

Outlook

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Interest in *Halifax* articles and mementoes was high at the Tuesday, January 16 meeting of the Hastings County Historical Society. Restorer Bill Tytula was on hand to give us a short history of the plane and provide an overview of restorations to date.

Halifax makes landing at HCHS meeting

by Lewis Zandbergen

A singular point of focus, a drive to resurrect a part of the past, a love of aviation pioneers, a steadfast respect for those who paid the supreme sacrifice, a pride in the parts played by everyone involved, a simple awe which begins in childhood and never quite dissipates no matter what the age: all these things and more were in evidence on the evening of Tuesday, January 16, as the Hastings County Historical Society met for its first meeting of the new millennium.

Bill Tytula was the guest speaker and his topic was the restoration/rebuilding of a Halifax bomber; the Halifax that has been the subject of countless newspaper articles in the local press and which Bill confidently predicts will be finished some time within the next three years. His pride in the project shone through in every tale told, every mention of the brave men who were shot down over a lake in Norway, every detail of the painstaking labour which is seeing the plane through to its eventual unveiling as one of only two known Halifaxes in the world.

Bill showed off the plans for the restoration, the bits and pieces with which the restoration crew in manufacturing replacement parts and even a few relics which came from the wrecked Halifax found in a Norwegian lake several years ago.

Bill also paid homage to the men who died in that crash and to the one airman who survived.??

The painstaking work involved in the rebuilding of the plane has sent Bill Tytula scrounging for parts all over the world. Often his leads come just a little too late and the part he was sure was his for asking had been given or sold to a metal recycler to be melted down. That wasn't the fact with a piece of the fuselage found on a farm in the UK.

Bill feels reasonably sure the Halifax will be finished in the next few years. A future home for the completed plane is being planned at the Canadian Forces Base Trenton.

Next Meeting

Heritage Day
Monday, February 19, 2001

Guest Speaker

Ed Burt

Topic: Chasing Shipwrecks

Refreshments at 7:30 p.m.
Meeting begins at 8 p.m.

The president's annual report

Our success in 2000 can be attributed to the solid, enthusiastic support and effort of our board of directors, our special advisors and our members. I want to express my sincere appreciation to each of you for your commitment to the future of the Hastings County Historical Society. In the words of one of our guest speakers, "We have a responsibility to protect our heritage." Each of you, through your efforts, has done just that.

We can be very proud of our own Hastings Heritage Centre which, thanks to the efforts of Gerry Boyce and others, is starting to feel

like home and seems to have taken on a life of its own. Each time I have the opportunity to visit the centre, it seems more welcoming and I even noticed that Gerry very kindly put my name plate on the desk occupying the one office. Perhaps he is hoping I will be able to spend more time there.

The building is seeing additional usage by the Archives Committee with workshops taking place under the leadership of Gerry Boyce, our Special Advisor. Volunteers have been busy sorting and archiving our valu-
Please see "The prez" on page 3.

The Hastings County Historical Society, General Delivery, Cannifton, Ontario K0K 1K0

19th century politician meets 21st century technology

by Lewis Zandbergen

Ameliasburg - The meeting room at the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre was filled with an enthusiastic audience who had come to hear one of the area's, if not the nation's, foremost authorities on one of Canada's least remembered and perhaps even the least honoured prime ministers. Even in his hometown, the only homage paid to him is a school which bears his name, although, as Betsy Boyce says in her final chapter of her new book on CD entitled *The Accidental Prime Minister: The Biography of Sir Mackenzie Bowell*: "Much was written about Bowell as a cabinet minister and

as prime minister, and he was often interviewed."

Betsy Boyce has put the finishing touches on *The Accidental Prime Minister*, her story of the life of Sir Mackenzie Bowell and she was at the research centre on Saturday, January 20, to tell us all why she thinks he should be well-remembered. The event was the annual Crouse-Wanamaker Lecture which kicks off each year for the Quinte Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and the 7th Town Historical Society.

Mackenzie Bowell, whose life has never been chronicled by a biographer, until now, immigrated to Canada and Belleville from

England, began his working life at the age of ten, owned the city's newspaper, *The Intelligencer*, by the age of 24, rose to prominence in local politics when he was a member of the school board, and then went into federal politics serving with distinction as minister of trade and standing in for the minister of finance on occasion. He served as Canada's fifth Prime Minister from 1894 to 1896.

Betsy Dewar Boyce was born in Hamilton, Ontario; she graduated from McMaster University and attended Toronto's Osgoode Hall Law School. However, a career in law was cut short through the intervention of the Great Depression. She married George Boyce, an engineer, and moved to the Porcupine gold mining camp. It was here that two of her three children were born. Several moves followed and eventually Trenton became home

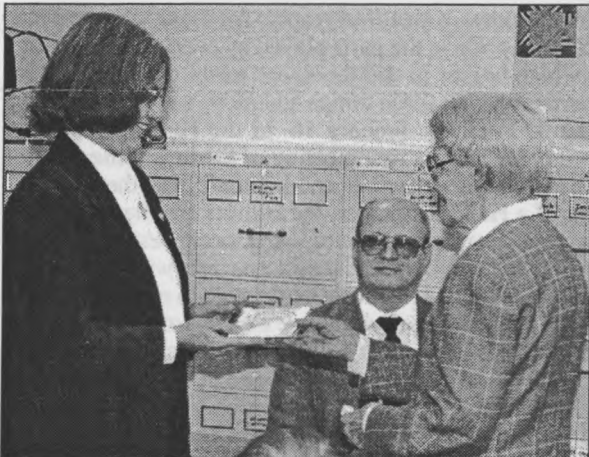
for 17 years. On a visit to Belleville, Betsy saw a bronze plaque of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Prime Minister of Canada from 1894 to 1896. She was surprised to find such a distinguished citizen was almost unknown even in his home town and her curiosity was such that she tried to discover as much as possible about Mackenzie Bowell, his life, his work and his times.

The culmination of those years of toil was presented at the Crouse-Wanamaker Lecture. Attempts to get the book she had written published fell on deaf ears. It seemed Sir Mackenzie Bowell was destined to remain as inconspicuous as he had always been.

Through a fortuitous set of circumstances, however, The Seventh Town Historical Society through its President Ian E. Reilly, U.E., got wind of the book which no one wanted to publish.

Mr. Reilly is a dedicated benefactor of the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre and saw a chance to break new ground in the publishing business. Thus was born the idea of committing Betsy's book to a CD and through a medium unthought of at the dawn of the 20th century, the life of a 19th-century man of distinction would become record and at long last Bowell would join the ranks of the "biographed."

Presentations followed Betsy Boyce's address which consisted of highlights of Bowell's life and how that singular life became forever enmeshed in the history of the city of Belleville. Libraries in the area will be provided with copies as funds permit. The Loyalist College Library and the Belleville Public Library received copies during the meeting and a practical demonstration of the CD wound up the afternoon. Copies of the CD are available at the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre, Ameliasburg. Telephone 967-6291 for details.



Betsy Boyce (r) presented Elizabeth Mitchell of the Belleville Public Library with a copy of her book on CD entitled *The Accidental Prime Minister: The Biography of Sir Mackenzie Bowell*. The publication on CD was launched Saturday, January 20, at the annual Crouse-Wanamaker Lecture held at the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre, Ameliasburg. That's Bob Dawes, one of the editors, in the background.

Lewis Zandbergen photo

To become a member of the HCHS, please complete this form, or a photocopy of the form if you wish to save the newsletter, and bring it with your payment to the Society's next general meeting (third Tuesday of each month except June, July, August and December), or send it by mail to the Hastings County Historical Society, 154 Cannifton Road North, General Delivery, Cannifton, Ontario K0K 1K0

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Individual	\$20.00 _____	Life Member	\$150.00 _____
Family	\$25.00 _____	Corporate Sponsor	\$ 50.00 _____
Senior/Student	\$15.00 _____	Women's Institute/ Organization	\$ 20.00 _____

I also enclose a donation of \$ _____ toward the work of the Society.

The Hastings County Historical Society is a Registered Charity. Official receipts for Income Tax purposes will be forwarded to you with your membership card.

County News

by Gerry Boyce

Upcoming workshops - Archive Workshops continue at the Hastings Heritage Centre in Cannifton, normally every second Monday afternoon from 1:15 to 3:45. The next ones are scheduled for February 12 and 26. We've been averaging seven workers per session, but more volunteers are needed. Much time has been spent arranging newspapers from the Mika Collection and discovering interesting gems about our early history. Complimentary tea, coffee, and soft drinks are provided. Volunteers are encouraged to car pool. Call me at 968-5023 for further informa-

tion.

Still Wanted - the Hastings Heritage Centre needs sturdy metal shelving, filing cabinets, banquet tables, and a stepladder. Call 968-5023.

The winner is ... - Congratulations to Edna Wright, the winner of the *OUTLOOK* draw prize at the January meeting. She correctly identified the error in the title of Bill Hunt's book on the Prohibition years. It was *Booze, Boats and Billions* not "Booze, Boats and Billious." Watch for a new contest next month.

Kudos - Congratulations to Alan Coxwell for his fascinat-

ing story (January 12) in *The Community Press* about the red brick church in Petherick's Corners (erected 1878) which is now the home of Churchkey Brewing Company—an unusual story about a Northumberland County (but close to Hastings) landmark.

Donations - Thanks to Estella Burkett of Belleville for her recent donation of pictures and information to the North Hastings Museum at Bancroft.

He certainly is - Congratulations to Ian Reilly, president of

the Seventh Town Historical Society and a recent speaker to our Society, on his recognition by *The Intelligencer* as a "Quinte Personality." Keep up the good work, Ian.

More room - Deseronto is to have a new library building. Hopefully, the 5,000 square-foot building will have space for a larger local history section.

Big \$\$\$ - The Trent Port Historical Society's auction raised \$8,200 to help develop the restoration/renovation of the Trenton Town Hall.

The sympathy of the heritage community goes to the family of the late Doug Connor, an energetic, enthusiastic and skillful volunteer at the Tweed Heritage Centre. The cards of countless artifacts will read: "Restored by Doug Connor" and the tool gallery will be known as the "Doug Connor Memorial Gallery."

The prez says 2000 was a great year

Continued from page 1.

able collections. They are always welcoming other interested members and even have coffee and refreshments available to the volunteers.

I also want to thank our directors for taking time from their busy schedules to attend a Strategic Planning meeting where we rolled up our sleeves and discussed and reviewed the Society's goals, activities, needs and ideas for the future. Much of the discussion focused on the additional use of our Heritage Centre. As can be attested to from previous comments, we are making better use of our facility. We approved the establishment of a Heritage Centre Committee to compile a prioritized list of activities with respect to the centre. Of course, as with any initiative, volunteers are the key to a successful plan and we look forward to additional members volunteering their time whenever possible.

We have approved the appointment of advisors such as building research, genealogical research, landscape research and picture archive research. We thank those members who have volunteered their time and have willingly agreed to continue for next year. What would we do

without volunteers. Thank you.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the very special effort and co-ordination put forward by our special advisor, Gerry Boyce. We are very fortunate indeed to have his expertise and dedication available to our organization. Gerry has been a catalyst in the growth of our Heritage Centre and continues to advance our objectives. He has provided excellent insight and motivation to me and numerous volunteers as he quietly goes about his work. Thank you Gerry.

I would also like to mention the hard work and dedication of Past President Carson Cross. The Heritage Centre was a dream of Carson's and he did not stop until that dream was a reality. In spite of working shift work as a firefighter, Carson stayed the course as well as acting as our Program Chair this past year. He would not mention it himself, but I know he took vacation days so that he could fulfill his mandate to the Society. Although work commitments now take him away from us (He is attending Fire College on a very regular basis.) he has assured me that he is still available for "grunt work" whenever we need him. Thank you Carson for all your hard

work and dedication.

We had yet another successful joint yard sale in conjunction with The Friends of Glanmore and each group realized a profit of \$405. A big thank you goes to members and volunteers (sons and daughters of members) who helped make the yard sale a success. A special mention should go to Jackie Simpson of the Friends of Glanmore who is our guru of yard sales. She has a real knack for pricing and making things happen. This project has now become an annual event and the next one is slated for April 6 and 7, 2001 (the week before Easter). We encourage each of you to consider contributing articles which you no longer have a use for. Feel free to drop those articles off at both Glanmore National Historic Site and our Heritage Centre in Cannifton.

This past year we were also the very fortunate recipients of a donated hand-crafted seaman's hammock, very graciously donated by Commander Frank Stockwell (Retired) who spoke to our Society about the history of the HMCS *Haida* and HMCS *Athabaskan*. We secured a lottery licence in order to be able to conduct a raffle and sell tickets on this hammock. We should be able to realize a sizable profit

on this fund raiser.

Our speakers in 2000 were excellent. We attempted to bring you speakers from the local area and I think it was a great success. Sometimes you need look no further than your own back yard for stories with great historical interest. The coming year should continue to provide you with speakers who have a local flavour to bring to the meetings.

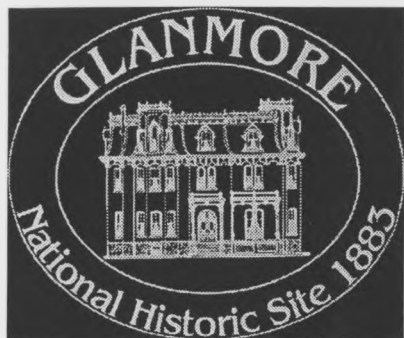
In closing, it's been a great year that has flown by very quickly. We weren't able to accomplish all we had set out to do but then we also set a very ambitious schedule. I am pleased that we have attracted additional volunteers and even more pleased that we have a full slate of directors to present to you for 2001.

If I have been remiss in thanking someone for their efforts, please accept my apologies for the oversight. My heartfelt thank you for your continued support and involvement.

I look forward to continued success in the coming year and I thank you for the privilege of serving as your president this past year.

Respectfully,

Hazel Lloyst
President,
Hastings County Historical
Society



GLANMORE

National Historic Site

257 Bridge Street East,

Belleville, Ontario K8N 1P4

(613) 962-2329

UEL sampler kit now available!

The Roblin United Empire Loyalist Sampler, dates to circa 1847. Eliza Ann Roblin's family came to Canada as United Empire Loyalists in 1784. They had been forced, along with thousands of other families, to flee their homes in the newly formed United States of America because of their loyalty to the British Empire. Eliza Ann Roblin, was 12 years old when she stitched a lovely cross-stitch sampler in 1847.

Friends of Glanmore volunteer Ann Cooke has spent years painstakingly reproducing the sampler for the museum. This project

involved a careful study of the original sampler, charting of the pattern, reproducing the sampler for display at Glanmore and finally the production of kits so that you can recreate this beautiful cross-stitch sampler at home. Each sampler kit contains all the supplies needed to create a reproduction of this charming regional sampler: Linen 20 count, thread, needle, graph, and full instructions. The finished size is approximately 16" x 16". Kits may be purchased at Glanmore for \$70. Funds raised from the sampler kit sales will be used to support Friends of Glanmore projects, such as the conservation of Glanmore National Historic Site's extensive art collection.

Looking for something to do with the kids this March Break?

Visit Glanmore!

Open Tuesday to Sunday,
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Special Exhibit

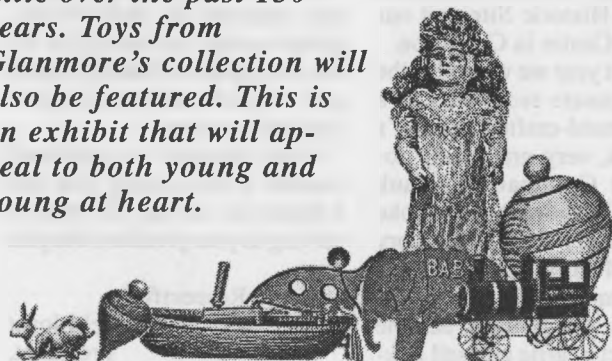
Canada at Play:

100 Years of Toys, Games and Sports

March 17 to May 6, 2001

Mark your calendars for this very special exhibit coming from the Royal Ontario Museum. Canadian children have always worked hard to have fun. This exhibit takes a look at how the games we play and the toys we have enjoyed have changed little over the past 130 years. Toys from

Glanmore's collection will also be featured. This is an exhibit that will appeal to both young and young at heart.



Children's Craft Workshop

Create a Kaleidoscope!

Wednesday, March 14, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Kaleidoscopes were popular toys during the Victorian era. Create an amazing kaleidoscope of your very own using a variety of materials in this hands-on workshop for boys and girls ages 7 to 12. Cost: \$15. Spaces are limited, call Glanmore to pre-register: (613) 962-2329.

Outlook is published for the friends and members of the Hastings County Historical Society.

It is edited and produced by Lewis Zandbergen.

Anyone wishing to submit articles or information may contact the editor at 613-395-3022, or E-mail lewzan@reach.net

Thank you to *The Community Press* for its assistance.

PLEASE NOTE!

The Deadline for the March issue is February 20, 2001

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