



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Rhubarb Spring Fling**

Hutchison House  
Wednesday, May 23  
Sittings at  
1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.  
Advance tickets  
\$7 per person

**Hutchison House  
40th Anniversary  
Celebration**

Sunday May 27,  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 pm.

**Scottish Teas**

Hutchison House  
Tuesday to Sunday  
in July and August  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 pm.

**Peach Tea**

Hutchison House  
Thursday August 16  
by reservation

**PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETINGS.** The monthly meetings and lectures are on the **third Tuesday of the month: September, October, November, January, February, March and May at 7:30 p.m., Lion's Community Centre, 347 Ashburnham Street.** Note that we are returning to the Lion's Centre for the 2018-2019 season. We had planned to use the Peterborough Public Library but will be unable to do so because of the acoustics problem in the refurbished community room.

Monthly Lecture Schedule, Fall 2018

**Tuesday, 18 September: Erik Hanson, "Heritage in the Age of Climate Change."** Erik Hanson is Heritage Resources Coordinator for the City of Peterborough.

**Tuesday, 16 October: Kevin Siena, "Jail Fever: A History of Typhus and Terror."** Kevin Siena is Associate Professor of History at Trent University and has published books on the history of disease.

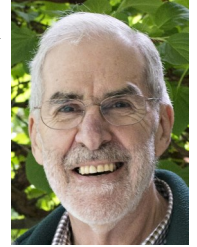
**Tuesday, 20 November: Don Willcock, "Peterborough Remembers Her Fallen: The Citizens' War Memorial."** Don Willcock is a Peterborough historian, archival researcher and contractor, and Past President of the Peterborough Historical Society.



**Best wishes for a pleasant summer! We will reconnect with our next issue of the *Bulletin* at the beginning of September.**

## From the President ...

**Dale Standen**



Beginning my term as President of the Peterborough Historical Society, I look forward to learning more in detail about the several responsibilities of the Society. The largest of these is Hutchison House Museum whose daily management, operation and maintenance are overseen by a volunteer Management Committee and curatorial staff. Hutchison House is 180 years old, and as an owner of a century house myself, I am acutely aware of the challenges of maintaining an old house.

The Society is singularly fortunate to have Paul Lumsden as its treasurer and volunteer member of the Hutchison House Management Committee. A retired developer, Paul knows his way around the by-laws and regulations of the building codes, and by supervising many of the museum's building projects over the years, understands intimately the house's current and potential maintenance issues.

Recently, Paul took me on a different kind of museum tour which featured the building's unseen maintenance issues and the stories behind them. Beyond the routine items, such as painting and repair or replacement of some outside wooden steps, there are some chronic and potentially more costly challenges, such as those related to drainage and winter ice. There is no such thing as a once-and-for-all end to maintenance on a house. That is why sustaining the Hutchison House Maintenance Fund with regular donations is an essential component to ensuring the museum's successful operation. Thanks to all contributors for their continuing support.

Paul Lumsden's work for the museum is not limited to the maintenance of the house. The City's project to reconstruct Bethune Street, including its storm drains, threatens to block natural drainage of the museum's lower property which is situated on the Jackson Creek flood plain. Paul, with his experience working with the City, is ensuring that the museum's interest will be taken into consideration in the Bethune Street project.

So we owe Paul a huge thank you for the essential work he does on behalf of the museum, and for reminding us of how critical is the contribution of volunteers and donors in providing the community with such a valuable asset as Hutchison House Museum.

## Voices From Peterborough's Past Historical Tales in Invoices and Letterheads

Old business invoices provide useful, sometimes embellished, views of our history. They remind us of bygone lifestyles, store or factory locations, obsolete and forgotten products and services and their prices, names of owners, even hints as to the character of both the owner and the customer. The Peterborough Museum and Archives holds an abundance of this "old paper". Shown here are three items relating to purchases of Peterborough's crown attorney of the day, R. A. Wood. He bought hay for his horses from Joe Flavelle, and called on Dr. Boucher to attend to his health which had already been nourished by Henry Calcutt's ale, bought by the keg, for just \$1.50.

The 1890 Calcutt invoice also tells us that all Calcutt's packaging was expected to be returned/recycled. His letterhead design is big, bold, and exuberant, like the man himself. The truth is compromised by the typically imaginative but elaborately engraved drawing, executed by Toronto lithographers who likely had never seen the property. There was no train service on site; the factory ran from Burnham Street to the raceway, and nowhere near the river as is shown. And, at that time, there were no steamboats travelling the Otonabee River north of the Canadian Pacific Railway bridge, let alone on the east shore far from the dredged channel.

The plain Flavelle letterhead perhaps reflects the 1889 personality of the teetotaling Sunday School superintendent, late of George Street and then of Toronto's Sherbourne Street Methodist Church. The thirty-one-year old Peterborough boy, Joe Flavelle, was newly transitioning to a future "Sir Joseph" life of enormous wealth and influence in Toronto. But his business rise as manager of the William Davies Meat Packing Company had not yet begun, and the letterhead shows that as he took his first commercial steps in the big city, he continued to maintain his old Peterborough store, just in case things didn't work out.



## Voices From Peterborough's Past Historical Tales in Invoices and Letterheads .....

The 1893 billing of Dr. Boucher gives many history lessons. Medical services of the day could no longer be had for trade of a barrel of apples or hind quarter, but required payment of real money. There had been, since at least 1880, a professional rate tariff. Dr. Boucher, working in the commonly described town of "Peterboro" was still following it in 1893. For a "mileage" payment, 24-hour-a-day house calls could be had, but at twice the rate for nighttime.

Ken Brown and Jon Oldham



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### LIST OF CHARGES FROM TARIFF OF FEES ALLOWED BY LAW.

The following Tariff was appointed by Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ontario, for Newcastle and Trent Division, adopted by the TERRITORIAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, July 16th, 1880. Approved and adopted by all the medical men of the town of Peterboro' and surrounding district.

MEDICAL.		SURGICAL.		OBSTETRICAL.	
Advice in Office,	\$1.00 to \$2.00	Reducing Fractures,	\$5.00 to \$50.00	Ordinary Obstetrical Attendance,	\$6.00 to \$10.00
Day Visit in Town,	1.00	" Dislocations,	5.00 20.00	Instrumental Delivery,	10.00 20.00
Night " "	2.00 5.00	Tapping, Abdominal or Thoracic,	5.00 20.00	Consultation in Midwifery,	2.00 10.00
Stethoscopic Examination,	2.00 5.00	Using Catheter or Sound,	1.00 5.00	Examination with Speculum,	5.00 10.00

SURGICAL APPLIANCES, MEDICINE AND MILEAGE, ADDITIONAL IN ALL CASES.

Peterboro, Ont., July 1893

On R. E. Hood Dr. Debtor

To Dr. P. Boucher M.D.,

To Balance due on last account rendered, - - - - - \$ 5.00

" Advice, Medicine and Attendance, from - - - - - to - - - - -

" Interest at 10 per cent. - - - - -

Creditor

By Peterboro Sept. 29th 1893 Received Payment

Total Balance due, 5.00

N.B.—Accounts are due when attendance on case discontinued. Cash is expected for ordinary advice and medicine in office, except from regular patients.

Items can be had at office, if required.

TORONTO, 76 FRONT ST., EAST,  
WHOLESALE.

PETERBOROUGH, 139 SIMCOE ST.,  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Peterborough, Jan 1 1889

Mr R E Hood

Bought of J. W. FLAVELLE

FLOUR, FEED, SEEDS, PRESSED HAY,

All Accounts Payable First of each Month. PORK, BACON, HAMS, &C.

Nov 29 To 242 Hay 2 42

## Hutchison House Report

Gale Fewings



There really is something magical about spring. The air takes on a freshness that soon fades in the heat of summer winds, leaves liberally burst forth, flowers bud and before you know it they are in full bloom.

“It’s spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you’ve got it, you want – oh, you don’t quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!” Mark Twain.

The spring of 2018 so far at Hutchison House has been a busy time for the staff and volunteers. Linda Chandler, Loretta Terry and Erin Murphy hosted their ‘Mad Hatter’s Tea Party’ on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Management Committee held a reception for the Friends of Hutchison House on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The popular Heritage Luncheons were held on the first Wednesdays of April and May, with another one scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>.

The museum will also host the annual Rhubarb Spring Fling on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hutchison House on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to our scheduled special events, museum staff organize and run school programming, book group teas & tours, hire and train summer staff, organize the incoming junior volunteers, mount a new temporary exhibit for the season, submit grant applications, clean the museum, stop everything when visitors drop by for a tour, manage the bookshop, etc. etc. And if and when time allows, we get to work directly with the artifacts. With a minimal number of 1.5 staff, we depend very heavily on our volunteers.

In more ways than one, our volunteers are our greatest asset, and to them, a thank you is sometimes all we have to give. We’re planning a Volunteer Appreciation Strawberry Tea sometime in June. Any volunteers eager to help with the picking? And no, I’m not kidding.

Summer events at the museum always include the daily Scottish Teas offered Tuesday through Sunday, 1-4 p.m. daily. The teas are enthusiastically served by the young junior volunteers who bring a youthful charm to the museum and a smile to our visitors. Peach Tea 2018 will take place on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. For ticket information or to make a reservation, please call the museum office at (705) 743-9710 or email [in-fo@hutchisonhouse.ca](mailto:info@hutchisonhouse.ca).



Julie, Erin, Loretta and Linda



Elizabeth, Doug, Linda, Carol, Peter and Linda

### Mad Hatters Tea—April 22, 2018



## Friends of Hutchison House Recognition April 29, 2018



Michael

The Pappas family

Michael Kettimer playing the hammered dulcimer



Michael, Bob and Peter





**PETERBOROUGH  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

Phone: 705-740-2600  
info@peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

**Hutchison House  
Museum**

270 Brock Street  
Peterborough Ontario  
K9H 2P9

Phone 705-743-9710  
info@hutchisonhouse.ca

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

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

**The Bulletin**

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## New Perspectives on Susanna Moodie

With the generous support of Tecumseh Press, the May meeting of the PHS featured the book launch of *Mary Prince and Ashton Warner, Two Slave Narratives Transcribed by Susanna Moodie*, co-edited by Molly Blyth and Michael Peterman. Both editors spoke to a large audience about the making of the book and the insights it offers regarding Susanna Strickland's early life and the broader context of slave narratives.

As Michael Peterman explained, a key figure in the story was Thomas Pringle, a Scot who led a party of some 20 families to South Africa where he established himself as a leading literary figure before returning to London where he became Secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society and editor of the popular journal *Friendship's Offerings*. Susanna Strickland corresponded with Pringle and visited often with his family. It was through this connection that she came in contact with Mary Prince, a former slave from Bermuda and Antigua, and Ashton Warner, a free Black from St. Vincent who worked his way to London to obtain legal confirmation of his freedom. Susanna, already an aspiring writer, undertook to transcribe the narratives of both Mary and Ashton which were published in pamphlet form and played an important role in the passage of the Anti-Slavery legislation by the British government.

As Molly Blyth pointed out, the narratives were most likely a combination of very painful experiences endured by Mary and Ashton and a broader narrative of enslavement that they heard from other enslaved persons and wove into their story. Nor can it be discounted that Susanna's strong sense of social justice interplayed with these two accounts. In more recent times, at least three different authors have tackled the subject of Mary Prince, some arguing that she was more of a showpiece for the Anti-Slavery Society. Molly Blyth argued, however, that Mary was no pawn and showed admirable strength of character despite her situation.

This book makes an important contribution to our understanding of the literary atmosphere in which the young Susanna Strickland immersed herself and the strength of the voice of enslaved figures like Mary and Ashton. President Dale Standen thanked the speakers and then invited guests to an informal discussion over light refreshments.

Dennis Carter-Edwards



Molly Blyth and  
Michael Peterman