



STANHOPE TIMES

Past & Present

Published by the Stanhope Historical Society

"PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE"

July, 2016

Vol. 23, No. 7

Please mark your calendars!

Stanhope Historical Society's Summer Program

***"Tip-to-Tip" with
Stirling Stratton***

**Stanhope Place
2784 Bayshore Road, Stanhope
Monday, August 22, 2016
7:30 pm**

ALL ARE WELCOME

On behalf of the Executive, I invite both members and visitors to attend this highly entertaining and educational program. I would urge you to come early as seating is limited, and we look forward to a large turnout.

THE WORKS OF STIRLING STRATTON

It is not often that one can describe our presenter as *prolific* and *artistic*, but our next speaker is both. We are looking forward to this presentation by this popular Island artist/author.

One might think that someone who has produced this volume of published material has been at it for most of his life. But Stirling is actually a “late bloomer,” having only begun his pen & ink sketching and historic commentaries following his retirement as an educator at age 65.

Most people became familiar with Stirling Stratton’s work in the late 1990’s through the regular appearance of his sketches of Island churches in Island papers. Completion of his first book, “The Complete Book of Island Churches - In The Year 2000”, might have been labour enough for some. However, Stirling’s interest in history and love for teaching others has provided another fruitful career. His most recent publication is his 2016 Legacy Edition, *1000 Island Images of Historic Interest*. This leather-bound collection of his books is 457 pages in length and denotes 564 Historic Sites which are illustrated

with over 1000 original sketches.

<http://www.sketchesbystratton.ca/>

Much has been written about Mr. Stratton and you might enjoy reading the article by *The Guardian* reporter Dave Stewart, which was published on October 2, 2015 on the occasion of the publication of Stirling’s 7th book of historic images.

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/News/Local/2015-10-02/article-4297373/Charlottetown-artist-publishes-seventh-book-of-historic-images/1>

You may read descriptions this artist/author’s individual books at his website:

Stratton Pen & Ink -

<http://www.sketchesbystratton.ca/BooksSketches.html>

**THANKS TO
LLOYD & MARY GATES
AND TO
CAPT. TOM HAMILTON
FOR AN INSPIRING
AND MEMORABLE
PROGRAM**

This nation has an enviable tradition of honouring its veterans and members of the Canadian Forces. While wearing of the poppy and attending Remembrance Day ceremonies may be a couple of the traditions that first come to mind, there are countless forms of tribute.

Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton, who has been actively researching and teaching Canadian Military History for two decades, has become renown for his passion of honouring Veterans through dramas which tell the true stories of Veterans who have served Canada during times of war.

It was fortunate that Tom could reprise his tribute to Lloyd Gates for his service in the RCAF (1943-1946) & RCAF Reserve (1952-1964). This program was first presented during a Remembrance Day service at St. Mark's Prebyterian Church in Charlottetown in 2015.

On June 20, 2016, the Stanhope Historical Society was pleased to honour Leading Aircraftman, and later Flight Lieutenant, Lloyd Gates, for his dedication, courage, and commitment to Canada.



Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton presenting "An Airman's Story" – Lloyd Gates. Tom recounts events from Lloyd's early life and military service, focusing specifically on events between May 1944 and New Year's Day 1945. Leading Aircraftman Gates was trained as a radio telephone operator and he proudly wore the blue uniform of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). However, when his Squadron arrived in France, they were ordered to change out of their AF blues and don British Khaki battle dress because the AF blues looked too much like the German uniforms. Wartime is no time for mistaken identity. The most terrifying day of the war for Lloyd was New Year's Day 1945. The Germans launched Operation Bodenplatte in which they put over 900 aircraft in the air to attack every airfield in the British and U.S. sector. Having survived this harrowing event, Lloyd then learned of the loss of his brother, Bob. Bob was one of 22 passengers on board an unarmed transport and a German messerschmidt shot down the plane. Lloyd was repatriated back to Canada in late March 1946. On April 6 Lloyd arrived in Charlottetown during one of the worse snowstorms of the winter.

Capt. Hamilton serves in team ministry with his wife, Rev. Paula Hamilton at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church. He is the Military Chaplain to the Prince Edward Island Regiment and Padre to the Charlottetown Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.



Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton
& Rev. Paula Hamilton

Following Tom's tribute to Lloyd, Mary Gates narrated a slide show which documented the military service of Lloyd and his brother, Bob, as well as sharing photos of places of significance to the couple during their European trips.



Lloyd and Mary Gates

Lloyd's military service has been acknowledged by the government's awarding of an impressive number of medals – the weight of which Lloyd notes is responsible for his slight stoop. Attendees were particularly impressed at being able to see Lloyd's medals up close. Of very special interest is his most recent award. This is the *Knight of the Legion of Honour* medal -- the French government's highest honour, which is bestowed upon individuals for their efforts in helping liberate France during the Second World War.



EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD TOUR 2004

60th Anniversary of D-Day Invasion: June 2-15, 2004

Author: **Mary Gates***

The Battlefield Tour is the very best yet
Taking us to places we'll never forget.
Peter guides us on Coach No. 2,
He kindly informs us what we should do.
Adam drives his coach everywhere with ease
He can put it anywhere, except up in the trees!
Together they navigate, side by side,
While the rest of us sit back and enjoy the ride.
Over hills, valleys, and rugged terrain
To many places we won't see again.
Past beautiful fields of barley and wheat
And little old ladies sweeping the street.
Poppies still grow in the fields galore
Reminding us of what went on here before.
Two wars came and our youth answered the call
Never dreaming that one day they would fall.
Their mothers are sad, so are the dads
Never to laugh with their lads.
D-Day at Juno was a special affair
Royalty, veterans and the CBC were there.
On to Vimy, Passchendaele and Beny-sur-Mer
Thousands of Canadian boys are buried there.
Was it God's plan they should have to endure
The horrors of war, which still have no cure?
Planet Earth is here to respect and enjoy
Not to waste, ruin and destroy.

We mourn the loss of our valiant young men
Who died in a foreign war and won't be home home again.
They lie in cemeteries, row on row,
Here in the lands where the poppies grow.
So when Remembrance Day comes around, the least we can do
Is give two minutes of silence, bow, and say a grateful "Thank You".

*** Written in Belgium, June 13, 2004**

SCOTTISH DIASPORA TAPESTRY

The following information and request has been submitted by

Mary J (MacDonald) Gallant on behalf of the Scottish community of PEI

In 2013-14 the PEI Scottish Settlers Historical Society Inc. (PEISSHS) spear headed the stitching of five tapestry panels telling the story of the Scots on Prince Edward Island. It was part of the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry- which can be accessed with this link:

<http://www.scottishdiasporatapestry.org/>

The tapestry was a world wide project completed by descendants of the Scots Diaspora. In all there are more than 300 panels. In 2014 the tapestry traveled throughout Scotland and since then has been travelling around the world. This year it is coming to North America and it will be on PEI in October of this year.

The tapestry will be on display at the Confederation Center in the Concourse area for two weeks and the opening of the exhibit will be on October 8th.

One of the people who will be accompanying the tapestry is

Dr. Gordon Prestoungrange. He is the Baron of Prestoungrange, and he once taught at the University of Prince Edward Island. The Baron recently remarked, "Many moons ago I taught summer school at UPEI and helped briefly at the Marketing Development Centre so I know a wee bit about the island"

There will be costs to host and the PEISSHS is asking for support from the Scots community of PEI. The PEISSHS Inc has charitable status and can offer receipts. If anyone wishes to donate ,please make cheques payable to PEISSHS Inc and send it to 81 Prince Street Charlottetown PEI C1A 4R3 Please indicate that your donation is for the Tapestry event.

Mary Gallant has attached a letter that she would like distributed to the Stanhope settlers group. This letter is reproduced on the last page of this newsletter.

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 its members 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:

Allen Stoolmiller
a.stoolmiller@islandtelecom.com
 (902) 672-1462

MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

2015-16 EXECUTIVE

Office	Office Holders
Past President	Jan Palmer
President	Louis Watts
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 last met on June 13, 2016. The next meeting will be September 12, 2014.

DEEP THOUGHTS

Do's and don't 's for world travelers:

In a Bucharest hotel lobby -- *"The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable."*

At a hotel in Athens -- *"Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 AM daily."*

On the menu of a Swiss restaurant -- *"Our wines leave you nothing to hope for."*

In a Rome laundry -- *"Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time."*

In a Bangkok dry cleaner's -- *"Drop your trousers here for best results."*

On the box of a clockwork toy made in Hong Kong -- *"Garanteed to work throughout its useful life."*

In a Tokyo shop -- *"Our nylons cost more than common, but you'll find they are best in the long run."*