

**The Municipality of  
Port Hope Historical Society**

***Newsletter***

***Fall 2006***

**Message from the President**

TIME rushes by and we are creating history each day.... Winter, Spring and Summer are almost past and we are once again into a new season of events for your enjoyment... As we embark upon the new season upon us, let us look forward to each and every opportunity that life presents so that we may make memories to last a lifetime and beyond.

We have a great Executive to work with this year and I look forward to working with them. If you have ideas on speakers, themes or topics please feel free to contact me.

**Your 2006-2007 Executive:**

President: Joan Smith  
Vice President: John Elliot  
Treasurer: Neil MacKellar  
Secretary: Ron Getz  
Directors: John Smith  
Larry Hall  
Cal Morgan  
Rod Parrott  
Joan Parrott

**Dorothy's House**

Chair: Mark Peacock

There are a few vacant director positions available.

If you are interested in helping to fill these positions or know of someone who might, we welcome your input and support.

Thank you in advance for all your work and support.

**DOROTHY'S HOUSE MUSEUM**

The society has many plans for the upcoming events for the next year. However, we will need more support and volunteers to help make things happen.

If you can help, please contact Mark Peacock at 905-797-3271.

**Past events recaptured**

We had a display table at the Hunco Farms tractor show in late August 2005 and presented the group with a trophy. We were also there in August 2006 and 2 trophies were given.

At Dorothy's House Museum we hosted the annual Rural Ramble in Northumberland County. It was a great event and the people enjoyed coming to see the displays.

Also in September 2005, we had a display table at the Port Hope Fall Fair. There was much interest and this provided an opportunity to put a presence into the community that we are alive and preserving history.

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2005 A delightful dinner hosted by the St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Port Hope was held to start the fall season. It was well attended with over 100 people. The Welcome Buskers group provided the entertainment of old time songs and then a memorable trip down memory lane presented by Jackson and Susan Peacock including a slide presentation.

Our venue changed for the general meetings. We met at the Ganaraska Region Conservation Building on highway 28 north to hear the following presentations.

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Mr. Greg Smith, Vice President, presented the history of Hydro generation and nuclear power. He recently moved to the area from Saskatchewan.

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 we heard about the Art of Silent Killing from Shane Peacock, author of the Great Farini and other productions for the 4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre in Millbrook. He is the son of Jackson and Susan Peacock. Members of the audience

participated in a role-play of what it may have been like...

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005, we met at Dorothy's House Museum for the annual Wassail Bowl. There was singing and fellowshiping and many good treats that were enjoyed by all.

On February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006 we had a display table at the Heritage Days at the Northumberland Mall in Cobourg. There was much interest and great attendance. This year we featured memorabilia from the war and anniversaries for Port Hope area businesses and services. Many thanks to the volunteers and David Brooks who loaned us his memorabilia.

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 we hosted the annual Heritage Fair at the Lion's Center in Port Hope. It was well attended by over 300 people. There were over 30 display tables each depicting items of a historical nature relating to Celebrating Anniversaries ... including 175 years of Agricultural Fair and farming, 150 years of Railroad History, town of Newcastle, 120 years of lighting and telephone, etc.

We were pleased to have the Mayor of Port Hope, Mr. Rick Austin provide a greeting to the public. Also, a few words from our new M.P. Mr. Rick Norlock for Northumberland County addressed the group.

The luncheon was superb with sandwiches and homemade pies...

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Mr. Bohdan Milzewsky provided a very informative talk on the early methods used by the surveyors to map out the lots, concessions and township. The room was buzzing with energy.

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006, the Annual Meeting and the election of new officers. We also heard from Mr. Wayne Maize, whose former relatives lived and worked in the Garden Hill area and were a part of Dorothy's House where the Museum now stands.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, we enjoyed reminiscing with David Broughton who provided a talk on the early Victorian lighting and members brought items of interest to get some more details. There was great interest by all.

On June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006, we heard from Joan Tooke who presented us with a history of the Port Hope Agricultural Fair – 175 years. It was very interesting and she has put together items into a booklet form, which are housed at the Port Hope Archives.

We also donated a 1936 Map of the Port Hope Flood to the Port Hope Archives for its preservation.

## Coming events

### ... Stay tuned

– *We have some interesting events being planned.*

Sep 20<sup>th</sup> 2006 – dinner at the St. Paul's Presbyterian Church with entertainment.

Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 2006 – general meeting speakers

Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – speaker Sean Murphy. bring your old bottles and Crocks

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 – Annual Wassail Bowl at Dorothy's House Museum

**Jan** 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007- general meeting speaker

**Feb 2007**- Heritage Days at Cobourg Mall

**Feb 2007** Heritage Days at the Lions Center - Port Hope

**Mar 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007** - speaker, Robert Winslow from the 4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre presenting "Welcome Death"

**Apr** 18th 2007- Annual meeting

**May** 16th 2007– speaker Ruth Clark –author of new book about Native peoples in the area

## **Port Hope Street Names**

### The William's Subdivision

The William's Subdivision became part of Port Hope in 1849 and is the west half of lot 9, which is west of Victoria Street.

**The lot was granted in 1804 to Mrs. Ann Ridout, the mother of Thomas Gibbs Ridout. Her husband, Thomas Ridout, was Surveyor-General of Upper Canada with the result that there was a Ridout lot of 200 acres in many towns in the Province.**

Commander John Tucker William's, Royal Navy, retired, and had fought at Trafalgar under Nelson and on Lake Ontario in 1812 under Commodore Sir James Yeo. The Tucker name is from the family of Tucker of Tremanton Castle, St. Stephens, and Cornwall, England.

He bought lot 9 from the estate of Mrs. Ridout in 1823 for \$1,000 and built his home 'Penryn' at the south end of Victoria Street and to the west. This is not to be confused with the Penryn Park house that was built by his son, Col. Arthur T.H. William's in 1859.

He became the first Mayor of Port Hope when the local municipal government was changed in 1850. He was also first member for Durham in the Union Parliament of 1841.

Col. Arthur T.H. William's, his son, and William Fraser, his son-in-law, who had married Augusta William's, were active in dividing this property. The Street names are mostly family names. At the north end of the subdivision, is a modern division with names given by the promoters, Long Brothers and Irving Margles.

The William's names their boys with working names such as Arthur, Charles. Their second and third names were after old titled families of England with whom they were related.

### Lot 9 William's

**ARTHUR STREET** is named after Col. Arthur T. H. William's [1837-1885], the hero of Batoche. A monument stands in the Town Square and at the Union Cemetery. His father was John Tucker William's and his mother was Sarah Ward, daughter of Thomas Ward of Ward Street. He represented Durham County in the Ontario Legislature in 1867 and in 1875. He was elected as the Durham representative in the Dominion Government. He was intimately associated with everything that, for nearly a quarter of a century, affected the welfare of the Town.

**ASHTON STREET** is on the map of 1878. However it was eliminated by the new subdivision. It was named after Charles Hervey Ashton William's. He was the brother of Arthur T.H. William's and son of John Tucker William's. Lord Hervey, the Earl of Bristol, married Catherine, a daughter of Sir Thomas Aston of Aston Hall, Chester, England. Their grandson was Henry Hervey Ashton who died in 1798.

**BRINLEY STREET** is named after Henry Jocelyn BRINLEY William's. He was the brother of Arthur T.H. William's and son of John Tucker William's. George Brinley was Commissary-General of His Majesty's forces in Canada from 1799 to 1809. This street was done ways with when the new subdivision was laid out.

**CRANBERRY ROAD** is at the north end of Victoria Street that led to the Cranberry Marsh. A petition in 1811 asked 'that this road be opened between lots 8 and 9 from the Front Road to the Third Concession'.

**FRASER STREET** is named after William Fraser who married Augusta William's. Mr. Fraser was elected Mayor of Port Hope in 1859. He was active with Col. William's in subdividing the William's land west of Victoria Street. In 1889 he entertained Sir John A. MacDonald at his home "Dunain" after the unveiling of the monument to Col. William's. Mr. Fraser was born in Inverness, Scotland. He died in 1889.

**FREEMAN DRIVE** is named after "Shorty" Freeman who was a popular manager of the Port Hope branch of the Royal Bank.

**HENEAGE STREET** is named after the Colonel Arthur Trefusis Heneage William's. A Lord Heneage died at Vancouver in 1967. He was a Chaplain to the Anglican Bishop of British Columbia and a member of a very ancient English Family, whose seat was Hainton Hall in Lincolnshire.

**HILLCREST DRIVE** is named by the Long Brothers and is a newer street that runs through the Old Fair Grounds.

**HERVEY STREET** is named after Charles Hervey Aston William's. [Refer to Aston Street above]. Charles William's married a daughter of H.H. Meredith, a prominent Port Hope merchant. See the write-up in Tales of Old Port Hope starting on page 55.

**JOCelyn STREET** is named after Henry Jocelyn Brinley William's 1839-1904. He was a brother of Col. A.T.H. William's. Sir Robert Jocelyn, the Earl of Roden. This is

a very old English family. Sir Jocelyn was Mayor of London in 1464.

**JANE STREET** is named after Mrs. Freeman, the wife of the banker.

**KEITH PLACE** is named after Keith Long who lost his life in the Second World War.

**LAVINIA STREET** is named after the ill-fated ship in which the Baldwin's left Ireland in 1797. Three weeks out she was so battered by storms that they returned to England. The second attempt met with furious gales. The children were tied to the ship and every man, regardless of his station took turns at the pumps. They got to Falmouth but barely made port when the Lavinia sank. They eventually, after seven months got passage on the Grantham, a King's ship of twenty guns. This trip was uneventful and the Baldwin's arrived safely and contributed much to the Province. This was likely an often-told story of the Baldwin's and the name of the ship given to the street to commemorate their two narrow escapes. Falmouth is in Cornwall and the William's were at Cornwall so there is the possibility that the families met before coming to Canada.

**LAKESHORE ROAD** is the first through street in the district. It was built in 1800. It came along the present Lakeshore Road, down Walton Street and along Ward Street. It was part of the York to Kingston Road.

**MARSH ROAD** is the second concession line, now Jocelyn Street. It was named after the Cranberry Marsh that ran through it.

**PERCIVAL STREET** is named after Charles Percival William's. He was a son of J.T. William's and brother of A.T.H.

Willams. He died in 1811 when he was quite young.

**RALSTON DRIVE** is named after Brig. General Ralston, who home "Hill and Dale" was on Pine Street. He was active in the 146<sup>th</sup> Regiment. In the First World War he commanded Artillery.

**SHORTT STREET** is named after Rev. Jonathen Shortt who conducted the services at St. Johns Church [now St. Marks] on King Street from 1836-1867. In 1833, J.T. Willaims sold 36 acres just north of the Lakeshore Road for \$720.00 to the Rev. James Coghlan. He was the St. John's Rector and he built and taught a Grammar School for High School students in what is now the Hutchings house. Rev. Shortt took over the school and church in 1836.

**SCRIVEN BOULEVARD** is named after Joseph Scriven, a local preacher. He was a graduate of Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. He came to the area about 1850. He wrote the well-known hymn "What a Friend we have in Jesus". There is a monument to his memory at Rotary Park.

**SOUTHBY PLACE** is named after Frank Southby who gave his life in the Second World War.

**TREFUSIS STREET** is named after Colonel Arthur Trefusis Heneage William's. Charles Rodolph Trefusis was the 19<sup>th</sup> Baron of Clinton, England. This Baronage was created in 1299.

**TORONTO ROAD** was petitioned for by twelve ratepayers in 1811 and recommended by the surveyor that it "start at the north-west corner of Lot 12 of Concession 2 and intersect the Front Road at the south-west line of Lot 8 Concession

1'. After improvement in 1818 of the Concession 3 road, it becomes the Toronto Road.

**VICTORIA STREET** is named after Queen Victoria who reigned from 1837-1901. This is the line between lots 8 and 9 in the Township survey. When the road was opened in 1811, it was called the Cranberry Road. It is doubtful whether "Victoria" was applied to the street until Mr. Ridout subdivided his land about 1850. Then it was likely named by mutual agreement with J.T. William's.

Sources:

Ontario Archives  
Board of Police and Town Minutes  
East Durham Registry office  
Morgan's Celebrated Canadians  
The Oxford Encyclopedia of Canadian History  
Burke's peerage  
Tales of Old Port Hope

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**Memberships:**

I am enclosing a renewal form for memberships for the 2006-2007 season.

Yearly rates remain the same.  
Single \$9.00  
Couple \$15.00  
Life \$75.00  
Business \$30.00

Thank you in advance for your continued support for historical events.

**We are also interested in your email address so that we can correspond quicker with you in the future. Please enclose with your renewed membership**

**CONTACT:**

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If you have articles to submit for next newsletter, please forward to Joan Smith.

Wishing you and your family, health, happiness and memories to share.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Membership Fees – Annual</u></b>	
Single	\$9.00
Couple	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Life	\$75.00
Business	\$30.00

**Please make cheques payable to EAST DURHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Cheque Amount paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**