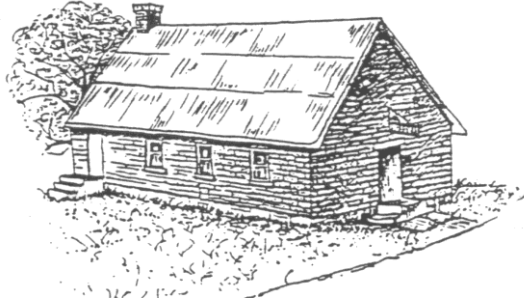


THE GOULBOURN NEWS



Produced by: The Goulbourn Township Historical Society (G.T.H.S.)
Mailing Address: 2064 Huntley Rd., P.O. Box 621, Stittsville, Ont. K2S 1A7
Visit our Website at: www.goulbournmuseum.ca
E-mail address: goulbmus@compmore.net
Phone number: (613) 831-2393

Issue #30-April 2003

RECENT EVENTS

THURSDAY APRIL 24, 2003
Goulbourn Museum-7:30 p.m.

City of Ottawa, Archivist, Dave Bullock spoke to members of the Goulbourn Historical Society describing the original setup of the City Archives, the scope of the collection and their plans for the future. Mr. Bullock brought a number of archival resources with him, which the members were able to examine after the meeting.

In the picture are Goulbourn Historical Society members Virginia Notley (left-side) and Freda Dolan discussing the City's archival collection with City Archivist, Dave Bullock.



*****MUSEUM HOURS*****

The Goulbourn Museum is open, all year, Tuesday to Friday inclusive from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
The Museum is now on its 'Summer Hours' and will be open on
Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m.

LOOKING BACK

"SHORT SNORTERS"

Thanks to G.T.H.S. member Bernie Shaw for bringing us this interesting piece of World War II history.

During the trauma of "downsizing" for a residential move, Goulbourn Township Historical Society member "Explorer Jack" MacKenzie re-discovered many souvenirs of his travels and adventures. Among them was his Short Snorter list. "What on earth's that?" you may well ask. I did.

Jack was a Wireless Officer/Navigator with RAF Ferry Command during World War II, delivering aircraft from North America to the battlefields of Europe. Crossing an ocean as aircrew qualified him for membership in the exclusive Short Snorters. The rules were a bit vague, being designed in airfield messes across the world. In fact, some would argue, there were no rules. But it went something like this. The objective was to collect the longest list of bank notes, all Scotch taped together. A Short Snorter candidate would buy drinks and the grateful recipients would date and sign his first bank note, usually a US \$1 bill and probably beer-stained. Tucked carefully away, this was presented at the next bar visited and compared with the "list" of other Short Snorters. Naturally, our greenhorn example would have the shortest list, so, once again, he would pay and add another signed bank note to his list. And so on. Duplications were frowned upon. Eventually, he would be lucky enough to find someone with a shorter list and so get a free drink in exchange for his signature.

Jack's list is over nine feet long, so he likely did not buy many drinks. Starting with a US \$1 bill dated November 25, 1943, it includes currency from Canada, Italy, Portugal, Algeria, Morocco, Gibraltar, Britain, Tripolitania, Spain, Egypt, Germany, Belgium, France, Brazil and Iandsbanki Islands.

Just in case you are getting the wrong impression about Jack, Ocean Bridge, the story of Ferry Command defines a Short Snorter as, "A piece of paper currency signed by a fellow traveller and prized as evidence of the accomplishment." There was much more than a free drink involved in being a Short Snorter: it was tangible evidence of the camaraderie that existed between aircrew who undertook hazardous passages with minimum navigation aids and, sometimes, stretching an aircraft's performance to its limits—and beyond.

Why short snorter? No-one seems to know. A "short" in Britain is a measure of alcohol such as gin or whisky, and "snort" is slang for a drink. Would it mean a small measure of, say, whisky? However, I would think that surviving an Atlantic crossing, particularly in winter, would call for more than a short drink. (Today, when air travel is routine, remember that until the outbreak of hostilities in 1939, fewer than 100 aircraft had safely crossed the Atlantic Ocean. The British Air Ministry, in desperate need of aircraft, considered aerial delivery too dangerous until late in 1940. Dr. Frederick Banting, co-discoverer of insulin, was killed in the crash of one of the first aircraft to make the attempt in 1941.)

Short Snorter lists stored in attics, shoe boxes and safety deposit boxes make an important contribution to history. Jack has a variety of Military Authority issues and a Gibraltar 10/- note,

and his landsbanki 5 Kronur bill has been long out of circulation in Iceland. The US adopted the idea, with a variation. A Short Snorter list was judged by the number and importance of the signatures on the bank notes. In the American Museum of Science and Energy, for example, is a dollar bill covered with the signatures of members of the 509th Composite Group who manned the B-29s that dropped the nuclear bombs on Japan in August, 1945.

John Steinbeck, then a New York Herald Tribune correspondent, wrote, tongue-in-cheek, from Africa in September, 1943, "The growth of the Short Snorters is one of the greatest single menaces to come out of the war so far." He argued that moving thousands of men overseas had made a mockery of the original "good fun." He wrote, "The club is pyramiding. Probably there are 10,000,000 Short Snorters now and every day new thousands begin to scribble on their bills." He noted that the practice took millions of dollars out of circulation, and, "If the party is fairly large, it might take an hour before every one has signed the bill of everyone else. Meanwhile the soup gets cold." One may assume that Steinbeck was not a Short Snorter and probably had to buy more drinks than his fair share.

With the passing of decades, memory fades, but you can be sure to bring a smile to the face of any aircrew veteran of Ferry Command, Transport Command or Coastal Command if you ask him the length of his Short Snorter.

Add a smile to your day

Care of the Internet

It is So Dry In New Mexico that...

A visitor once asked, "Does it ever rain in New Mexico?"

A rancher quickly answered, "Yes, it does. Do you remember in the Bible where it rained for 40 days and 40 nights?"

The visitor replied, "Yes, I'm familiar with Noah's flood."

"Well," the rancher puffed up, "We got about two and a half inches of that."

DID YOU KNOW

(Taken from the book titled "What is it?" written by Lorraine O'Byrne in 1977.) Where and what does the phrase "LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL" come from and mean?: The "lock, stock and barrel" are the three principle parts of a gun. The lock contains the trigger and flash pan, that is, the firing mechanism.

The barrel provides the path to direct the projectile and the stock keeps these parts together in proper relationship to each other and in a convenient form for the shooter to hold and use. They make up the whole, without them what's left? Therefore if something is missing "lock, stock and barrel", logically it is missing without a trace.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

The Goulbourn Township Historical Society members would like to extend their condolences to G.T.H.S. member Bruce Crowther on the recent loss of his wife, Dorothy.

A LITTLE PIECE OF HISTORY

Museum volunteers have been indexing a newspaper published by the Richmond Public School in 1967 for their Centennial celebrations. Many of our members will remember the little paper, as it was quite an accomplishment for a primary school. The articles and photographs were written by local people about their memories of growing up and living in the village. We thought you'd like to read a few of these personal accounts.

RICHMOND '67

Volume 1 – Number 2

A TORY STORY

Doug Kirkland sent a copy of our first paper to Mr. Diefenbaker. Here is the reply.

Dear Douglas

Thank you for sending me a copy of your first issue of "Richmond '67".

I congratulate you on your Centennial Project. Perhaps some of you will already have read or heard the words of Edward Bulwer Lytton, "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword". With this thought in mind, I know that each of you will recognize the heavy responsibility that the publishing of a newspaper places upon you and that the exercise will be a profitable one for each of you and for your readers.

I send you my best wishes for a happy Centennial Year and may "Richmond '67" be remembered as a worthy contribution of the students of Richmond Public School.

Yours sincerely,
J. G. Diefenbaker.

I REMEMBER....THE OLD SWIMMING HOLE

By Collis Lewis

On a bright warm morning in June, seventy-odd years ago, my older brother Tommy, taking me by the hand, said, "Collis, I am taking you to the Potash to swim."

I was a timid little fellow and usually followed his lead. So off we trotted merrily to the foot of Murray Street where the clear, clean water of the Jock River shimmered in the morning sun. Somehow I sensed that this was

a place where I would spend many happy hours.

In front of us the high river bank was strewn with large rocks and boulders down to the water's edge. On the right side the boys had constructed a pier, made from mud, sand, rocks, etc. It was equipped with a diving plank.

I was thrilled as I watched the older boys diving and jumping off the pier. Swimming, splashing, playing around like so many otters.

Several generations of my own family swam here.

In a field several yards back from the river, stood an old dilapidated building, at one time the property of W.R. Lyon, who was said to have been the first male child born in the settlement. Following the incorporation of the village of Richmond in 1850, he became the first reeve.

The building, at one time, was used by Mr. Lyon to manufacture potash from the ashes provided in clearing huge forests of immense oaks, elms, and maples. Hence this swimming area, for several generations, was known as the "Potash".

This was our Paradise where, completely screened from view by dense thickets of hazel and alder, we would undress and slide into the water in our Birthday Suits.

Little did I dream what a wonderful surprise awaited me, when I heard the boys call, "Let's take Collis to Sandy Bottom!".

One of the big boys carried me across to where the water was shallow and a firm, level sandy bottom extended several yards towards where the bigger boys swam.

A large patch of yellow water lilies lapped in the warm breeze beside me. Here, I was destined to spend many happy hours while learning to swim.

In this restricted area with nary a lesson from anyone, I would dog-paddle for hours with one foot on the bottom. Day after day I persisted in my efforts with an occasional envious glance towards the boys who were swimming with such ease, only a few yards away.

In a couple of months I was able to take a few strokes. My first hurdle was over! I was jumping off the pier and swimming back to shore. This was great fun but sometimes the older boys would tease me, saying, "Collis, why do you swim like a dog?" and "where is the motor that makes your little legs kick so fast like a pair of scissors?"

These gibes worried me a bit, but after considerable coaching and advice, I developed

a fairly satisfactory style of my own, although I failed to entirely eliminate the scissors-like kick with my legs. Many years later I learned that this was a very good leg movement.

One day when feeling particularly venturesome, I surprised the boys by diving from the pier and swimming across the river. My second hurdle was over!

About 800 yards down stream stood a large basswood tree with one huge limb extending out, high over the water. This spot was called "The Basswood", a convenient additional attraction, adding the spice of variety to the area so well known as "The Potash".

Often when swimming with the older boys someone would sing out, "Let's go to the Basswood!" As the water was too deep for me, I had never swum that distance and I had to watch enviously as the boys swam quickly away to clamber up the tree and dive from the overhanging limb.

Not many summers elapsed 'till with the other boys of my age, I had taken the third hurdle and was able to give the familiar call, "Let's go the The Basswood!". Often a race would follow to see who would be first to leap from the big limb.

One day I persuaded Jack Channonhouse, who was just learning to swim to jump off the pier where I was treading water and ready to catch him. After he tried this several times and gained confidence, I moved farther away and he had to swim a few strokes to reach me. It was not long 'till he was swimming with the "Gang".

The spring floods and ice usually played havoc with our pier, but we always repaired or rebuilt as soon as possible. To the gang, this was fun but a job comparable to the building of the pier on the Ottawa River. In those days there were several between Britannia and the Chats Falls.

All the boys were familiar with the stories of Captain Kid, Tom Sawyer and Treasure Island.

One day while diving, we located a long large object buried in the sand and mud on the

bottom of the river. There must be buried treasure! Soon a project to raise the large steel chest filled with gold and jewels was well organized. After considerable effort we raised it and landed it on the shore. It was only a big solid oak log, probably fifty years in the water, but remarkably well preserved. Later the gang, just for the fun of it, raised several more.

On hot summer days we would take our lunch and spend the whole day playing, swimming, and climbing The Basswood, to rest in the shade of its large cool leaves.

The Old Swimming Hole which I have attempted to portray will remain treasured in my memory forever. In the words of a poet,

I long for the dear old river
Where I whiled the hours away
For the dreamer lives forever

But the thinker dies in a day.

Action and effort must now supplant hopes and dreams. Let us all best the efforts of our Reeve, Mr. Edgar Gamble, who hopes, with the assistance of his able council, to realize his avowed ambition to climax his many years of service to the village by finalizing in 1967, the long-pending, original agreement with the Rideau River Conservation Authority to clean, deepen and dam the Jock River.

More power to all the municipal authorities of the village, county and city, to restore the beauty, utility and sanitation to the Jock River.

This is important to every citizen of the united authorities. Let's all work for it and restore to our children their rightful heritage --- the equivalent of The Old Swimming Hole.

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

To succeed is to proudly think of the past and to look forward to the future.

MUSEUM NOTES

The Benjamin Moore Renovation Project for the Clerk's Building has now been completed. The building looks wonderful, and we are in the process of moving the History Centre and the Curator's office from the Museum over to this facility. The move will free up much needed space within the Museum, which will then be able to accommodate a Children's Centre as well as several new exhibits. We were very pleased to receive a generous donation to the renovation project from 'Magic Carpets' of Stittsville. This has allowed us to extend the carpeting into the office area of the Clerk's building. The City of Ottawa has put a new roof, fascia and eavestroughing on the building. The poor condition of the roof had been a source of concern for some time and had caused considerable water damage. We received strong support from Councillor Janet Stavinga to have the roof work completed this spring. Without Janet's intervention with Real

Property Management of the City, it is very likely this project would have been delayed, once again.

The Museum has received funding for two new initiatives: an Educational/Community Programmer position and an Assistant Curator position. The Educational Community Programmer position is made possible by a museum developmental grant administered through the City of Ottawa. Our student, Erin Poulton, will be making enhancements to our current primary school lecture program, and will be developing local history education kits for the primary schools. The program is being designed in accordance with the Ontario Curriculum guidelines and is targeting the grade three and grade seven history programs. The Museum has also received funding from Human Resources Development Canada for a ten week Assistant Curator position. Erin will start this position on June 16th, and will be involved in all aspects of museum management, and with the design of several new exhibits.

The Museum will be setting up a display at this year's Canada Day celebrations in Goulbourn, which are taking place at the Richmond fairgrounds. We will then begin making preparations for the fall fairs, Villagefest and the Richmond Fair.

On behalf of the Goulbourn Historical Society and Museum, I would like to wish Edna Lance and her husband, Andy, all the best as they prepare for their move back home to the Maritimes. Edna has been a wonderful

volunteer at the Museum. She, single-handedly, indexed the O'Connor store ledger, an important part of our community's history, dating from the 1870's in Richmond. It is now possible to see what one's ancestors ate or, perhaps more interestingly, drank during this period of our history. We thank her for all her hours of work on this project and wish them both well.

Donna Keays-Hockey
Curator, Goulbourn Museum

*****RECIPES*****

From the Recipe Section in the May/June 2002 Country Woman Magazine

Sensational Strawberries Sweeten Any Meal

Strawberry Spinach Salad

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| -8 cups torn fresh spinach | -1/3 cup sugar |
| -1 pint fresh strawberries, sliced | -1/4 cup cider vinegar |
| -1 can (11 ounces) mandarin oranges, drained | -1 tablespoon poppy seeds |
| -1/4 cup julienned red onion | -1 1/2 teaspoons finely chopped onion |
| -1/2 cup vegetable oil | -1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce |
| | -1/4 teaspoon paprika |

On salad plates, arrange the spinach, strawberries, oranges and onion. In a jar with a tight-fitting lid, combine the remaining ingredients; shake well. Drizzle over salads; serve immediately.

Yield: 6-8 servings.

Strawberry Banana Smoothies

- | | |
|---|--|
| -1 cup milk | -1 medium firm banana, cut into chunks |
| -1 cup water | -1 teaspoon vanilla extract |
| -six ice cubes | |
| -1 package (10 ounces) frozen sweetened sliced strawberries, partially thawed | |

In a blender, combine all ingredients. Cover and process until smooth. Serve immediately. **Yield:** 4 servings. **Editor's Note:** This recipe may easily be doubled and prepared in two batches in a blender.

Welcome to our newest G.T.H.S. member

Murray Spearman

Stittsville, Ontario

Membership Renewals: Please check your membership renewal date found on our mailing envelope under the return address label. The timely payment of Membership Dues will make it easier for the Society to keep up with our expenses.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
To the Goulbourn Township Historical Society

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Town or City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

e-mail address: _____ Date: _____

Renewal amount: _____ single _____ family _____ sub-total: _____

_____ New member: _____ single _____ family _____ sub-total: _____

Donation to the G.T.H.S.: _____ sub-total: _____

Donation to the Goulbourn Museum: _____ sub-total: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ **Total:** _____

Signature: _____ (Authorization for disbursement of funds)

Memberships in the Goulbourn Township Historical Society are: Single member \$10.00 per year and Family membership \$15.00 per year. Please make your cheque payable to “The Goulbourn Township Historical Society” and mail it to: The Goulbourn Township Historical Society and Museum, 2064 Huntley Road, P.O. Box #621, Stittsville, Ontario K2S 1A7.

The mandate of the Goulbourn Township Historical Society is to foster an understanding of our local heritage. Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of the month. Most meetings have a guest speaker, addressing a topic of historical interest. The Historical Society is active within the schools, speaking to children about the history of the township and showing them some of the artifacts we have on display at the Museum. The Society also participates in Township events such as Canada Day, Villagefest and the Richmond Fair.

PLEASE NOTE: Donations made to the Goulbourn Township Historical Society and/or the Goulbourn Museum (of \$10 or more) will be given official tax receipts for income tax purposes.

Members of “The Goulbourn News” committee are: Hilda Moore, Donna Hockey and Virginia Notley. Questions or suggestions regarding the Newsletter can be directed to Virginia at 836-1556. For information concerning the Obituary section please call Hilda at 838-2274.

Obituaries - Goulbourn Residents

BULGER, GILES E. – of Stittsville – On May 14, 2003, in his 81st year. Husband of Agnes Barry and father of John, Barry (Alison), David (Rita) and Mary Lou (Carl Maisonneuve). Also survived by five grandchildren, a brother and two sisters.

CROWTHER, DOROTHY (nee BURROWS) – of Stittsville – On May 25, 2003, aged 80 years. Wife of Bruce S. Crowther (member of the Goulbourn Township Historical Society) and mother of Bev Good (David), John, Bill and Barbara (Nick). Also survived by five grandchildren and one great grandchild as well as a sister Helen R. Smith and brothers Dudley Burrows (Teddy), Harry Lorne Burrows (Lorraine) and Donald Burrows (Judy). Predeceased by her brother John.

DREW, JOHN DUNCAN – of Stittsville – On April 29, 2003, aged 83. Husband of Jean Payson and father of Dr. Margaret Deutsch, Douglas (Christine) and Mary Mirsky (Paul). Also survived by four grandchildren.

EARLE, WILLIAM EDWARD (TED) – of Richmond – On April 7, 2003, in his 84th year. Husband of Helen Elizabeth Brew.

HATTO, MABEL (nee DAVIS) – of Stittsville – On April 27, 2003, aged 76. Daughter of the late Basil and Florence Davis and wife of the late Emile Hatto. Sister of Loretta Hudson, Lillian Leroux and the late Henry, Harold, Edward, James, Richard and Mary.

MOORE, CLAYTON KENNETH (JOE) – of Richmond – On April 13, 2003, in his 83rd year. Husband of the late Anna Hill and father of Brenda Moffitt (Bruce), Trudy Beggs (Garnet), Debbie Lytle (Brad), Lori Rollow (Randy) and Pam Lewis (Colin). Brother of Kathleen Rea, Marion Nesbitt, Ethel Cook and the late Olive Dobson, Irene Dunbar and Ella Scarf. Also survived by nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

PURDY, ELIZABETH PATRICIA (BESSIE) (nee KAVANAGH) – of Dwyer Hill – On April 23, 2003, in her 88th year, widow of Leonard Wilmer Purdy. Mother of Nora (Mike Stewart), Mary (late Chuck Mills), Patrick (Christine), Rita (Paul Babin), Carmel (Mike Volmer), Modesta Middleton, and the late Mona Bridgitte. Also survived by seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents John and Eva (Lennon) Kavanagh. Sister of Rosaline O'Brien, Leonard (Anne), Alphonsus, Martin, Grace and Jack, and the late Dorothy, Evelyn, Martha and Ambrose.

SIMPSON, ROSS ARNOLD – of Ashton – On May 27, 2003, aged 61, husband of Hilda Ferguson and father of Christine and Neil. Also survived by two grandchildren, sisters Wilma Kelly (Bob), Glenyce MacDonald (Les), Marilyn Simpson (Al Renaud) and brother Robert. Predeceased by his parents Allan Simpson and Ruby Flewellyn, and his brother Donald.

Obituaries - Former Goulbourn Residents

CHAMBERLIN, ELLA MARY (nee BRADLEY) – formerly of 10th line, Goulbourn – In Ottawa on April 21, 2003, in her 95th year, daughter of the late William and Mary Bradley. Predeceased by her husbands John Oliver Clarke, and Percy Chamberlin. Survivors include her children Bruce, Richard and Catherine Clarke, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren as well as her sister Beulah Catherine Hook.

GREEN, SEFTON – formerly of Richmond – On May 11, 2003, at the age of 83. Son of the late Edith Healey and Robert Green, and brother of

Ethel Healey and Sidney Green. Also survived by nieces Cheryl and Cydney Green and his companion Lillian Chadwell.

ROY, ELIZABETH GRACE (nee BOBIER) – formerly of Munster – As the result of a tragic explosion in Toronto, April 24, 2003, wife of Denis, daughter of the late Harold and Kathleen Bobier and sister of the late Sidney Bobier. Mother

of Catherine Wilkins (Kenneth), Paul, Susan Haley (Allan), Peter (Natalie) and the late Michael. Survived by four grandchildren as well as her brother James of Smiths Falls and her sister-in-law Audrey Bobier of R. R. 3, Stittsville.

Obituaries - Out-of-town Relatives

CAREY, EARL BENJAMIN – On January 13, 2003, in his 80th year. Brother of Buddy Carey (Donna) of Munster Hamlet.

DINARDO, KAY – On April 25, 2003, aged 86, mother of Silvana (Tim Timpson) of Stittsville.

DRAKE, M. ROY – On May 16, 2003, aged 74. Father of Linda McNaughton (Steve) of Richmond.

GILL, IVY (nee BONNELL) – On May 12, 2003, in her 70th year. Mother of Gerry Gill (Angie Brazier) of Stittsville.

FAUTEUX, MAURICE G. – On April 12, 2003, in his 71st year. Brother of Rita Corbett of Stittsville.

LOCKWOOD, THOMAS ALBERT – On April 12, 2003, aged 80. Brother of Earl (Lillian) of Stittsville.

McGUIRE, ROBERT JOHN – In Almonte on April 17, 2003, aged 83. Brother of Carmel Napier of Stittsville.

RALPH, PRESTON EARL – In Kemptville on March 28, 2003, in his 75th year. Brother of Garnet (Lois) of Richmond.

RANKIN, THOMAS ALLAN – In Switzerland on March 21, 2003, aged 75. Brother of Anne Hunt (Gerald) of Stittsville.

RICHARDSON, WILLIAM THOMAS – On May 11, 2003, aged 46. Brother of Nancy Cowick (Bill) of Stittsville.

RUSSELL, EUNICE (nee Goodier) – On April 20, 2003, aged 91. Grandmother of Steven Nauss (Peggy) of Richmond.

SPECK, RACHEL MARY (nee CHRISTIE) – In Perth on May 10, 2003, in her 80th year. Mother of Elaine (David Bassett) of Stittsville.

STAHAN, MARION (nee BOWKER) – On May 13, 2003, in her 93rd year. Mother of Ralph (Elaine) of Stittsville.

STEWART, BRUCE – On May 18, 2003, son of Muriel and George Stewart of Richmond.

TAYLOR, VELMA STELLA (nee MARTIN) – On April 21, 2003, aged 88. Mother of Betty Hennigar of Richmond.

WHITE, JAMES KEITH – On April 29th, 2003, aged 82. Father of Rick (Joan) of Stittsville.

WOOD, GEOFFREY WILLIAM – On May 11, 2003, aged 66 years. Father of Barbara (Mrs. Tony Langenberg) of Stittsville.

This newsletter is produced with the assistance
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