

It's About Time...

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Municipality of Port Hope &
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Ontario Trillium Foundation
Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario

Winter 2011



It's About Time...

NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

INSIDE BALLINTRUAN: AN EDWARDIAN HOLIDAY

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Christmas, as a modern holiday, has its roots in Victorian England. It was the Victorians who re-invented the holiday into what we celebrate today. A feat which is largely associated with the writers Charles Dickens of England (*A Christmas Carol*) and Clement Moore of America (*The Night Before Christmas*).

Tradition(s) like the Christmas tree, which had been a staple of the German holiday for a long time, was brought to England in the 1840s by Queen Victoria and her husband Albert. The Christmas tree was subsequently adopted by Canada, as a colony of Great Britain. It can

be seen in photographs of Victorian and Edwardian families such as that of the Stuart-Grant family, Ballinruan, Port Hope.

Ballinruan, on Rose Glen Road, was home to Albert & Josephine Grant. Albert Grant was born 16 May 1860. He married Josephine Carolyn Stuart (of Port Hope), a daughter of Charles Stuart and Margaret Gladman. The two had three daughters: Victoria (b. 3 Mar 1897), Dorothy (May 1898), and Josephine (1 Jun 1900).

The Grants whole-heartedly embraced the holiday season, as seen as the photographs below. Showing the

families' decorated parlor and dining room all ready to mark another happy holiday. Our photo collection also includes images of Albert Grant and one of the daughters performing in a family Christmas Pageant, c. 1907.

Edwardians were keen on capturing these elements of their lives, a fact which is very fortunate for archivists, and historical researchers alike. It is for this reason, that we at the PHA can compose a snap-shot of the life of the Grants in their magnificent home during the holidays!



Top Left: Ballinruan, Exterior (PHA 2006-10-4-1694)

Bottom Left: Ballinruan, Exterior. Photo features members of the Stuart-Grant family (PHA 2010-39-1-3898)

Above: Ballinruan, Interior with Christmas Decorations (PHA 2004-23-3-1674)

Right: Ballinruan, Interior with Christmas Tree (PHA 2004-23-3-1675)

NEWS FROM THE COLLECTION!

In September, hundreds if not thousands of items were donated to the PHA for our Annual Yard Sale. A few of these items were deemed to hold significant historical value to Port Hope and so were retained for the collection. One of these was a painting by E.R. Bagley, c. 1980s. However, the painting itself which shows red roses, is not where the historical interest lies, the really important feature is the artist.

Rev. Edward Ronald Bagley was born and educated in England. He was married to Penelope (b. 30 Oct 1910; d. 12 Apr 2007). In 1938, they moved to Canada, and Bagley became rector of the Winnipeg Cathedral, and also worked at St. John's College School. After moving to Ontario, Bagley was made an Archdeacon by the Toronto Diocese. In 1965, Archdeacon Bagley resigned as rector of St. John's in favour of a post as chaplain at Bishop Strachan School. He retired in 1979 and moved to Port Hope to pursue his hobby of oil painting. The couple lived on Blooms Grove Ave, and Bagley had a connection to Trinity College School.



E.R. Bagley Painting, c. 1980s
PHA 2010.41.1

ARCHIVISTS' MESSAGE

Erin Walsh, B.A.H., M.I.S.T

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL!

As another year draws to a rapid close, we are reminded of all the things we have to be thankful for here at the Port Hope Archives.

We've had great community interest and participation this year. New volunteers joined our team and our board of directors. Our Let's Make History project is beginning to take off with a recent mass-mailing experiment.

We also received a great number of donations both to our collection and financial and in-kind donations

to assist with the running of the archives.

All of our events this year were very successful, including our annual fundraising yard sale in September. We had displays at Estival and the Port Hope Fall Fair. Not to mention our Open House in April. I also presented the Port Hope Archives' first ever workshop on photograph preservation in March.

We received over 50 donations of archival materials yet again this year; and so our great little archives continues to grow! We also received another interesting transfer of records from the Municipality of Port Hope

this year. Our largest to date at just over 8 linear metres of records! All of the collections and fonds donated this year are arranged, described, and accessible.

For all these things we have to be thankful for, the holiday season is all about family, and our family here at the PHA consists of our volunteers and membership.

Our wonderful board members and volunteers have assisted me with event planning, financial management, collections management, the photograph database project, and so many other things! I wouldn't be able to effectively run the archives without them.

A special thank you as well to our out-going chair, Charles Taws, who has made the transition period between archivists and the kick-start of our LMH project go so smoothly! We wish him all the best!

And so, from our archives family to yours! Happy Holidays and all the best in the year to come!

Erin



FROM THE PHOTO DATABASE...

Group photograph of the 1929 Port Hope High School Hockey Team.

Title: Port Hope High School Hockey Team, 1929

Part Of: Beaver Athletic Association Fonds

PHA 2003-48-5-2614

Accession #: 2003-48-5-2614

Description: Black and white group photograph of the Port Hope High School Hockey team of 1929.



Winners: Central Group & Semi-finalists.

Standing: S.W. Greenaway, right wing / G.N. Sneyd, left wing / Mr. Hocking / G.N. Strong, right defence/ W.L. Sherry, Capt. & Left defence/ R. Davidson, right wing.

Middle Seated: Mr. Eastman / J. Haskill, Goal / J. Tweed, Manager

Front Seated: E.G. Gallagher, Centre / F. G. Berbert, Centre

This photograph can be found in our Flickr photostream:

www.flickr.com/photos/porthoparchives

NEW READING ROOM HOURS!

Effective December 8th, 2010 the Port Hope Archives has changed the hours we are open to the public.

The new hours are as follows:

Tuesday-Friday 1:00pm-5:00pm

1st Saturday of the month 9:00am-1:00pm

(October to May)

OTHER TIMES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!
WWW.PORTHOPEARCHIVES.COM

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

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Phone: (905) 885-1673
E-mail: archives@porthope.ca
Website: www.porthopearchives.com
Twitter: www.twitter.com/PHArchives

Our Mandate:

The Port Hope Archives exists to collect and preserve archival materials which illustrate the growth and development of the Municipality of Port Hope or which pertain in whole or in part to activities within the geographic boundaries of the Municipality of Port Hope.

Donations:

All donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a tax receipt.
The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity.
Charitable Registration
#83789 8675 RR0001



Board of Directors:

Charles Taws, Out-going Chair
Pam Robinson, Vice-Chair
John Bennett, Treasurer
Dave Doherty, Secretary
Barbara Coleman
Marielle Lambert
Deanna Moses
Donna Strong

HOURS:

Tuesday to Friday 1:00pm—5:00pm
1st Saturday (October to May) 9:00am—1:00pm
OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

Notes from the Chair...

It's been an interesting four years! My term as Chair for the Port Hope Archives comes to an end with the AGM in January. In my work I always pride myself on the smooth and efficient delivery of daily operations. I feel this has been a hallmark of my term as Chair.

Our biggest challenge in recent times was finding a new Archivist. We found a highly skilled professional in Erin Walsh. But, thanks to volunteers like Peter and Barbara Bolton, our daily operations were only slightly impacted through the hiring process. The Trillium Grant we were awarded at about the same time gave us the equipment and software to greatly enhance and improve our services to the public. Board members Marielle Lambert and Pam Robinson ensured our 2010 yard sale was a worthwhile fundraiser.

As Chair I'm really just one of many volunteers. The current Board and volunteers are to be congratulated for all the hours of work they put towards the Archives. I'd especially like to recognize John Bennett for his on-going contributions in keeping our financial records in such good order. Without John, Marielle, Pam, Peter and Barbara the last few years would have been a considerably bumpier ride.

I wish the Port Hope Archives well in its future endeavours. I know I leave it in good hands with Erin and the current Board. Merry Christmas and Happy to New Year to everyone!

Charles D. Taws
Chair

Remembering Our Soldiers... No. 1

Reuben Cecil Bennett

“Bennett was born June 15th, 1895 at Oshawa, Ontario, and was a member of the Church of England. He belonged to the St. George’s Club and No Surrender L.O.L. 686 Oshawa. He was a total abstainer all his life and was of a kind and cheerful disposition, making friends wherever he went. He also took a very active part in all sports, both in Oshawa and Port Hope, and continued the same after going overseas to England and France.

It was stated by his officer that he always displayed great courage, but his greatest trait was that his first and last thoughts were of his home. Reuben was an exceptional boy in this respect and the greatest possible comfort to his parents. In his last letters home, he urged his mother to send him her photograph.

At the time of his death, he was in the bombing section of his unit. A comrade accidentally lighted the fuse of one of his bombs and, throwing away his jacket, Bennett was caught in the explosion and was mortally wounded. He died at the dressing station and was buried at Albert, France.”

**From the Book of Remembrance 2007 reprint page 25*



Watch our newsletters in 2011 for some more inserts about the Port Hope boys who fought and died in World War I. See the reverse side for information about our Book of Remembrance.

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 Mill Street North
Port Hope, ON
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www.porthopearchives.com

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

A Record of the Men of Port Hope Who Participated
in the Great War of 1914-1918

Published by the Port Hope Archives, 2007

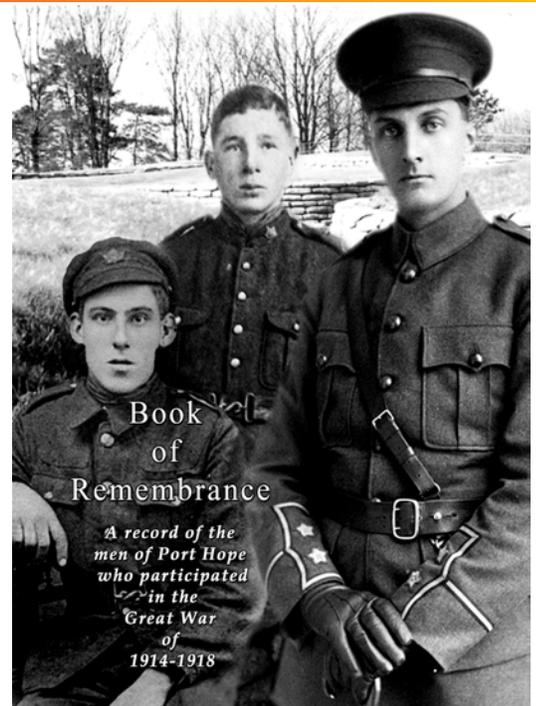
ISBN 978-0-9781111-1-3

Retail: \$19.95

The *Book of Remembrance* is the account of Port Hope, Ontario's contribution to the Great War of 1914-1918. The original booklet was compiled in 1919 as a tribute to the sixty-five men of Port Hope and vicinity who died in the Great War. The book was then, as it is now, the town's attempt to remember the fallen men as personalities and not just as names on the cenotaph. It is also a record of how the people of a small town joined together to support their boys overseas.

Only two copies of the book were produced in 1919, both of which are held at the PHA. This is the first time the *Book of Remembrance* has been reprinted, and it now includes the names of all of Port Hope's soldiers along with their photographs. This special edition also includes letters from the front as published in *The Port Hope Evening Guide* and photographs from the collection of the Port Hope Archives.

The *Book of Remembrance* is a snapshot of rural Ontario's contribution to the "war to end all wars."



To Order Your Copy:

- Book Price: \$19.95.
- Shipping: \$10.00 for each first copy; \$5.00 for each additional.
- Or available in-house.
- Contact the Archives to order your copy today! Via e-mail (archives@porthope.ca) or telephone at 905-885-1673.
- Cash and cheque are accepted, made payable to *Port Hope Archives*.

**OWN A PART OF YOUR
HISTORY!**