NOVEMBER 2023 VOLUME 19 ISSUE 08

THE BURLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MINI GAZETTE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 11th is Remembrance Day!



A reminder to attend our Burlington 2023 Remembrance Day Service at the **Burlington Cenotaph, beside Burlington City Hall on Saturday November 11th at 11:00am.**

All wreaths will be placed at the Cenotaph prior to the ceremonies by a Legion Official and the names of the purchaser (BHS included) will be listed in the official program.

Jane Ann Newson on behalf of the BHS Executive

MINI GAZETTE
NOVEMBER CONTENTS

President's Message
November Presentation
BHS Volunteer Organization
Outreach Activities
Membership Report
Burlington history snapshots:
Collections –Aldershot
Indian Point Gate Repair
The Burlington Cenotaph
Heritage Week 2023 Wrap-up
Membership Form

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETINGS

MONDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2023

MONDAY JANUARY 8, 2024

Share a Good Thing! Bring a Friend to a General Meeting!

Information contained on our website, newsletters and publications is printed in good faith for general purposes.

BHS Members will receive the BHS Gazette and other communications and can unsubscribe at any time.

November Presentation

On **Monday November 13th**, we are very honoured to have as our Special Guest speaker –

Honourable Karina Gould
Leader of the Government in the House of Commons
(Senior Cabinet Minister)

Honourable Karina Gould has served Burlington since 2015. She was the youngest female minister in Canadian history, the first to become a mother while in office. She is most proud of conducting her national early learning and childcare agreements with all provinces, bringing affordable childcare to Canadian Families. This summer Karina was appointed as Leader of the Government in the House of Commons. Karina's passion for public service has made her a prominent figure in Canadian politics. She continues to advocate for positive change, working towards building a more inclusive and prosperous Canada.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Burlington Historical Society Volunteer Organization

Officers (Elected)

President	Jane Ann Newson
1st Vice President	Don Thorpe
2ND 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/Social Media	Jennifer Kemp
	Nicola Thomson

Convenors (Appointed)

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

Archive Volunteers

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

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

October is typically spent firming up the plans for 2024 Election and AGM activities.
Other October events took place:

- Purchased our Remembrance Day Wreath to be placed at the Cenotaph on Saturday November 11th at 11:00am by a Legion Official.
- Display Table has been moved to the right-hand side of the room thus giving more members and guests the opportunity to view the different historical samples each month.
- Hopefully you will have noticed that the Centennial Room Projection Screen and viewing is working much better during speaker presentations.
- If you are a Social Media user, please logon to Instagram and X for BHS news items as they happen as well as accessing BurlingtonToday.
- Our Archivist, Joan Downey, presented an overview of our Archives which includes the Archive Room layout and in November, Joan will be introducing the workings and reasons for a Catalogue.
- Alan Harrington did a presentation to the Ontario Genealogical Society – Halton Peel Chapter

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A very warm welcome to our newest member and returning members – Yarka Demarchi and Ron and Marie Danielsen.

Reminder – If your **email changes**, please advise us by filling out a **Membership Form** which can be found on the last page of the Gazette and hand it to **Patricia Taylor,** who looks after our Membership **at each General Meeting or mail to the address shown on the Membership Form.**
Our current 2023 Membership consists of **103** members.

BURLINGTON SNAPSHOTS:

From our Villages collection - featuring this month – Aldershot

by Patricia Taylor and Joan Downey

Aldershot was an unincorporated village that was part of East Flamborough Township. The village had close ties to Wellington Square/Burlington. With reorganization by the provincial government in 1958 Aldershot was annexed to Burlington.

The first Europeans to camp on the shores of Aldershot were the French explorer LaSalle and his fellow countrymen accompanied by a group of First Nations peoples. They crossed Lake Ontario, passed through the outlet on what we now call the beach strip and camped on the north side of Burlington Bay. LaSalle Park at the foot of LaSalle Road honours this event. Two

of the early settlers were David Fonger and William Applegarth. David fought in the War of 1812. At the age of 93, he received, belatedly, along with 41 others, a certificate, and a pension to recognize his service.

The Applegarth's built a mill on Grindstone Creek. It burnt twice but was quickly rebuilt each time, as there was a great need for the mill. One of the milestones still exists.

Another early settler, Alexander Brown built his home and a mill on Grindstone Creek. Later, Alex built a wharf on the site where LaSalle had landed. This wharf, in the protected waters of Burlington Bay, became the heart of the Aldershot community.

It became the supply point for timber for use on the paddlewheel steamers. One year he had a contract to supply 4500 cords of wood for the steamships. A cord is 4 feet high, 8 feet long, and each piece measuring 4 feet in length. Flour, other woods and lumber, apples and melons were shipped from Brown's Wharf. One week in 1931, two thousand 20 -quart baskets of melons were picked and packed DAILY for shipment.

When LaSalle Park was developed in 1920s, people arrived by car and by boat. Tours were offered by the Canadian Steamships Line, and the ferryboats Macassa and Lady Hamilton linked Hamilton to the park. This wharf, in protected waters of Burlington Bay, lasted longer than the ones in Wellington Square - lasted until at least the early 1950s.

There were several toll roads in the Burlington area. One was along Plains Road through Aldershot. Tolls were: **1 cent** for sheep, pigs and goats; **10 cents** for loaded vehicles drawn by 2 horses or other beasts of draught; **4 cents** for saddle horse with a rider BUT **no charge** for people going to Church or prayer meeting at a local church.

In Burlington there are many pieces of "Public Art". At the corner of Plains Road and Waterdown/LaSalle Road, in the little park created at the end of the road construction, is a piece called 'Crescendo' or 'Rising Wave'.

Across from the Royal Botanical Gardens on Spring Gardens Road is Easterbrook's Hot Dog Stand. The Thomas Easterbrooks came to this area of Aldershot in 1859. His brother William was further east. Great-Grandma Mabel started the business as a Tea Room, sharing the space with the Willow Cove Post Office. It is now operated by a 4th generation Easterbrook – still selling foot-long hot dogs in at least 22 different topping combinations – each with its own name.

Special note: For the balance of this story and **coloured** photos of the above address, please ask for the **Aldershot 3-fold Villages brochure** at the next General Meeting

Indian Point Gate Repair

by Joan Downey

Indian Point is a unique community within Burlington. Established in the early 20th century, it is located in southwest Burlington. The founder was architect and builder, A. B. Coleman, who was the proprietor of the Brant House Hotel and The Country Club (later the Brant Inn).

Beginning in 1909 Coleman built elaborate cottages for elite visitors to the hotel. There was even a 6-hole golf course for use by the wealthy patrons. Originally it was named Brant Park. On Coleman's death the cottages were sold as private residences, and the roads were given to the Town. However, the area remains somewhat unique.

Indian Point is marked by large stone gates at both entrances. These gates were built in 1929 and are designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The streetlamps are also designated.

In October of 2022, BHS was contacted by a concerned citizen who pointed out unrepaired damage to one of the gates on the east entrance to the community. She stated that the gate had been damaged in an automobile accident and remained unrepaired 2 years later. BHS contacted the City mentioning this concern.

When I drove by in June there was considerable roadwork underway in the area. And, yes, the gate was indeed damaged and parts of the gate, including the concrete cap, were lying in the grass around its base.

When I drove by again in September, the gate had been repaired and looked as good as new!

Did our email have anything to do with correcting this damage? Maybe not, but I like to think it did.

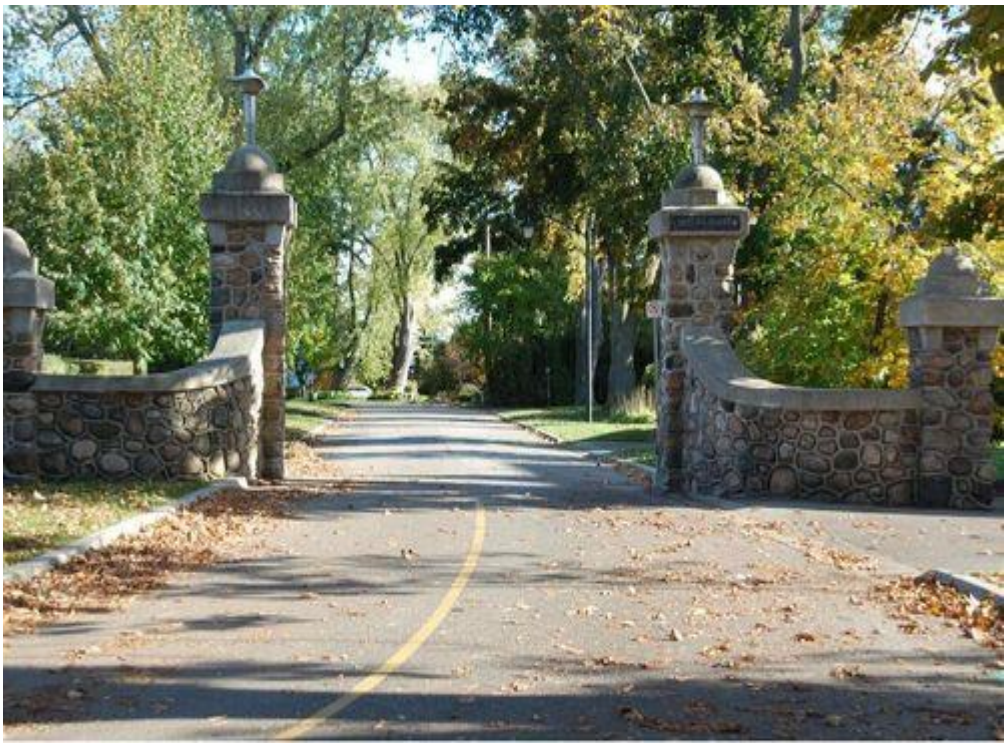


Photo of the west gates

By Patricia Taylor

BHS Digital Collection

The Burlington Cenotaph

By Jennifer Kemp

The Burlington Cenotaph was originally in Lakeside Park, now Spencer Smith Park.

Three Maple Trees were planted surrounding the memorial, signifying the 3 branches of the armed forces.

In 1962, development along the Lakeshore dictated the need to move it. It was then moved next to the newly constructed City Hall.

The cenotaph is a 10-foot granite column on a two-tier base. A seven-foot bronze statue of a Canadian soldier in First World War battledress tops the column, which lists the names of 38 First World War fatalities from Burlington and Nelson Township, 17 key First World War Canadian battle locations, and the names of 44 local service people who died in the Second World War. Burlington's contributions to the military conflicts in Korea and Afghanistan, as well as peacekeepers, are recognized on the base of the monument.

A verse from the poem ***Pro Patria*** by ***Seaman Owen*** is engraved under the Second World War plaque:

To teach that he who saves himself is lost;
To bear in silence though our hearts may bleed;
To spend ourselves, and never count the cost,
For others' greater need; --



Photo 1922 showing the Cenotaph in Lakeside Park.

The Cenotaph was dedicated in 1922 by Governor General Lord Byng.

Heritage Week 2023 Wrap-up

By Marsha Paley – Chair Heritage Week 2023

A spectacular ***Heritage Week was held August 5th to 12th with sixteen events over eight days***. Celebrating Burlington's 150th birthday from its start as a village, attendance for all events was at capacity or far exceeded expectations. Of the many highlights, one was the recognition given to the agricultural community with the creation of the Burlington 150 Farm Family roadside signage. In total, seven farm families, all whose ancestors started farming here as long as 200 years ago, received a sign. The families included the **Breckon's, Campbell's**, **Fisher's**, **Harris'**, **Reid's**, **Richardson's** and **Sherwood's**. Agriculture was also a topic at the Heritage Fair at the Central Library. Jamie Fisher, Tracy Breckon, Larry Campbell and Beth Barnes spoke about their families, farming and changing technology. An Ontario Farmer article (August 29, 2023) further showcased Burlington 150+, Heritage Week and the support we showed to the hard work of the rural community.

Thank you to the Burlington Historical Society who helped make this year's events a success. Compliments to **Alan Harrington** for his Spencer Smith Park and Beach Way Park walks; **David Craig** and **Don Thorpe** for the fun Trivia Night; social media coverage by **Jennifer Kemp**; funding support for the Kilbride Historical Group's North Burlington Cemetery tour; informational signage at the south end of Brant Street; prizes for events and for your coordination and attendance. Looking forward to celebrating Burlington's 110/50 in 2024; 110 is for the years as the Town of Burlington and 50 for the City. New events are already being discussed; your ideas are welcome!



The Burlington Historical Society

Preserving Burlington's History for Today and Tomorrow

Membership Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Membership Dues

☐ New Member ☐ Family: $40.00 ☐ Senior: $25.00

☐ Renewal ☐ Adult: $30.00

☐ 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 totaling $25.00 or more

The Burlington Historical Society is a registered charity # 119217693RR0001

Mail completed form and remittance(s) to:

The Burlington Historical Society

Membership Director

PO Box 93164

Burlington, Ontario L7M 4A3

1450 Headon Road

Make cheques payable to The Burlington Historical Society

E-Transfer

If you are a **new** member using e-transfer, please mail the completed form to us at the mailing address shown on the bottom left-hand side of this form OR leave it at the Membership table at any General Meeting. This will ensure that we capture your email and mailing address for our database and the receipt of our newsletter.

www.burlingtonhistorical.ca

info@burlingtonhistorical.ca

www.facebook.com/burlington history