



" PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE "

STANHOPE TIMES

Past & Present

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Here is your reminder of the Stanhope Historical Society's Heritage Meeting next Monday evening.

Please mark your calendars!

BOB BOYLE THE BRACKLEY DRIVE-IN THEATRE

It's more than a movie... It's a memory!

**STANHOPE PLACE
2784 BAYSHORE ROAD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
7:30 PM**

MEMBERS AND VISITORS WELCOME

Bob and Marcie Boyle are the successful proprietors of several North Shore businesses. Because drive-in theaters had their heyday in the 1950's and early 1960's makes the continuing success of the Boyle's drive-in theatre remarkable!

People have been fascinated by movies since the early 1900's. The first theatre in America was a Nickelodeon (literally a five-cent movie theatre) in a storefront in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. John P. Harris and Harry Davis opened their theatre in 1905. By 1908 the trend in storefront theatres had caught on and there were thousands of them across America and Nickelodeon, Gem, and Bijou were popular names.

Yes, but read on to see what you might learn about drive-in theatres and particularly the Brackley Drive-In Theatre by attending Bob Boyle's presentation.



Who opened the first drive-in?
When and where?

When did outdoor theatres experience their peak in popularity?

How many drive-in theatres were there on the Island? Where were they and can you name them?

Do you remember the former name of the Brackley Drive-in Theatre?

Where is the oldest continuously operating drive-in theatre?

How many drive-in theatres are there across Canada today?

How many drive-in theatres are there across America today?

How many young people can you cram into the trunk to avoid paying the full admission?

Bob Boyle and your editor have the answers. But Bob has lived through and participated in the evolution of this entertainment format, emerging as a leader in this industry! He's seen significant changes in the way movies are distributed, the technologies by which films are projected, and the audio systems by which we hear the film sound track.

The Brackley Drive-In Theatre is presently ranked among the top 9 theatres in all of Canada!



The The two images shown in connection with this article promoting Bob Boyle's presentation to the Stanhope Historical Society appear on the ©Brackley Drive-In 2014 website which was created by Fresh Media, 87 Pownal Street, Charlottetown -- 902-367-3233

THE FALMOUTH SETTLERS' CAIRN

The following information was presented by Marjorie MacLauchlan to the "50 & Over Golf Group" at the Stanhope Golf and Country Club on September 29, 1999. Marjorie and Harry had appeared on behalf Joe McCabe, then president of the Stanhope Historical Society (SHS), who had been the scheduled speaker.

Marjorie said that she and Harry were here to tell the audience about that

"heap of stones" near the entrance of the golf course. It's called a *cairn*.

A cairn is a large heap of stones, common in Great Britain, particularly in Scotland and Wales, usually having a conical shape, erected as a landmark or monument to commemorate some event.

The following is a condensed version of the "why and how" of that heap of stones which we call the Falmouth Settlers' Cairn.



THE FALMOUTH SETTLERS' CAIRN AT THE STANHOPE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

THE SETTLERS

The first shipload of Scottish settlers to come to Prince Edward Island arrived at Stanhope aboard the ship *Falmouth* from Greenock, Scotland on June 8 , 1770 . A cairn of Island sandstone was erected at Stanhope in

1970 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of this landing.

These settlers, mainly from Perthshire, Scotland, were sent out by Sir James Montgomery, proprietor of Lot 34, under the leadership of David Lawson, to establish a 1,000 acre flax farm here known as *Stanhope Farm*. The settlers were to work on the said farm for a period of four years. Upon completion of this term they were to receive a lease from Montgomery for two to five hundred acres of un-cleared land on Lot 34.

Many of the Montgomery Settlers remained with the farm during their contract and were granted land in Lot 34. Others became dissatisfied with the arrangement and set out to establish homesteads in the surrounding areas along the north shore or elsewhere on the Island.

We are most fortunate to have a unique source of information about these early settlers. A diary penned by the Rev. William Drummond gives insight into some of the difficulties encountered in pioneering a new settlement. Drummond was a Presbyterian minister who emigrated with the settlers and lived among them during their first year in the new land. During the two-month sea

journey, Drummond noted his observations about the ship's latitude, the weather, ice conditions, as well as sightings of sea creatures and birds. On day 11, he wrote... "the sickness which siezed most of our Company was this day very severe." Thanks to Drummond's diary, we know the *Falmouth's* departure and arrival date and many details of the hardships of these settlers during their first year here in Stanhope.

Marjorie observed that we cannot speak too highly of the value of this diary, the Island's oldest diary in the British era. It is an invaluable tool to researchers and historians and to those of us who just wish to know more about our ancestors.

THE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

In January 1970 a *North Shore Bicentennial Committee* comprised of members representing the communities of Stanhope, Covehead and Brackley Point was formed to make plans to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the *Falmouth*. Harry Kielly served as chair as plans for a number of public events evolved during the early months of that year.

During a planning meeting of the

North Shore Bicentennial Committee
on May 20, 1970 an idea was conceived to erect a cairn to commemorate the landing of these early settlers, and to have this cairn officially unveiled during the bicentennial ceremonies planned for June 6, 1970, just 17 days away!

Given the shortage of time, many quick decisions had to be made. These included a site for the monument, a design, location of materials, a contractor, where to get a plaque engraved on short notice, what should go on it, and of course, the bottom line, how to fund such a venture.

THE CONSTRUCTION

The cairn was modelled after the Culloden Cairn in Scotland, as this emigration took place only 24 years after the Battle of Culloden, a turning point in Scottish history, and possibly one of the reasons for the emigration of these settlers from their homeland. It was built of red Island sandstone, and stands 10 feet high with a circumference of 30 feet.

The cairn is located near the shore of Covehead Bay and adjacent the entrance to the Stanhope Golf Course, whose official opening coincided with that of the cairn unveiling, June

6, 1970. It stands on a slight mound, on a cement base, on a parcel of land which was part of the original 1,000 acre *Stanhope Farm* established by the Montgomery Settlers in 1770.

To say that the construction task was daunting is an understatement. They literally worked day and night to complete the project on schedule. On the eve of the unveiling, volunteers worked until after midnight, in pouring rain, to complete the landscaping of the site in preparation for the following day's event.

THE FUNDING

Descendants of the settlers, from coast-to-coast, who were contacted, as well as some friends of the project, were willing and generous with their donations of cash, material and volunteer labour for the erection of the monument.

THE UNVEILING

On Saturday, June 6, 1970, the cairn was officially unveiled by the Honourable J. George MacKay, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, in the presence of Harry Kielly, chair of the *North Shore Bicentennial Committee*.

The limestone plaque on the cairn reads...

1770-1970
ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE
ARRIVAL OF THE SHIP FALMOUTH FROM
GREENOCK, SCOTLAND, JUNE 8TH, 1770 AND
THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SETTLEMENT OF STANHOPE, COVEHEAD
AND BRACKLEY

ORIGINAL FAMILIES

AULD	LAWSON	MACNEIL
BROWN	LEITCH	MARSHALL
DEWAR	MACCALLUM	MILLAR
DRUMMOND	MACEWEN	SHAW
GREGOR	MACGREGOR	TAYLOR
JAMIESON	MACLAUCHLAN	

Some of you may recall a few of the other events sponsored by the *North Shore Bicentennial Committee* for this occasion. There had been a three-day Bicentennial Variety Concert at the Stanhope-Covehead Community Hall at the end of May, a “Miss North Shore” Beauty Contest (won by Carolyn Cameron) on June 1st, a Baby Show and Afternoon Tea followed in the evening by a Step Dancing and Fiddling Contest on May 30th. The festivities on June 6th began with a Pet Parade for the children at 9:30 am and was followed by the Grand Parade which left the Parkview Drive-In at 1 pm. The parade was comprised of numerous floats, majorettes, Scouts and Guides, horses and ponies, ending at the golf course.

Altogether the opening of the golf course and unveiling of the cairn made for a great day. It might have been even better if it hadn't poured rain; however, this had not dampened people's spirits.

An interfaith service was held the next day, Sunday, June 7 at the Parkview Drive-In. The service was conducted by the Rev. Donald Campbell of Zion Presbyterian Church; the Rev. J. Fraser MacDonald of the York-Covehead Pastoral Charge, United Church of Canada; the Rev. Leonard MacDonald, retired Roman Catholic pastor of St. Eugene's Church, Covehead Road and St. Michael's Church, Corran Ban; the Rev. Peter MacDonald of St. Paul's Anglican Church; and the music was by the Royal Canadian Legion Choir, with organist Mrs. Warren Marshall. [Information in the two preceding paragraphs represents edited text from *The Sands of Time*, compiled by the Stanhope Women's Institute History Committee, The Stanhope Women's Institute, 1984, pp 163-164]

Marjorie MacLauchlan concluded her remarks with the observation that the *Falmouth Settlers' Cairn* represents the courage and perseverance displayed by the ancestors of this community. It stands as a symbol to remind us to be more appreciative to be living in this great place.

And that, my friends, is a short version of the “why and how” of the *Falmouth Settlers’ Cairn*. Do take time to stop and have a good look at it the next time you are in the area.

WINNER OF THE FALMOUTH TROPHY FOR 2015

FALMOUTH TROPHY

One of the projects of the Stanhope Historical Society (SHS) is on display at the Stanhope Golf and Country Club. The Society had a Falmouth Trophy designed, again using the cairn likeness. The SHS presented this trophy to the Stanhope Golf and Country Club in 1993.

The Falmouth Trophy is presented annually to the most improved golfer at Stanhope Golf and Country Club by the SHS. Members vie for it annually.



Jan Palmer, President, presenting the Falmouth Trophy to Derek Misener on October 24, 2015

Winner of the Falmouth Trophy for 2015 is 27-year old Derek Misener, eldest child of Mike and Margie Misener. The family lives in Stanhope near the golf course. Derek was the first bitten by the “golf bug” when he began playing as a middle school

student. As the years went by Derek's interest in all aspects of the game grew. He worked at the golf course for a few summers, and he is a graduate of Holland College's golf management program.

Observing his love of the game, both Derek's younger sister, Michaela, and his dad, Mike, took to this challenging game in earnest. In fact, Mike was the first family member to win the Falmouth Trophy. That was in 2004. Michaela soon followed, winning this honour in 2006 and then repeated her victory in 2008. Derek's younger brother Brad is now playing golf, so this SHS trophy may see yet another Misener name on it in the years ahead.

Derek informed your editor that he and Michaela have played somewhat less golf the last two or three years, adding that his recent layoff may have actually been helpful in allowing him to become the "most improved golfer" last year. The fact is that all the Miseners are fine golfers and we may one day see one of their names on the coveted club championship.

YOUR IDEAS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

The Stanhope Historical Society is always eager to learn of speakers and program ideas of interest to our

membership. The Executive meets to discuss possibilities for upcoming meetings, but they seek and welcome your input.

If you have newsworthy items that you believe would be of interest to our readers please forward them to your editor:

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2015-16 EXECUTIVE

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Vice President & Editor, <i>Stanhope Times</i>	Allen Stoolmiller
Secretary	Rosemary Vigeant
Treasurers	Lorna & Donna Thompson
Directors	John Baird Dorothy Johnston Joan Saulier Wayne Storey

The Executive has held just one meeting thus far and that was on January 11, 2016. A number of administrative matters were reviewed and a series of new program initiatives were tabled for discussion.

CATALOGUE OF PAST PROGRAMS

The array of programs sponsored by the SHS over the years is truly impressive. *A Catalogue of Past Programs* first distributed at the Heritage meeting in 2015 has been updated and is being redistributed with this newsletter.

ARCHIVES OF SHS NEWSLETTERS

Should you wish to access any back issues of our SHS newsletters, beginning with Volume 22, No.1, February, 2015, These may soon be found on the website for the North Shore Community Centre:

<http://www.stanhopecovehead.pe.ca/>

Community ▶ Organizations ▶
Stanhope Historical Society ▶
Newsletters ▶ 2015 and 2016

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual Memberships (normally payable at the fall meeting) are only \$5.00.

DEEP THOUGHTS

“I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road.”

Steven Hawking in his book *Black Holes and Baby Universes*, Bantam Dell Publishing Group, 1993

Q: What's the difference between ignorance and apathy?

A: I don't know and I don't care.

“Golf is a game whose aim is to hit a very small ball into an even smaller hole, with weapons singularly ill-designed for the purpose.”

Winston Churchill
