

2000 ←

→ 1901

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF  
FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE**



**NEWSLETTER**

***INSIDE:***

1. History of the site of the 1000 Islands Charity Casino.
2. Sand Bay Presbyterian Church.
3. The Gray Family.
4. Year in Review.

Number 16,

FALL/WINTER 2001

\$2.50

2001

1801

and beyond

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again I hope you enjoy this latest edition of our Newsletter. Many thanks to Bill and the Hewitts for all the time and effort put into its production. Also I would like to thank Blu Mackintosh for her contribution on the casino site. We always look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our meetings and appreciate the support of those of you who are out of the area but share our interest in local history.



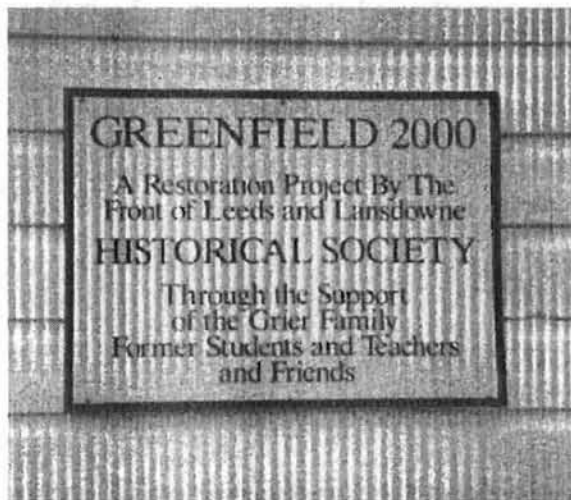
Our project at Greenfield School has progressed well over the summer and we would especially like to recognize the work of the local 4-H group.

We are planning to change our name to reflect the area covered by the new Township organization and welcome everyone from the area with an interest in local history to join us.

ALAN LINDSAY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Lindsay".

PRESIDENT



Greenfield School and sign August 2001

Photos courtesy John E. Zimmer

**COVER PHOTO**  
**Sand Bay Presbyterian Church**  
*Photo from Society files*



**YEAR IN REVIEW**

**Mar.19, 2001** - President Alan Lindsay presented Darlingside and the Darling Family.

*(Photo Courtesy of Bill Boulton)*



**NEWSLETTERS**

Back copies of our newsletters are available for \$2.50 each  
 Copies 1 through 15 are now available in a three ring binder.  
**This makes a nice gift. Cost = \$44.50**



**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

General (Family) - \$10.00 Association - \$10.00 Corporate - \$25.00  
 Our membership term is Sept. 1 to Aug. 31  
 Memberships available at any meeting or by cheque to:  
 Box 332 Lansdowne, Ont. K0E 1L0

**THE FRONT of LEEDS and LANSDOWNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Slate of Officers - 2001 -2002**

President- Alan Lindsay  
 Vice-President- Bruce Foley  
 Past President- Bill Boulton  
 Secretary- Ann Graham  
 Treasurer- Nancy Langton  
 Member at Large- Mona Sherren

**Committee Chairs:**

Communications- Bill Boulton  
 Social- Ruth Chisamore  
 Danny Chisamore  
 Archivist- Yolande LaPointe  
 Program- Mary Robertson  
 Membership- Connie Burns

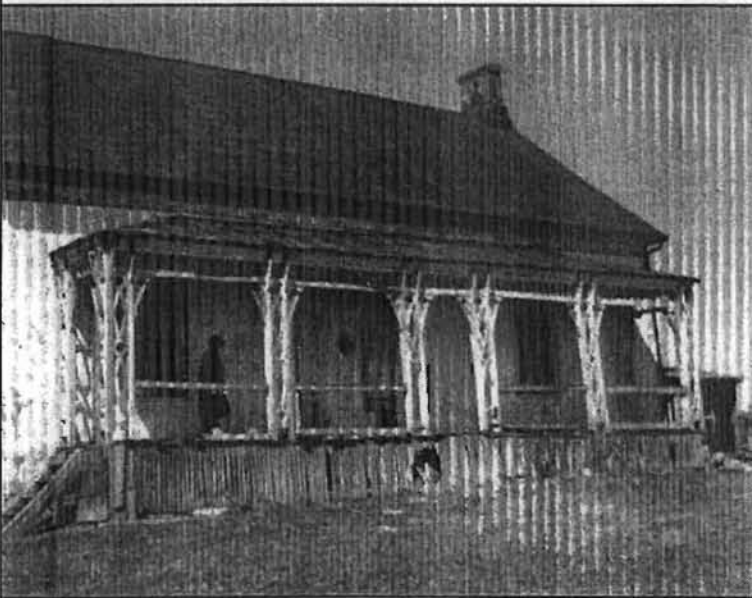
## **History of the site of the 1000 Islands Charity Casino**

*by Blu Mackintosh*

This summer, in August 2001, a fleet of red backhoes, drills, front-end loaders and dump trucks started swarming over the land on part of Lot 18, Concession 1, in what is now Leeds and the Thousand Islands. (This new amalgamated municipality includes the former Township of Front of Leeds - which in turn included the previous Front of Leeds). An Ontario government Charity Casino is being built, scheduled to open in 2002. This is just short of two hundred years since Letters Patent were issued in 1803 to one James Drummond for a parcel of 384 acres, which included this land.

Its history is interesting. In May of 1846, the farm, stretching all the way from the St. Lawrence River to the northern boundary of the First Concession, was sold by Robert Russell Boag to George Brown. The Browns had come to Canada in 1834, when George was 38. They were one of the many families who came to Canada from Berwickshire, on the east coast of lowland Scotland. Several families arrived from the same place at this time, and they must have been content to settle near one another and to see their children marry. The families names included Haig, Waldie, Mitchell, Lindsay, Brotherson and Richardson.

Judging from their photographs, George Brown and his wife, Janet McDougal, were no-nonsense, hard-working people. With their slightly grim mouths and determined eyebrows, they look like a couple who were not given to flights of fancy. They had a son who remained single, but their three daughters (who have the same square faces and firmly set mouths) married and settled close by. Daughter Jane and her husband George Mitchell had the farm to the west (parts of Lots 17 and 18), Ann and her husband John Haig settled on the farm to the east (part of Lot 19), and Isabella and her husband David Darling were on the farm to the north on the second concession, as was George's brother Adam Brown. (Between lots 18 and 19, there was originally a road allowance leading right down to the river. Parts of it are still visible today in Robertson Road and the section of Day's Road that runs straight down to meet Dark Island Lane and Islandview Lane.)



**Original House on Casino Property  
Circa mid 1960's**

*Photo courtesy Alan Lindsay*

Although photographs of the family exist, we have found only one photograph of the house and none of the original farm buildings on this land, but before the bulldozers arrived this year, foundations of a house, a barn and several outbuildings were still discernable, located near a rocky outcropping not far from the 401.

However, Alan Lindsay, one of the many descendants of George Brown who still live in the area, remembers it. "The house was stone, covered with rough-cast and painted white," he recalls. "Its style was unusual from other stone houses in the area because the roof had a steeper pitch. The chimneys, after they came through the roof, separated into two flues and then were joined into one again at the cap. A summer kitchen on the back was joined to the main house by a passage. There was an open verandah across the front. The house appeared to have little alteration. There was a large barn and also various outbuildings behind the house."

*(Continued on pg. #5)*

**History of the site of the 1000 Islands Charity Casino** *continued from pg. 4*

Alan, along with Doug Gilbert of Ivy Lea and Arthur Waldie of Gananoque, are descendants of Isabella and David Darling. (Actually, they are also descendants of Isabella's sister Ann Haig, since Ann's daughter Janet married her first cousin, Isabella's son John McDougal Darling.) Peter Murray of Gananoque and Doug Matthew of Landon Bay are descendants of Jane and George Mitchell, who later founded Mitchell and Wilson.

In 1875, when George Brown reached the age of 79, he sold the east three-quarters of his lot to his nephew Adam Brown. (The west quarter was already part of the farm of his daughter Jane and her husband George Mitchell.) However, Adam's wife died shortly afterwards, and he left the farm and moved to Michigan.

In 1882, the farm was sold to Lawrence Gavin. George Brown had died in 1881 at the age of 85 and David Darling was the executor of his father-in-law's estate. Except for 40 acres at the north end of his property, which Lawrence Gavin sold to John M. Darling (who already had adjoining property in the second concession), the farm remained in the Gavin family for the next 56 years. Those who are alive today tend to remember the farm as "the Gavin place". When he died in 1910, Lawrence Gavin left it to his wife Ellen until her death (which was in 1929), and after that to his son Lawrence Patrick Gavin.

Sequence of Ownership  
Site of 1000 Islands Charity Casino  
Southern part of Lot 18, Concession 1  
Twp. Front of Leeds

1803 - Letters Patent to James Drummond  
(1803 - 1846 - unclear)  
1846 - R. R. Boag sells to George Brown  
1875 - Adam Brown  
1882 - Lawrence Gavin  
1910 - Ellen Gavin (life estate)  
1929 - Lawrence Patrick Gavin  
1938 - John Wesley Hall  
1948 - Konstanty Mikulski  
1964 - Province of Ontario (for 401)



**George and Janet (McDougal) Brown**  
**owners of Lot 18, Concession 1 in 1846**

*Photo courtesy Allan Lindsay*

Art Waldie, a descendant of the Darling family, spent his childhood on the Darling farm abutting the Gavin farm to the north, south of where Hiscocks School is now. His father had died when Art was a tiny baby, and his widowed mother and his brother moved in with his grandfather, John Darling. He remembers in the 1920s, when he was about 12, walking with his grandfather down a path through pastures to visit the Gavin family. (There were, in fact, two Darling farms, his grandfather's and his uncle's and at one point, they swapped.) It may have been during this period that the farm was rented out to Orange Running and his family.

Lawrence Patrick Gavin's sister May Loretta Gavin, known as "Mamie", eventually married Wilfred James O'Brien. (They had two daughters and two sons. Art Waldie remembers taking out one of the daughters, Eleanor, who later married Brome Folkes.) When her brother died in 1936 at the age of 47, Mamie settled his estate. The farm was sold two years later, in 1938, to John Wesley Hall, known as "Wes", and his wife Mary Frances.

*(Continued on pg. #6)*

**History of the site of the 1000 Islands Charity Casino** *continued from pg. 5*

The Halls' son Bill and his wife Olive settled on the farm, but it would only be for a few years. Tragically, Bill was drowned on a fishing trip with Ford Gray on May 10, 1944, and the widowed Olive and her daughters Virginia and Jeanne moved away. Alan Lindsay recalls stopping in to say goodbye to Olive and the girls the day they left. Olive later re-married, to Bert Nightengale. Her daughter Virginia later married John Lee, whose family still owns property on Hay Island.

A few years later, in 1948, the farm changed hands once again when John Welsey Hall sold it to a Polish man named Konstanty Mikulski. This would be the last time it would be owned as a farm. Mr. Mikulski appears to have owned it, at least at first, in conjunction with several other of his countrymen.

Times were rapidly changing. The two world wars were over. Tourism was starting to grow. Residential and cottage property in the Thousand Islands was becoming sought after. The original Brown holdings, which had once stretched all the way from the waterfront to the boundary of the second concession, had been divided many times over the years. Every family now had a car and they needed more and better roads to drive on. The Thousand Islands Parkway (originally 2S for "Highway 2 Scenic") was built in the late 1930s. In 1955, part of the Mikulski farm was expropriated for the long ramp that joined the 401 to the Parkway.

The present-day Parkway overpass over Highway 2 goes right over where George and Jane Mitchell's house once stood. Their barn had been in the corner where the ramp from Highway 2 runs up to the west-bound 401. Alan Lindsay, who walked over the land many times when he was growing up, remembers it very well. "There was a spring there that ran out of a pipe in the corner of the barn all year round," he recalls. "That is why it is so swampy there still."

Meanwhile, Highway 401 was being built across the province. One of the last sections to be constructed was between Gananoque and Brockville, and in 1964, Mr. Mikulski sold the land to the Province of Ontario, which required it "for Provincial purposes". The 401 opened in late 1967, its double lanes and interchanges cutting a wide swath through what was originally George Brown's farm.

The final change came in 2000, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLGC) announced its intention of constructing a "charity" casino in the 1000 Islands area. In November, a referendum question was on the municipal election ballot in Leeds and the Thousand Islands, Gananoque, Prescott and Brockville, (the four municipalities pinpointed by the OLGC as desirable locations) asking citizens if they would be in favour of a casino. All four voted Yes, and the OLGC eventually chose this site, within the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands but on the outskirts of Gananoque, within an easy drive of Kingston but also close to the 1000 Islands Bridge to attract American gamblers. The site appears to be made up mainly of a section of George Brown's farm on Lot 18, but there is also a triangle on the west from George Mitchell's farm (part of Lot 17), and another on the east side in Lot 19 which had originally belonged to John Haig.

The location is highly visible to both Highways 401 and 2, a desirable feature for a casino wishing to attract passers-by. The parcel is a triangle bordered by Highway 401, Highway 2 and the long ramp between Exit 647 from eastbound 401 and the Thousand Islands Parkway. The architect's design, unveiled in August of 2001, shows a 1950s style building with Art Deco touches and a high tower.

It would be hard to imagine a building and use with greater contrast to George Brown's original stone farmhouse, with its many connections to so many local families.

*(continued on pg. #7)*

**THE GRAY FAMILY - Part 2.** *by Alan Lindsay.*

This is a continuation from the last newsletter featuring the children of Charles and Margaret Gray. It includes the children Charles, Ellen, Elizabeth, Catherine and Margaret.

**Family of Charles Jr. and Mary Switzer**

- Charles B. mar. Lydia Moore & Lillian Cook-children: Joe, Gordon, Pearl
- Colin mar. ? Nalon & Margaret Humphrey-children: Percy, Myrla, Ken
- John W. mar. Eleanor Gardiner-children: John, George, Willis, Lila, Lena
- Margaret mar. Adam Modler
- William mar. Alberta Humphrey
- Elizabeth Jane mar. William McNeil
- Walter mar. Elizabeth McKay-children: Floyd, Ernie, Bruce, Beulah, Florence
- David
- Mary
- Jessie
- Mabel mar. Mitchell O'Hara

**Family of Ellen Gray and John Cross**

- Reuben mar. Viola Pratt
- Fred
- Maggie mar. ? Wenborn
- Charles mar. Laura Root-children: Helen, Marie, Thelma
- John mar. Ambra Kyes-children: Frances
- Jeanette mar. Milton Grier-children: Hilda, Russell, Verna
- Walter mar. Myrtle Steacy-children: Shirley 2nd wife Frances Young
- Glenn mar. Edna Elliott-children: Mary Ellen

**Family of Elizabeth Gray & 1. William S Landon 2. Firman Cross**

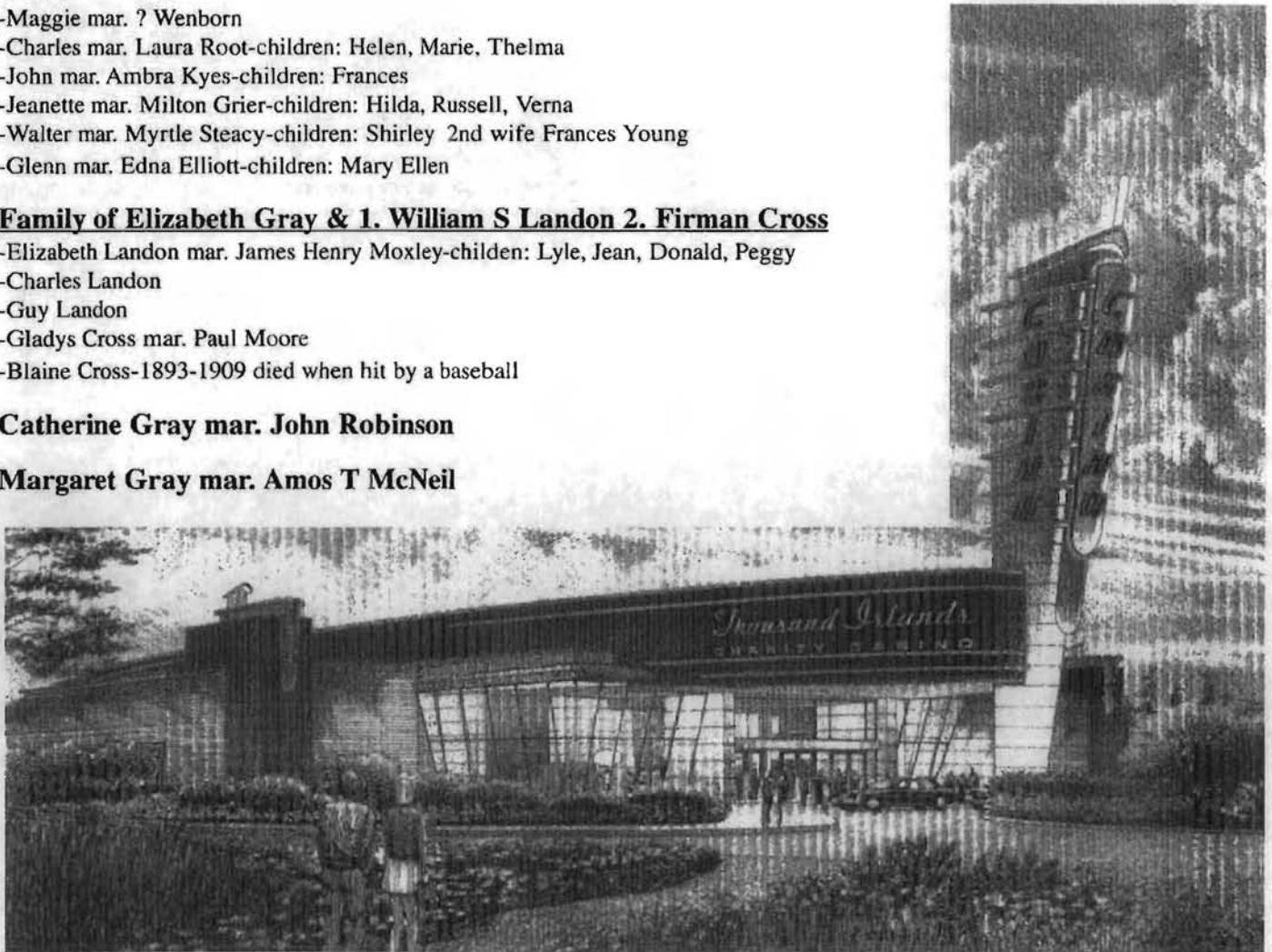
- Elizabeth Landon mar. James Henry Moxley-children: Lyle, Jean, Donald, Peggy
- Charles Landon
- Guy Landon
- Gladys Cross mar. Paul Moore
- Blaine Cross-1893-1909 died when hit by a baseball

**Catherine Gray mar. John Robinson**

**Margaret Gray mar. Amos T McNeil**

**Thousand Island  
Charity Casino**

*Photo courtesy  
Ontario Lottery  
and Gaming Commission*



**SAND BAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

by Bill Boulton

The first Presbyterian presence in this area was Rev. Wm. Smart who began to travel by horseback through the area in 1811. Church services were often held in the schools. Wm. Beatty mentions in his diary of services in the Brick School in the 1860's, as well as the "Reid Settlement", later known as Fairfax. The history of Fairfax school tells of services there and people coming from as far as Black Rapids.

Chalmers Presbyterian Church, built in 1872, was the first church built in the present village, then known as 'Lansdowne Station'. A few years later it was decided to build two additional churches to ease the distance which had to be travelled to go to church.

On January 17, 1881, the Trustees of Sand Bay Presbyterian congregation, namely Benjamine Herbison, Thomas Blair, William McCready, Samuel Moorhead and William Plunkett, purchased the south part of Lot 7, Con. 6 of the Township of Lansdowne for \$70.00 from Charles and Sarah Lappan. This location was near Sand Bay corner. A white frame church was built, opening in 1882. The minister at the time was Rev. Godfrey Shore.

A shed was also erected, to the west and slightly behind, to shelter the horses. This had "a good hall" above where the Sons of Temperance held their weekly meetings. It was also used for Sunday School and entertainments. During renovation of the church, services were held here. In later years it was sold to Mr. Joshua Free who dismantled it and used the lumber.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Fairfax was also built at this time, and opened November 14, 1882. From pictures we know the two buildings were identical except for the position of the tower; Sand Bay on the left, and Fairfax on the right. Both of these churches were part of the Lansdowne Charge.

Services at Sand Bay were always held in the afternoon, with Sunday School preceding. Fairfax and Lansdowne alternated between morning and evening services. On Communion Sundays, the three congregations worshiped together, the churches taking turns. Dulcemaine Methodists and Sand Bay always cooperated, helping and sharing with each other.

Ministers over the years were: Rev. Godfrey Shore, Rev. Edward N.B. Millard, Rev. John Fairlie, Rev. T.F. Heeney and Rev. I.N. Beckstead. Rev. Heeney with his sister Robina, was the first to occupy the new manse built in Lansdowne in 1902 (now United Church Manse, Johnston Street). In 1906 Mr. Heeney and the church organist, Miss Florence Herbison, were married. Originally the hymns were started with a tuning fork. In the early 1900's Mrs. Elgin McCready was the organist, followed by Miss Katie Johnston.

Some of the early congregation were: Blair, Herbison, McCready, Moorehead, Plunket, Vanorman, Johnston, Heaslip and Patience.

Over the years many changes took place in the community, many families moved depleting the congregation. With church union on the horizon, the church closed. For a few years it was rented to the United Pentecostal Assembly, who bought the property in 1930.

*Compiled from society files and a written report on Sand Bay Community by Miss Katie Johnston*



**Sand Bay Presbyterian Church picnic at Sand Bay Lake. Minister Rev. Heeney, about 1901.**

*Photo from Society files*

*(Continued on pg. #9)*



**SAND BAY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH** by Bill Boulton

Sand Bay Pentecostal Church is one, if not the, oldest congregation of the Pentecostal faith in Canada.

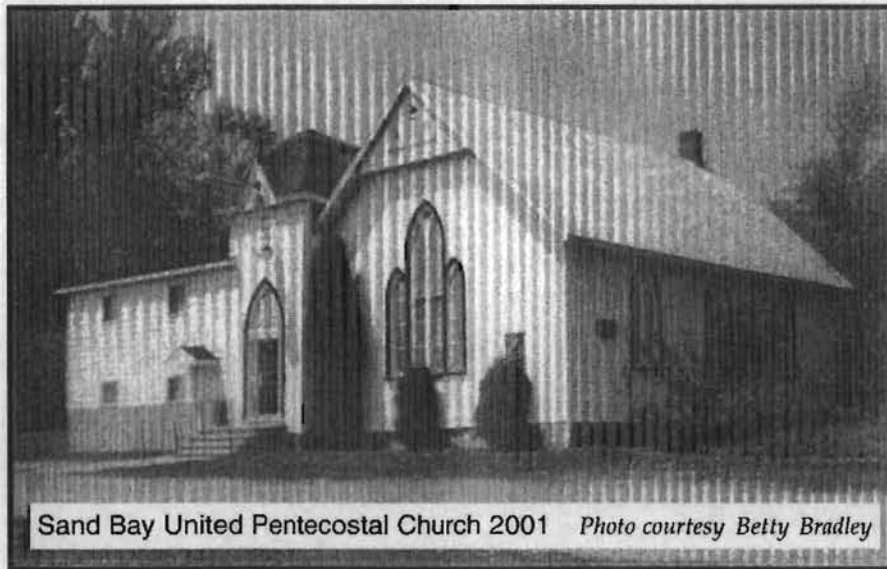
The Pentecostal church in this area can trace its beginnings prior to 1905 to two brothers, Alexander and Anthony McCready. These two men had started in the Methodist Church but had followed Rev. Ralph C. Horner who founded the Holiness Movement or 'Hornerites'. They were holding meetings in houses in Sand Bay, Black Rapids and Long Point area. Services were held for a time in Long Point school, above the Long Point cheese factory and upstairs above the Orange Lodge hall in Ellisville, and at the same time Camp Meetings in a tent at Singleton Lake.

In 1906, at the age of 17, Clarence L. Cross joined with the McCready brothers at a Holiness meeting in Woodvale school. In 1908 there were two congregations, one at Sand Bay with C.L. Cross and one at Ellisville and Singleton Lake pastored by Alexander McCready. At a tent meeting in 1911 held at the farm of W.J. Running, now part of Charleston Lake Park, a split developed over beliefs. Alexander McCready is said to have shaken hands with C.L. Cross and went on his way. This left C.L. Cross at age 22 pastor of the remaining part of Sand Bay and Lansdowne.

Services were held in homes and at a rented farm owned by Anthon McCready on Sand Bay Road (later owned by the Fodey family). When this farm was sold, the congregation rented the hall above the horse shed at the Sand Bay Presbyterian Church. In 1921 the congregation bought the Holiness Movement Church built in 1899 near the corner of Sand Bay and Outlet Roads. Two years later the church burned to the ground. Church services were again held in homes and from 1923 - 25 in a rented hall in Lansdowne.

The Sand Bay Presbyterian Church had become the property of the United Church of Canada following church union in 1925, but it was not being used. The Pentecostal congregation rented the building for a few years, then bought it in 1930. The church board at that time was: Vernal Running, Ernest Pritchard and Wilmer Bradley.

In the 1960's the building was redecorated and a couple of rooms added. In the early 1970's the church was painted again and the steeple removed. In 1979 a Christian Education Centre was added. This was a two level addition with kitchen and washroom facilities, and rooms for Sunday School classes. In the fall of 1957 a lot was purchased near Wiltse Creek and a house moved to the location to serve as a parsonage.



Ministers over the years were: Clarence L. Cross, Mr. Lynch, A.E. Adams, Albert Jones, Wesley O'Brien, Ralph Reynolds, George Mallory, Charles Rutter, Lewis E. Rabbie, Wayne Budgell, Thomas Dixon, and presently Kevin Shaw. Clarence L. Cross served the Sand Bay church four times, for a total of 25 years. Ralph Reynolds also taught at Dulcemaine school before going to Jamaica as a missionary.

From 1911 to 1919 the church had no affiliation. From 1919 to 1941 it was affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. In 1941 it joined the Apostolic Church of Pentecost, and since 1945 has been a member of the United Pentecostal Church International.

Recently the church buildings were offered for sale. Again changes in the community

and families moving have changed the base of the congregation. The parsonage has already been sold. The last service was held in the church on October 28. They have bought a building in Gananoque and will hold their first service there on November 2. It will be known as Gateway United Pentecostal Church. This will probably mark the end of the 120 year history of this building as a church.

Compiled with assistance from: *From The Rising of The Sun* by Ralph V. Reynolds  
*History of the Sand Bay United Pentecostal Church* by Borden Bradley

**JULY - DECEMBER 1901**

**NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN**

- July 1 - 6 Very hot. Helping Charly Earl shingle machine shed. Went to Tomy Ruttles raising. Went to County Lodge. Went to Greenfield to a social. Cultivating potatoes and corn. Patching roofs of barn and house. Rain Saturday night.
- July 7 - 13 Warm day. Orange Men marched to the English Church. Got a new mowing machine. Comenced haying. Went to Gananoque to the Celebration (July 12). Very hot day. Drew in 7 loads of hay. Old Mr. John Webster died.
- July 14 - 20 Mowing and putting up hay. Have 100 cocks of hay standing. Terrible thunder storm. Built a stack of hay, 25 loads.
- July 21 - 27 Mowing and putting in Hay, finished own and started on Keating place, Owen Sullivan helping.
- July 28 - Aug.3 Cool, cloudy and showery. Have 8 loads of hay out. Went to Gananoque with O. Sullivan with a grist. Took Mr. Heaslip to Sime Trickies funeral.. Finished haying, had Will Cook and his team and Thomas Bryan helping
- Aug. 4 - 10 Warm day. Mary and I went to Warburton to church. Commenced harvest, cut wheat, heavy rains, a bad havest time. Went to Frankville.
- Aug. 11 - 17 S.O.I. had an ice cream social. Came home from Frankville on Mon. Cutting oats on Keating place. Another heavy rain. Got Mary home from Toledo. Binding for O. Sullivan.
- Aug. 18 - 24 Fixing thrashing machine. Aother terrible rain. Hot, 90 in shade. Went to Escott with a grist. Traded horses. Hired J.T. Slack to go thrash.
- Aug. 25 - 31 Went to W. Shipmans to see Martha, Miss H. and Miss C. of Lansdowne went with me. Good harvest days. Drawing in oats. Martha came home. First fall thrash, T.A. Websters. Got the high horses shod all round. A terrible collision at T.I. Junction, 2 men killed.
- Sept. 1 - 7 Very wet, roads muddy. Thrashing at W. J. Heaslips, Bob Rodderss, Robt. Waldies, Jas Cornets, Robert Donevans, Dave Dodds, Doss Emeries and Iry Moors. Got Bill horse shod all round.
- Sept. 8 - 14. S.O.T. had a church parade. Thrashed at Dave Latimores, A. Willseys, Albert Moors, O.R. Keatings, W. Leeth and John and Ogle Bradley.. Heavy rains, roads very bad.
- Sept. 15 - 21 Terrible wind. Thrashing at John W. Clindinins, Henry Davises, C.E. Erls, William Smiths, William Earls and Moorheads.
- Sept. 22 - 28 Nice but cool. Thrashed at Thomas Moorheads, Albert Crosses, Wes Cliffes, Noah Pecks, Dan Medaricks, Jas Ellots, Dan McDonalds, and Fred Grays. Went to Frankville Fair.
- Sept. 29 - Oct. 5 Another very heavy rain. Thrashing at Colin Grays, Walter Grays, and John Grays. Thurs. - last day of Lansdowne Fair.
- Oct. 6 - 12 Thrashing at Neal Trusdales, Frank Coles, Charles Grays, J.B. Wilson, Byron Boices, and Tom Heaslips.
- Oct. 13 - 19 Snowy and cold. Thrashing at Man Crosses, Hugh Grays and Archie Brakenges.
- Oct. 20 - 26 Thrashing at George Crosses, N. Crosses, John Crosses, Will and Mort Landons.
- Oct. 27 - Nov.2 Nice but cool. Thrashing at Firman Crosses, Thom Websters, R. Waddys and Humph Youngs.
- Nov. 3 - 9 Nice warm day. L.O.L. went to school. Thrashing at O. Sullivans, at home, Mikl Donevans, John Bulgers and Wess Johnsons.
- Nov. 10 - 16 Nice but cool. Thrashing at R. Foleys and Ben Gavins. Very cold and stormy with snow.
- Nov. 17 - 23 Thrashed at Bruce McNeels. Old Mrs. McNeel died. Mrs. Gilbert came on a visit. Very heavy snow storm.
- Nov. 24 - 30 Maud Conall went home by train. Thrashing at Add Beeties and James Linches. Sold 2 hefers to John Foodey for \$16.00. Thurs 28 - Thanksgiving Day. Another snow storm, good sleighing.
- Dec. 1 - 7 Fine and warm, sleighing all off. I.O.O.F. held annual At Home. Got the horses sharp shod \$1.20. Drew home fire wood from Hortons. Went out to Uncle Edds for Maud.
- Dec. 8 - 14 Brought Maud home. Warm, snow all gone. S.O.T. had a box social. Terrible rane.
- Dec. 15 - 21 Turned very cold. Snowed. Good sleighing again. Old Mrs. Thomas Young died.
- Dec. 22 - 28 Very disagreeable day. Went to Gananoque with a grist of 8 bushel of wheat. Christmas - a very dull time. Working in the mill all day, commenced to grind.
- Dec. 29 - 31 The month ends very cold and blustery.

**FATAL RAILWAY COLLISION**

John Quinn Diary August 26, 1901 "A terrible collision at T. I. Junction, two men killed".

**The Gananoque Reporter Saturday August 30, 1901**

The worst accident that ever occurred on the railway near Gananoque happened between 2 and 3 o'clock last Tuesday morning, right at the G.T.R. station when a fast moving freight train that was not timed to stop here ran into another freight train that was backing across the main track to a siding. The driver of the engine, T.G. Miron, and a brakeman, Charles Stone, were killed; the fireman David Osborne, was thrown among the wreck, and considerably bruised and his clothing torn, but was not seriously injured, and was all right within a few hours. A lot of cars, loaded principally with flour, were smashed to pieces, and piled one upon another 25 feet high.

The engine tipped over and laid partly across both tracks.

All tracks were blocked for several hours. Wrecking trains were brought from Brockville and Kingston early in the morning, and proceeded to clear the tracks, working from both directions.

The express train going east reached the wreck shortly after the accident, and could not get past. This was the train the freight was getting out of the way of, by going on to a siding while the express went by. Other trains due during the morning hours were held at Brockville and Kingston. Men were put to work building a short piece of track to connect main tracks east of the station with the track used by the Thousand Island train. When this was done, shortly after 8 o'clock, there was a clear way south of the station, and trains were passed on that until the other tracks were cleared.

Immediately after the accident, Dr. Shaw, of Lansdowne, Coroner, was notified and came up. He had a jury sworn in, and the bodies were examined. Then the inquest was adjourned till Wednesday evening at the town hall here.

*From the micro film files -  
Gananoque Library*

*Photo courtesy John Nalon,  
Gananoque Historical Society*



Thousand Island Junction Station about 1910. This station opened on May 1, 1901 replacing an older building about a mile west.

**SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM**

We are now participating in two Save-A-Tape programs. Save your cash register tapes from:

**BALDREE'S - YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER**  
and  
**A & P - DOMINION - SAVE-A-CENTRE**

Please give your tapes to any executive member, bring them to a meeting, or drop them in the mail to us. The Society receives a donation from the companies on a percentage basis.

**NOTE:**

**Both A & P and Baldree's in Gananoque now have provided bins for depositing your cash register tapes as you leave the store. Please deposit them into the bin marked Front of L. & L. Historical Society.**

**YEAR IN REVIEW**



**Oct. 16, 2000**

Pat Lambert remembered her life in the  
"Lost Villages"

*(Photo by Bill Boulton)*

**from the President's  
Annual Report**



**Nov. 20, 2000**

Joyce Brown reviewed the Appraisal  
of Antiques using examples brought  
in by members.

*(Photo by Bill Boulton)*

**Jan 22, 2001**

Roy Lewis spoke of The Loyalists  
and their arrival in this area.

*(Photo by Bill Boulton)*

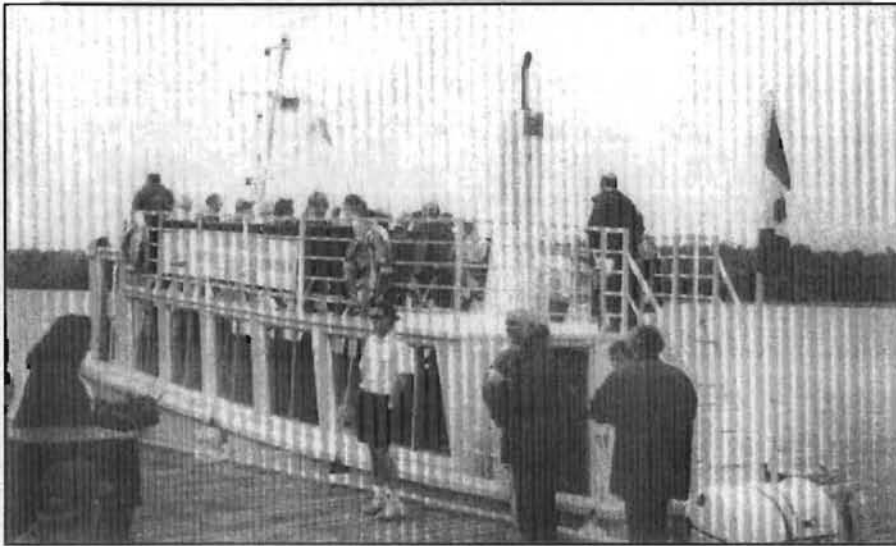
**Feb. 19, 2001**

Stephen Heaton demonstrated the  
Production of Potash.

*(Photo by Bill Boulton)*



*(Continued on pg. #13)*



**June 3, 2001**  
We joined the Gananoque Historical Society for a boat tour and a tour of Boldt Castle.

*(Photo courtesy Stephen Heaton)*



**July 19-22, 2001**

Our display at Lansdowne Fair illustrated Laundry Days. On display was the Young's Automatic Washer first shown at Lansdowne Fair in 1901.

*(Photo courtesy Doreen Cranker)*



**Sept. 18, 2000**  
Rick Carson spoke about local post offices and cancellation marks

**For More Year in Review  
see Pages #3 & #15**

## MEMORIES OF GREENFIELD SCHOOL

*By Elizabeth (Webster) Goddard*

On rainy days we used to play in the woodshed. One of our favourite games was 'Court'. We would plead our cases -- always wild tales of bank robberies, rustling or speeding -- in front of the toughest judge in the county -- Garry Burns. After impassioned presentations, with lively interjections from witnesses and the visitors, Garry would announce his verdict and penalties -- "Guilty -- hang 'im!". We would howl and scream with laughter -- no matter what the case or how ridiculous the circumstances, Garry's verdict never wavered.

On Arbour Day we would clean up the school yard and then go on a picnic on the big hill on Gordon Burn's farm. That was a great outing, notable for the treat of a bottle of orange pop, which we did not get very often.

The Christmas season was very special.. Preparations for the concert seemed to take months. We knew we were getting close to the big night when the curtains were hung on the wires over the platform. I always thought they were so impressive -- Burgundy fabric which hung on brass rings which made a scraping sound as the curtains were pulled back and forth. On concert night it was so exciting to drive up the road and see the lights on at the school! And to see so many cars lined up along the sides of the road! The school was always packed and hot. We would do our songs, a play, and the younger students would always do a recitation. For the nativity story we would wear a collection of bathrobes and tea towels and look surprisingly angelic. Santa would appear with a jingling of real sleigh bells from out in the snow, bringing bags of candy which he would present to the students. He would then hand out our presents which the students had brought for each other. Then he would disappear into the snow.



**Greenfield School Christmas Concert  
December 1962**

*Photo courtesy Elizabeth (Webster) Goddard*

**Left to Right** - Jim Dobson (standing)

**Back Row** - Larry Horton, Margaret Findlay, Gary Burns, Marg Dobson, Lorna Webster, Ann Burns

**Front Row** - Jean Webster, Liz Webster, Tom Moorhead, Kathy Horton

**Hidden on Left** - Ruth Moorhead, Donna Moorhead, Doris Findlay

*(Continued on Page #15)*

## MEMORIES OF GREENFIELD SCHOOL

*Continued From Page 14*

We used to make our own skating rink on the flat piece of land east of the school, near the woodshed. This was no mean feat, since we had to pump and carry the water from the well. But we had a great time sliding and skating on the rink at noon hour. One year Gord Burns' field flooded up and we were allowed to skate there.

With so many grades in one room, everyone helped each other with their work. Because I was a good reader I used to give the older classes their spelling tests. One day I read "determined" as "Deeter mine" which stimulated howls of laughter from the students and a flush of embarrassment from me.

I remember the smells of the school. When we would return in the fall, the floors had been wiped with some oil product, which always smelled so good. The wood smoke would be curling from the chimney in the cold seasons and swirl around the roof. Wet, wooly mitts would steam on the metal rack around the stove.

We used to eat our lunches all together in the classroom, and if the weather was nice, on the flag pole stand in the yard. We used to compare lunches and occasionally swap. We would play baseball, anny-anny-I over, tag and chase. One time we lost the baseball down a woodchuck hole and Tom Moorhead stayed out and dug for it until he retrieved it. He came in, all sweaty and dirty, but successful.

We used to listen to a story after lunch. Sometimes the older students would read. I remember Mrs. McKay reading Miss Hickory and Paddle-to-the-Sea. We did not have an extensive library, but they were good books.

I remember how upset, frightened and betrayed I felt when I learned they would be closing our school. It felt like we were going to be orphans, sent off into that monstrous school with a population of strangers. We were told that we would not be allowed to play at recess with children outside our own grade -- unheard of for children who had played with everyone. They told us we would have all this wonderful playground equipment at the new school. We never saw it!



### YEAR IN REVIEW

**Nov. 20, 2000** - The Heritage 4H Club used this opportunity to outline their activities and present certificates to members. The Greenfield 2000 Committee presented the 4H members with certificates of appreciation for the work they had done on Greenfield School.

*(Photo Courtesy of Bill Boulton)*

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

Newsletter #16

FALL/WINTER 2001

## Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of Dec. 2001

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>
AKENSON	PROF. D.H.	KEIR	VIVIAN J.	SHIELDS	JOCK
ALDRICH	KAREN	KELLOGG	MARK	STEVENS	CECIL
ANDRESS	DOUG	KELSEY	LLOYD	TEDFORD	RAY & COLLEEN
ANDREWS	AUDRE	KELSEY	VIVIAN	TEDFORD	ROGER & CONNIE
ASHLEY	WINONA	KENNEDY	ROBERT	TRICKEY	R. SPENCER
ASTLEY	ROGER	LONDON	GLENDENE	TRUESDELL	VAIDA
BOULTON	WM.	LONDON	HARRY	WARREN	MARGEL
BRADLEY	BETTY	LONDON	YVONNE	WEBSTER	ERIC & NANCY
BROWN	JACK	LANGTON	JIM & NANCY	WEBSTER	GEORGE & REBECCA
BURNS	DON & PAT	LAPOINTE	YOLANDE	WEBSTER	LESLIE
BURNS	GEORGE	LAPPAN	ROSE	WEBSTER	PAUL & DOREEN
BURNS	JOAN	LAWSON	RICHARD	WEBSTER	ROBERT & BEATRICE
BURNS	KARL	LEGGETT	LYNNE	WHITE	LARRY
BURNS	KEITH & JOAN	LINDSAY	ALAN	WHITE	WILBER & FRED A
BURNS	TOM	LYNCH	CAROL	WILLIAMS	DAVID & GLORIA
BURTCH	RITA	LYNCH	CHERYL	WILLIAMS	HOWARD & JUDY
BURTCH	ROBERT	LYNCH	DAVID & BEV	WILLOUGHBY	JACK
CHAMPAGNE	DAVE	MACKINTOSH	DOUG & BLU	ZIMMER	JOHN E.
CHISAMORE	DON & DAN	MALLORY	MARJORIE		
CHISAMORE	RUTH	MASSEY	TOM & JEAN		
CLARK	ED	MATTHEW	MARY ELLEN		
CRAWFORD	FLORENCE	McCULLOUGH	DORTHY		
CRAWFORD	GLORIA	McDOUGAL	MARILYN		
CRAWFORD	MADGE	McKAY	HUGH & MARION		
CROSS	THORALD	MODLER	BERTHA		
DESJARDINS	MELANIE	MONTGOMERY	LEON		
DOAK	BOB	MONTGOMERY	LOVERNA		
DONEVAN	CHAS	M OORHEAD	ALBAN		
DONEVAN	DOUGLAS	MOORHEAD	LORNE		
EDGLEY	LAWRENCE&BESSIE	MOULT	ELEANOR C.		
EDWARDS	CAROL	MULHOLLAND	PAT		
FOLEY	BRUCE	NALON	JOHN		
FREDEBURGH	KENT	NEWELL	AUDREY		
GAYLORD	DAN & JANET	NEWELL	ROTHY		
GEEKIE	NANCY	NUTTALL	BEN & HILDA		
GIBSON	LINDA	NUTTALL	JAY		
GILBERT	D. E.	O'GRADY	CHRIS		
GRAHAM	ANNE & TOM	ORTH	JIM&CATHERINE		
GRAHAM	JOHN	PERRY	BETTY		
GRICE	LINDA	PILON	TELESPHORE		
GRIER	HAROLD	POPE	ALICE		
GRIER	ROSS	RALPH	DAVE & RUTH		
GRIFFIN	ROY	REED	GWENDOLYN		
GRILLS	DIANA	REID	JOHN		
HAFFIE	JOHN	ROBERTSON	MARY		
HALL	MYRTLE	RONEY	MR. & MRS. G.V.		
HAMEL	HUBERT	RUNNING	IRVIN		
HEATON	STEPHEN	RUNNING	MURRAY & DIANE		
HOGAN	KENNETH P.	SHERREN	MONA		
HORTON	GEORGE & LINDA	SHERWOOD	CHARLOTTE		
JACK	MURRAY	SHIELDA	DORA		
JOHNSTON	THANE W.	SHIELDS	JACQUELINE		

**CORPORATE MEMBERS:**

- \*BALDREE'S INDEPENDENT GROCER
- \*BLACK CREEK BUILDING SERVICES
- \* CHARLESTON LAKE PROV. PARK
- \* RONEY ENGINEERING LTD.
- \* TED HEWITT PHOTOGRAPHY & COMPUTER IMAGING CENTRE
- \*TWP. LEEDS & THOUSAND ISLANDS

**ORGANIZATIONS:**

LANSDOWNE WOMENS INSTITUTE

Newsletter Designed & Published by  
 TED HEWITT PHOTOGRAPHY & COMPUTER IMAGING CENTRE