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Summer 2016

# IT'S ABOUT TIME...

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

### "RUM-RUNNING" AWAY INTO PORT HOPE HISTORY

The term "rum-running" originated at the start of Prohibition in the United States (1920–1933), when ships from Bimini, in the western Bahamas, transported affordable Caribbean rum to Florida speakeasies. However, the minimal cost of rum made it a low-profit item for the rum-runners, so smugglers moved on to transporting Canadian whisky, French champagne, and English gin to major cities like New York City, where resale prices ran high.

In 1988, John S. Laurie, of Port Hope, recounted his experience with rum-runners: *"To help soothe the dry throats in America, the Canadian rum running business was born. The border between the US and Can-*

Port Hope Harbour View, c1930s  
PHA# 995-55-1-307



*ada became the main field of operations for running alcoholic beverages... This new business was risky but very profitable; adventurous but dangerous."*

During the time of the rum-runners, Mr. William Harvey served as the harbourmaster for Port Hope. He was responsible for checking each transport ship leaving port, and charging a stipend per case of exports, on behalf of the Port Hope Harbour Commission.

All told, there were at least half a dozen boats involved in the rum-running trade out of Port Hope, but the most effectively documented is the "Mary H." The vessel was owned and operated by Mr. Hayden. It was equipped with three liberty engines from World War I Martin bomber planes, and the exhaust was designed to operate both under and above water; to facilitate silence, and a "smoke screen," should the latter be required.

In the end, the story of the alcoholic contraband trade has left little more than recounted stories of an exciting period in the history of the Port Hope Harbour.

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### PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 Mill Street North  
Port Hope, ON L1A 2T1  
[porthopearchives.com](http://porthopearchives.com)  
[archives@porthope.ca](mailto:archives@porthope.ca)  
905-885-1673

### HOURS

Monday 1-5PM  
Tuesday to Thursday 9:30-5  
Friday 1-5pm  
*We're flexible!*

### 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.*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marie Jones, Chair  
Evelyn Conn, Vice-Chair  
Peter Hunt, Treasurer  
Leah-Ann Logel, Secretary  
Carl Ross, Membership  
Suzanne Camm, Outreach  
Cathy Moore

*The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity.*

#83789 8675 RR0001

**COMMUNITY HISTORY  
HAPPENS HERE!**

## REPORT FROM THE BOARD

Summer is here and with it we have welcomed many new visitors undertaking research on their families. We have had an upward swing in those who have arrived from outside the province this year. It's all very positive news!

In mid-June, Erin Walsh left the archives to begin a new position with the City of Vaughan. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Erin for the many years she devoted to our community and wish her every success in her new job. She will be missed.

We have two new staff members! Sarah, our summer Digitization Assistant, joined us in early June and Mandy began her position as Archivist later in the month. Both are enthusiastic communicators and have a strong interest in heritage services. The ideas and experience they bring will enable the Port Hope Archives to grow and reach new goals. Sarah's position is funded in part by Canada Summer Jobs, Service Canada.

The installation of our new enhanced storage system is due to be complete by mid - August. Prior to this, staff and board members will be busy relocating collection material from our back storage area to the front rooms. Due to this temporary loss of space the Board has decided not to hold its Yard Sale this Sept. We look forward to bringing it back in 2017.

**MARIE**



### INTRODUCING OUR NEW ARCHIVIST

Hi there! My name is Mandy Stoneman and I am the new Archivist here at the Port Hope Archives! I currently live in Northumberland County, where many generations of my family were born and raised, although I have lived all over Ontario. I recently graduated from the Library and Information Technician Program at Durham College, and that, along with my love of history and working with people, led me down the path to this amazing position. I have a wonderful 10 year old son who likes to keep me on my toes, and who is *almost* as excited as I am about my new career. I feel very fortunate to be working in such a beautiful town that is so full of rich history and I am looking forward to taking an active role in the Port Hope community.

### INTRODUCING OUR NEW SUMMER STUDENT

Hello, my name is Sarah and I am so happy to be working here as the Archives Digitization Assistant this summer! I have a History degree from Trent University, and will be starting the Library and Information Technician program at Durham College this September. I am a huge lover of history, so getting to work with old photographs, documents, and artifacts every day is so amazing! I also really enjoy helping visitors use our resources to find information about their families and properties. I have really enjoyed my time here so far, and I am looking forward to learning more about working in the archives!



### Port Hope Archives has new hours!

Monday 1-5pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am-5pm

Friday 1-5pm

*Closed from 12-12:30pm for lunch*

We're flexible! If the archivist is present during closed hours, we will accommodate you!

OR Please contact us to request an appointment to suit your schedule.

### FROM THE PHOTO DATABASE



Description: B&W photograph of Victoria, Josephine and Dorothy Grant playing wedding dress-up in the garden at Ballintruan, Port Hope. Photograph taken in August 1909.

Victoria Alberta Stuart Grant (1897-1974) was the eldest daughter of Josephine Stuart and Albert Grant. She was born at Ballintruan, on Rose Glen Road, Port Hope. Victoria was a goddaughter of Queen Victoria and was presented with a silver Christening cup in 1897.

*Victoria, Dorothy and Josephine Grant, 1909 PHA# 2016-3-3-5960*

This photo and others can be found in our

Flickr photostream:

**[www.flickr.com/photos/porthopearchives](http://www.flickr.com/photos/porthopearchives)**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**July:** "Ontario's Sporting Past" Archives of Ontario Travelling Exhibit comes to the Port Hope Archives! *On display for the month of July, 2016.*

**July & August:** Friends of Wesleyville Village "Step Inside Sundays" 12-4pm, 2082 Lakeshore Road

**July 7th—September 1st:** 2016 Cameco Summer Band Shell Concert Series every Thursday 7—9 p.m.

**Aug. 13th—**Model Boat Day at the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum, Port Hope

**On until Oct. 10th:** The Part Sports Played— Sifton-Cook Heritage Centre, Cobourg

**October 1st:** Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Port Hope Annual House Tour ([acoporthope.ca](http://acoporthope.ca))

**October 13th:** 11th Evening with the ACO "Lack of Peace, Disorder and Bad Government in America, 1763-1783" (Robert Selkirk Bothwell) at the Port Hope Public Library, 7pm

## A MESSAGE FROM ERIN

*"Everything has to come to an end, sometime."*

– **L. Frank Baum, The Marvelous Land of Oz**

And so my time at the Port Hope Archives has come to an end as well.

Over the past 6.5 years I have watched the PHA grow and blossom with new partnerships, new donations, new projects, and many new friends! Hopefully, the Port Hope community feels that I have made a contribution to the life of the Port Hope Archives. I know that as much as I have been a small part of its life story, the PHA has been a big part of mine.

My time here has made me not only a better archivist and information professional, but also a better person. I have learned great skills, such as how to conduct genealogical research, which I'll carry on using in my personal life; and I have made countless lovely friends!

I know that the current board of the Port Hope Archives will continue to see it thrive over the coming years, and I trust that the community of Port Hope knows what a treasure its history is, and will be persistent in preserving it for the future!

**Thank you all, for everything!**

**ERIN WALSH**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

As part of our involvement with the upcoming exhibit at the Art Gallery of Northumberland this fall, the Port Hope Archives is seeking to borrow World War I artifacts and archival material owned by local families and organizations within our community.

It is our hope that many of you will be willing to loan objects to this project. All of the items which are borrowed for *Northumberland Went to War* will be carefully documented and covered by the Art Gallery of Northumberland's insurance while they are used for this project.

If you are interested in being a part of this exciting project we ask that you submit a list for consideration. Please send your list to [archives@porthope.ca](mailto:archives@porthope.ca) or call us at 905 885-1673 to discuss this further.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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*"If we tried to sink the past beneath our feet, be sure the future would not stand."*  
– *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

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## PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 MILL STREET NORTH 1 PORT HOPE, ONTARIO L1A 2T1  
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