS historical plaque was erected commemorating the Canon Davidson Home at 64 Hunter Street West, sponsored by Bob and Betty Hinton. This brings the total number of PHS plaques to 39.

From the Curator

I think I can safely state that Hogmanay 2015 was a rousing success. We had a capacity crowd of well-wishers to help usher in the New Year. The food and drink barely held out throughout the afternoon, the entertainment was pleasing, everyone seemed to be in a jovial mood, and the weather cooperated. This year we had well over 250 people attend the event. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to make it all possible.

With the New Year's celebration behind us we now look forward to the coming year. Our very next event is merely days away. Once again we are proud to support Snofest Peterborough with a Fireside Tea & Dessert on Wednesday, January 14. We are offering tea/coffee and sweet apple buckle dessert with whipped cream at 2 P.M. At present we are taking reservations for the event and seats are booking up quickly, so if you are interested in attending please contact the museum office at (705) 743-9710. If need be, we will happily add a second sitting, however at present there is only one scheduled.

Of course the ever popular Heritage Luncheons return on the first Wednesday of the month beginning in February and running until June. The cost remains at \$12 per person for the time being, but if food prices keep rising we may have to increase our rates in future. Seating times are 12:00 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. and must be purchased in advance. To obtain more information or to purchase tickets please contact the museum office.

With regard to the youngsters in our community, Erin and I are in the process of developing some fun programs for children ages 6 to 12 for March Break. Programs run from 9:30 A.M. till noon and cost \$15 per child. Look for more details on the Hutchison House website at www.hutchisonhouse.ca. In closing, Happy New Year everybody. Let's make it a great one!

Gale Fewings

Hogmanay 2015



Traditional Haggis



Marilyn MacNaughton and Norm Savage have collected admissions for over 10 years.



For at least 20 years, Colin Campbell has piped in the First Footer and Haggis.



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Submissions for the February
due by Wednesday, January
21, 2015. We welcome
articles of historical interest.

The Bulletin

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Annual General Meeting to be held on March 31

At its December meeting, the PHS Board of Directors decided to hold the 2015 AGM on Tuesday, March 31st.

The usual date in February allows a very short period of time for the PHS bookkeeper to prepare the year-end material for the auditor and an equally short time period for the auditor to complete his report. Since no date is specified in the by-laws, there is no reason for creating this pressure.

By the end of March, the weather can be expected to be less severe, resulting in higher attendance. Also, perhaps more PHS snowbirds will be back home.

Glimpses of New Years Past from Sandford Fleming's Diaries

On New Year's Day in 1845, a young Sandford Fleming made the first entry in the dairies he would keep for the rest of his long life. The following are excerpts from Jean Cole's book *Sir Sandford Fleming – His Early Diaries 1848-1853*. Like most young men, partying and hanging out with friends seem to have been his priorities.

“Wednesday, 1st day of January, 1845: I went to bed for the last time in the year 1844 at 11 o'clock, and rose at ½ past 7 on new year's day. Almost everyone you met said “good new year to ye” &c. Happy to say I saw no one drunk except a carter boy who I believed pretended more than anything else. My present wish is to write a sort of diary so that I can put down anything particular that happens or is of utility to recollect.”

January 1846 “Wednesday, 1st: 365 days since I commenced to write a journal and it is as long since I met with all my friends in my father's house, instead of looking at the smoking turkeys on Dr. Hutchison's table. We skated almost all day.”

January 1848 “Saturday, 1st: Last night David, Ann & I were at a wedding. The party were very merry, finished about 3 A.M. and most of us went to finish at another party. It is enough to say we got to bed about 7 o'clock and got up about eleven. David and I called upon several friends during the day, being the usual custom.”

January 1849 “Monday, 1st: David and I were foolish enough to go first footing this morning, although an old Scotch custom not a very exemplary way to begin the year. My Father Mother & the rest of the family went to Mr. Pollock's at Richmond Hill.”

January 1850 “Tuesday, 1st: New Year's morning. David & I was foolish enough to go out first footing and get back about 4 o'clock A.M. Visiting a number of friends during the day. Spent the evening at the Bains.”