



UPCOMING EVENTS

PHS Monthly Lecture
January 19
John Burbidge
Public Library
7:30 p.m.

PHS Monthly Lecture
February 16
Public Library
7:30 p.m..

PHS Monthly Lecture
March 15
Annual General Meeting.
& Dinner
Princess Gardens

Heritage Luncheon
February 3
12:00 and 1:30 p.m.
Advance tickets
required

PMA Carnival Day
January 16
Pancake Breakfast 9-11
Chili Contest
11:30—12:30

PMA New Exhibit
Ornamenting the
Ordinary-Crafts from
Southern Asia

**Former Trent Philosophy Professor
John Burbidge to give presentation on January 19
on the Conservation and Repair of Old Books**

Over a decade ago, former Trent University Philosophy Professor, John Burbidge, embarked on an entirely new career that embodies his life-long love of books and reading. He is now an accomplished professional at repairing leather-bound and cloth-bound antiquarian books.

Despite the trend toward digital communications, there is still a market for the printed word, including rare and out-of-print books. John's customers include used book store owners, libraries, museums and individual collectors.

While there are some standard problems, John maintains that each book has its own history which affects how it weathers the years.

Before starting on a repair, he likes to "listen to the book" diagnose its problem and develop an approach to the repair process. In his presentation, John will explain how the structure of books has changed over the years, discuss some of the standard problems he encounters, and show examples.

The meeting will be in the Peterborough Public Library, lower level beginning at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free but donations are welcomed at the door.

Note: He would be pleased to comment on any books brought to the meeting that need repair



From the President

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the brief survey that was included with your membership renewal package.

To date, two- thirds of members who have renewed their memberships have completed the survey, along with a number of our life members. Although the results don't give us statistically accurate data, they certainly provide an interesting and encouraging indication of your opinions and commitment.

When asked why you initially joined PHS – not surprisingly, the majority cited an interest in local history and a desire to learn more. Along the same lines, some said they joined to meet other people who share an interest in history and to take an active role in local heritage preservation.

Many felt that the most important benefit of membership in PHS was the opportunity to learn more about local history through the public lectures and Occasional Papers. Many also noted that PHS membership confirms support for heritage issues and Hutchison House Museum, that helps secure government funding and additional financial support in the community.

In ranking the importance of PHS programs in promoting public support, members were fairly equally divided. However, the highest ranking program was the monthly public lectures, followed closely by the PHS Annual Heritage Awards.

I was particularly encouraged by your comments on what should be the top priorities for PHS activities in the future. They fall into three main categories.

- * Provide more effective fundraising to support the operation and maintenance of Hutchison House Museum so that it can continue to offer a wide range of education programs to the community.
- * Increase PHS membership by attracting younger people and youth. Several people also suggested introducing programs that would attract new members by exploring the history of non-British early settlers, as well as the wide range of newer residents to this area.
- * Establish a stronger independent voice and advocacy role for PHS in support of local heritage issues. Engage the larger community in advocacy initiatives to promote and preserve local history. Support research and promotion of local history stories.

These are essentially the same priorities that were identified at the PHS Strategic Planning Workshop held in May 2013: increase income; increase membership and heighten public profile.

So in conclusion, these survey results indicate that while members are generally happy with the current PHS public programs being offered, they would still like to see the organization take on a much more pro-active approach to fundraising, membership development and advocacy in the community.

Happy New Year and best wishes to all for 2016.

Barbara McIntosh

From the Curator

The following excerpts are from *Sandford Fleming ~ His Early Diaries, 1845-1853~*

"Tuesday, 30th, Wednesday, 31st: 1845 is finished and I am in Canada at Dr. Hutchisons fire side."

"Wednesday, 1st: It is now 365 days since I commenced to write a journal and it is as long since met with all my friends in my fathers house, instead of looking at the smoking turkeys on Dr Hutchisons table."

On New Year's Day 2016 over 200 visitors enjoyed themselves at the Dr.'s fireside. Hogmanay is one traditional event that brings together old and young alike and for many has become an annual return to the warmth and charm of Hutchison House. For others this year marked the first time they visited the museum and judging by the positive response it won't be their last.

Helping usher in the New Year, in addition to our dedicated volunteers and staff, were Iain Steele first footer, piper Colin Campbell, and performing Burns' Ode to a Haggis, Douglas Kean. Entertainment for the afternoon also included 4 charming young dancers led by Lynn Mooney of the Ard-Mohr School of Highland Dance followed by the skirl of pipes and drums with much thanks to the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment pipe and drum band.

It is refreshing to note that in recent years we have seen a marked increase in the number of young families who attend Hogmanay. While it is always a pleasure to welcome old friends and acquaintances it is also rewarding to see younger people taking an interest in history and tradition as well. After all they are our future.

As this new year begins we at Hutchison House are busily preparing for the months to come. Snofest and heritage luncheons lead the brigade of events and programs. March break seems a long way off however time does have a way of sneaking up on one. Happily the days are growing ever so slightly longer and before we know it spring will be just around the corner. In spite of the cold there truly is something beautiful about winter so let's just sit back and enjoy it while it's here.

Gale Fewings

Volunteer Pot Luck December 2015



Phyllis Nelson, Betty Hinton, Theresia, Laing Doreen Jones and Stephanie Ford-Forrester



Norm Savage, Bob Hinton and Don Willcock

Announcing PHS Annual Heritage Awards Program

The Peterborough Historical Society is now accepting nominations for its annual Heritage Awards . The program recognizes individuals, groups, institutions or members of the media for outstanding accomplishments in the preservation and promotion of local history. Accomplishments or projects must be completed in the past three years.

Nominations are welcomed in six categories.

Samuel Armour Award for the development and/or delivery of programs, activities or curriculum-based local history material that engages young people in exploring the diverse history of the region.

J. Hampden Burnham Award for completion of a major project that promotes public awareness of local history, using any media such as the visual and performing arts, web design, print and audio materials.

George Cox Award for the preservation, conservation and/or restoration of significant cultural resources such as artifacts, manuscripts, historic gardens or cultural landscapes.

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

Martha Ann Kidd Award recognizes the preservation or restoration of heritage buildings or new construction that is respectful of its historic surroundings. This includes commercial, residential and institutional buildings in the City of Peterborough and Peterborough County.

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

The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 4, 2016. The awards will be presented at the PHS Annual General Meeting .

Full details and the nomination form are available on the PHS website www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca .



Last Year's PHS Heritage Award winners from left to right: Graham Varrin of Lang Pioneer Village; Lee Hays and Michael Eamon of Trent University; David and Enid Mitchell of PHS; Lynn Smith of Peterborough Field Naturalists; Ramsey Shehadeh of Sammy & Sons Ltd Residential and Commercial Property Management.

Hogmanay January 1, 2016



Finn (our youngest visitor at 4 months old) with friend Barry Landry



Colin Campbell, Doug Kean, Iain Steele



Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment drummer



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Remembering Peter Koeslag

I first had the pleasure of meeting Peter Koeslag in the early to mid-1990s. It is remarkable how many wonderful things he did for Hutchison House since that time. The list is long and varied starting with the much improved 'modern' kitchen in 1995. In honour of the 30th anniversary of Sir Sandford Fleming College in 1997 he created replicas of a roller skate designed by Sandford Fleming circa 1843. We still have one of Peter's replica skates on display at Hutchison House.

Peter built stairs and reconfigured the porch leading up to the office area a short time later. During the intervening years he helped laying flagstone, carrying out a variety property maintenance projects, installing shelving for artifact/archival storage, and rebuilding the pillars on the front porch along with stairs to the lower lawn.

Thanks to Peter we have some very innovative folding wooden tables, a sandwich board to promote our events, my fabulous one-of-a-kind wooden desk among many other things. And just this past fall Peter delivered two handsome caps he had custom built for our front gate posts.

Peter Koeslag was not only a valued volunteer with a talent for wood and metal, he was a very good friend to all of us at Hutchison House. We will miss his terrific sense of humour and gentle persona most of all. Sadly Peter passed away suddenly in December.

On behalf of the volunteers and staff of Hutchison House I extend our deepest sympathy to Carol and family. We are all so very sorry for your loss.

Respectfully, Gale Fewings



In Memory of Willard Chapman

Long-time PHS member, Willard Chapman, passed away peacefully on New Year's Eve.

Willard was well-known professionally as Manager of Guaranty Trust in Peterborough. After he retired, he served as Treasurer of the Hutchison House Trust Fund from 1994 to 2008, when Marilyn MacNaughton took over this position. He was also active in many other community organizations. He will be sadly missed.