



Newcastle Village and District Historical Society Newsletter

April ~ May ~ June 2002 - Issue # 76

2002 Executive Officers

Past President - Ron Locke
President - Myno Van Dyke
Secretary - Joan Anderson
Treasurer - Francis Jose
Directors - Susan Brown,
Helen Schmid, Ken Stephenson,
Wayne Blackburn, Mabel Good,
& Sanford Haskill
Membership & Newsletter- Ron
Locke
Social Convener -
Florence Taylor
Curator - Pat Macdonnell with
help from Helen Schmid

The Newcastle Village and District Historical Society, at their next meeting will have a special guest speaker, Fawne Stratford Devai who will speak on "The Challenge of Family History Research in the 21st Century" . Devai is a published author who lectures on genalogical and historical topics. Held at the Lion's Hall downstairs at the Newcastle Community Hall, King and Mill Streets, Newcastle on Monday, April 1st at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

Future Newsletters

Here in Newcastle we live in an historically rich part of the Province and this makes lots of fodder for an historical society such as ours. Most of us belong to the Newcastle Village and District Historical Society because we enjoy local stories and donated artifacts and this publication is an excellent way to convey these stories and Society News to you. This is

demonstrated by the wonderful articles that have appeared over the years. We are fortunate to have members who take the time to write and donate their articles and I know that there are more people out there with every bit as interesting stories just waiting to be told.

I would like to feature *your story* in the next newsletter...yes "your story". It could be the story of how your ancestors came here and put down roots or about a particular person who you have found captivating, a narrative of one of our founders that seems to have been overlooked. Possibly an account of some local event like winter horse racing on the Bond Head Mill Pond.

I know that many people don't feel confident enough to put their stories on paper, so I am asking you to speak to myself or one of the directors about having your story told, or put it on tape and someone will type it up for the newsletter. Once it is published here it will be available in the Societies Archives at any time.

President's Report

By Myno Van Dyke

Well, here we are with a new slate of officers and plenty of plans for the next year. Many of us have big shoes to fill, especially me. Ron Locke has done a terrific job as President and I will be calling on him regularly for his valued counsel. We are all so pleased that Ron has come through his surgery and is making good progress. There are a few new faces on the executive that I would like to introduce.

Joan Anderson has taken the Secretary's position over from Pippa Schmiegelow. Joan moved into the village recently from Kendal and is a great addition to our "team". Wayne Blackburn, a new Director, has been a member for many years and recently moved to the Kendal area after his retirement. The Blackburn family is one of the oldest in the area. Newcastle's Susan Brown, has taken over from husband Don as a Director. Susan has the same great interest in local history as Don so she is another great asset to our Officers for 2002. Port Hope's Sanford Haskill, the driving force behind our successful Massey Show last year is also a Director now. Francis Jose is staying on as Treasurer and Helen Schmid, Ken Stephenson and Mabel Goode are continuing as Directors. Pat Macdonnell is our Curator (with Helen Schmid assisting), Florence Taylor is still our Social Convenor and Ron Locke has agreed to continue producing the great newsletter. Many thanks to all of you for volunteering to keep our Historical Society strong and also a big thanks to those who are taking a well-deserved break.

It didn't take long for the new Officers to get involved in a local issue. We were called upon by the Municipality to provide input into the proposed street name change of George Manners to Yates Street in Bond Head. It looks like the name "George Manners" will stay. Also, the Massey Show date for 2003 has been set at June 21-22. A committee will be struck in the next month or so. Some of us will set up a table the upcoming Tractor Seat Show in Bowmanville on April 6th advertising the Massey Show. We will need to start making plans a year in advance so if anyone interested in helping please contact me. We are also looking for a nice lockable 4 drawer filing cabinet to put in the room to store a lot of our important paperwork. If anyone has one they would like to donate or sell for a reasonable price please contact anyone on the executive.

The Municipality of Clarington has given us a \$1000 grant this year. We need to show much appreciation to Francis Jose, Ron Locke and especially to Jack Eilbeck who made a great effort to ensure that the documentation was delivered properly.

Our year starts off with Fawne Stratford Devai who will be in the Lion's Room on Monday April 1st at 7:30 pm. She will be speaking on "The Challenge of Family History Research in the 21st Century". Hope to see many of you there.

A Vic Sort Of Man

Christopher Charles Love

1911-1998

by Philippa Schmiegelow

An old, hollowed out apple tree stands under the shade of a giant Evergreen. All that remains now of the original tree are large shards of gnarled bark, which lean inwards supported by each other and by the new growth that continues to spring miraculously from the old root. That apple tree, fully grown so folklore has it, in 1906, had a special place in the hearts of Chris and Vo Love.

Professor Chris Love and his wife Vo bought Harris Lodge in 1957. There, they and their children, Mary and Jonathan, spent their summers after the academic year at the University of Toronto was over. Chris, classics scholar, teacher, wartime captain of the corvette HMS Sackville, and university professor whose connection with U of T's Victoria College began in 1948 where he was Senior Tutor from 1950-61, retired from his job as Professor of English in 1977. Margaret Atwood and Toronto's Poet Laureate, Dennis Lee, were among his students, Northrop Frye, C.B.Sissons, Ned Pratt, Kingsley Joblin and Jessie Macpherson among his many colleagues who became close friends. Professor Love's connection to, and his love of, Victoria College continued until his death.

In the wild garden that surrounds the small white frame house at the end of D'Arcy Street in Newcastle known locally as Harris Lodge, where Chris and Vo and their family spent forty years of summers and long weekends, a rusting pump and a rusted watering can speak of occupants that are now gone. The house, originally a small schoolhouse, was built in the 1840s. It is slowly disintegrating, its roof caving in, while the veranda which has boasted a starboard list in all the years I have known it, looks as though it would be hard put to support the whicker chairs where Chris and Vo and those lucky enough to count themselves



among their friends where went to sit, sipping tea or lemonade on a hot summer's day. But the apple tree survives and the legacy of fond memories Chris and Vo and their family have left among local inhabitants will, like the wild flowers they planted and shared, endure.

For more on the Loves and on Harris Lodge, see the recently published *A Vic Sort Of Man*, edited by Mary Love and Hertha Schulze, \$12.95. For copies, please call me at 905 987-4856 or visit the NVDHS Room in the Community Hall, open Tuesday mornings from 9-12 noon.



Bowmanville Statesman/Newcastle Independent December 27, 1923

Village of Newcastle Detailed Statement January 1 '23- December 16, 1923

Jan. 8		
H.C.Bonathan	6 mths service as Clerk & Treasurer	\$92.00
Feb. 12		
George Eilbeck,	salary as [Tax] Collector	\$50.00
T.W.Jackson	1 mths salary as Constable	\$12.50
H.W.Dudley	Assessor	\$60.00
John Scott	Caretaker & Sanitary Inspector	\$32.00
J. Allin	21 loads of gravel on sideroad	\$42.0
O.Parker	Teaming gravel	\$88.00
Fred Graham	Teaming ashes	\$ 6.00
Stephen Jose	Shovelling snow, breaking roads	\$ 5.00
P.F. LeGresley	70 hours @ .60 teaming walks	\$42.00
M. Aldread	2 days labour	\$8.00

Cement 75c. bag		
20 cedar posts		\$5.00
Labour 40c.hr		
\$3.50 a day, labour on roads		
\$6.00 a day teaming		

Teaming: Isaac Selby, O.Parker, W.H.Pearce, H.W.Dudley, Frank Gibson, Chas.Clark, J.Cunningham, N.Allin, Frank Bennett

Street Lighting \$492.00
Residential Taxes \$9500.00
Town Hall Expenditures \$1462.33

Dr. J.A.Butler Reeve
H.C.Bonathan Clerk and Treasurer

Sons of England Jan. 11, 1923 – First organized in Newcastle in June 1887. J.J. Uglow founding member & first chaplain of the Lodge

President	Eric W.L.Pearce
Past President	Harry Jose
Vice-Pres.	Edwin C. Hoar
Chaplain	Ernest Gilbank
Secretary	H.R.Pearce
Tres.	J.J.Uglow

Common Men Geo.Gaines, Lawrence Cryderman, George Jones, Ewart Clemence, Rob.Walton,
Alf.Sims
Inner Guard Barnett Harris
Outer Guard Benj.Moise
Physician Alfred Farncombe

Newcastle Horticultural Meeting Jan.18, 1923

Hon.Presidents Mrs. J.E. Atkinson
C.D. Massey
Dr. Butler

Pres. Thos. Moffat
1st Vice Rev. J.E.Fenning
2nd Mrs. Jas. Parker
Treasurer Mrs. J.A. Smith
Sec. Mrs. J.E. Matchett
Directors J.E.W. Philip, G.L. Sherlock, Mrs. C. Law, Mrs, Eilbeck, F.Allin

You Never Know What You'll Find.

by Leslie Wilson

Researching your family genealogy, as anybody who has done it, is like eating peanuts, you just can't stop. It leads you on to the life and times of all those begets and frequently contains many surprises. One of our founding members, Pat Macdonell had no reason until very recently to believe that she had any 19th century connections to Newcastle Ontario. After all, she was born in Toronto, her father and mother were raised in Manitoba and her grandparents were born in Newmarket, Smithfield (near Brighton) and south-western Ontario. However, when one looks at her great grandparents another story emerges.

One of her great grandmothers was a Tamblyn of Hope Twp and married in 1847 a dashing young Irishman, Thomas Nixon by name. It seems that about 1848 this Thomas Nixon began some sort of business association in the sheep hide/woolen mill business with his wife's cousin, Thomas Tamblyn of Newcastle and Pat's great uncle, James Bower Nixon was born in Newcastle in July of 1848.

Cemeteries

"Lives are commemorated - deaths are recorded - families are reunited - memories are made tangible - and life is undisguised. This is a cemetery... A cemetery is a history of people - a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today. A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering - always."

Historical Room Open Every Tuesday Morning

Everyone is welcome to drop into the Society's room right inside the front doors of the Newcastle Community Hall on any Tuesday morning. You will be greeted by the smiling face of one of our most committed members, Ken Stephenson.

From the Editor's Desk

First and foremost I must thank all those who have prayed, sent cards, called and helped in any way during my recent illness. I was taken ill just prior to the Annual Meeting and was overwhelmed by the people who came forward to relieve me, so I could get on with my operation. I appreciate all your support. I must say that the first thing that I remember following coming back to my room after my stay in Special Care was a wonderful bouquet of flowers from the Historical Society.

Secondly I must apologize for this rather skimpy newsletter. It is my first attempt at any sort of a project since I have returned home. I have not been actively soliciting material, but I will be looking for new articles for the June Newsletter, so you have been forewarned. As always I do thank the contributors for their material.

Society Information

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