



PETERBOROUGH

HISTORICAL SOCIETY | EST. 1897

UPCOMING EVENTS

Peterborough Historical Society
Lion's Community Centre
Tuesday, 19 November
Speakers: John and Nicola
Jennings
2025

Tuesday, 21 January
Speaker: 9 Ships Committee
Tuesday, 18 February
Speaker: Drew Monkman
Tuesday, 18 March
Speaker: PACAC
Tuesday, 15 April
Speaker: Mark Bourrie
Tuesday, 20 May
Speaker: Peterborough Field
Naturalists

Peterborough Historical Society
Lion's Community Centre
Holiday themed Trivia
Friday, 6 December
from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Hutchison House Museum
Heritage Luncheon
Wednesday 6 November
Wednesday 4 December
12:00 and 1:30 p.m. sitting

Christmas Market
Saturday 23 November
from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Snowflake Tea
Sunday 24 November 1:00 p.m.
and 2:30 p.m.

Paint and Sip
Nutcracker Workshop
Sunday 8 December from 1:00
p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Charles Dickens
A Christmas Carol
Sunday 15 December from 2:00
p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Issue 510

Nogjiwanong — Peterborough

November 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.

Tuesday, October 15, 2024
Lions' Community Centre,
347 Burnham Street,
7:30 p.m.

Speakers: John and Nicola Jennings
A Canadian Flyer in the Middle East
The First War Letters and Diaries of
Arthur Eyquem de Montaigne Jarvis

Soon after Nicola and John met at Trent, they discovered quite by chance that Nicola's grandfather, Eyquem (Jocko) Jarvis, and John's father (Harry Jennings), had flown together in the Royal Flying Corps. Eyquem Jarvis served at Vimy in 1917 and then joined the RFC. He was sent to Egypt where he met John's father, also training in the RFC. In the spring



of 1918, they were sent together to the Salonika front where they served in the same flying squadron, facing German and Bulgarian pilots. The main thrust of this illustrated talk will be about their period in Salonika and the badly neglected importance of the Salonika campaign.

Nicola Jarvis Jennings is a retired elementary school teacher who taught for many years at King George Public School in East City. She grew up in a military family, listening to stories of her grandfather's experiences as a young officer in the trenches at Vimy Ridge, and as a flying ace with the RFC in Macedonia. She currently does volunteer work, supporting refugee families in Peterborough.

John Jennings is a retired history professor from Trent University who specialized in frontier Canadian and American History. A former member of the Canadian Equestrian Team, he traded horses for canoes when he arrived at Trent and was one of the founders of the Canadian Canoe Museum. In 2019 he was awarded the Order of Ontario for his efforts to bring the Canoe Museum to Peterborough. When he retired, he was appointed by the Federal Cabinet to the position of the Ontario representative on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

From the President

Don Willcock



At last year's Hutchison House Silent Auction fundraising event, I picked up a limited edition copy (No. 534 of 1,000) of Charles Dickens' *The Pickwick Papers*. I've always found Dickens to be a good read, but I found that this particular volume has another story attached to it.

On a flyleaf is the handwritten inscription "Private Gordon Carter #814251 4th battalion Killed in action at the village of Athiers France April 23 1918", and inside the front cover is a library card envelope for the "Knox Church School Library". These inspired me to do some detective work to learn about Gordon Carter and, if I could, to find out about his connection to Knox Church and this book.

According to his military Attestation Paper, the form filled out in February 1916 when he enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.), Gordon Carter was an unmarried, 29-year-old farmer, 5 feet 5 inches tall, with blue eyes and brown hair, and with an amputated left index finger. He and his parents, William George and Margaret Jane Carter, lived at 530 Bolivar Street, Peterborough (between Park Street and Monaghan Road). Gordon previously had spent three years as a member of the 57th Regiment (Peterborough Rangers) militia unit. He was a Presbyterian, which explains the connection to Knox Church – it was built in 1910 as a Presbyterian church, then became United in 1925 when that Canadian denomination was formed. Knox, because of its proximity to Bolivar Street, likely was the Carter family's church, and this book may have been a memorial donation to its library by family and/or friends of Gordon Carter.

Private Carter served in France with the 139th Overseas Battalion and the 4th Overseas Battalion, C.E.F., until 23 April 1918 when he went "Missing, believed Killed" as his service record states; a month later, he was listed as "Missing, believed Killed and struck off [the Battalion's roll] accordingly". The body of Private Gordon Carter was never recovered, and so his name is listed on the Vimy Memorial with those other Canadians who went "Missing, but believed Killed" from the First World War.

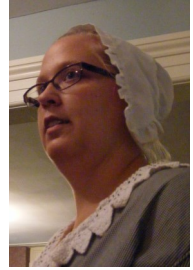
So, on Remembrance Day this year I will think of Private Gordon Carter and the other Peterborough servicemen and servicewomen who gave their lives in the two World Wars – and the families they left behind – and reflect how a book may have another story than the words between its covers.



Private Gordon Carter
Peterborough Examiner, Armistice Memorial
Section, 11 Nov 1928

Hutchison House Museum Report

Erin Panepinto



As we watch the leaves outside change colours and fall, my mind turns to the immortal world of Ned Stark of Game of Thrones "Winter is Coming." Staff and volunteers are in full prep mode for a series of great holiday themed activities from Hutchison House Museum Staff, volunteers and the Peterborough Historical Society. First up in November is our annual Christmas Market on Saturday November 23 from 9am-12pm. Home baking, shortbread, fruit pies, jams, jellies and preserves will be featured, along with other special seasonal treats. In addition to the Empire Cheese orders, we will be offering some of our most popular items for pre-ordering as well including greenery and shortbread. Be sure to order ahead to ensure that you get the items you hope for. The Deadline for all advance orders is Wednesday November 13, 2024.

Following the Christmas Market is our annual Snowflake Tea on Sunday November 24 with sittings at 12pm and 1:30pm. Enjoy a light tea with Christmas treats by the Fire in the Keeping Room for \$15 each. There is limited seating and pre-registration and payment is required. Items for sale at the Christmas Market will be available during the tea. Please reserve your seat by November 21.

December starts with a new event from the Peterborough Historical Society. Are you ready to test your trivia skills? Ring in the holiday season with the Peterborough Historical Society and this fun night of Holiday themed Trivia on Friday, December 6th from 7:00-9pm. Test your knowledge on Santa Claus, Canadian and International Customs, Holiday movies and songs and more! 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 \$10 for PHS Members or \$15 for non-members. This event will be held at the Peterborough Lions Club Community Centre at 347 Burnham St. Peterborough. For questions and to reserve a spot please call 705-740-2600 or email info@peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

In December the Museum will host a Paint and Sip Nutcracker Workshop on Sunday December 8 from 1-3:30pm. Enjoy a fun afternoon of tea and desserts by the fire, paint and decorate your own wooden Nutcracker and learn about its history. Workshop is \$35 per person and includes materials and refreshments. Registration is required.

Mark your calendars for Charles Dickens *A Christmas Carol* in the Keeping Room by firelight on Sunday, December 15th from 2-4pm. We will be listening to a recording of the 1939 Campbell Soup radio show presented by Orson Welles and starring Lionel Barrymore as Ebenezer Scrooge. A choice of dessert, tea and coffee will be served. The cost for the event is \$15.00 per person prepaid. Seating is limited so registration is required.

For more information on these events or to reserve your seat please contact the Museum office at 705-743-9710. The snowflake tea, the nutcracker workshop and fireside stories are organized by the volunteers of Hutchison House Museum.

The last two luncheons of the year will be held on Wednesday November 6 and Wednesday December 4 with sittings at 12 and 1:30. Please contact the museum office to reserve your spot.

In addition to all of these events staff are also prepping for our annual Hogmanay celebration. Help us ring in the New Year from 1-4 on Wednesday January 1. More details on the 2025 Hogmanay celebration coming soon to the website as well as the December Bulletin.

Haunted Halloween at Hutchison House Museum October 26, 2024



PHS Previous Month's Meeting "The Oriental on Hunter Street"

A large turnout was both entertained and informed at the October Speakers Series event of the Peterborough Historical Society (PHS).

Prominent local lawyer Peter Lillico gave the presentation on the history of the Oriental Hotel - Peterborough's largest and most elegant hotel in the late 19th Century and the site of his Hunter St. law office in what remains of the original building. Peter, who grew up and went to school in Peterborough before obtaining his History degree from McMaster University, going on to law school and being called to the bar in 1979, noted the hotel opened in 1875 and was named The Oriental because of the fad for all things from the far East at the time.

The hotel thrived and competed with rival hotels for patrons - sending horse and buggies, then later Model T Ford cabs to the city's two train stations to persuade travelers to stay overnight.

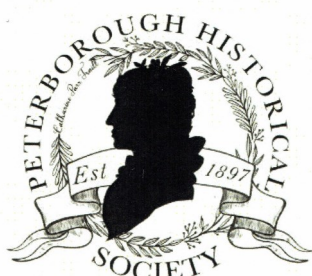
Eventually a new hotel, which would eventually become The Empress (now Empress Gardens) served alcohol when the Oriental remained dry in a time of temperance and understandably drove the Oriental out of business. The western part of the hotel was demolished in the 1970s to make a parking lot for Bell Telephone building next door.

For the second part of the presentation, Peter supplied an interesting and often humorous running commentary for a virtual tour of his office's third floor. Filmed by noted local filmmaker Peter Blow, it showed the audience the original wallpaper, door transoms, windows etc. which still survive the one-time hotel rooms above Hunter St.

Dave Wesley

PA Day Camp at Hutchison House Museum October 25, 2024





**PETERBOROUGH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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The Bulletin
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MacNaughton**

From The Bulletin— November 1974

Hutchison House News

Since early Spring many people have contributed time and energy to this project which still continues to progress slowly. Wallpaper has been stripped from the upstairs walls and in part of the parlour. A small amount of modern hardwood flooring removed has revealed fine pine flooring beneath. This work was suspended during the summer when volunteers were not available.



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!

The Peterborough Historical Society acknowledges
with thanks our partners and supporters



Ontario



**Community
Foundation**
of Greater Peterborough

