#### PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL **SOCIETY**



Peterborough Historical Society Bulletin

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**PHS Monthly Lecture NOTE LOCATION** and DAY The Parlour **Trinity United Church** 

Wednesday, January 18 Speaker Graham Hart Graham Hart's Peterborough at 7:30 pm

Heritage Luncheon December 7, February I, March I 12:00 and 1:30 p.m. Cost \$15.00 Advance tickets required

**Charles Dickens "A** Christmas Carol" in the Keeping Room by firelight on Sunday, December 11 at 2:00 pm. Cost \$12.00

Hogmanay Sunday, January I, I to 4 pm.

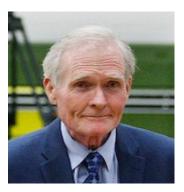
Snofest Tuesday, January 10, 2017 2 and 3 pm. Advance **Tickets** 

# Issue 432

REMINDER OF LOCATION FOR MEETINGS. This year, while the Library is closed, the Historical Society will continue to hold its monthly meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in The Parlour, Trinity United Church (entrance off parking lot on Reid Street).

# **Graham Hart's Peterborough** on Wednesday January 18, 2017 at the Parlour Trinity United Church

Graham Hart, a well-known television journalist in Peterborough, is a Producer and Anchor at CHEX TV. Despite the demanding work of journalism Graham, on his arrival in Peterborough in 1972, plunged into numerous volunteer roles in support of social and cultural charities. His tire-



December 2016

less contributions to the community were recognized in 2015 with the most prestigious civic honour, the Lifetime Achievement Award. Over the years Graham has demonstrated a keen interest in local history, often with an eye for the humour in past behaviour and events. He will speak at the meeting on Wednesday18 January, 2017, 7:30 p.m., Trinity United Church Parlour

# Join us for Scottish Hogmanay 2017 on January 1





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# From the President .....

Well, another year has rolled by - or, it seems to me, roared by at the speed of a Formula 1 racing car - and December is here. This is the month in which many of us look back both at what has occurred and forward at what is upcoming. We review our past accomplishments and plan for the next challenges.

The Peterborough Historical Society is no different. The end of a year means that we are putting together the 2017 budgets for the Society and for Hutchison House, and looking at ways we can fund both entities so that they can continue to provide the services and activities that our members and the Peterborough community have come to value over the years. It is becoming more and more difficult for heritage and cultural groups and sites to compete for a shrinking governmental pot of money, especially in the face of growing needs for infrastructure and social demands. It is hard to argue spending for museums, galleries, and heritage organizations in the face of rising needs for hospitals and health care, roads and highways, water treatment systems, care for disaster victims and refugees, and the like. Without heritage and culture, however, the world would be a much less rich place – imagine if the Louvre, the British Museum, the Taj Mahal, the Pyramids, Michelangelo's "David", Hutchison House, the Peterborough Museum & Archives, and the Canadian Canoe Museum did not exist. More and more, it is becoming the responsibility of those who use and enjoy such institutions and treasures to help sustain and maintain them. Therefore, in this season of giving, perhaps you will consider diverting a bit of your generosity toward the PHS or Hutchison House. It will be most appreciated.

Thank you all for your past and continued support. On behalf of myself and the Directors of the Peterborough Historical Society, we wish you and your families all the health and happiness for the upcoming holidays and for the New Year. We hope that you will be able to join us for Hogmanay at Hutchison House on 1 January, and help to start off 2017 with a bang.

#### Don Willcock



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# From the Curator .....

Every year as I begin to prepare the December monthly report for Hutchison House my mind wanders back to a bygone era. I'm sure my tendency to look to the yesteryear stems from the fact that I do work in an historic setting interpreting the past. There really is something interesting in what others had to say long ago about Christmas.

In 1883 Anna Leveridge brought her children from England to make a home with her husband in the backwoods of north Hastings County, Ontario. From the time of her arrival until 1891, when her mother died, Anna wrote frequently to her family in England. Some of her letters were edited by her grandson Louis Tivy, and published in 1972 as "Your Loving Anna: Letters from the Ontario Frontier," from which the following excerpt is taken.

"Wollaston/Jan. 20th/91: We had a nice Christmas. We had an entertainment, or a social as they call it, here at our school house on Christmas Eve and it was quite a success. The school was crowded. It was for the children, who went free. All ladies who provided went free also. Outsiders and gentlemen paid 25 cts each, which money went to buy things for the children. Most of the mothers baked something. I made 30 little rolls of pork, chopped fine and spiced, nice short crust; and 30 good currant buns. Some made one thing and some another; then these things were divided and little paper bags were filled and carried round, and a good cup of tea boiled in a big sap kettle on the stove.

There was a Christmas tree for the children. We got several things off. Florence put on for us each a very pretty china cup and saucer (it is fashionable in Canada to have all cups different). She also sent me a nice gilt frame looking glass for my bedroom. Katie and Lily had each a nice bible, and Johnny a warm scarf, etc., etc.

Mrs. Neal had her organ there. I played the Overture to the Caliph of Bagdad and sang the son "Who will care for Mother Now?" Lily and Isabella played and sang some Christmas Carols, helped by Katie. They played very nicely. Lily also sang and played "Driven from Home." Mrs. Payne, a neighbour of ours, sang "Dame Durden," which was very nice.

It was a lovely moonlight night. We shut up shop and all went, took cattle, and had a nice sleigh ride. Baby was very good; there were lots of babies there. Florence and Nello rode from Coe Hill with others."

Through our educational programs we strive to keep history alive by sharing stories and traditions from the past. Nothing serves this purpose better than firsthand accounts of those who lived through it.

Erin and I wish to thank all of the dedicated volunteers who help out in so many ways. We really could not get very far without you! We'll be holding our annual Volunteer Pot Luck soon in celebration of the holiday and another year well spent in the company of friends.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Hogmanay celebration on January 1, 2017. Once again we will be ringing in the New Year with lots of traditional fun and food. In the meantime, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season.

### Merry Christmas from Gale Fewings and Erin Panepinto

## A GRATEFUL THANK-YOU TO "THE FRIENDS OF HUTCHISON HOUSE"

As Chair of the Friends of Hutchison House, I am delighted to report that our 2016 fund-raising campaign on behalf of the House has raised \$3750 to date. This is an excellent result, especially given the current size of the Friends group.

All this money goes to support the operations of Hutchison House and comprises close to 4% of the annual budget. The Management Committee of the House is delighted with this year's result and has asked me to extend our thanks for your generosity and spirited support. I also wish to make a special note of thanks to Carol Koeslag for her generous gift in the name of her husband Peter and a gift from Robert Hutchison, a descendant of Dr. John Hutchison.

In extending our thanks for your generosity, may I also wish you warm seasonal greetings as we welcome the new winter. Perhaps we will meet at Hogmanay on January 1st.

**Michael Peterman** 

# Peterborough Historical Society

# Hutchison House—Christmas Market November 26, 2016

















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# **Annual Heritage Awards**

Each year the Peterborough Historical Society recognizes the contributions and efforts made by community members in exploring, celebrating and preserving the rich cultural and architectural history of the Peterborough area. Recipients must be residents of the City of Peterborough or Peterborough County. Nominations will be considered for accomplishments or projects completed in the past three years.

There are six award categories:

**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.

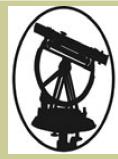
**The Martha Kidd Award** is a new award (2013) that honours the memory of Martha Kidd and recognizes outstanding work in the preservation of our region's built heritage.

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.

If you are interested in nominating someone for an award, you can download and fill out an awards nomination form on the PHS website [http://www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca/awards.php] or pick up a printed form at the PHS office at 270 Brock Street.

#### Peterborough Historical Society

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### Hutchison House Museum

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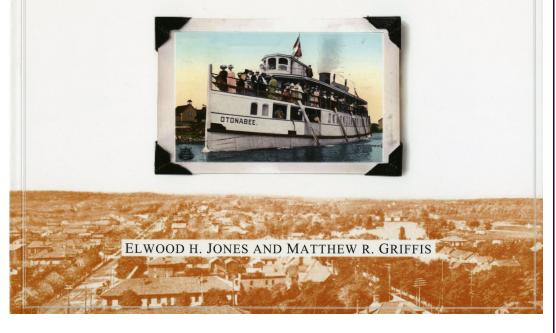
Websites: hutchisonhouse.ca

peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

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# POSTCARDS from PETERBOROUGH and the KAWARTHAS



Before the days of social media, people communicated through postcards. This era of communication is beautifully brought out in the new book by Elwood Jones and Matthew Griffis, Postcards from Peterborough and the Kawarthas. Illustrated by 200 postcards from Trent Valley Archives' collection of almost 1500 postcards, this book captures that era for our region. There are cards depicting important landmarks, cottage resorts, streetscapes and special events. Between them, they present a pictorial history of Peterborough and the surrounding area.

## Shelagh MacGillivray Neck

Postcards from the Peterborough and the Kawarthas, by Elwood Jones and Matthew R. Griffis, Trent Valley Archives, Peterborough, 2016, 154p. www.trentvalleyarchive.com, 705-745-4404