

Spring 2007

The Newfoundland Historical Society

1905 - 2007



Newsletter

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Larry Coady

Past President:

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Betty Jerrett

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Martha MacDonald

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Joan Ritcey

Fran Warren

Jeff Webb

Doug Wells

Sandra Wheeler

Mike Wilkshire

OFFICE

ADMINISTRATOR:

Allan Byrne

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President's Message

The Historical Society had another busy and successful year. Our two-part symposium on World War One was a huge success, thanks to the efforts of our Programme Committee, aided by other executive members. A special thanks to the Trinity Historical Society for their partnership on the Trinity end of the conference. We also wish to thank all of our sponsors for the symposium: the Government of Newfoundland, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Memorial University, and the Canadian Embassies of France and Great Britain. Our regular lecture series saw intriguing presentations on a wide variety of subjects and I want to thank all of our speakers this year. The Programme Committee, under Melanie Martin's leadership, has again worked unceasingly throughout the year to bring us such a wonderful collection of presentations.

In addition to our newsletter, "Aspects," and our Website, the Publications Committee has been busy working on a Short History of Newfoundland and Labrador and we hope to have it ready this fall. Thanks to Michael Wilkshire for his hard work in leading this committee.

Over the past five years the Newfoundland Historical Society has benefited from the sincere interest of our patron, the Honourable Edward Roberts, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador. As he enters the last year of his term, we thank him for his many kindnesses to our organization, and wish him and Mrs. Roberts much health and happiness in all their future endeavours.

Allan Byrne joined us as office administrator in October, just on the eve of a major symposium. He survived this baptism by fire and has helped all the executive and served our members well ever since, and I want to thank him on their behalf.

Each year a few executive members move on to other commitments and I wish to thank all departing members who have contributed to the Society's success. I particularly want to note the long service of Fred Windsor and Jim Hiller who have given so much of their time to the Historical Society over the last few years. We welcome new executive members Cathy Rice, Allan Dwyer and Martha MacDonald and look forward to working with them.

As this is my last report as President, I want to thank all staff and executive members, past and present, who have helped me so much in the last three years. It has sometimes been very hectic, but has always been rewarding. I am happy to pass the presidency on to Melanie Martin who has been such a dedicated and able vice-president and programme chair. I promise to give her the same kind of support and encouragement that I was so kindly given by Joan Ritcey, president before me. Finally, it is the interest and enthusiasm of our members that keeps us coming back with new ideas, interesting speakers, and worthwhile projects. On behalf of the Newfoundland historical Society, I thank all members for their continued support and wish you a lovely summer.

Terry Bishop-Stirling, President 2006-2007

Changing of the Guard!

The April meeting included our AGM, where we elected a new Executive for the coming year (listed on p. 1). One of the first items on the agenda of this new Executive will be the appointment of our committees (Programme, Membership, Publications and Finance). Details will be provided in the next Newsletter.

Your Newsletter

If you have an item of news, an anecdote, a picture from the past, an old saying, an event of historical interest happening in your corner of Newfoundland and Labrador, why not share it with fellow members in your NHS Newsletter? Simply mail your contribution to the postal address on the first page or email it to nhs@nf.aibn.com.



John Guy monument,
Cupids

Membership

The committee members are Fred Winsor and Debby Andrews. One of our goals for this year was to increase the number of members in the Society. The spring 2006 NHS newsletter reported 491 members. A year later membership in the Society is 534 members, which is a healthy increase. The committee will continue its practise of sending personalized reminders to members with fees owing.

Thank you to all of the members who paid their annual fee. If you haven't yet paid your annual fee please do so. The Society depends on your continued financial support to bring you the newsletter, the Newfoundland Quarterly, other publications and to hold monthly lectures and symposia.

Deborah Andrews, Membership Committee Chair 2006-2007

Publications

The main activity of the Publications Committee has continued to be overseeing progress on the *Short History of Newfoundland and Labrador*. After a period of close collaboration between the Managing Editor and authors of the various chapters over the winter semester, the text of the manuscript is now ready and has been passed on to Boulder Publications; we anticipate seeing the finished work in stores this coming fall.

Mike Wilkshire, Chair, Publications Committee 2006-2007

Program

I have thoroughly enjoyed being Programme Chair over the last two years. As just one member of the committee, I can tell you how hard everyone worked to bring you an interesting and engaging lecture series, as well as a very memorable two-part symposium on War and Remembrance and Newfoundland's role in Beaumont Hamel. I would like for the committee, which included Terry, Larry C., Joan, Debby, Mike, and Jeff to know how much I appreciate their sense of commitment throughout the last two years. It has been an enjoyment working with you all and sharing in our brainstorming sessions at our Kenmount Road office!

It never ceases to amaze me the many varied topics people within the province are working on. Isn't it wonderful to have such an abundance of fascinating history to draw on that it has kept our organization going strong for over 100 years? To those of you who give your time willingly to share your scholarship with the Newfoundland Historical Society, I think I can speak for us all when I say thank you. Being involved with this organization has been an ever-expanding educational experience for me.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you in a different capacity, as President, in September 2007!

Melanie Martin, Chair, Program Committee 2006-2007

Bond, Robert Bond.

On March 9 '007, retiring Society executive member Jim Hiller spoke at *An Evening with Sir Robert Bond*, a reception organized by the Centre for Newfoundland Studies for the Newfoundland Studies scholars at Memorial University. Jim gave a talk and showed images relating to discoveries he has made in the course of his research on the Prime Minister's life.

Trinity Historical Society's Virtual Exhibit on WWI: can you help?

The Trinity Historical Society is completing a virtual exhibit on the impact that the First World War had on communities, families etc. around the province. This exhibit is being prepared in light of the fact that this past year was the 90th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme and more specifically the battle that took place at Beaumont Hamel on July 1, 1916, which had a devastating effect on our province.

We are in need of the assistance of other archives and museums in terms of gathering documents, photographs etc. for the project. In terms of documents it could be letters from soldiers or their families, diaries, journals, photographs, etc. artifacts could be uniforms, medals or other memorabilia. We are also interested in anything that may be dedicated in your community to those that lost their lives in the war whether it be a war memorial, stained glass window in a church etc.

Should you have some items that you consider to be of relevance to our project please let us know. We can be reached at either the following email address: tci@nf.sympatico.ca or Telephone/Fax: (709) 464-3599.

In some cases we may be able to make arrangements to visit you and your institution. For those of you that we cannot visit we would appreciate it if you could email copies of these documents/photographs to us at the above email address. If however there is a lot of items we would ask that you please take digital photographs of them if possible and mail them to us on a CD to the address below as we only have a dial-up internet connection which would take photographs quite a while to download if there is a lot of them. If you are scanning in photographs to send to us please ensure that they are of at least 300dpi and if you are taking them with a digital camera please set your camera at a high resolution.

We will ensure that your institution or yourself is credited in the development of this virtual exhibit for anything that you may send to us and that we may use.

This is a very exciting project for the Trinity Historical Society and I look forward to hearing from many of you with regard to how you can be a part of this very worthwhile project.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

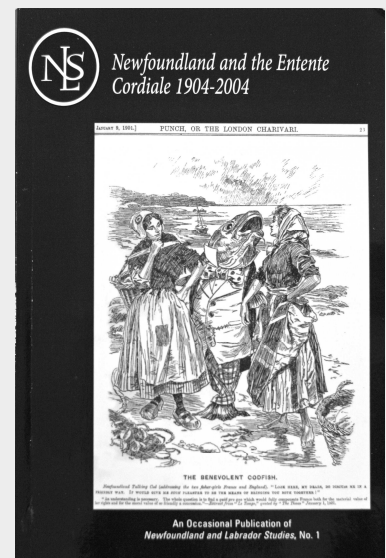
Sincerely,

Jim Miller,
Project Coordinator, Trinity Historical Society Inc.
PO Box 8
Trinity, NL
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Check It Out

Newfoundland and Labrador Studies

Back issues of the journal are available at excellent prices! Check out the details at www.mun.ca/nls. They can also be consulted online at the same address. The journal's first occasional publication, the proceedings of the symposium on *Newfoundland and the Entente Cordiale, 1904-2004* is now available. In addition to the papers presented at the symposium, it includes transcriptions of legislative debates in Newfoundland, Britain and France. Cost: \$20.00 +pp.



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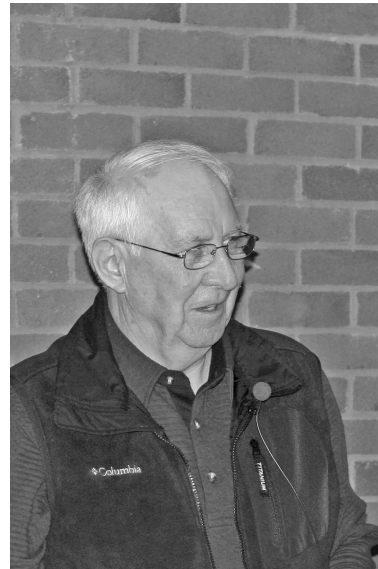
Would you like to help us reduce costs and receive your Newsletter by email? If so, just send a message to the office and let us know.

Corrections

In the last edition of the Newsletter, the name of our Office Manager, Allan Byrne, was wrongly stated. Also, the name of Joyce Montague was omitted from the list of 2006-2007 members of the Executive. Our apologies to both.



The 2007 George Story Lecture was given by Dr. Gordon Handcock (R). He was introduced by the patron of the NHS, the Honourable Edward Roberts (L), Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador.



Flatrock, early 20th century.

Photo A. Shelton, date unknown. NHS Archives ref. 7-03-036.

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Membership Fees: Regular \$28 / Life \$400 / Institutional \$24 / Student (no Quarterly) \$15 **Donations are always welcome!**

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Payment may be made by VISA, cheque or money order to the Newfoundland Historical Society. Please send this form with your payment to the address on the front page. US subscribers please pay in US funds to cover postage. International subscribers please pay 18 pounds sterling or Canadian equivalent.

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