



# PETERBOROUGH

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY | EST. 1897

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Peterborough Historical Society  
Lion's Community Centre  
Tuesday, 19 March 7:30 p.m.  
Speaker Al Kirby

Tuesday, 16 April 7:00 p.m.  
Annual General Meeting  
Speaker John Boyko

Keeping Room Hutchison House  
from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
3 April Cahill Furs and  
Black Honey Bakery  
10 April Restwell Upholstery  
and Buttermilk Factory  
17 April The Conservation Clinic  
and a local Bakery  
24 April Peterborough Medicine  
Gardeners  
and The Chocolate Rabbit

Hutchison House Museum  
Heritage Luncheon  
Wednesday 6 March, 3 April  
12:00 and 1:30 p.m. sitting

Hutchison House Trivia Night  
Thursday 7 March  
7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

St. Patrick's Day  
take-home meals  
pre order Monday 11 March  
pick up Friday 15 March

Issue 504

Nogjiwanong — Peterborough

March 2024

The Peterborough Historical Society monthly speaker series takes place on the third Tuesday of September, October, November, January, February, March, and May. The meetings are being held at the Lions Club Centre on Burnham Street, starting at 7:30. Members, guests, and the general public are welcome.

### “Early Folk Ballads”

Al Kirby

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024**  
**Lion's Community Centre,**  
**347 Burnham Street,**  
**7:30 p.m.**

This month, Al Kirby, musician and song researcher, performs and talks about how early folk ballads from the old countries, emphasizing Ireland, were adapted for their new surroundings. These unique songs and tunes generated interest from musicologist Charles Louis Seeger Jr. (Pete Seeger's father), a professor at UCLA. Subsequently, audio recordings were made by noted Canadian folklorist Edith Folke at the Douro General Store and throughout Peterborough County from 1956 to 1966. Dr. Kirby wrote his PhD thesis on the subject at Carleton University.

The Peterborough Historical Society acknowledges  
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## From the President

James Forrester



Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

We're still in need of a Publicity volunteer to promote the PHS Program at the Lion's Hall in Ashburnham. Our most recent presentation was by musician and historian Geoff Hewitson, who provided a very lively and informative talk with photos about popular music in Peterborough in the 1950s and 1960s. (More details are in Program Committee Chair David Wesley's report in this Bulletin – here are some photos from the event).

**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** will be our AGM at the Lion's Hall in Ashburnham (the Keeping Room was not large enough to accommodate the meeting). Lakefield author/historian John Boyko will be our speaker, followed by a reception with light refreshments. John will present the story of Ukrainian Canadian settlement. I encourage everyone to attend our second in-person AGM following last year's successful gathering at Traill College. A polite reminder to renew your membership in advance of the meeting as well as invite new community members to attend.



Geoff Hewitson

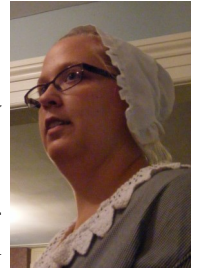
Geoff with some of his band mates





## Hutchison House Museum Report

Erin Panepinto



As winter rolls into spring, the museum has a busy few months ahead with a wide variety of event options coming up.

Are you ready to test your trivia skills? Come out to Hutchison House on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM to take part in some history-themed trivia. Topics will include Peterborough and general history. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Sign up as a team (min. of 4) or as an individual (and be placed on a team). Tickets are \$15. This program has been put together by the students of the Museum Management and Curatorship Program at Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Experience a taste of Ireland from the comfort of your own home with a delicious St. Patrick's Day take-home meal. Enjoy corned beef and colcannon with roasted carrots and Irish soda bread, followed by a scrumptious Irish apple cake with custard for dessert. Meals are \$30 each. Pre-order your meal by Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Meals will be available for curbside pick-up between 12:00 noon and 2:00 PM on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Looking for fun, creative activities for children this March Break? Hutchison House hosts a variety of fun crafts and activities over the spring break. Day camps will run from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Suitable for children aged 6 to 12. Please make sure to bring a peanut-free snack and indoor shoes. Each day has a different theme with different activities. The cost is \$25 per program, and pre-registration is required.

The Peterborough Historical Society will begin a new series of exclusive evenings with local businesses and a local Bakery, all held in the Keeping Room at Hutchison House Museum. Join us for a series of wonderful evenings you won't want to miss every Wednesday evening from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in April. Learn about various exciting topics, such as local businesses, and sample some of Peterborough's finest treats and sweets from local bakeries! **Tickets for the events are \$10 each**, and seating is limited, so please call ahead to reserve your spot. The first 'Pairing' will be **Cahill Furs and Black Honey Bakery from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Do you have an old fur in your closet that you are no longer wearing? If you would like to know what can be done with your heirloom or vintage furs, come and learn how Cahill is changing the way you see and enjoy your furs. Bring your old furs to the evening and listen to Rob Cahill discuss what can be done in 2024 to further the life of your items.

On **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, we will be pairing with **Restwell Upholstery and the Butterscotch Factory from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Hutchison House**. Come and learn about custom upholstery and the steps in the process, with a focus on antiques. Learn Methods, tools, and supplies necessary for the craft and look at some of the samples Restwell has to offer. Come with specific questions regarding your own projects, and Restwell will answer them!

Our third Pairing is **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, and we will be pairing with **Basia Baklinski from The Conservation Clinic as well as a local Bakery from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Hutchison House**. Join us and learn how to restore and conserve your old photos, paper items, pictures, drawings, etc. Learn how to preserve your family's documents. Bring some of your family documents and see what Basia can do. Our tea pairing will be with a local Bakery. Samples of their sumptuous desserts will be available to have with your tea. This will surely be an evening you will wish to go on and on.

**Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, we will be pairing with **Kelly McDowell, Master Gardener, from Peterborough Medicine Gardeners, as well as The Chocolate Rabbit from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Hutchison House**. Kelly will be looking at plantings for the spring garden, plants that are native to the area, and some herbs that you may wish to include in your garden this year. Kelly is responsible for the Medicine Garden at Hutchison House. Bring your questions for Kelly to answer. Our tea pairing will be with The Chocolate Rabbit. These delicious chocolate treats are designed to tempt and tantalize your palate. They will also have items for sale on April 24<sup>th</sup>. You won't want to miss this!

To reserve your seating for any of these wonderful events, please call 705-743-9710 or email us at [info@hutchisonhouse.ca](mailto:info@hutchisonhouse.ca)

For more information on all our events or to book tickets for Trivia Night, St Patrick's Day Meals, March Break or our new Pairings, please contact the museum office at 705-743-9710 or [info@hutchisonhouse.ca](mailto:info@hutchisonhouse.ca).



**PETERBOROUGH  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

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## PHS Previous Month's Meeting "Popular Music in Peterborough in the 1950s and early 60s"

A good turnout for the February 20<sup>th</sup> speaker's night of the Peterborough Historical Society. We heard Geoff Hewitson give a colourful and knowledgeable presentation about the history of rock 'n roll in the Peterborough area.

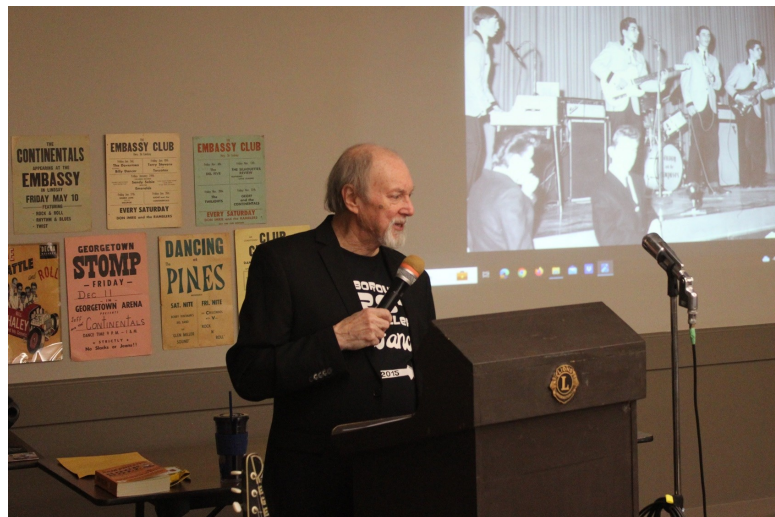
Flanked by early posters and photos, Geoff traced the origins of rock here from the big band era, which spawned the musicians to the influence of Elvis and rock-a-billy, to the 60s and 70s. Geoff clearly knows more than any other individual about the names of the early bands, their constantly shuffling members (some of whom were in the audience) as they formed, reformed and re-branded, usually wearing white shirts, bow-ties, plaid jackets and well Brylcreamed hair.

For those of us who remember Peterborough in the 50s, 60s and 70s, Geoff framed his talk with references to what Peterborough was like at the time - the venues the musicians played in - the New Grand Hotel, the Aragon and Brock St. Pavilion, etc. - and the equipment and instruments they used.

He also pinned local rock's evolution to trends in North America and the UK, from the crooning Everly Bros. to the Beatles, Vietnam War era protests and beyond - and how many of those big-name stars - Buddy Holly, The Band and others performed here. In the case of Ronnie Hawkins - some stayed! I had no idea the PCVS stage I so often stood on hosted Roy Orbison several years earlier at a not-sold-out concert just prior to the release of his hit Pretty Woman.

Perhaps they don't exist, but it would be great if any tapes of these early Peterborough bands could be compiled for public hearing - perhaps to accompany a PHS Occasional Paper by Geoff on the subject?

Dave Wesley



## HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

If not, renew directly online at <https://phs-hutchisonhouse.ca/support/become-a-member/new-and-returning-members/>, or download and complete the PDF form and mail it with your payment. Don't miss receiving the *Bulletin*, this year's Occasional Paper, and all the other benefits of PHS membership!

## Ways To Give

<https://phs-hutchisonhouse.ca/support/donate/>

Peterborough Historical Society and Hutchison House Museum, like all heritage organizations, depend upon donations to meet operating expenses in providing all their programs and events. Thank you for your generous support!