

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



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Join us! Virtual public meeting Sept. 29

We are thrilled to resume our public meeting programming! We will host our first-ever virtual public meeting—and you are all invited.

Our speaker will be Bridget Whittle. Bridget is the Digital Library Archivist at McMaster University. She specializes in the university's First and Second World War materials, as well as its small collection of medieval manuscripts.

Bridget will discuss the profound effects of the Second World War on the people who lived in Hamilton.



From the front lines, the conflict was felt by everyone in the city during that time.

The event takes place on Zoom on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. The link will be emailed to members. We look forward to seeing you!

Memberships due

It's that time of year! Please be sure to renew your Flamborough Heritage Society membership. Renewal forms are being sent to members; if you are not a lifetime member, please renew. Thank you!

WEFHS Board 2021-2022

The position of Treasurer remains open.

Please contact us if you are interested—or know of someone who is.

Phone
905-540-5161

Email
society@

FlamboroughHistory.com

Social Media Statistics: Summer 2021

June: Facebook reach: 13,178
Instagram reach: 451

July: Facebook reach: 17,510
Instagram reach: 1,236

Aug.: Facebook reach: 20,218
Instagram reach: 958

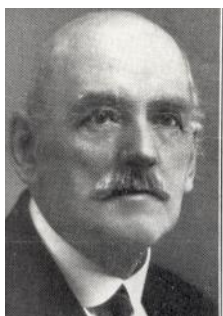
We continue to have a strong presence on social media. We had monthly engagement increases on Facebook of 1.1%, 32.1% and 19.2%. Our Instagram engagement increased by 31.1% and 17.2% for June and July, followed by a decrease of 14.6% in August.

Medicine in Flamborough—Part 2

Heritage Paper # 297

When a doctor visited a patient in Flamborough's early days, the question of payment was always looming; there was no universal healthcare in Canada till the post-World War Two period. One could not have a doctor come to their house or visit a hospital without receiving some sort of direct billing for care and prescriptions.

Dr. J.O. McGregor "made calls in Waterdown for fifty cents, and his charge for confinements (prescriptions)



F.W. Crooker

was five dollars." Ordinary townspeople worked as druggists, like William H. Crooker (father of F.W. Crooker who had a large influence in early twentieth century Waterdown), who operated a general store from around 1857 onwards. Crooker's general store

functioned as a druggist from circa 1875-1885.

In the early nineteenth century, pharmacies were often housed within general stores and the "crude potions" or "pioneer drugs" one received "carried no 'Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval' nor were they ever endorsed by leading medical societies."

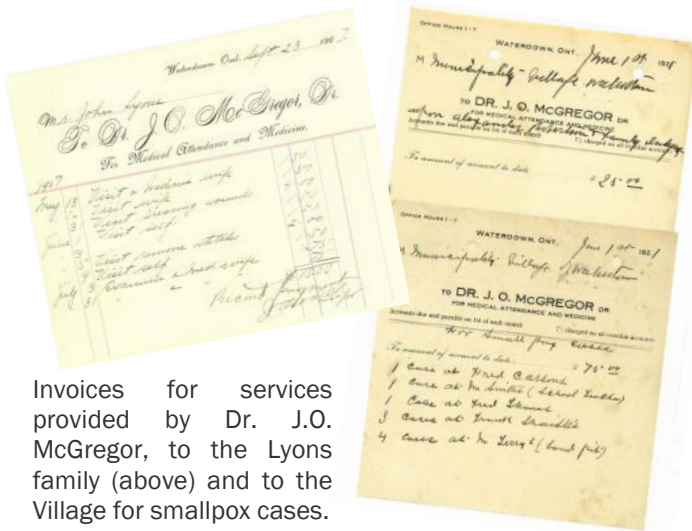
However, physicians were often pharmacists, as well. Dr. J.O. McGregor owned a drug store at the south-east corner of Dundas and Main that burned down in the fire of 1922. With this system, doctors were, understandably, extremely wealthy. At the time of his death, in 1928, Dr. J.O. McGregor's estate was worth \$46,466.

Doctors undoubtedly contributed to their local communities outside of merely providing medical care and addressing disease outbreaks. Some physicians operated out of Flamborough's small towns, like Dr. E.M. Sutherland (c. early twentieth century) in Freulton or Dr. J.E.W. Anderson (c. 1887-1896) in Millgrove. Other doctors moved in and out of Flamborough, serving the community for brief periods of time.

Some doctors served the community for up to a decade, such as Dr. J.D. Courtenay (c.1889-1899) or



Crooker's General Store in Waterdown functioned as a druggist from 1875-1885.



Invoices for services provided by Dr. J.O. McGregor, to the Lyons family (above) and to the Village for smallpox cases.

D.A. McClenahan (1900-1912), while others lived in Flamborough for brief periods of time, like Dr. Morrison (c. 1853), and Dr. Sheperd (c. 1876). A small minority served for upwards of decades, like J.O. McGregor.

The townspeople of Waterdown were clearly grateful to the service provided by Dr. D.A. McClenahan as, when he left for Hamilton in 1912, the community gifted him and his family a set of silver flatware with M inscribed on the handles a plaque that read "Presented to Dr. and Mrs. McClenahan by friends in Waterdown and vicinity August 15, 1912."

Even after medical families left Flamborough, they continued to contribute to life in their former communities. Dr. Rob Roy McClenahan, Dr. D.A. McClenahan's son who attended Waterdown Public and High School and went on to become a physician by graduating from the University of Toronto, 1912, donated the War Memorial Scholarship in honour of those who died in the war, to be awarded to the student who achieved the highest marks at Waterdown High School in year four (grade 12).

Moreover, Flamborough's medical families helped improve life in the wider community of Southern Ontario and particularly Hamilton. In many ways, Waterdown acted as a training ground for a number of Hamilton's medical doctors and officials. The earliest example presented here is Dr. William Philp, who left Waterdown for Hamilton in 1878, spending the rest of his 64-year career operating out of his home on Hess Street, dying suddenly in February 1932.



Dr. J.E.W. Anderson provided medical services to Millgrove residents from 1887-1896.

When Dr. D.A. McClenahan retired from Waterdown, he, too, travelled to Hamilton, working as the District Medical Officer of Health where he served the city for 20 years, dying in 1933 at the age of 66.

Dr. J.O. McGregor's legacy expanded far beyond Flamborough (the local impact of the McGregors is heavily detailed in Vignette #2, "Making a Difference," which is featured on the Flamborough Heritage Society web site (flamboroughhistory.com).

McGregor's sons, James Kenneth and Douglas Urquhart, were both born in Waterdown and grew up to become medical men like their father. Dr. J.K. McGregor co-founded the McGregor-Moworay Clinic in Hamilton, 1922, and was considered "one of Canada's leading surgeons," with a "continental wide reputation," at the time of his death, 1946.

Clearly, medicine in all forms has deep roots in Flamborough and the past communities gave as much to their physicians as the doctors gave back to them.

-Nick Bridges, Former Student Volunteer



Flamborough Headlines

School news was top of mind in the September 28, 1961 edition of the Waterdown Review. Front page stories included coverage of the Home and School Council Meeting, university attendance and emergency measures to keep students safe.

Yorkview School Scene of September Home and School Council Meeting

Wentworth North Home and School Council held its September meeting at Yorkview School, Dundas ... Mr. E. Sanderson, Principal of Yorkview School and School Education Council Committee Chairman, announced a study to be made by associations, entitled, "Equality for all in Education"... The Programme for the evening consisted of 8 Committee Chairmen in Leadership Training Workshop.

Record Attendance

A record is being set this year in the number of young people of this village who are attending University and it is also interesting to note the wide variety of universities represented.

McMaster has been chosen by Phyllis Kennedy, Ruth Springer, John Thorburn, John Braden, Gerry Wigle, Ian McMillan. Western: Peter McLoughlin and Colin McNairn. University of British Columbia: Frances McNairn. Waterloo: Alan Sentence. Huron College:

Peter Barnes. Ontario College of Art: Jim and Margaret Milligan. Wycliffe College: Bill Barnes. McDonald Institute: Roberta Bennett. Ryerson Institute of Technology: Mike Walker. St. Jeromes's: George McKay.

Local news:

The highest award in Scouting was presented to Scout Robert Sheasby of Parkside Drive by his Scoutmaster Wm. Martin.

An accident occurred at the corner of Hamilton Street and the Fourth Concession at 2.48 on Saturday, September 23. Both cars, one a 1956 Oldsmobile and the other a 1959 Buick,

were damaged very extensively.

On Tuesday, September 19, a bookmobile was put into operation for the County of Wentworth. It will stop at all libraries in villages in Wentworth County. The bookmobile holds 2,500 books and will service adults only, with some books for the pre-school children. It also carries a reference section.



RD. EAST
NGTON

JOE BORSELLINO'S

With 4th ANNIVERSARY SALE

SALE PRICES STILL EFFECTIVE IF ORDERS ARE IN BEFORE 6 P.M. SATURDAY

Store is located 2 1/2 blocks west of Aldershot along Hwy. 10 Slide - 4 blocks west of Hwy. 10

SALE Store Hours: MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY 8 a.m. till 9 p.m. SATURDAY 8 a.m. till 9 p.m.

FRESH MINCED
BEEF 69c
PORK 69c
VEAL 55c
Fashioned 49c
Good!

ROASTS
LEG of PORK ROAST 57c
PORK LOIN ROAST 57c
SPARE RIBS 3 lbs.
COOKED HAM 47c
PAN RIE HAMBURG PATTIES 47c
HAMBURG PATTIES 47c
BUTTER 47c
BREAD 47c

HINDS of BEEF 57c
SIDE or HALF of BEEF 47c
BEEF TENDERLOIN 97c

HOW MANY HAVE A BANK ACCOUNT?

Chances are they all have/because nowadays practically everybody is a bank customer. And they go to the bank so often and for so many reasons: to deposit savings, arrange a loan, buy or sell foreign exchange, purchase money orders... In fact, Canadians seem to use banking services more than the people of any other country. The chartered banks, for their part, do their utmost to make each branch a friendly, efficient centre for every kind of banking service.

Local ads in the September 28, 1961 edition of the Waterdown Review.

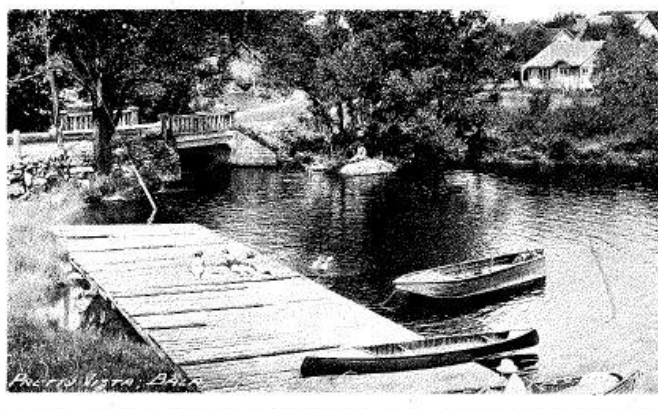
TREASURES FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Archives received a collection of postcards in August from a friend of the family of Will Reid. The cards range in dates from 1905 to 1935, and were posted from Germany, Great Britain and the U.S.

In addition to the cards from around the globe, the collection includes many postcards and

greeting cards from cities and towns throughout Ontario and nearby locales such as Dundas, Freelon, Millgrove and Hamilton.

Before Facebook and Twitter, postcards were the social media of the early twentieth century; multiple mail deliveries each day, allowed people to send short notes to each other.



THREADS THROUGH THE PAST

By Lyn Lunsted

The Waterdown Business Men's Association

Reading early issues of the local newspaper it is obvious that many people were concerned with how the village of Waterdown was coping with growth. Even in the 1940s there was concern about urban planning and amenities, and the lack thereof.

In January 1944, a group of Waterdown merchants proposed forming an association which would assist the Council in matters such as policing, creating a 'proper' sporting organization and 'a hundred and one other problems' because the Council could *"not be expected to do everything especially without the wholehearted co-operation of the public and more particularly an organization formed from the business and professional men of Waterdown."* Reading between the lines, it sounds like some people were not happy with how the village councillors were running things.

The Waterdown Business Men's Association was officially formed at a meeting on February 2, 1944. A dinner was hosted by Russell Kelley, who had noticed the item in the newspaper and felt that it would be good for Waterdown and the area to have such an Association, to encourage buying locally and to ensure that Waterdown got a fair share of new industries which were expected to locate outside of major cities.



Russell Temple Kelley was a prominent businessman in Hamilton. He owned an advertising agency and was active in politics, representing Hamilton-Wentworth in the Ontario Legislative Assembly from 1945 - 1951. He was also President of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and a Director of the local YMCA. He felt that local associations such

as Business Men's Associations or Chambers of Commerce could promote local initiatives and help with post-war planning. He actively supported the Waterdown group through the first year.

The new group did not waste any time. They met weekly and solicited members. When the Red Cross made a national appeal, they organized a house-to-house canvas for funds, stating that *"the Association could never do anything of more humanitarian value than give assistance to the Red Cross."*

Many social activities were planned for the following months - a card party and dance, a public presentation of student awards, a Halloween Masquerade Dance, management of the skating rink and a hockey league. They formed a Community Planning and Developing Committee and recognized a need to assist returning war veterans with jobs and housing.

To Form Community Planning and Developing Committee For Waterdown

At a meeting of the executive of the Waterdown Business Men's Association and the Village Council held on Monday night Arrangements were made to form a community organization which would map out and carry out plan for post war work. Divorced from political ties or personalities this committee would function down through the years with the council of the day.

J. J. Taylor, chairman of the Council Post War Committee acted as chairman for the meeting. He dealt with the need for more or less permanent body which would give its undivided attention to the subject of planning and developing Waterdown.

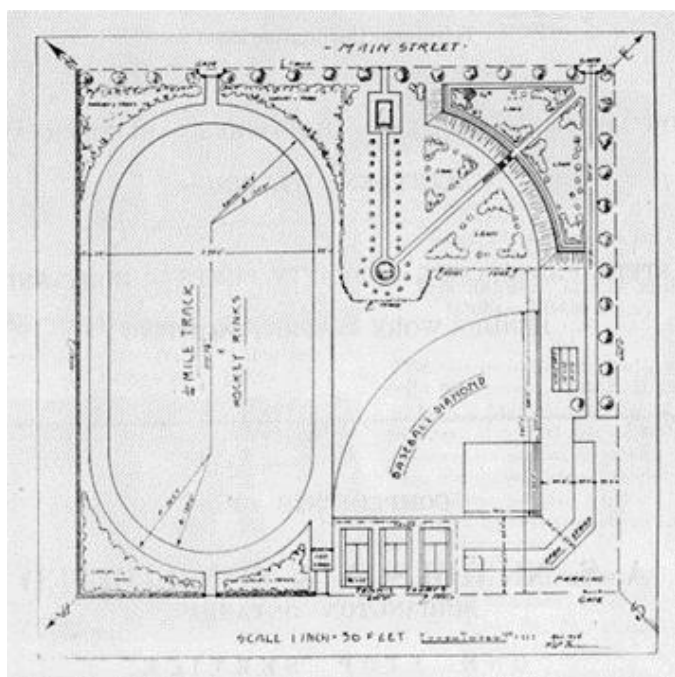
It was decided to call the organization the Community Planning and developing Committee with a name-

(Continued on Page 4)

By April they had 100 members. They suggested that a list be put together of all of the available building lots in the town, and that the owners should offer them at a low price with the understanding that a home would be built on the property before the end of 1944. Reeve Gunby supported the plan.

To raise funds and promote community awareness, they held 'An All Star Variety Show' in 1944, 1945 and 1946. The program for 1946 showed that it had something for everyone: there were 21 acts ranging from tap dancing, accordion, singers, quartettes, and bull whip demonstrations, to magicians and a ventriloquist. The door prizes were a ladies' and gents' wristwatch donated by Birks Jewellers. Local businesses were huge supporters of the event – advertisements resulted in the printed program being 32 pages long.

One of the basic aims of the Association was to promote sports in the village. The Waterdown Review of August 22, 1946 reported that street gossip held that steps had been made to purchase land which would become a baseball diamond. This was praised as "one of the most progressive steps taken for the youth of this district in the long and enviable history of Waterdown". The article stated that the Athletic Association and the Women's Institute were interested in this endeavour and that the Waterdown Business Men's Association was to be approached to see if they were interested in sharing in the project.



The Business Men's dinner meeting of September 12, 1946 was important for two reasons. The speaker was Alister Conacher, Secretary of the Ontario Associated Boards of Trade and the Waterdown Business Men's Association voted to be legally affiliated with that Board and applied for membership. Secondly, they discussed the proposed park. There was a heated discussion with points raised about budgets and financing, future use of the park as needs change and whether a rink should be included in the plans, reliance on volunteers vs. the village taxpayers and what their involvement would mean. They agreed to form a committee to confer with the park group about these issues. To end the meeting, the past president cautioned the members "from indulging in remarks which only lead to bitterness. Simply because questions were asked did not imply the person was opposed."

At a special meeting on September 26, 1946, the Association unanimously decided to share in the purchase and development of the park, and to donate \$400 – the same amount already donated by the Waterdown Amateur Athletic Association and the Women's Institute – and gave all parties representation on the Parks Committee or governing body.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade were visitors to the meetings. They spoke about co-operation and co-ordination of programs where there were several organizations, to avoid conflicting dates, taking up the same projects, etc. A motion was put forward to change the name as some men felt that they were not 'business men' but rather they were 'professionals', and had held back from becoming members. A discussion would follow at the January 1947 meeting to decide which name to choose – the Board Trade or Chamber of Commerce.

At the meeting of January 9, 1947, the name was officially changed to the Waterdown Board of Trade.

**The Flamborough
Heritage Society**

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Instagram: @flamborougharchives

Twitter: @FlamboroHistory

YouTube: Flamborough Archives &
Heritage Society

Officers 2021–2022

President: Chris Rivait

1st Vice President:

Corrie Giles

Secretary: Sue McNally

Acting Treasurer: Lyn Lunsted

Past-President:

Nathan Tidridge

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Bailey Cripps

Brenda Jefferies, Newsletter

Mary Beth Kennedy

Meghan Martin

Keri Raphael

Kim Hirst

Lyn Lunsted, Archivist



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

September has always marked the beginning of our new season. Unfortunately, we are still not ready to return to normal. However, we are excited to announce that we will be holding online public meetings via Zoom. They will be held the last **Wednesday** of the month in September, October, and November, so stay tuned. If need be, we will continue this format into the new year.

We will be forgoing the Book Fair again this year, but we are still looking at ways to be out in the community.

Check out the great presentation in the display case in the library that Meghan Martin and Kim Hirst put together. The case is in the reading area, at the front (Dundas Street) of the library. How many things can YOU name that your cell phone has replaced?

Stay safe and we will see you soon.

Chris Rivait, President

AREA SOCIETY WEBSITES

The **Ancaster Township Historical Society** -
www.ancasterhistory.ca

The **Burlington Historical Society** -
www.burlingtonhistorical.ca.

The **Dundas Valley Historical Society** -
www.dundashistory.ca

The **Grimsby Historical Society** -
[Grimsby Historical Society](http://GrimsbyHistoricalSociety).

The **Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society**-
www.hamiltonheritage.ca

The **Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society** -
[Head of the Lake Historical Society](http://HeadoftheLakeHistoricalSociety)

The **United Empire Loyalists' Association of
Canada, Hamilton Branch** - www.uel.com