



All Rails Lead to Collingwood



The Station was bustling with people as the Collingwood Museum's newest exhibit was officially opened on Saturday, June 25, 2011.

Pictured, left to right: Jim Trott, volunteer; Melissa Shaw, museum assistant; Susan Warner, museum supervisor; Mayor Sandra Cooper; Irene Pradyszczuk, advisory committee member; Janice Veiga, volunteer; Councillor Dale West; and Charles Garrad, historian and guest speaker.



Historian and Guest Speaker
Charles Garrad

Many months of planning and hard work by Museum staff and volunteers came to fruition when Mayor Sandra Cooper cut the ribbon to open the Museum's newest exhibit. Prior to the ribbon cutting, Charles Garrad spoke about the history of the railway and its significance to the founding and progress of the Town of Collingwood. He spoke of the beginnings of the rails to Collingwood, when in 1853 Hen and Chickens Harbour was selected as the Northern Railway Terminus. Rails were laid into town in the fall of 1854.

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Supervisor's Message

As the summer continues with this wonderful heat-wave, so too does the hustle and bustle at the Collingwood Museum. Parents, grandparents and children are dropping by the Museum to take advantage of the fun and interactive children's programs that have been planned by this year's summer staff. Other visitors have been stopping by to tour the Museum's gallery with family and friends. The Museum staff is pleased to see everyone taking an interest in Collingwood's important history.

The Young Canada Works summer students are busy working with the Museum's collection, while the two education programmers are having a great time with the children who have signed up for the summer programs. A complete listing of program offerings is listed on the calendar on page 7.

June was a very busy month at the Museum with the unveiling of the Smart panel in Harbourview Park and the official ribbon cutting of *All Rails Lead to Collingwood*. If you are out for a stroll, please stop into the Museum to see the exhibit, or stop by Harbourview Park to learn about the history of Smart Bros. Limited.

Staff has received numerous inquiries about the Museum's ever-popular adult summer programs. I regret to inform you that there will not be any programs offered during the summer months of 2011 as the sites we had hoped to visit do not meet accessibility standards and require extensive walking. We are hoping to plan an excursion in the fall months and will send you further information when available.

Susan Warner, Museum Supervisor

Local Trivia Challenge...The Railway

1. In January ,1853, Hen and Chickens Harbour (later named Collingwood) was selected as the _____ Terminus.
2. On January 1, 1855, the first locomotive, _____, officially began passenger service between Toronto and Collingwood.
3. In 1855 the first train station was constructed of wood timbers on _____.
4. In _____ the Northern Railway constructed a second grain elevator.
5. In _____ a brick station featuring an imposing tower was constructed.
6. In 1878 The Hamilton and North Western Railway built a new rail line into Collingwood along _____ Street. A station _____ was built at the corner of Second and Walnut but was never used as the Hamilton and North Western merged with the Northern Railway in 1879.
7. On May 15, 1932, fire destroyed the second railway station. It was quickly reconstructed in the same location without the _____.
8. On _____, the last passenger train left Collingwood's Station.
9. Canadian National Railway abandoned its tracks to Collingwood on _____.
10. The present day Station, home of the Collingwood Museum, was constructed in _____.



The Second Station
X976.626.1

- Answers
1. Northern Railway
 2. Lady Elgin
 3. Huron Street
 4. 1871
 5. 1874
 6. Walnut
 7. Tower
 8. July 2, 1960
 9. December 31, 1985
 10. 1998

Introducing our Summer Staffers

Salutations! My name is **Tyler Cleary**. I am an alumnus from Trent University and a foster brother of over two dozen siblings. I have spent my entire life, thus far anyways, in the Simcoe region. I have picnicked at Sunset Point. I have seen the harbour full of schooners and dragon boats. I have enjoyed Collingwood's events and attractions. I am proud to say that currently I am employed at the heart of Collingwood's historical past: The Collingwood Museum. Here I spend my days examining the various events and touchstones of Collingwood's yesteryears so that the past is preserved. I encourage you all to come to the Station and say hello!

My name is **Brooke Steele** and I am entering my fourth and final year at Wilfrid Laurier University, studying Honours Sociology. I grew up in Collingwood and attended C.C.I.. I have always enjoyed the local community and am excited to give back to this wonderful town. I am a summer student at the Museum, working on the children's and adult's summer programs. I am enjoying this opportunity to develop programs that entertain and educate children. This has been a great chance for me to grow and learn with the kids and to develop skills that will help me with my future teaching career.

Left to right: Brooke Steele, Carly Sandell, Nathan Vandermey and Tyler Cleary.



My name is **Nathan Vandermey** and I am entering my final year of study in Honours History and Business at the University of Waterloo. I grew up in and around the Barrie area, moving a lot in my youth. My position at the Museum is a collections assistant which has been a great opportunity for me this summer. This job facilitates my passion for history and gives me the ability to access Collingwood's exciting past. My favourite parts of this job are the opportunities to dig into Collingwood's military history, specifically their contributions to the First and Second World Wars.

My name is **Carly Sandell** and as a summer student at the Museum I work on educational programming for adults and children. I will be entering my second year at Wilfrid Laurier University in the fall to continue with my studies in the Health Science program. I was born and raised in Collingwood and my family has been here for generations prior. I am thrilled to be back for the summer and especially to be working at the Museum! With such a passion for working with children, this is a perfect position for me, and I have already grown and gained so much from this incredible experience. In the future I hope to continue working with children, specifically in the health field, and I am so thankful for everything I have learned working here!

All Rails Lead to Collingwood...

Collingwood's first train station was built on Huron Street and a wooden grain elevator was constructed by the Ontario, Huron and Simcoe Union Railway. Collingwood's incorporation as a town in 1858 was followed by a population and industrial boom, largely due to the railway.

In 1873 a brick station with an imposing tower was constructed by the Northern Railway. It in turn was destroyed by fire on March 12, 1932. The station was quickly reconstructed on the same site on a smaller scale. The defining tower was not rebuilt.



Collingwood's first station, built in 1855, was destroyed by fire in the 1870's.
X972.164.1



C.N.R. Staff, 1923
X972.142.1

Over 80 Collingwood Museum members and friends attended the exhibit opening. Greetings from Mayor Cooper and Museum Supervisor Susan Warner were followed by an informative address by Charles Garrad.

The third station was demolished in 1997 to make way for today's beautiful Station which opened to the public on September 19, 1998. The new building was constructed using the architectural drawings from 1873 that are housed at the National Archives of Canada.



The Station Gift Shop

The selection of books in the Station's gift shop is expanding. Two of the gift shop's newest titles include: *More Dating Old Photographs 1840—1929* and *Canadian Heritage Preservation*. Both titles are Canadian publications and provide readers with the information needed to preserve our past. Come browse the shelves in the gift shop. Remember, Collingwood Museum members receive a 20% discount on all regularly priced purchases, including books!

More Dating Old Photographs **\$15.95**
Canadian Heritage Preservation **\$24.95**

Members Pay: \$12.76
Members Pay: \$19.96

Conservation Corner.... Brass and Bronze Objects

Source: Canadian Conservation Institute
www.cci-icc.gc.ca/main_e.aspx



Brass-topped binnacle from the whaleback ship *John Ericsson*



Smart Bros. Ltd. steam whistle



Gramophone

Handling Brass and Bronze

The Collingwood Museum has numerous items in its collection that feature brass and bronze components. When handling these artifacts, staff is careful never to touch these components with bare hands as damaging oils and salts can be transferred to the object. Darkened marks on uncoated copper are most likely fingerprints left by a gloveless handler. Items of importance in your home should be treated with the same amount of care. Handle your personal collection with gloves. Soft cotton gloves are the best; however, any clean glove or rag may be used.

When moving a brass object (or any object for that matter), always lift from the object's centre of gravity. Avoid lifting objects by a lip, limb, handle, spout or any other extended areas that can be gripped as unseen weaknesses may be compromised further or a piece may break unexpectedly.

Storage and Polishing

A simple way to preserve metal objects is to maintain an even, low humidity where these items are stored. Rapidly changing temperatures and humidity levels will cause coatings to fail as the metal expands and contracts. Basements and attics should never be used for storage purposes as these areas of your home experience the most drastic fluctuations in temperature.

Metal objects should not be stored in sealed, plastic bags as moisture may gather from condensation and lead to rusting. Protecting your metal treasures from dust, however, is an excellent idea and can be achieved by storing items on shelves that have been padded with a layer of buffering foam.

If you are concerned about brass components on furniture, clocks or other objects made of wood, please contact the Museum before any polishing is undertaken. The Canadian Conservation Institute (C.C.I.) has valuable notes on this and many other conservation issues. Polishing is a controversial subject as an object's historical integrity and monetary value may be compromised.

Unveiling the Smart Panel

June 8, 2011 was a beautiful summer day, perfect for the unveiling of an historic panel honouring Collingwood's Smart family and its many contributions to Collingwood's economic success. The panel was unveiled by Irene (Smart) Carswell, George Christie, Susan Warner, Melissa Shaw and Mayor Sandra Cooper. Irene and George spoke of their ancestors' entrepreneurial efforts, beginning with John Smart's purchase of seven acres of land on Campbell Street in 1890. John's sons, Norman and George (W.G.), joined the business two years later and started Smart Bros. Limited. The business eventually grew to include greenhouses, orchards, vegetable crops and the cannery. The latter was located on the north-west corner of Hurontario and First Streets.

Smart Bros. Limited was a valued business in town, employing young students, women, and men. Local farmers also benefited by selling produce to the canning company. For many years Smart Bros. Limited was the single largest employer in Collingwood, especially during the depression years. The wages earned by the business's employees rivaled those at the shipyard and in some cases outstripped the going shipyard wage.



Irene (Smart) Carswell gives the background of the Smart family.

Smart Bros. Limited was sold to Canada Vinegar in 1964 and eventually closed in 1966, despite the family's hope that the business would continue to grow and prosper. The large boiler on display in Harbourview Park, just north of the Arboretum, was used in one of the greenhouses.



Left to right: Irene Carswell, Barb (Smart) Jerry, Susan Warner, George Christie, Melissa Shaw, Councillor Kevin Lloyd and Mayor Sandra Cooper at the Smart Panel.



George Christie speaks of his family's contributions to Collingwood's history.

July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Canada Day Station Hours 10am-3pm	2
3	4 Let it Shine 10am-11:30am	5 Happy Habitats 2pm-4pm	6 Air Collingwood 10am-11:30am	7 Puppets, Plays & the Past 2pm-4pm	8 Totem Time 10am-11:30am	9
10	11 Stellar Stained Glass 2pm-4pm	12 Grain Sticks 10am-12pm	13 Potato Prints 2pm-3:30pm	14 Delicious Dirt 10am-12pm	15 Calling All Captains	16
17	18	19	20	21 Elvis Festival	22 Elvis Festival	23 Elvis Festival
24 Elvis Festival 31	25	26 Air Collingwood 2pm-3:30pm	27 Totem Time 10am-11:30am	28 Let it Shine 2pm-3:30pm	29 Stellar Stained Glass 10am-12pm	30

August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Civic Holiday Station Hours 10am –3pm	2 Inukshuk Fun! 10am-11:30am	3 Grain Sticks 2pm-4pm	4 Cave Crusaders 10am-12pm	5 Brilliant Boxcars 2pm-4pm	6
7	8 Calling All Captains 10am-11:30pm	9 Fishing Frenzy 2pm-4pm	10 Puppets, Plays & the Past 10am-12pm	11 Magic Mayhem 2pm-4pm	12 Delicious Dirt 10am-12pm	13
14	15 Happy Habitats 2pm-4pm	16 Brilliant Boxcars 10am-12pm	17 Cave Crusaders 2pm-4pm	18 Potato Prints 10am-11:30am	19 Fishing Frenzy 2pm-4pm	20
21	22 Magic Mayhem 10am-12pm	23 Inukshuk Fun! 2pm-3:30pm	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

The Collingwood Museum

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Written & Created By:

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Membership News

Interested in receiving a green newsletter?
Send your email address to
museum@collingwood.ca and we will add you to
our e-newsletter database.

A special thank you from the staff at the Collingwood Museum to
our new and returning members. We are pleased to welcome:

**John Shortt, Jim Robson, Joan Campbell, Pat Houlton,
Martine Culham, David West, Bill Burk, Christa Edwards,
Leanne Reckewitz, Dr. Murray & Jean Thompson,
Mary Thompson, Frances Cunningham, James Shropshire,
Marcia Everitt, & Marion Fenwick**

Hours of Operation

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.: Sunday
Closed —Wednesday and Thursday (from Thanksgiving to Victoria Day)

The Collingwood Museum

P.O. Box 556
45 St. Paul Street
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L9Y 4B2

Take a Look Inside

