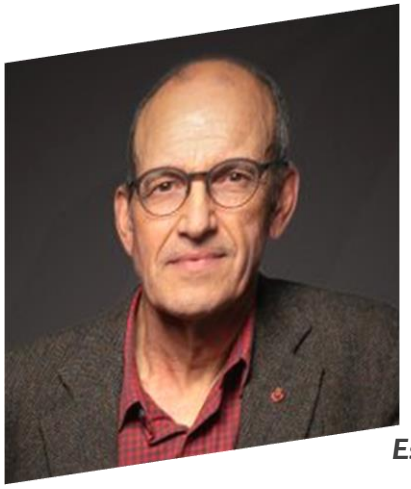
September 2024 Volume 20, Issue 07

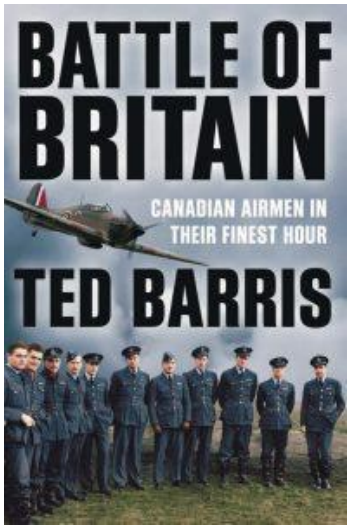
The Burlington Historical Society
GAZETTE

Battle of Britain: Canadian Airmen in Their Finest Hour

One of our favourite speakers, **Ted Barris**, has written another book – his 22nd!



In this book Ted has assembled unknown stories of Canadian airmen, ground crew, as well as engineers, aeronautical designers, medical officers and civilians, who answered the call and turned back the very real threat of Nazi invasion. You know the outcome of the ***Battle of Britain***, but now you'll meet the Canadians who helped secure victory in the first last-stand of WWII.



Ted Barris has published 22 non-fiction books, half of them wartime histories. His book ***The Great Escape: A Canadian Story*** won the 2014 Libris Award as Best Non-Fiction Book in Canada. His book ***Dam Busters: Canadian Airmen and the Secret Raid Against Nazi Germany*** received the 2018 NORAD Trophy from the RCAF Association. And his book ***Rush to Danger: Medics in the Line of Fire*** was long-listed for the 2020 Charles Taylor Prize for Non-Fiction in Canada. And his book ***Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory*** was published in 2022, the same year that Barris was appointed **Member of the Order of Canada**.

This month:	*In this issue:*	
Monday, Sept 9th, at 7 pm Centennial Hall, Central Library Join us to hear **Ted Barris** **Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend.**	President's Message BHS Executive King's College Fall Fairs. Melon Time Social Media Report Membership Report News Release, City Goodbye to 900 CHML From the Archives Membership Form	2 2 3 4 5 5 5 6 7 8

BHS Members will receive the BHS Gazette and other communications and can unsubscribe at any time info@burlingtonhistorical.ca. Information contained on our website, newsletters and publications Is printed in good faith and for general purposes Editor: Joan Downey

President's Message *Don Thorpe*

Welcome back and we hope that you had an enjoyable summer. We had a very busy summer with many events. Here are just a few of the activities that took place: Civic Awards, Cemetery Work, Heritage Week Activities.

If you were born in **July** you have a tendency to have a sunny disposition, self-control, an artistic streak and more likely to be left-handed.

Born in **August?** you have a tendency to have leadership traits, are lucky and tall.

Born in **September?** you have a tendency to excel at school and on the athletic field and have a long life.



Summer on Burlington Beach
The Boniface Album, A Norton Collection

September Calendar

Labour Day, known as la fête du Travail in Québec, is celebrated on the first Monday of September as a public holiday.

National Read a Book Day falls on September 6th.

National Grandparents' Day is an annual celebration that takes place on the Sunday after Labor Day, making it the second Sunday in September.

The Autumnal Equinox, or the first day of fall in the Northern Hemisphere occurs on September 22nd.

World Tourism Day is a United Nations holiday commemorated on September 27. It is a day that encourages people to travel, as it not only enriches our lives but is also crucial for countries' economies and politics.

Coffee lovers celebrate National Coffee Day on September 29th to celebrate their love for the country's favorite beverage. If you are one of those people who cannot start their day without sipping on a cup of coffee, this is your reason to celebrate.

Trivia Question: What year did the original Brant Inn burn down?

May's Trivia Question answer: The Magnetic Hill in Burlington is located on King Road. It isn't marked so it might be tricky to find it! For exact directions try this link http://www.eureka4you.com/magnetichill/map.htm

Officers (Elected)		**Directors** (Appointed)		**Convenors** (Appointed)		**Archives Volunteers**
President	Don Thorpe	Programs	Alan Harrington	Greeting Cards	Jennifer Kemp	Peggy Armstrong
Vice President	Nicola Thomson	Archives	Joan Downey	Heritage Burlington	Alan Harrington	Jennifer Kemp
Secretary	Pat Taylor	Webmaster	Wayne Murphy	Social Media	Jennifer Kemp	Dorothy Kew
Treasurer	Joan Downey	Membership	Pat Taylor	Publicity	Jennifer Kemp	Chris Mallion Moore
		Newsletter	Joan Downey		Nicola Thomson	Gwynneth Richardson
Past President	Jane Ann Newson	Event Planner	Pat Taylor	Image Specialist	David Craig	Pat Taylor
		Outreach	All			Nicola Thomson

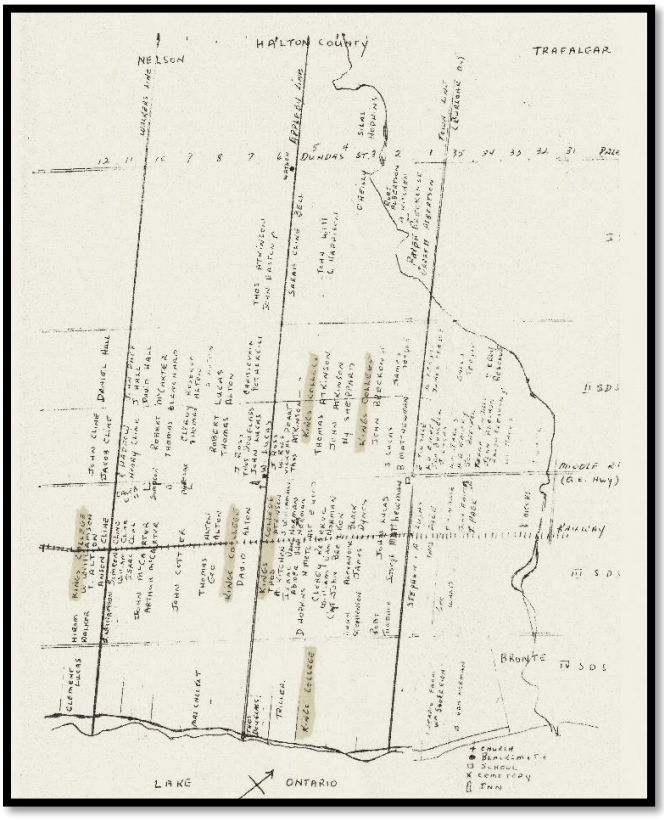
King's College *Pat Taylor*

I have been interested in the early history of the Province of……by whatever name it was known as - Upper Canada, Canada West, Ontario – for close to 55 years. At one time I was told my interest was mainly in "Social History."

I had heard of "Clergy Reserves". By the 1791 Constitution Act for the Maintainence of the Protestant Clergy – i.e. The Church of England – 1/7 of the public lands of Upper Canada were to be set aside for support of the clergy.

Recently, as an archive volunteer, I had an inquiry from a descendant of the early Van Norman settlers from the Appleby area, asking about the Mt. Vernon Cemetery. As part of my research I used the book "A History of Mt. Vernon" by Helen Langford. On the inside of the front cover was an undated settlers' map of part of Halton County nearest to the lake.

I found "King's College" listed 6 times. What was this all about?



A Google search told me King's College was the first institution of higher learning in Upper Canada founded by royal charter in 1827. King George IV proclaimed "from this time one College, with the style and privileges of a University….. for the education of youth in the principles of the Christian Religion, and for their instruction in the various branches of Science and Literature….. to continue for ever, to be called King's College." (Wikipedia) It was the precursor to the University of Toronto – U of T.

King's college was given almost 226,000 acres of land from the crown in 1827. So, at least 6 parcels of that land came from what became Burlington. The plan was that the 'College' would sell this land, ideally to settler farmers, as a way to generate money to fund King's College. Like the Clergy Reserves, the King's College Reserves were to support an Anglican population. John Strachan, the influential Anglican Bishop of Toronto, was the College's first president. The other religious denominations set out to raise their own money to fund their own colleges.

King's College finally opened in 1843. The King's College Residence was on the site of the present Legislative Building – Queens Park. Classes were held in a building at King and Simcoe Streets. The 4 corners were often referred to as <u>education</u> – start of King's College; <u>legislation</u> – residence of Ontario's lieutenant governor; <u>salvation</u> – St. Andrew's Church; and <u>damnation</u> – a bawdy house. (Only the church remains.)



King's College, Queen's Park, e. side of Parliament Buildings., circa 1850s. Credit: Toronto Public Library

Making a long story short, King's College was abolished by an act of parliament in 1849. A non-sectarian university replaced it – The University of Toronto - and King's College became University College. The residence was demolished to make room for the parliament buildings.

Fall Fairs – *Betty Stubbs*

My mother and her sister-in-aw, Annie Williamson, who lived close to our market garden, were excellent cooks. They grew lovely flowers in their gardens. When the fall fairs came to towns close by, they would enter their baking, flowers, vegetables and canned goods. There were monetary prizes for first, second and third in each category. If I was not at school, I could go along to help my mother and aunt carry things and set up their displays. Cars would be loaded with entries and driven by my father or one of my brothers, or my aunt would drive their car to the fair grounds in Milton, Acton, Caledonia and some other places.



Three sisters-in-law, Mrs. D. F. Williamson, Mrs. W. E. Williamson Mrs. W. M. Williamson, all enthusiastic bakers.

Mrs. Williamson's Recipe for BRAN MUFFINS

1 egg
1½ tblsps. butter
½ cup white sugar
2 tblsps. molasses
1 tsp. soda in 1 cup sour milk
½ tsp. salt
1 cup Robin Hood Flour
1 cup bran, and ½ cup whole wheat flour if available. (If not use 1½ cups bran.)
½ cup raisins

Method:

1. Sift the white flour, add bran, salt and raisins.
2. Beat the egg light, cream with butter and sugar.
3. Add the milk and then the molasses.
4. Make a hole in the centre of the flour mixture, pour in the liquids and combine with as little stirring as possible.
5. Fill well greased muffin tins half full and bake in a fairly hot oven.

They even ventured to enter things at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. I remember my mother's homemade bread winning third place against many contestants. The Robin Hood Flour representative, Evangeline, came to our market garden to interview my mother about baking using their flour. My Aunt Annie Williamson, another sister-in-law, Aunt Bessie Williamson, who was also a good baker, and my mother had their pictures taken, which appeared later in a farm magazine with an article about my mother in the late 1930s or 40s. The recipe book which my mother used for her bread and rolls, and mentioned in the article is "Baking Made Easy", published by Robin Hood Flour. I still have this booklet.

Note: This article is from the Betty Stubbs collection in the BHS Archives. If you are interested in viewing the photos which Betty donated to us, please go to the digital collection and search for Betty Stubbs
https://digitalarchive.bpl.on.ca/browse-by-repository/burlington-historical-society/bhs-archives

It's melon time in Ontario



There was a time when the Maple Avenue farms were world renowned for their Sugar Salmon Melons. Unfortunately, disease put an end to the wonderful crops.

L – Norman Gallagher eating canteloupe, 1913
R – packing "Sunfruit" melons for shipment, 1920



Social Media Report *Jennifer Kemp*



Going into September, these are the number of followers who are enjoying our posts

Facebook - 1456 followers
Instagram - 503 followers
X 61 followers

Membership Report *Pat Taylor*

If you want to be among the first to renew your membership for 2025, I'll have my usual spot at the back of Centennial Hall at the September meeting. Or, mail a completed membership form to the address on the form. Or, a third choice is an e-transfer but again please follow the instructions on the registration form.



NEWS RELEASE - CITY OF BURLINGTON

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The City of Burlington is hosting its fourth annual **Food for Feedback** event on Saturday, Sept. 14, between noon and 4 p.m. at Central Park (2299 New St.).

Residents can come to enjoy a free meal in exchange for sharing their thoughts on City projects.

City staff, advisory committees, Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and members of Council will also be in attendance to listen to resident feedback.



Good-bye to 900 CHML *Jennifer Kemp*

900 CHML was a staple in many homes on the kitchen radio. Many woke up to the voices of Tom Cherrington, Paul Hanover, Bob Bratina and others, for the news of the day, the phone-in talk shows or the Hamilton Tiger Cats games.

Another "first" that happened at the Brant Inn in Burlington was the idea of broadcasting "live" shows with a disk jockey.

Billed as The Knight of the Turntable, popular CHML Personality Paul Hanover was the disk jockey. Beginning in January of 1948, on Friday nights he played records for the patrons to dance to, livened up with banter and interviews. The program called "Meet Me At the Brant Inn" was aired on CHML from 11:15 to midnight.

A little later, Hanover emceed a Saturday night program that went out over the airwaves via CBC's Dominion Network. This program took live music from coast to coast, and featured interviews from both patrons and the stars who were appearing.

In the early 1960s, CHML had an office on the south side of Lakeshore Road at the foot of Brant Street.



AM900
HAMILTON'S NEWS TALK LEADER
CHML

One of the best-known announcers in recent years was Bob Bratina. He had formerly worked in radio inToronto, and subsequently spent a total of 20 years at CHML, doing a popular morning show called the "Brat Pack". His career at CHML began in the late 1980s. He left CHML in 1996 and worked at other stations for several years, before returning to CHML in 1999. He remained the morning show host until 2004, when he briefly left to run for political office. Although he won and became a city councillor, he continued with his morning show on CHML He ultimately gave up his morning show to run for mayor of Hamilton in 2010.

There's a CHML Christmas Tree of Hope (Blue Spruce) and plaque in Spencer Smith Park near the Naval Memorial.

And 900 CHML was a proud sponsor of Burlington's Festival of Lights.

Sadly, 900 CHML was silenced on August 14, 2024 after 97 years. Leaving us with lots of memories. It will be truly missed by many.



900 CHML RADIO
July 14, 1963, Burlington Louis Armstrong flashes his trademark smile during an interview with CHML Radio's R.O. Horning at Burlington's Brant Inn.

If you would like to read the history of CHML – follow this link:

https://broadcasting-history.ca/radio/radio-stations/ontario/ontario-hamilton-niagara/chml-am/

From the Archives *Joan Downey*

It has been a busy summer in the Archives. Volunteer Gwynneth Richardson has been scanning photos for the Digital Collection. But scanning is not the whole job. It starts with sorting and deciding what is to be added to the collection. Then comes the scan, which is a very slow process since we scan at high resolution. The next step is adding the photo information to an Excel spreadsheet, including date, description, donor name, collection name, etc. Then it's the library staff's turn. They load the information from files which we provide.

This summer we have added the Betty Stubbs Collection, Pat Taylor's AIPP (Art in Public Places) Collection and by the time we go to press, the first half of the Gwen Peer Collection should be available online.

The digital collection is available on the library website or on the BHS website. I suggest you bookmark the link to save trying to remember. It's very long. https://digitalarchive.bpl.on.ca/browse-by-repository/burlington-historical-society/bhs-archives There is a bit of a learning curve but it's worth the time. Browse around a bit. You may be surprised at what you find.

Maybe you have photos of Burlington people or places which you would like us to add to this collection. Email info@burlington.ca . We can scan your photos and return them to you if you want to share but not give up your family memories.



Betty Stubbs (nee Williamson) with doll



Birds at Fothergill Woods Park – photo Pat Taylor



The Peer Farm, Dundas Street, east of Guelph Line

Over the summer we received a number of interesting donations:

- a "Protest" dated 23 April 1875, addressed to Mr. Benj. Eager of Wellington Square, noting that a promissory note in the amount of $625 was presented for payment and the payment was refused;
- a journal dated 1873 belonging to a member of the Emery family
- a Munro tabletop hockey game in excellent condition
- a box of photos of Cougars & Mohawks teams – unfortunately unidentified. Help is on the way to assist with the id's
- a framed document from the Milton land office giving the history of 2280 No. 2 Sideroad & a photo of the Freeman family, one time owners
- Atlases – Halton & Wentworth counties, various documents pertaining to Burlington heritage

"Thank you everyone who generously donated to us. These items will be added to our collection of Burlington history."



The Burlington Historical Society

Preserving Burlington's History for Today and Tomorrow

Membership - 2025

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____Postal Code:_____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Membership Dues

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

☐ Family $40.00 ☐ Adult: $30.00 ☐ Senior $25.00

☐ Yes, as a **new** BHS member I wish to receive the Gazette newsletter and other e-communications and understand I can unsubscribe at any time.

Volunteer

Are you interested in volunteering with the Society? Would you like to help us in preserving the history of our City? Tell us a bit about your talents and interests – info@burlingtonhistorical.ca

Donation

I wish to make a separate donation to the society in the sum of _____
A Tax Receipt will be issued for all donations totalling $25.00 or more
The Burlington Historical Society is a registered charity # 119217693RR0001

Mail completed form and remittance(s) to:	**OR**
The Burlington Historical Society Membership Convenor PO Box 93164 1450 Headon Road Burlington, Ontario L7M 4A3 Make cheques payable to The Burlington Historical Society	e-transfer funds to info@burlingtonhistorical.ca If you are a new member or there are changes to your contact information, please email the completed form to us at the above email **OR** Leave it at the Membership table at any General Meeting

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