



# Outlook

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[www.hastingshistory.ca](http://www.hastingshistory.ca)

Issue 289 May 2014

## Stories from the Archives

### The Flood of 1922 *by Lois Foster*

Prompted by our silent Pathe newsreel about the Belleville flood in March 1922, I turned to another important research source in our Archives to learn more about this flood—the microfilm reels of the *Daily Intelligencer*. The flood was front page news for over a week. I also used photos from the Young family photo album in our photograph collection as well as the still frames from the Pathe newsreel.



The footbridge swayed to and fro on its cable supports.  
*HC07082D*

The day-to-day reports in the *Intelligencer* gave me exciting commentary. Readers learned that “the trouble started on March the 7<sup>th</sup> following a downpour of rain.” The situ-

ation worsened: “An ice jam formed from Lazier’s Dam to the footbridge. The shove of ice caused the destruction of Lott’s Dam located off Station Street.” Then “the field of ice was held intact for four days” until “on March 12<sup>th</sup>, Sunday morning, with irresistible force it swept on. The suspension footbridge came in for hard knocks and had it been a rigid structure, it would have been carried away.” Finally, on March 15<sup>th</sup>, the *Intelligencer* was happy to report: “The ice floes in the Moira are behaving very well today and a portion of the jam has made its way out to the bay.” Another Belleville flood was over.

### Digital Imaging *by Kieran Delaney*

The archives can be thought of as a paper museum that contains pictures, newspapers, documents and records. It is the responsibility of the Community Archives to protect these irreplaceable items from fire, floods and natural disasters. A backup procedure known as digital scanning is carried out on a continuous basis with files stored on external hard drives. Should disaster plans fail or photographs and documents get lost or destroyed, we still have the records.



Kieran scanning documents using the new scanner purchased last year  
*Photo - Donna Fano*

Although the primary benefit of digital imaging is for backup purposes, there are tremendous advantages to having the images and documents digitized. We can display them on computer screens and print them for use in a variety of publications and programs: the Historical Society newsletter, *Outlook*; the *Belleville History Alive* website; books and publications; historical documentaries; community advertising; slide shows and posters for public education, entertainment and community open house events.

We can now share our heritage not only with the local community in Belleville and Hastings County but also with people throughout the world by means of the internet. Digital imaging provides increased access to our valuable collection.

*Watch for more overviews of the speakers' talks in June's Outlook!*

## A Big Thank You!

A big **Thank You** to all the Archives Volunteers who helped with the *Stories from the Archives* presentations on April 22. The excellent results reflect the many hours spent by the seven presenters in researching their subjects, choosing images, putting together their presentation slides and preparing their talks. Kudos to Elizabeth Mitchell, Al Cleary, Diane Sule, Bill Kennedy, Ann Butryn, Lois Foster, and Kieran Delaney for their interesting and well-presented stories! They have also written summary articles of their presentations for *Outlook* which are being printed in the May and June issues.

Producing the annual *Stories from the Archives* is a team effort, with many of the regular Archives Volunteers contributing behind the scenes in some way. Technical assistance was provided by Kieran Delaney, Donna Fano, and Nick White, who scanned the pictures, took photographs, created the slides, and put together the final digital presentation. Many others helped with images and information and in other ways, including Laurel Bishop, Marney Black, Breanna Brethour, Jeanne Delaney, Adele Dibben, Lorna Garbutt, Annis Ross, and Mary Jane Throop.

*Sharon White*



*Notes from the Archives*  
**... On the Move!**  
 By Sharon White

## Another Step Forward!

The Community Archives is another step closer to its new home this month after all partners (City of Belleville, Hastings County and the Historical Society) approved a new three-way agreement and project plan for our relocation to the Belleville Public Library building. This allows us to advance to the design and tender stages. When renovation and budget plans are approved, the interior renovations to create the new Community Archives facility can begin.

The Archives will initially occupy the north half of the second floor in the Library building—approximately 4,500 square feet of space. The agreement gives us the option to expand into additional space in the future for a total of 6,000 square feet.

A date for the move-in is not yet determined, but we expect to be operating in our new home before the end of the year.

A big thank you to the Historical Society, its leaders and many volunteers and supporters for their vision, dedication, hard work and continuing patience in this project.

## New Donations to the Archives

The Archives is still accepting donations of archival materials for the collections, although the transfer of some larger donations has been put on hold until after the move, provided they are already in a safe and secure location.

There were twenty-seven donations to the Archives in the first quarter of 2014, including: a series of videotapes and digitized versions of the tapes showing streetscapes in Belleville in 1998 (from Heritage Belleville); copies of Vern Whalen's source material for his Point Anne book; a promotional booklet of Belleville from the 1920s, *The Canadian Farmer* magazines for the year 1864; items related to railways and the Belleville station (from a former CN engineer); a collection of books from Mika Publishing (donated by Allan Thompson); additional Merchant Navy Veterans Association correspondence (from Phil Etter); and various miscellaneous photos,

postcards and books. Our collections depend on the generosity of our donors—thanks to all who help us preserve our local history.

A special thanks to long-time Historical Society member and former Archives Volunteer Beth Green, who donated her copy of William Canniff's book, *The Settlement of Upper Canada* for our reference library in response to our plea in the previous issue of *Outlook*.



## International Museums Day, May 18, 2014

By Melissa Wakeling

Each year, museums around the world offer free admission on International Museums Day, May 18. Join this global movement by visiting your local museum on this special day. Glanmore National Historic Site, located at 257 Bridge Street East, Belleville, will be holding an open house to celebrate International Museums Day. Admission will be free from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday May 18. Light refreshments will be provided. Call [613-962-2329](tel:613-962-2329) for more details or visit [www.glanmore.ca](http://www.glanmore.ca)

Is anything coming up in your garden yet? Don't worry, in another few weeks your beds will be crowded with perennials and you'll be looking for a new home for extras. When you split your hostas and other perennials, please consider donating them to Glanmore for our annual Fundraising Plant and Bake Sale, Saturday, May 31. Plant donations should be labelled with plant name/flower colour whenever possible. Call Glanmore at [613-962-2329](tel:613-962-2329) to arrange a time to drop off your donation in the days leading up to the sale or request a volunteer to pick up your plants (in town).

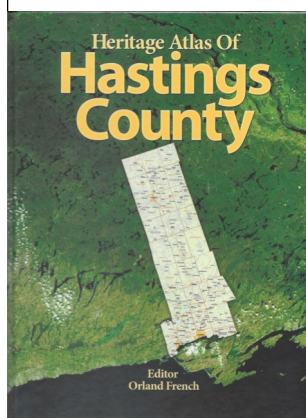
### Fundraising Plant Sale, May 31, 2014, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Don't miss this fantastic plant sale just in time for the spring planting season! Stop by the front lawn of Glanmore National Historic Site, 257 Bridge Street East, Belleville, on the morning of Saturday, May 31 and pick up some things for the garden. The plant sale will feature perennials, gardening books, garden accessories and more. If you are not a gardener or if you happen to be a gardener with a sweet tooth, you'll want to stop at our yummy bake sale tables too! Funds raised from this sale go to the Friends of Glanmore in support of museum projects.



## Books of the Month Time to Discover Hastings County

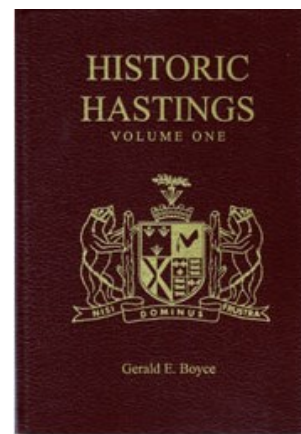
The good weather has arrived and many of us are thinking that it is time to get out, poke around the back roads and explore some of the attractions of our own county. Great day trips, some walking and fresh air and a nice lunch out. How better to prepare than to do some reading about the amazing sites to visit. Here are two books that will serve as great guides. Pick up your copies at the Heritage Centre, Cannifton, or at our monthly public events.



*Heritage Atlas of Hastings County* by Orland French is the perfect guide to Hastings County with maps, charts, colourful graphics of the amazing sights from the Bay of Quinte to the highlands of the rugged Canadian Shield. A handbook for history buffs, nature lovers, fans of geology and the great outdoors. 240 pages, full colour,

\$40.

*Historic Hastings, Volume One* by Gerry Boyce presents a series of historical glimpses into the past of this intensely historic part of Ontario. The development of the towns and villages, early iron and gold mines, the lumber empires, farming and the cheese industry. Hastings County is also home to some colourful pioneers: Susanna Moodie, Billa Flint, Henry Corby and Mackenzie Bowell. Become aware of the amazing county you call home. Revised in 2013 with 16 new pages, 375 pages, \$65.



**Bus Tour Reminder:** Wear walking shoes, hat, sunglasses, umbrella in case of rain and water for the upcoming bus tours on May 24 and June 7. We depart at **8:30 a.m.** sharp from Bayview Mall, northeast parking lot.

## Postscript—Point Anne: History of a Cement Factory Village

By Vern Whalen

As a result of the release of my book, *Point Anne: History of a Cement Factory Village*, in the fall of 2013, two more accidental deaths at Canada Cement and another war hero have been revealed. At a future point, they will be added to the book, but they are noted here due to their historical significance.

**Yakob Lazriuk** was a driller in the quarry with responsibility for inserting dynamite powder into the drilled holes. He had been doing this job since emigrating from Austria in 1913. On October 2, 1928, he laid a charge which failed to detonate. Yakob went back to the hole to ascertain the problem and stuck a light down the hole. The dynamite blast threw him over the bank of the quarry and he landed fifty feet below. Having sustained very serious injuries, he was rushed to Belleville Hospital, but pronounced dead shortly afterward. He was thirty-seven. He left behind his wife, Rose, and four young children: Elsie, Bill, Kathleen and Anne. The family lived on a small farm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession of Thurlow Township. Two other quarry workers, Edward Little and Nick Gurniak, received minor injuries in the accident. The latter was the brother of Sam Gurniak who once owned much of the land on the Point Anne Lane. A coroner's inquest found no one responsible for the tragic accident.

Mr. Lazriuk's daughter Anne Irvine of Ottawa related this story to me in a telephone call in December 2013 at the age of ninety. I checked old newspaper records for the actual details. Interestingly the newspaper referred to Yakob Lazriuk as Polish although Mrs. Irvine said that they were from Austria. She said that during that time it

### YAKOB LAZARUK, POLISH WORKER, HURLED 50 FEET TO HIS DEATH

Strange Fatality At Canada Cement Company's Quarry Today

#### OTHERS INJURED

Edward Little And Nick Gurniak In Hospital With Injuries

Yakob Lazaruk, Polish worker at the Canada Cement Company, died in the Belleville General Hospital today at 1:30 from injuries received shortly after 11 o'clock this morning when a dynamite cap exploded at the Canada Cement plant hurling him over a fifty foot precipice onto the rocks below. Lazaruk did not regain consciousness from the time he was picked up and

#### DERBY WINNER IS SAVED FROM FIRE

Gary, Ind., Oct. 2.—The racing stables of John Hertz owner of Reigh Count, the Kentucky derby winner and Chairman of the Board of the Yellow Cab Company were destroyed by a fire of undetermined origin late last night. Reigh Count was saved, being led blindfolded from the barns, but thoroughbreds valued at two hundred thousand dollars were destroyed.

### C. D. S. L. SHOW LATEST STYLES



Private Russell Vollick

Charles Albert Russell Vollick was born in Madoc, Ontario, in 1892. Russell was a private in World War I in C Company 155th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force enlisting in 1916. He was also in the Canadian Machine Gun Corp., serving in England and France from January 1917 to November 11, 1918. Mr. Vollick was gassed twice and was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He later served in the Veterans Guard of Canada during World War II. After World War I, he obtained a job at Canada Cement in Point Anne. He and his wife, Anne, raised three children: Madeline, Ruth (Fraser) and Maurice. He lived and worked in Point Anne until his death in 1953 at the age of sixty-one. His son and one grandson would also work for Canada Cement Lafarge. One of his grandsons, Stephen Vollick, provided me with his military record. A total of seven grandchildren still survive this veteran of World War I.

was common practice for immigrants from any Eastern European country to be referred to as Polish. I also visited Mrs. Olga Lazriuk, the daughter-in-law of Yakob Lazriuk, at Quinte Gardens. She was ninety years old as well and recalled that ironically Nick Gurniak and his wife were her godparents.

Charles Albert Russell Vollick was born in Madoc, Ontario, in 1892. Russell was a private in World War I in C

## Caught in Conveyor Belt Charles Ballinger Killed at Point Anne Cement Mill

Was Putting on Belt Dressing When He Was Caught

#### INSTANT DEATH

Investigation Opened Before Coroner This Morning

Charles Frederick Ballinger 25, 268 John Street, was horribly mangled and killed instantly, while employed as an oiler in the crushing plant of the Canada Cement Company at Point Anne yesterday afternoon shortly after four o'clock. While placing a belt dressing on a large

ing an attendant at Christ Church in this city.

## U. S. Deficit Over Billion

Deficit Increased Over 8 Million Dollars Over Predictions

Washington, D.C., June 17.—The

At the age of twenty-eight, **Charles Ballinger** worked in the crushing plant as an oiler after emigrating from England three years earlier. On June 16, 1931, shortly after 4:00 p.m. he was placing a belt dressing on a large conveyor when he was caught in the pulley and then twirled about the shaft. He was working alone and by the time he was noticed and the power turned off, he was dead. A later coroner's inquest questioned only that he was working alone.

Charles Ballinger was single. He was survived by his parents who were still in England and an aunt, Mrs. John Fuller of John Street in Belleville with whom he had been living. I was made aware of this tragic event by Dave Fisher, a descendant of Mr. Ballinger's family. Fisher was an uncle of Mrs. Vern Goyer (Emily) and Mrs. Derek Heard (Jennie), both deceased of Belleville. Although they were second cousins, Mr. Fisher's mother, Anne, was engaged to Charles Ballinger at the time of his death.

These are some of the stories that are now being revealed as a result of the interest created by my book. They are part of the history and heritage of the memorable village of Point Anne.

## The Mystery of the Royal Oak

Part One *By Dick Hughes*



The once mighty Royal Oak, which had thrived in front of King George School since 1937, is clearly showing signs of disease as it stands at the edge of the grocery store parking lot. In this 2002 *Intelligencer* photo, a string of kindergarten children, our hope for the future, pass the great tree oblivious to its royal heritage. *The Intelligencer* Negatives 2002-07-23

Where is Sherlock Holmes when you need him? In the January issue of *Outlook*, we introduced you to the amazing story of the Royal Acorns gathered from the

grounds of Windsor Castle. They were distributed to schools across the Commonwealth to celebrate the coronations of both King George VI in 1937 and Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. We knew that some of these Royal Acorns had found their way to Belleville and had grown to be healthy, handsome Royal Oak Trees at several local schools. But we lacked specifics and invited our readers to help us develop the whole story.

This tale truly fulfills the saying "Mighty oaks from little acorns grow!" as this innocent question to our readers flourished and bore fruit. We received a flood of information, and a fascinating story has blossomed. But let's start at the beginning.



In March 1989, former school principal Lawrence Kells, Mayor George Zegouras and Alderman Kay Manderville officiate at the unveiling of a plaque mounted on a granite stone. The plaque commemorates the children of King George School who planted an acorn sent from Windsor Castle marking the coronation of King George VI. That acorn grew to become a majestic Royal Oak.

*The Intelligencer* Negatives 1989-03-31

It all began with an organization called "Men of the Trees" which was founded in 1923 with the goal of promoting tree planting around the world. Quickly, a global network of branches was developed, including one in Toronto. The coronation of King George VI in 1937 provided the opportunity for the group to develop a massive program which would both celebrate the new king and promote tree planting. Through the efforts of this organization, 10,000 acorns were gathered from the grounds of Windsor Castle and were distributed around the world. The Men of the Trees joined forces with the Ontario Horticultural Society,<sup>1</sup> which had the experience in sprouting tree seeds. Working together, they distributed both acorns and sprouted seedlings through 156 horticultural societies across the province. As we have discovered, some of these acorns and seedlings found their way to Belleville. Again in 1953, on the occasion of the

coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, a similar program was developed by the Royal Horticultural Society with another 10,000 acorns being distributed. In this case as well, some acorns were distributed while others were sprouted in a nursery and were then sent onwards as small trees.

Returning to the local scene, like all Sherlock Holmes stories, the mystery of the Royal Acorns began with a visit to the Heritage Centre by a concerned lady who feared that a valuable Royal Oak Tree was in danger of death at the “hands” of a giant bulldozer. She explained that this special tree had been planted on the grounds of the former Cannifton Public School, apparently part of the Queen Elizabeth II project and had grown to become an impressive specimen. However, the school had long ago disappeared and a housing development was planned for the grounds. What could be done to ensure that this Royal Oak continue to grace the community for many years to come? What were the situations with the other three Royal Oaks that had grown in the schoolyards of Belleville and neighbouring areas? Thus began an investigation worthy of Sherlock Holmes. For the results, tune in next month!

<sup>1</sup>Ontario Horticultural Society, *The Story of the OHA, 1854-1973*

## Celebration Time!

It has just been announced by the Quinte Arts Council that Gerry Boyce will be receiving one of the Arts

Recognition Awards at the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts on Wednesday, May 15, at the Travelodge hotel. This public recognition of Gerry's work in the heritage field is a great honour, and we congratulate Gerry on this prestigious award.

However, as you can see from the accompanying poster at the right and the article in last month's *Outlook*, the Hastings County Historical Society has already planned our own special event to honour Gerry's many accomplishments. Our tribute to Gerry will include light refreshments, a cash bar, entertainment and the chance to thank Gerry personally for all that he has done for this area. There will also be a few people speaking on Gerry's many accomplishments—but speeches will be kept to a minimum. We want everyone to celebrate our favourite historian!

The HCHS tribute to Gerry will take place at the **Sans-Souci banquet room (240 Front Street) Tuesday, June 24, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** There is ample parking behind the building and a rear entrance from the parking lot. Tickets at \$20. are available through Quinte Arts Council office, the Heritage Centre, Dick Hughes ([613-961-7772](tel:613-961-7772)) and Mary-Lynne Morgan ([613-961-7091](tel:613-961-7091)). Mary-Lynne will also have tickets at the final public presentation on May 20.

We hope you will join us on June 24 to honour our favourite historian—Mr. History.

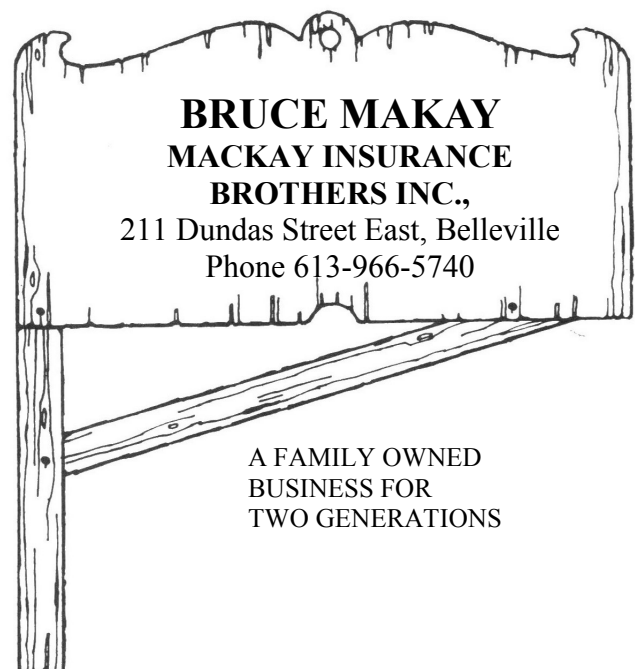
*Mary-Lynne Morgan*

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## *Hastings County Historical Society*

### **"A TRIBUTE to GERRY BOYCE"**

*Mr. History  
of  
Belleville & Hastings County*

The Directors of Hastings County Historical Society  
invite you to a cocktail reception  
to express our appreciation to Gerry Boyce  
for more than half a century of devotion to history and leadership in our community.  
Author of definitive histories of our region, community leader,  
father of our archival collection, City Councillor, historic advisor, columnist  
and all-round nice guy!

**Tuesday, June 24 - 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**  
**Sans-Souci Banquet Room**  
240 Front Street, Belleville  
(Street parking or parking in the rear of the building)

**Tickets - \$20.**

Quinte Arts Council (36 Bridge St East, Belleville),  
Heritage Centre (Cannifton)  
or by calling Mary-Lynne Morgan at 613-961-7091



## Discover Our County

The O'Hara Mill Homestead and Conservation Area has announced its program for 2014.

A great location for walking on their forest trails which are well maintained, interconnected and marked with colour signage. The Area and buildings are open on weekends from Victoria Day to Thanksgiving and are open daily, except Tuesdays, from June 30 to September 1. Two very special events during the summer are Heritage Day on July 27 featuring music, pioneer demonstrations and horse-drawn wagon rides and the great Corn Boil on August 20 with heritage activities such as log sawing, scarecrow building, hammering, etc. Full details at [www.http://ohara-mill.org](http://ohara-mill.org) or email [info@ohara-mill.org](mailto:info@ohara-mill.org)

**Final submissions** of articles and photos for the June *Outlook* newsletter are due **May 28**. Submissions can be sent online to Donna Fano at [outlook.hastingshistory@gmail.com](mailto:outlook.hastingshistory@gmail.com).



## Hastings County Historical Society Presentation

**Topic: History of the Marmora Mines**

**Speaker: Historian Cathie Jones**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2014**

**Time: 7:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Quinte Living Centre Auditorium  
(North Corner Door)  
370 Front Street, Belleville

**Bring a friend!**

**Website:** [www.hastingshistory.ca](http://www.hastingshistory.ca)

**Email:** [president@hastingshistory.ca](mailto:president@hastingshistory.ca)



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HCHS Website	<a href="http://www.hastingshistory.ca">www.hastingshistory.ca</a>
Heritage Centre Phone No.	613-962-1110

Hastings County Historical Society is based at the old township office in Cannifton. Please address mail to 154 Cannifton Rd. North, General Delivery, Cannifton, ON, K0K 2K0. *Outlook* is published eight months of the year for members and friends of the Society.

Member Designation