

# THE BURLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## MINI GAZETTE

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As promised, a sneak [preview](#) of Burlington's [Heritage Week planned celebration events](#) for you to enjoy, participate in, and learn more about our very own history!

Our [Heritage Week](#) is scheduled for [Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup> – Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>](#) with many exciting experiences which includes some of our BHS members – [please note where the BHS initials are highlighted](#).

A detailed schedule of all events taking place during Heritage Week, including locations, and how to register will be available at [Burlington.ca/heritageweek](http://Burlington.ca/heritageweek) at the beginning of July.

Please note that [registration MAY be required where the registration initials are highlighted](#).

Let us know how you enjoyed your week of activities via at [info@burlingtonhistorical.ca](mailto:info@burlingtonhistorical.ca).

Our sincere appreciation and thanks go to all those who planned each special celebration event.

Jane Ann Newson on behalf of the BHS Executive

## MINI GAZETTE

### JUNE CONTENTS

President's Message  
 Preview of Celebration Events in  
 Burlington – Heritage Week  
 Burlington history snapshots:  
 Collections – Kilbride  
 Photo Album Donation

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH

**INFORMATION CONTAINED ON OUR WEBSITE, NEWSLETTERS AND PUBLICATIONS IS PRINTED IN GOOD FAITH FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.**

**BHS MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE THE BHS MINI GAZETTE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS AND CAN UNSUBSCRIBE AT ANY TIME.**

## Burlington Historical Society Volunteer Organization

### Officers (Elected)

President	Jane Ann Newson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Don Thorpe
2 <sup>ND</sup> Vice President	Nicola Thomson
Secretary	Patricia Taylor
Treasurer	Vacant

Past President	Joan Downey
----------------	-------------

### Directors (Appointed)

Program	Alan Harrington
Bookkeeper	Jane Ann Newson
Archives	Joan Downey
Webmaster	Wayne Murphy
Membership	Patricia Taylor
Newsletter	Jane Ann Newson
Outreach	All
Event Planner	Patricia Taylor
Publicity	Jennifer Kemp Nicola Thomson

### Convenors (Appointed)

Greeting Cards	Anne Wingfield
Heritage Burlington 50/50 Draw	Alan Harrington Don Thorpe

### Archive Volunteers

Joan Downey  
Jennifer Kemp  
Dorothy Kew  
Nicola Thomson  
Patricia Taylor  
Peggy Armstrong  
Josie Hammond

## Burlington Centre HUB

**Friday July 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup>**

BHS returns for 2 days to the **Burlington Centre HUB** community space with our books, newsletters and the collection of newly created digital signs/posters.

We will be at the HUB from 10:00am until 4:00pm each day.

You are welcome to visit us!

## Did YOU know?



The first 2 Freeman Stations, that were destroyed by fire, had living quarters for the Station Master and his family?

## PREVIEW of Celebration Events - BURLINGTON HERITAGE WEEK

### Saturday August 5th thru Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>

**Heritage Week** begins! Here are the planned activities during this week:

August 5<sup>th</sup> **Opening Ceremony** 10:00am to 11:30am  
**Saturday** St. Luke's Anglican Church

**Spencer Smith Park and Area Walking Tour** 11:30am to 12:30pm  
**Registration thru [hb@burlington.ca](mailto:hb@burlington.ca)** BHS

**Halton Freedom Celebration Festival** 1:00pm to 11:00pm  
 Spencer Smith Park

August 6<sup>th</sup> **Release of First Heritage Driving Tour** –  
**Sunday** Self-guided may be done by bicycle -**Tour Route available August 6<sup>th</sup>**  
 thru [www.burlingtonhistorical.ca](http://www.burlingtonhistorical.ca)

August 7<sup>th</sup> **Stitching in History Quilt Exhibit** 10:00am to 4:00pm  
**Monday** St Luke's Anglican Church

**Beach Way Park Waterfront Trail Walking Tour** 10:45am to 12:30pm  
 BHS and **Registration thru [hb@burlington.ca](mailto:hb@burlington.ca)**

August 8<sup>th</sup> **Museums of Burlington Exhibit and Film Screening** 10:00am to 4:00pm  
**Tuesday** Joseph Brant Museum – The Eyes of Memory film

**Symphony in the Shell** 7:00pm to 8:30pm  
 Central Park Band Shell

August 9<sup>th</sup> **Burlington Heights Walk** evening activity  
**Wednesday** Royal Botanical Gardens **[Maximum 20 participants. Register online rbg.ca/events](http://rbg.ca/events)**

**Before Burlington: Treaties Around Us** 7:00pm to 8:30pm  
 BPL -Central Branch **[register online www.bpl.on.ca](http://www.bpl.on.ca)**

August 10<sup>th</sup> **So, You think You know Burlington Trivia Night** 7:00pm to 9:00pm  
**Thursday** BPA, Community Studio Maximum 160 participants **BHS**  
[Register online \[burlingtonpac.ca/events/Burlington-trivia-night\]\(https://www.burlingtonpac.ca/events/Burlington-trivia-night\)](https://www.burlingtonpac.ca/events/Burlington-trivia-night)

August 11<sup>th</sup> **Celebrating Burlington's Organizations, Community Service and Local History** noon to 4:00pm  
**Friday** BPL – Central Branch

**Farming through the Years** 1:00pm to 2:00pm  
 BPL – Central Branch – Maximum 70 seats

August 12<sup>th</sup> **North Burlington Cemetery Tour Bus Tour** 9:00am to noon  
**Saturday** Kilbride United Church and Lowville United Church will be open  
 from 10:00am to 2:00pm **BHS** [register online \[www.kilbridehistory.com\]\(http://www.kilbridehistory.com\)](http://www.kilbridehistory.com)

**Doors Open Burlington** 10:00am to 2:00pm  
 Check the Doors Open Ontario website at [www.doorsopenontario.on.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca)

**The Weight of Clay Tour** 1:00pm to 2:00pm  
 Art Gallery Burlington 1333 Lakeshore Road

## BURLINGTON SNAPSHOTS:

### From our Villages collection - featuring this month – Kilbride

by Patricia Taylor and Joan Downey

Kilbride is one of three villages on Cedar Springs Road. Both Dakota (also known as Willbrook) and Cumminsville are long gone but Kilbride remains.

Wm. Panton and Thomas Baker registered their plans for the village in 1853. It was a large lumbering area until 1860 and, to a lesser degree, until 1870. With all the trees gone, agriculture became the main industry. By 1877 the population was about 200. The village had a Presbyterian Church, an Anglican Church, and a school conjointly with Cumminsville.

This house was built for Wm. Panton circa 1855 at the time when a front porch on a house was becoming very popular. Architect Andrew Jackson Downing felt the porch has a link from the house to nature.

Thomas L. White was a leader in business practice. His 2<sup>nd</sup> store, which replaced the one destroyed by fire, was bigger and rivaled Toronto entrepreneur Timothy Eaton, with his merchandising efforts – with one exception. At times Mr. White used barter for payment. Mr. Eaton did not.

Mr. White's store had clearly defined departments: Millenary, Tailor shop, Boots and Shoes, Dry goods. Groceries and a Butcher shop. A customer could even present a list of desired items and a clerk would fill the order.

Zion Methodist Church built in 1860's, (now Kilbride United Church) originally stood on East Street – the cemetery is still there. The Church was part of a 6-church circuit. In 1878 a Mr. Curliss who had equipment for moving buildings, and the men of Kilbride led by Hall Gunby, a noted builder, moved the church on skids to its present location on the "main" street of Kilbride. James McNiven, George Harbottle and George Bennett supplied the oxen.

During a renovation in the early 1980's the original oil lamps were found hidden in the choir loft. The lamps have been restored and now hang back in the sanctuary.

By 1876 a 2-story stone schoolhouse with walls 2 feet thick was built. There was one teacher for each floor with about 70 students per teacher. By the turn of the century, with decreasing enrollment, one room was closed, only to be opened 50 years later. It was closed for good in 1961. George and Helen Whyte bought the school and converted it to their home. They maintained the original floors complete with the burn marks from the original wood stove and nail holes from the school desks. Upwards of 700 people attended the open house held before the couple moved in.

Dr. H. R. McDonald came to Kilbride in 1923. While in France, during WWI a Col. John McCrea handed Private McDonald a scrap of paper with a poem written in it. Dr. McDonald was one of the first people to see "In Flanders Fields".

Today Kilbride has something that none of the other villages in Burlington has – a Volunteer Firefighter Department – a department of about 65 volunteers. Training sessions are held regularly. Since there are no water mains in these rural areas, they have a pumper and a water tank truck. Firefighters must live or work within 6 minutes of the fire hall. They can also be called, as required, to aid at other fires.

The fire hall also houses the antique fire truck that is used at community events.

A life-long resident of Kilbride remembers when "during the summer holidays, when we were 'good as gold', Grandma treated us to a walk to Billy Mitchell's booth at the gas station where he served 'triple decker' ice cream cones to the village children for a nickel".

**Special note: For coloured photos, please ask for the Kildride 3-fold Villages brochure at the General Meeting!**

## PHOTO ALBUM DONATION:

### A Found Treasure

BHS had received a message through Facebook, asking if we were interested in a donation.

The man had recently purchased a dresser at an auction. Afterwards, they found a photo album stuck inside. It contained photos from Burlington and surrounding areas from 1935-1937.

There were a lot of quality photos from Burlington Beach of that era. Were we interested? ABSOLUTELY!

We are so grateful to have received this excellent album of fun times in Burlington. Here is a Sample of the Photos. If anyone else has old photos of Burlington – we would love it if you would share them with us! Contact [info@burlingtonhistorical.ca](mailto:info@burlingtonhistorical.ca).

