

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF

FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

**GREENFIELD 2000** "The Restoration"

*see pgs. 16-17.*



SPECIAL FEATURES & PHOTOGRAPHS

## GREENFIELD SCHOOL

*see pgs. 13-15.*

### NEWSLETTER

Number 12, November 1999

\$2.50

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This September we begin our eighth year as an organization. Our membership has grown considerably and I would like to thank you for your support and interest.

Our booth at the Fair was very successful and we had a lot of compliments. We are looking forward to the Craft Show we are sponsoring at the end of October in place of the Heritage Fair.

We were fortunate this year to obtain an Advanced Funding Grant from the Ontario government that will go a long way in helping with projects. The sorting and filing of the Darlingside material has been completed and it is much easier to find what we have. Now all we need is a place to store everything so you can all use it! We have had a lot of artifacts added to our collection. Special thanks to Yolande and her staff at the library for all their help.

Bill had several people stop into the store over the summer looking for family and we've done our best to help them out. At least he's tried to point them in the right direction.

I hope to see many of you over the fall and winter at our meetings. We hope we have a good program planned.

Again our thanks to the Hewitts for putting the newsletter together. It would be impossible without them.

ALAN LINDSAY



PRESIDENT

### **Official Opening of Reynolds Road.**

(Left to Right) Mr. Harold Wills, Mr. Percy Earl,  
Chairman Chamber of Commerce,  
Mr. George H. Doucette, Minister of Highways  
(Others cannot be named)

*(Picture courtesy Audrey Tamblyn)*  
see page 6 for story



### **COVER PHOTO GREENFIELD SCHOOL 1934**

Eric Webster on step; Marie Warren,  
Velma Earl, Joy Burns at well.

*(Photo courtesy Bob Alguire)*

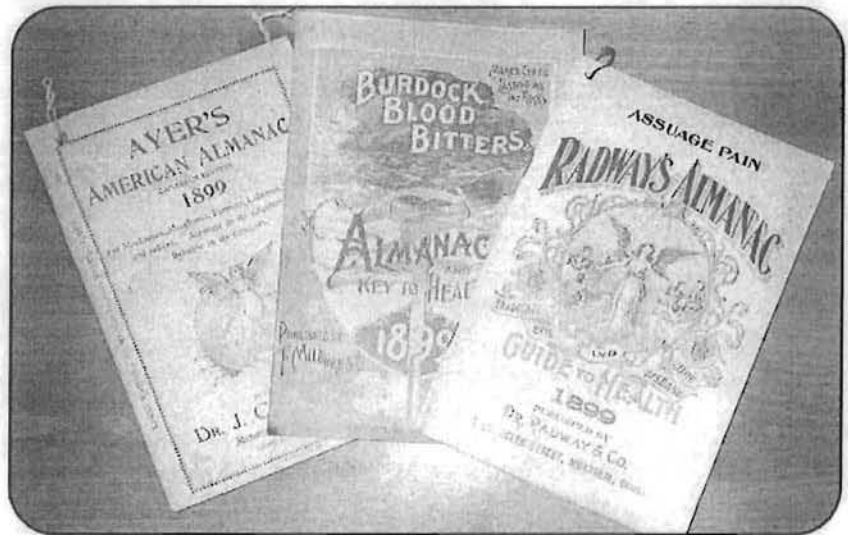
**1999 - 2000 MEETINGS**

General meetings will be held on the THIRD MONDAY of the month, September to April  
 at 7:30 p.m., Community Building, Lansdowne.

- Mon. Nov. 18:** SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD      Guest - Brian Porter
- Mon. Jan. 17:** TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS      An evening of slides, displays and anecdotes.
- Mon. Feb. 21:** WEXFORD IRISH in Lansdowne and Area.      Guest - Rev. Cannon Borden Purcell.
- Mon. Mar. 20: and Mon. April 17:**      Programs to be announced. Hopefully one will be on Railroads.

**THE FRONT of LEEDS and LANSLOWNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Slate of Officers - 1998 - 1999**

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| President-       | Alan Lindsay   |
| Vice-President-  | Bruce Foley    |
| Past President   | Bill Boulton   |
| Secretary-       | Ann Graham     |
| Treasurer-       | Connie Burns   |
| Member at Large- | Mary Robertson |



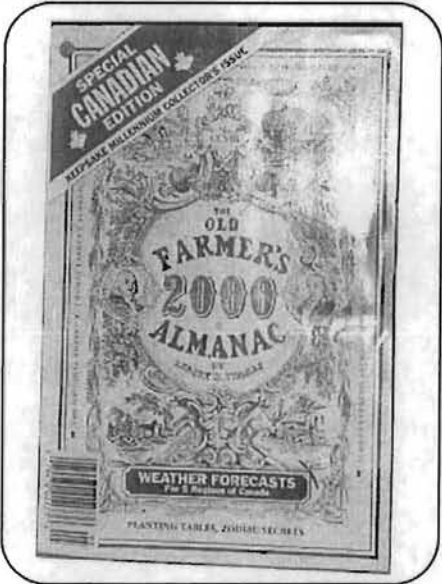
**Committee Chairs:**

- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Communications- | Bill Boulton                    |
| Social-         | Audrey Newell<br>Ruth Chisamore |
| Archivist-      | Yolande LaPointe                |
| Program-        | Glenda Olivier                  |
| Heritage Fair-  | Charlotte Griffin               |

**A brief history of  
 ALMANACS**

For story  
 see pg. #9

*(Photos by Ted Hewitt)*



**FROM OUR READERS**

**MALAKOFF**

Rapid Valley School - Union Road. This school was first known as Johnston's, then renamed Malakoff after a battle in the Crimean War, and finally Rapid Valley.

*From interview with the late Ralph Smith in Society files.*

**WILLETSHOLM**

Willotsholm was a community on Woodburn Road about a mile west of the Leeds - Pittsburgh township line. The present road runs parallel to the railway tracks. Originally it crossed to the south and then back to the north side. There was a house, blacksmith shop, and Findlay Station was nearby. One deserted house still stands on the south side of the tracks.

*Thanks to Ed Clark for the information.*

**HORNERITE CHURCH**

(John Quinn diary, Feb. 19, 1899) The Hornerite Church was built on the west side of County Road #3 just south of Sand Bay Road. It was destroyed by fire in the early 1900's.

*Thanks to Beatrice Webster for the information.*



**1998 - 99 YEAR IN REVIEW** by Anne Graham

- Sept. 21, 1998** The Annual meeting was held at the Community Building with 40 present. Guest speaker Susan Weston Smith spoke of the "First Summer People".
- Oct. 4, 1998** The annual Heritage Fair was held at Lansdowne Fairgrounds. A full report appeared in the last newsletter.
- Nov. 16, 1998** President Alan Lindsay illustrated "What is a Windsor Chair?".
- Jan. 18, 1999** 28 members were in attendance at the Community Building to hear a presentation by Kathleen Burch of Parks Canada on the "History of Grenadier Island".
- Feb. 15, 1999** Andrew Graham, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, gave a slide presentation on "The History of the Central Experimental Farm" and talked about its importance to agricultural. 29 members enjoyed his presentation.
- Mar. 15, 1999** 42 members had the opportunity to get a hands-on view of much of the Darlingside material. Most of the material retrieved from Darlingside at the time of its sale is now sorted, catalogued and filed. Alan Lindsay spoke of the Darling family and Bill Boulton showed slides taken at Darlingside.
- April 16, 1999** 20 members travelled to Brockville to tour Fulford Place, home of the maker of "Pink Pills for Pale People".

*(For photos of meetings see page #8)*

**CAN YOU HELP ?**

**Member Hubert H. Hamel, M.D., 37 South Meadows Drive, Appleton, Wisconsin, U.S.A., 54915-2349  
e-mail: Hugh Hamel@aol.com is looking for the folling family information**

My great grandfather, Norman Gardner, lived in the Leeds and Lansdowne area from about 1867 until his death in 1901. He had four children. Eleanor Gardner Gray (1869), Charles Henry Gardner (1870), William Norman Gardner (1873), and George Wellington Gardner (1883). I have most of the information on my grandfather William Gardner, but hope to find more information on the other members.

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**THE STEACY FAMILY (Part 2) Corrections**

In Newsletter #11, page 11, some information was incorrect. We apologize, especially to the Steacy family. Thanks to Marion Steacy for the corrections which are shown underlined.

John (1836-1899) known as "California" m. Bessie Alexander

Children of John (California) and Bessie Steacy

Percie 1866-1872

- Matthew m. 1) Alice Kendrick  
2) Mary Smith Landon  
3) Jennie Hurst - Alex, Jean, John Hurst  
4) Effie Johnston - Alvin

- R. Evans m. 1) Elizabeth Scott  
2) Letecia Keating Allen

Lena Sarah 1872 - 1879

George W. m. Lennie Cross - Leslie, Gerald, Annah

Children of Joseph and m.1) Gertrude Steacy

Joseph -Delete

George Washington m. Maggie Rushlow

Robert m. Lewella Blanchard

Thomas - Delete

Mae

Florence - Delete

Henry m. Meda Mullin

Children of Joseph and m. 2) ? Shaw

Annie

James (Jimmie)

Joseph and m. 3) ? Healy (no children)



Heritage Fair  
October 1998

(Photo by Bill Boulton)

(see Year in Review page #4)

### **REYNOLDS ROAD 50 Years Old**

Reynolds Road, connecting Highway #2 (County Road 2) and the Scenic Highway (1000 Islands Parkway) was officially opened on Friday September 9, 1949.

A shorter route, rather than the narrow twisting road from "Reid's Corner" to Ivy Lea, one eliminating the famous "Whiskey Hill", had been discussed for many years. Chief proponents were the Lansdowne Chamber of Commerce. Supporting them was the local member of Parliament, Mr. W.B. Reynolds. Unfortunately, Mr. Reynolds died before he saw the completion of the project.

The Gananoque Reporter states that: Over 100 school children under the direction of Mr. P.S. Buhr, Miss Faye Bradley, Mrs. Harold Warren and Miss Mary Peck walked the mile to the first rock cut to take part. George H. Doucette, Minister of Highways, cut the ribbon to officially open the road.



***Senior Room, Victoria School, at opening of Reynolds Road***

(See Page #7)

***THE NEWS FROM '99***

**FROM THE GANANOQUE REPORTER 1889**

Rev. W.E. Reynolds, now of Pakenham, formerly preached at Union, Dulcemain and Lansdowne, visiting area.

David Haig is erecting a fine residence.

George Redmond has built a large addition to his store.

J.H. Warren has rented N.W. Webster's store.

Mr. Toby, jeweller at Lansdowne.

14th annual convention of the Leeds W.C.T.U. opened in the Methodist Church, Lansdowne. Mrs. Stephen Findlay, president of local branch.

F.B. Jackson had to chase after clothesline robbers at Willowbank. Many are wishing to see a good dentist set up here.

Frank Warren has opened up a general dry goods store in C.W. Bradley's old store.

721 white and 1732 coloured cheese were offered at the weekly sale in Brockville.

Regular winter meeting of the Farmers' Institute will be held in Lansdowne Town Hall Dec.2.

Mr. Rece Webster, while engaged in the woods, was thrown from the wagon. His shoulder was badly injured. (See John Quinn Diary Nov. 12)

N.W. Webster has purchased the village property of C.W. Bradley. The store is at present rented to Frank Warren, and the house to James Foley. He proposes building a fine new house for himself in the spring.

Many are wishing to see a good dentist set up here.

December has come in like a lamb. Yesterday was mild and still, the thermometer standing at 50o F.

Don't forget the Christmas tree to be held in Springfield Church in aid of the Sunday School.

An interesting entertainment was given at Selton School on Friday afternoon. The teacher Miss Rotters will be succeeded by Miss Johston, daughter of the inspector, in January.

There is a movement afoot to start a wheel factory here, which would employ 75 men.

New council elected:      Firman Cross, Reeve  
John Connor, John Cook, William Burns, David F. Moore, Councillors.

*(Research from the microfilm files of The Gananoque Reporter at the Gananoque Library.)*

***Senior Room, Victoria School, at opening of Reynolds Road***

**Front Row - (Right to Left)** Jimmy Ledbeater, Katherine Lynch, Ann McMullen, Georgina Huskinson, Charles Puttenham, Wayne Fletcher, Bob Ralph, Arthur LaPlant, Gordy Lappan, Catherine Fodey, Gail Nunn, Linda Pritchard, Lawrence Aldrich, Freda Warren, Mona Grier, Margaret Rose Lynch, Linda Wills, Marie Caiger, Barb Fletcher, Doris Trueman, Shirley Ann Allore, Carolyn Clancy.

**2nd Row-** Mary Margaret Doak, Meribeth Truesdell, Shirley Lackey, Cecila Fodey, Marion Tedford, Myrna Doak, Florence Funnell, Glenna Tedford, Thersa LaPlant, Merrill Alguire, Keith Burns, Bob Huskinson, Jack Dier, Doug Warren, Richard Duff (Editor, Lansdowne Reporter), Bob Tamblyn, Ken Fletcher, Rev. Smally.

**Back Row-** Mrs. Bert Armstrong, Miss Annie Armstrong, Mrs. Amelia Graham, Mrs. Thelma McDonald, Mr. Ernest McCready.

*(Picture from Society Files)*

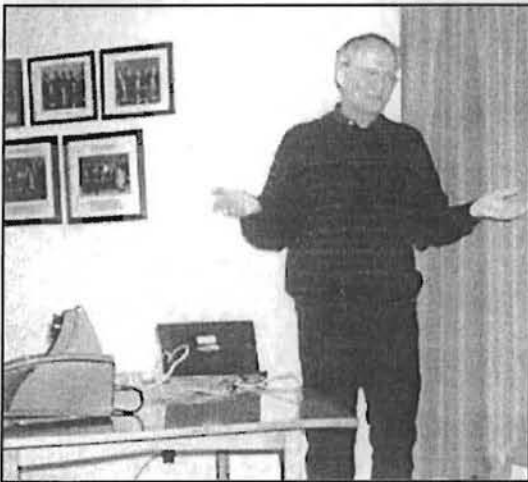


President Alan Lindsay speaking

**YEAR IN**  
**REVIEW**  
**1998-1999**

*(All photos by Bill Boulton)*

*(see Year in Review page #4)*



Andrew Graham  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
of Agriculture.



Kathleen Burtch - Parks Canada



Susan Weston Smith



**ALMANACS** *By Bill Boulton*

Almanacs have existed since the 1790s, over 200 years. As we approach the year 2000, perhaps it would be interesting to look at some almanacs. The Darlingside material provided several, three from 1899. Here is a comparison of material from 1899 and 1999.

In the early American household, farmer's almanacs served the role that magazines, radio and television do today - a major source of information and entertainment.

"To say a periodical was a Farmer's Almanac, therefore, was to say it was American, was published annually, and featured astronomical calculations for each day of the year as well as planting tables, history, animal husbandry, recipes (for health and cookery), and an odd assortment of verses, aphorisms, and other elements. Oh, yes - most included, as did ours, long range weather forecasts."

Old Farmer's Almanac 1999 Canadian Edition, page 6

Remember our spring trip to Fulford Place? The Farmer's Almanac tells us: 100 years ago - Dr. Williams Pink Pills for Pale People were first produced at Brockville.

**Radway's Almanac & Guide to Health 1899**  
Published by Dr. Radway & Co. 7 Ste. Helen Street, Montreal

- Advertising-** Radway's Pills - a great Medical Triumph  
Radway's Sarsaparillian Resolvent - through purifying the blood, imparts Health to the Skin, and gives clearness to the complexion  
Advice to Consumptives
- Contents -** Sun rises, sets; moon rises, moon phases  
Important events (obviously written in the U.S. as all events were U.S.)

**Ayer's American Almanac Canadian Edition 1899**  
Published by Dr. J.C. Ayer & Co. Lowell, Mass.  
Distributed by Kersy Watson & Co. Wholesale Druggist, Montreal

- Advertising -** Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for coughs and distresses of the throat and lungs  
Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparillea - purifys blood and cures all blood diseases.  
Dr. Ayer's Hair Vigor
- Contents -** Sun rises, sets; moon rises - important events  
60 years of achievement

**Burdock Blood Bitters Almanac & Key to Health**  
Published by T. Milburn & Co. Toronto 33rd year

- Advertising -** Permanent cure of Cancer  
Dr. Fowler's extract of Wild Strawberry  
Hagyard's Yellow Oil - cures all pain  
Doan's Kidney Pills  
Milburn's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion
- Contents -** Postal Guide Letter to places in Canada, Newfoundland or U.S. - for each ounce  
3 cents. Parcels -limited to 6 pounds -6 cents each 4 ounces.  
Moon phases; sun rises and sets.

**Old Farmer's Almanac 1999 \$3.00**  
Published by Yankee Publishing Incorporated, Dublen N.H. Since 1792

- Advertising-** Garden seeds and equipment  
Jewellery and household materials  
Patent medicine: Essiac, Apple Cider Vinegar for Cholesterol
- Contents -** Planting tables  
Moon tables;sun rises and sets; length of days; tides  
Feasts, fasts,and weather rhymes  
Brain teasing questions  
Animal terminology, gestation and mating tables

**ALMANACS** - (Continued from page 9)

**WEATHER FORECASTS**

	<u>Ayer's 1899</u>	<u>Burdock 1899</u>	<u>Old Farmer's 1999</u>
<b>July</b>	Rainy, hot & sultry Thunder Rain & Hot Signs of rain	Hot & dry Rain & cooler Cooler weather Very hot & dry	Sunny, warm Hot, thunder storms Cool, showers Warm, thunderstorms
<b>Aug.</b>	Cloudy Showers & thunder Cooler Scorching hot Thunder	Bright & warm Showers & thunder Turns quite hot Heavy rains	Sunny days, cool nights Showers Warm, thundershowers Heavy rain, cool Pleasant
<b>Sept.</b>	Showers Cooler Dull Rain & cool	Warm & bright Rain & cooler Showers & wind Cold with frost Warmer & rain	Warm, thunderstorms Sunny, rain Cool Sunny & warm Cooler, rain
<b>Oct.</b>	Clear Windy Quiet & cold Warmer Frost	Cold & wet Bright & dry Rain & snow Cold & dreary	Sunny days, chilly nights Showers then warmer Showers, cooler Sunny, warm Seasonable
<b>Nov.</b>	Dashes of snow Last of summer High bleak winds Sleet	cold, rain & sleet Milder Cold Light snow	Sunny, colder Warm, some rain Colder, snow, then clear Snow, rain, milder Colder, snow
<b>Dec.</b>	Rain Milder Halcyon days Cold	Snow, rain Cold & stormy Milder, rain Colder & snowy Drops to 0 at end	Cold, snow Heavy snowfall Cold, heavy snowfall Flurries Blizzard

For the New Year party goers, 2000, the odds favour dry weather from the southeastern British Columbia to Western Quebec.

Now - Check John Quinn's Diary for 1899 and watch the remainder of 1999. Were they right?

**JULY - DECEMBER 1899 END of the NINETEENTH CENTURY  
NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN**

- July 1 The month begins fine and cool. Drew home two loads of wood from Mr. Horton's bush.
- July 2-8 Charles Fitzminons was buried at Rockport. Mowing, raking and drawing hay from field across road. 108 oF. in shade. Very heavy rain all day Saturday.
- July 9-16 Terrible storm Saturday night. Cutting hay on the Keating place, Mr. Heaslip helping, \$1.00 per day. Went to Cornwall to Orange Celebration.
- July 17- 22 Got grey horse shod and a new set of harness \$28.00. Finished drawing in hay from Keating place. Drew a load of cheese Saturday morning.
- July 23-29 Finished putting in and stacking hay for this year, 56 loads. Helping B.D. Johnston and W.N. Bowen stack hay. Very Hot, 80.
- July 30-Aug 5 Helping Roland Johnston fit up corn. Helping Patsy Sullivan stack hay. Began harvest pulled peas all day. Roland Johnston cut barley with binder. Helping Brock Truesdel cut wood. Lizzy and Mary came home on a vessel.
- Aug.6-12 Took the girls to John Quinns. (There were two John Quinns living in area.) Putting up windmill for F.B. Johnston. Girls went to pick berries. Helping Mrs. W. Patience. Drew in 6 loads of grain and 3 of barley. Had Ross Smith binding for me. Went to Seeleys Bay to Orange Celebration.
- Aug.13-19 Cool and dry. The girls went home to Kingston. Drew in 4 loads of wheat and 1 of oats from Keating place. Helping Roland Johnston to draw in grain and thrash.
- Aug. 20-26 Terrible hot, 108 in shade. Finished harvest. Thrashed 1/2 day, 226 bushels. Cleaned barn after thrashing and put a top on hay stacks. Went to Warburton to a box social.
- Aug. 27-Sept 2 Mr. McMillon died. Went thrashing with Thomas Webster at John Cross, N. Cross, J. Cross, Man Cross, Charley Danoand Byron Baycross.
- Sept.3-9I was sick. The gray horse took sick. Went to Gananoque with a grist of wheat. Thrashing at Wallace Gray and Dan McDonald.
- Sept 10-16 Thrashing at Jas. Ellots. Filling Mr. Beatties silo. Thrashing at Wm. Moore, Sam Day, Charles Gray.
- Sept.17-23 Thrashing at Neal Trusdal, Iry Moor, Tomas Heaslip, he had 1111 bushels.
- Sept.24-30 Thrashing at Nathenal Webster, Wesley Johnston. Helping Roll Johnston cut corn. Heavy wind, rain and frost. Killed a beef. Drew home stove wood.
- Oct.1-7 Cold, heavy frost. Helping Roll Johnston fill silo. Plowing on Keating place. First day of Lansdowne Fair. Mrs. Matthew Steacy died. Mary went home to Kingston.
- Oc.8-14 John R. Smith was taken sick. Was doing chores for John Smith. John R. Smith died.
- Oct.15-21 Helping Patsy Sullivan and Mr. Smith thrash. Plowing. Very hard frost.
- Oct.22-28 Ground froze hard. Plowing at Keating Place. Paid C.M. Quinn \$10. for spade harrow. C.H. Bradley died. Rained, roads are very bad.
- Oct.29-Nov.4 Plowing. Nov. begins very wet and cold. Got a new pump \$5. Butchered a pork, 275 pounds of meat.
- Nov.5-11 Terribly muddy. Mr. Heaslip helping with plowing. Drew a load of cheese. First snow 2".
- Nov.12-18 John Quinn and family was here. Nice but cool weather, ground is frozen. Helped Ross Smith butcher a pig. Took a grist of feed out to John E. Steacys. Plowing. Went to see

**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.

**JOHN QUINN DIARY-** (Continued from page #11)

Nov.19-25 Heavy rain. Finished plowing at home. Helping fix bridges on road. Drove to Lansdowne on Saturday, a nice warm day.

Nov.26-Dec.2 Went with Harry Nunn to press hay at Byron Baycross. Helping Roll Johnston grind.

Dec.3-9 Nice warm day, roads very muddy. Went thrashing with John E. Steacy at John T. Foley's. Big storm, 14" snow. First sleighing. Thrashing at Robert Johnston, moved to Keating barn.

Dec.10-17 Moved thrasher to O.W. Landons. Mrs. Charles Horton died. Another 10" of snow. Thrashing for 75 cents a day. Took seperator to Eddy Websters.

Dec.18-23 Soft an warm, good sleighing. Grinding at A. Warts, moved to Eddy Websters. Went to Athens to attend funeral of Able Scott.

Dec.24-30. Very cold and stormy, 2" snow. Christmas Day. Helper Ross Smith De Horn sum cows, and C.E. Earl to butcher his pork. Went to school meeting to hear Hon. Mr. Lister speak. Went to Cheese Factory meeting. Deon nothing but the chores. Went to Patsy Sullivans auction. 20 below zero.

Dec.31 The month ends very stormy, a heavy snow storm all day.

**MARKETS 1899**

Wheat 68 to 75 cts.

Barley 45 to 46 cts.

Oats 28 to 29 cts.

Peas 58 to 60 cts.

Rye 52 cts.

Hay \$10 to \$11 per ton

Mixed Hay \$8 to \$10 per ton

Straw \$7 to \$9 per ton

Dressed Hogs \$5 to \$5.50 per hundred

Hogs Live Weight \$3.75per hundred

Milks Cows \$15 to \$32 per head

Horses from \$50 to \$125 each

A good demand for Calvery an Battery horses for South Africa.

**GREENFIELD SCHOOL****1962**

This picture of the last class at Greenfield was taken at their Christmas Concert in Dec. 1962

**Front Row (left to right)**

Donna Moorhead, Liz Webster, Susan Moorhead, Dale Rabbie, Chris O'Grady, Jean Webster, Cathy Horton

**Back Row (left to right)**

Ann Burns, Lorna Webster, Ruth Moorhead, Tom Moorhead, Julie Webster, Doris Findlay, Margaret Findlay

Picture courtesy of  
Ruth (Moorhead) Ralph

" M Y F I R S T S C H O O L " by Bob Alguire

My first teaching experience began at S.S. #3, Leeds and Lansdowne Front, in the County of Leeds, only a few miles from the International "Thousand Islands" Bridge. The school was known as "Greenfield".

I was the principal, the teaching staff, the nurse, the custodian, the secretary, the remedial teacher and the librarian. Mine was a typical one-room country school. I accepted a contract to teach there in the summer of 1949 for the annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. Being of a greedy nature, I also accepted the job of "caretaker" of the school for an extra hundred dollars per year.

There were twenty-one pupils when I came to Greenfield School. They were spread out from Grades 1 to 8, although one grade had no students that particular year.

It was fortunate that the pupils got along well together as the yard supervision left something to be desired. Recess was only long enough to make a beginning at preparing blackboard work for so many grades for the following period; however, there were occasions when I made it outside for part of the noon hour to play "scrub" softball with the pupils. They seemed to welcome those occasions as much as I did.

The duplicating equipment consisted of a gelatin hectograph pad and a choice of hectograph pencils or ink! The copies were obtained by pressing paper against the stencilled pad and pulling them off one at a time. Inevitably, the copies curled up as they came off and resembled rolls of wall paper more than sheets of seatwork.

The heating system consisted of the traditional box stove fired with hardwood from the woodshed a few steps away.

The school was situated on a rocky knoll and the flagpole was mounted on a fine cement base in front. In accordance with school regulation, we always flew the Union Jack. On one occasion, a friendly Scotsman, who stopped to pay me a visit at noon hour, also informed me that the Union Jack was flying upside down. Although this was an error, I had heard that flying the flag upside down was a distress signal! If so, there were times in that multigraded situation when it would have been quite appropriate! Nevertheless, after that I made sure those delegated to run the flag were informed to fly "the wide white up next to the pole."

During the two years I taught at Greenfield, I remember being invited out to a number of homes in the community for the evening meal. Those occasions, pleasant as they were, must have occurred at the close of an era. After the early 1950's the practice seemed to end.

My inspector, the late W.F. Hiscocks, paid me an occasional visit whenever his multifarious duties would allow him to do so. His visits were most helpful, but in the main the teacher in my kind of situation was "on his own" in those days.

While I'll never forget the frustration and long hours involved in the attempt to provide a satisfactory education programme for such a wide range of achievement levels as the one-room school represented, I have always been grateful to have had the opportunity of beginning my teaching career in such a challenging way.

**Bob Alguire was principal of Plover Mills Public School, Middlesex County, when he wrote this article for the Ontario Public School Men Teachers' Federation 60th Anniversary booklet. OPSMTF, 1260 Bay St., Toronto.**

**GREENFIELD SCHOOL**

Greenfield School was situated on the north end of lot 20, concession 5. The land was originally given to the trustees of School Section 17 in 1855 by David Grier and his wife Mary. The deed, however, was not drawn until Jan. 11, 1885 and not registered until March 2, 1860. Price paid was five shillings of lawful money of Canada.

A building, namely a school house, was to be erected there-on and used as a common school. The first building was built of logs. The first trustees were Robert B. Webster, James Austin and Thomas Young. The secretary is believed to have been John Leach.

The boundary of the school section extended from the line between the townships of Escott and the Front of Leeds and Lansdowne westward to and including the Steacy farm. Traditionally though, the children from Warburton General Store attended Greenfield, but not those from Warburton Cheese Factory next door. North limit was concession 6, while the south boundary was in general the south end of concession 5.

At some time before 1877, the section number was changed to S.S. #3. The present building was built to replace the log structure. The date, unfortunately, is not known. Before the building of Greenfield's churches in 1890 and 1893, church services were held in the school.

In 1948 the Township School Area was formed. It is interesting to note that 2 of the 5 members were from Greenfield, Mrs. L.B. Webster and Arthur Horton.

In December 1962, after 108 years of service to the community, the school closed. Teacher Wayne Anderson and the 13 pupils moved in January 1963 to the new Lansdowne District School.

In 1964 the school was advertised for sale. Mr. Carman Grier, grandson of the original land donor, reminded the Board that the land had been given for the use of a common school. The land and building were turned over to him for a small sum and again became part of his farm

Records of early teachers and the years they taught are sketchy. Some of the teachers were:

1883	Chattie Sliter		Nellie Taylor
	Grif Austin		Madeline Vandenburg
	Lillie Austin		Marjorie Nunn
1900	George Graham	1929-30	Archie Running
	Annie McRae	1930-32	Jean Hodge
	Fred Cornett	1932-36	Marion Webster
	Amelia Hunt	1936-40	Doreen Tye
	Stella Hunt	1940-42	Lydia Hutchison
	Miss Sherman	1942-43	Mrs. Hubert Hodge
	Hazel Haskins	1943-44	Eatha Reynolds
	Gertrude Cliffe	1944-45	Reta Howe
	Amelia McRae	1945-47	Agnes Stout
	Bertina Green	1947-49	Wilma Steacy
	Hazel Haig	1949-51	Robert Alguire
	Alex McKenzie	1951-54	Betty Fodey
	Susan Scale	1954-56	Ethel Adams
1917	Hattie Cochrane	1956-57	Marion Smith
1919	Bessie Foley	1957-61	Helen McKay
	Mrs. Morrison	1961-62	Wayne Anderson

*(Article compiled from a report written by Bernice Horton and material in Society files.)*



**S.S. # 3 GREENFIELD SCHOOL 1920**

**Front Row (left to right):** Cecil Dillon, Kenneth McRae

**Second Row:** Harold O'Grady, Gerald O'Grady, John Webster, Marion Webster, May O'Grady, Violet Charlton, Violet Carr, Annie O'Grady, Laura Sales

**Third Row:** Ena Ruttle, Norma Grier, Emily Grier, Miss Seal (Teacher)



**GREENFIELD SCHOOL 1936**

**Left to Right:**

Marie Warren, Joy Burns, Velma Earl, Alban Moorhead, Jim Moorhead, Lloyd Burns, Donald Warren, Bob Burns, Eric Webster

*(Picture courtesy Marion Steacy)*

**GREENFIELD****2000***By Bill Boulton*

S.S. # 3, **Greenfield**, is the only one room school house left in the township which has not been demolished, altered, renovated or converted to some other use. Gone are the desks, furnishings, books and pupils, but the building sits empty just as it did when it closed in December 1962.

The years have not been kind to the building. Many of the windows are missing. Paint has weathered to the point much of the building is bare wood. The initials of former pupils carved into the back wall, however, are still clear. The grounds are overgrown with small trees. Someone even walked off with the pump!

Part of our society's mandate is "to promote an awareness of the historical past - - - and its importance to the development of Ontario". In keeping with this, the executive felt this last piece of local educational history should be preserved. On behalf of the Historical Society, the executive has entered into an arrangement with the Grier family to refurbish the building and have the use of it.

Our first priority this fall is to clean out the building (it was used to store hay) and close up the windows to prevent further damage to the interior. Next spring a programme of restoration will begin. The grounds will be cleared and the grass cut. The building will be painted inside and out in its original fashion. Windows will be replaced and the floor repaired.

This project has received considerable interest among former students and teachers we have talked with. Several are working on lists of former classmates. A committee will be named to compile a list of names and addresses of past students and teachers. If you attended Greenfield as a pupil or can help with a list of names, please contact us. We would also like to collect anecdotes of your experiences at Greenfield.

The Society is making application for a Federal Government Millineum Grant to help with the cost of this project. We, of course, must also raise funds locally. Over the winter we will be contacting former students and teachers asking for their support.

**NOTICE**

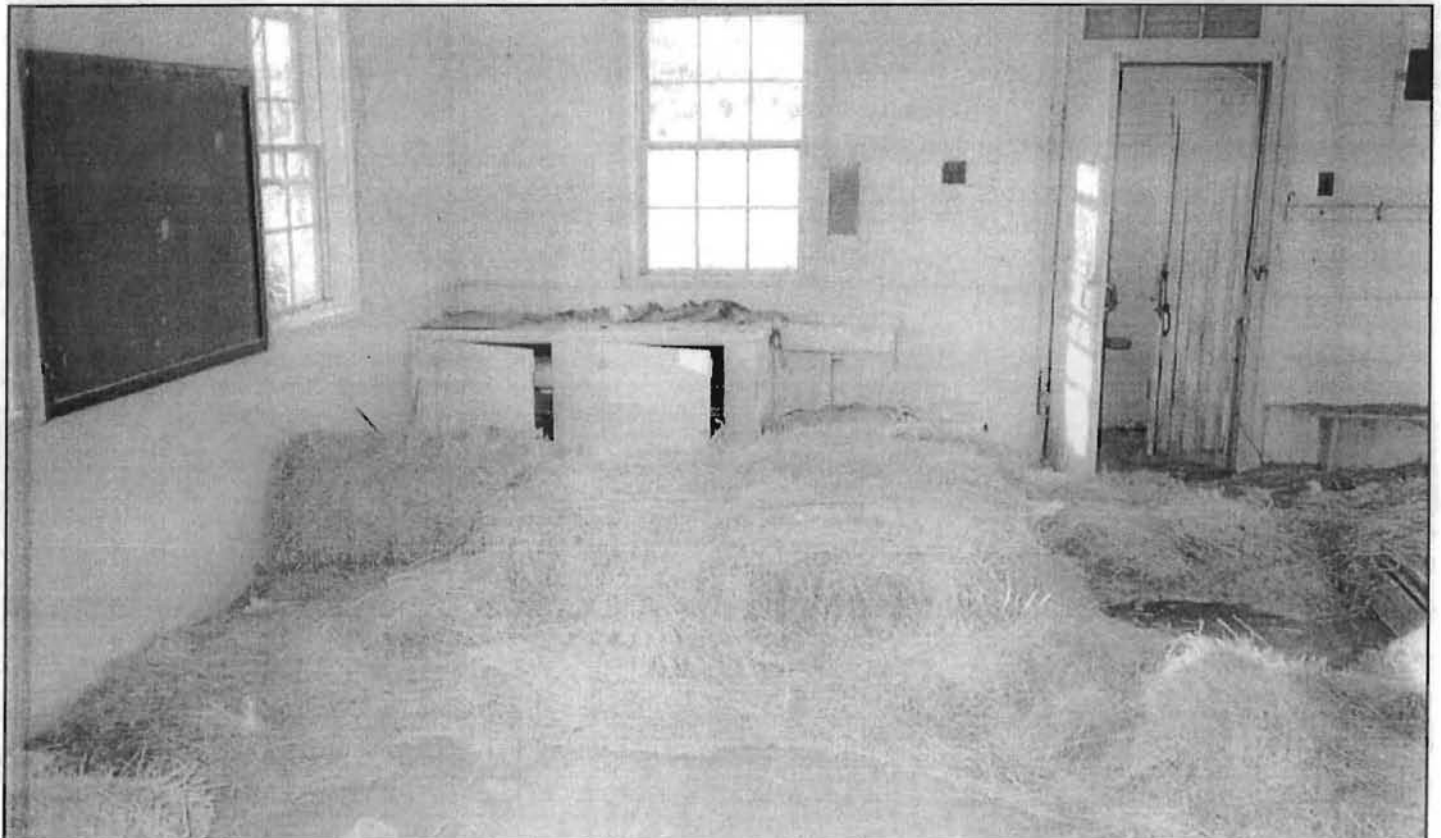
**As publishers we would like to express our sincere apologies for the extreme lateness of this newsletter. Business commitments followed by a lengthy illness forced us to stop production in late November 1999. We hope you enjoy the content that your executive has gathered.**

*Ted and Pat Hewitt*





**Greenfield School as it is today** - *Photos by Ted Hewitt*



# HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

Newsletter #12      NOVEMBER 1999

## Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of December 31, 1999

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	
AKENSON	PROF. D.G.	LANGTON	JIM & NANCY	<p><b><u>CORPORATE MEMBERS:</u></b></p> <p>*BALDREE'S INDEPENDENT GROCER</p> <p>* CHARLESTON LAKE PROV. PARK</p> <p>* RONEY ENGINEERING LTD.</p> <p>* TED HEWITT PHOTOGRAPHY &amp; COMPUTER IMAGING CENTRE</p> <p><b><u>ORGANIZATIONS:</u></b></p> <p>LANSDOWNE WOMENS INSTITUTE</p>
ANDREWS	AUDRE	LAPOINTE	YOLANDE	
ASHLEY	WINONA	LAPPAN	ROSE	
BLACKBURN	HELEN	LEGGETT	LYNNE	
BOULTON	WM.	LINDSAY	ALAN	
BROWN	JACK	LYNCH	CHERYL	
BURNS	GEORGE	LYNCH	DAVID & BEV	
BURNS	KARL	MACREGOR	LORNA & DUNCAN	
BURNS	TOM	MALLORY	MARJORIE	
BURTCH	RITA	McKAY	HUGH & MARION	
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CHISAMORE	RUTH	MONTGOMERY	LOVERNA	
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DESJARDINS	MELANIE	PAGE	STEPHEN	
DICKSON	GERI	PILON	TELESPHORE	
DOAK	BOB	POPE	ALICE	
DONEVAN	DOUGLAS	REID	JOHN	
DUSTO	JUDI	RONNEY	MR. & MRS. G.V.	
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FILSON	BOB	RUNNING	MR./MRS. MURRAY	
FLOEY	BRUCE	SHERREN	MONA	
GEEKIE	NANCY	SHERWOOD	CHARLOTTE	
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GRAHAM	ANDREW	SMITH	OMAR	
GRAHAM	ANNE & TOM	SMITH	SUSAN	
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HAFFIE	JOHN	STEACY	RICHARD	
HALL	DIANE	TAMBLYN	AUDREY	
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HUNT	ERIC	TRUESDELL	VAIDA	
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KENNEDY	ROBERT			
LACKIE	KAYE			
LALANDE	ELAINE			
LONDON	HARRY			
LONDON	YVONNE			

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