



STANHOPE TIMES

Past & Present

Published by the Stanhope Historical Society

" PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE "

May, 2016

Vol. 23, No. 5

Please mark your calendars!

Recognition of the heroic service of Lloyd Gates

(RCAF 1943-1946) & (RCAF Reserve 1952-1964)

Dramatist: Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton

Travelogue: Lloyd and Mary Gates

Stanhope Place
2784 Bayshore Road, Stanhope

Monday, June 20, 2016
7:30 pm

All are welcome

We are pleased to announce the participants for this very special program.

RECOGNITION OF THE MILITARY SERVICE RECORD OF LLOYD GATES

Lloyd and Mary Gates are familiar to all of us as former long-time residents of Stanhope and members of this organization.

Lloyd was in the news as recently as February 20th of this year because he is now one of just 13 individuals to have received the Knight of the Legion of Honour medal, the French governments highest honour.

Lloyd and Mary have appeared before us before in a summer program entitled , “A D-Day Veteran Remembers” . That was about a decade ago.

Next month, we will have an opportunity to learn more about Lloyd Gates military service through a dramatic presentation by Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton. While Tom’s dramatizations have become renowned throughout PEI, the origins of his interests in military life and activities and how these relate to his life’s work may be less appreciated.

THOMAS J. HAMILTON



Tom’s awareness of warfare began as a boy when many Saturday afternoons were spent with his Dad watching television documentaries on the First and Second World Wars. As a youth and through his undergraduate years, he continued to question “war” – what was it that drove people and nations to harness all their means to subdue their enemies; and in the midst of the carnage was there any purpose or hope? Such questions helped propel Tom through high school and into collegiate and graduate studies leading to his B.A., M.Div., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees.

Many of the stepping stones along his academic path can be gleaned from the *Acknowledgements* section of Tom's 2003 doctoral dissertation – "*Padres under Fire*": *A Study of the Canadian Chaplain Services (Protestant and Roman Catholic) in the Second World War*"

Tom relates that in grade 7, when he was struggling academically and intellectually, his Middle School Principal, Mr. McMurray, gave him confidence and encouragement which helped propel him through High School and into university. During his undergraduate studies he discovered Thomas Sinclair-Faulkner's dissertation *For Christian Civilization: The Churches and Canada's War Effort, 1939-1942*. The author briefly mentioned the work of chaplains but noted that it was a topic which had received little attention over the years.

When Tom enrolled in Ontario Theological Seminary [now Tyndale University College and Seminary], Dr. Ian Rennie provided the opportunity of discovering more about the work of these priests, ministers and rabbis which cast some illumination upon the void identified by Sinclair-Faulkner. Further opportunities to specifically understand the ministry of United

Church and Anglican chaplains came from independent study with Dr. Phyllis Airhart, of Emmanuel College, and Dr. Allan Hayes, of Wycliffe College. At that time Tom met Duff Crerar whose dissertation on chaplains in the First World War has become the standard reference in this field of study. The friendships and encouragement of these four academics challenged Tom to think critically and passionately about this topic.

The *Abstract* of Tom Hamilton's dissertation notes that throughout the centuries morale or *esprit de corps* has been regarded as an important ingredient in successful military action. In the Second World War 1,253 Canadian ministers, priests and rabbis donned military uniforms and served as Canadian army, air force, and navy chaplains. The work of these padres included religious and secular duties which the Principal Chaplains, Brigadiers George A Wells and C. Leo Nelligan, described as "providing for the men's spiritual and moral welfare". Having clear responsibilities for the physical, mental and spiritual state of the men, chaplains acted as agents of morale. For many religious-minded Canadian sailors, soldiers, and airmen, chaplains served as morale officers providing help for practical needs, acting as counsellors, and attending to

men in battle as a source of strength and hope.

Tom's 475-page dissertation chronicles the growth and development of the Canadian Chaplain Services during the Second World War. The opening chapters establish chaplaincy within the historical context of morale and describe the difficulties encountered in creating the chaplain services. These included the churches failure to prepare for war, and their ideological struggle with pacifism.

The middle chapters examine (1) the immense task of transforming civilian ministers into military chaplains, (2) developing a chaplaincy bureaucracy, and (3) the uncertainties involved in prioritizing and implementing their tasks and duties in Canada.

The latter chapters explore the chaplains role while Canadians trained in Britain, and their efforts to develop relationships with the men and to fight their own battles against a scarcity of transportation vehicles and shortages of chaplains. They also assess the army chaplains' work in battle and their opportunities to raise the men's morale based upon the padre's presence (physical, mental, and spiritual) with them. This

presence and relationship is carried into the final chapter where the ability of navy and air force chaplains to discern the mental strain of the men, and provide strength in the face of personal problems and death becomes apparent. For countless religious-minded sailors, soldiers and airmen Canada's military chaplains were a source of friendship and hope which helped sustain their morale in the midst of boredom and battle.

Tom notes that completion of this *opus* was much more than an academic treatise. The material represents a significant portion of his life, and represents the many issues and questions which have resulted in introspection and answers, doubts and faith, disbelief and hope.

To the many organizations, archivists, and librarians who generously shared their time and expertise, Tom expressed a most heartfelt "thank you". During the time of his research, Tom interviewed all the living Protestant World War II chaplains and many of the Roman Catholic as well. Many of the Chaplains and families entrusted Tom with their personal papers including war diaries and correspondence which provided unique insight to their experiences.

Tom's primary occupation is a co-minister of St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Sherwood (corner of Brackley Point Road & Pine) where he serves in team ministry with his wife Rev. Paula Hamilton. They have served the church family at St. Mark's for the past 17 years.



Tom taught for 13 years at the University of Prince Edward Island in the History Department and introduced the courses: *The Canadian Experience of the First World War* and *The Canadian Experience of the*

Second World War and taught various other history courses within the Department.

Tom has also done extensive work as an Historical Consultant with Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC). He has edited numerous publications and booklets and has taught courses and led seminars for the staff. The course, "How Well Do You Know the Veterans You Serve?" is one that Tom wrote and presented several times to staff of different departments within VAC. He has also given seminars to familiarize staff who have travelled overseas to commemorate key events – such as the Battle of the Somme and Vimy Ridge.

In July 2012 Tom received a Queen's Commission and was commissioned as a Captain in the Canadian Army to serve as Military Chaplain to the Prince Edward Island Regiment (PEIR). In 2014 he was also appointed a Padre to the Charlottetown Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. In addition to his duties as a Chaplain to the PEIR, he served as Brigade Chaplain on the 36th Brigade Exercise "Northbound Trooper" in Goose Bay, Labrador in February 2014 and has also served as Base Chaplain at Camp Aldershot in Nova Scotia.

REMEMBRANCE DAY OBSERVANCES



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*

For more than a decade our Society has sponsored the

Stanhope Historical Society Remembrance Day Literary Contest

for Grade 4, 5, 6 students of L.M Montgomery Elementary School (LMMES). The SHS congratulates Principal, Heather Cudmore, and the LMMES teachers and students for embracing this activity and incorporating it in their curricula.

Over the years Capt. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton has participated in a variety of Remembrance Day activities, but the one for which he has become most widely known are his dramatizations of actual events that occurred during an honouree's Canadian military service.

A Partial List of Tom Hamilton's Dramas

Honouree	Locale	Comments
John McCrae	Buried in Wimereux, France	Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae (872 – 1918) was a Canadian poet, physician, author, artist and soldier during World War I, and a surgeon during the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium. He is best known for writing the famous war memorial poem "In Flanders Fields".
Earl Gordon Richards	Vimy	Lt. Richards is one of the first of the 3,598 soldiers who died during the battle of Vimy Ridge. His body rests in the shadow of Vimy Ridge at the Ecoivres military cemetery
Joe Ready	PEI	Joseph Ready, a Pilot Officer from Kensington, PEI was killed in April of 1941 while flying with a Royal Air Force Squadron based at Detling in Kent, England.
Padre George Claremont Taylor	PEI	Rev. Capt. George C. Taylor (1876-1932), Minister of Zion (1912-1925). Enlisted in 1916 and served until 1919. He passed away in Bermuda.

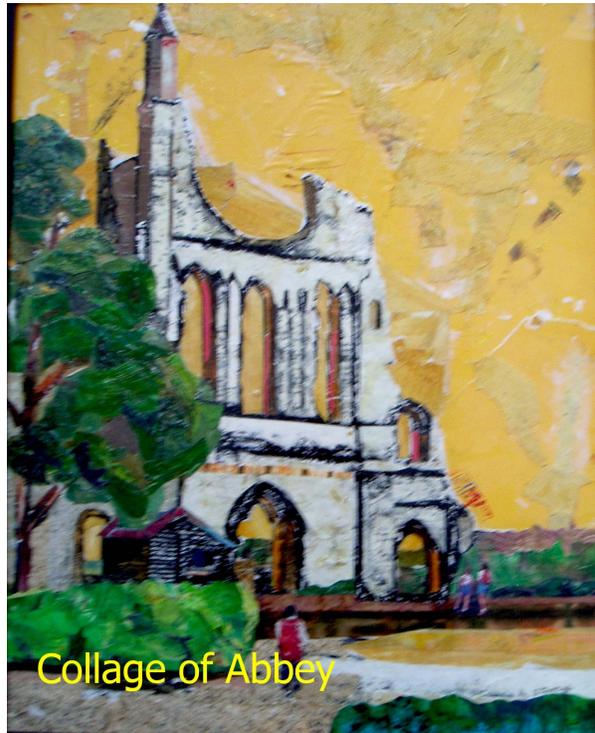
Norman Donaldson	ON	Capt. Donaldson went overseas in July 1943 and served in England, France, Belgium and Holland, with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada. Norman was twice wounded in battle and each time recuperated and returned to his unit. Then on February 26, 1945 he was wounded in battle for the Hochwald Forest and died as a result of his injuries.
Padre Ray McCleary		War Diary of Senior Chaplain (P) Third Canadian Infantry Division - June-August 1944. His final entry on August 31 was made in at jubilant liberated French village
Angus MacLean	PEI	MacLean left farming to enlist in the RCAF during World War II, serving from 1939 to 1947 and achieving the rank of Wing Commander. MacLean's bomber was shot down, and he evaded capture in Nazi-occupied Europe with the help of the Belgian escape-line Comète with Andrée De Jongh. His political life including being PEI Premier (1979-1981).
Hugh Houlter	PEI	Served in World War I (1914-1918) with the 52 nd Battalion Regiment
George Lawrence Price	NS	He was the last Canadian Soldier killed in the First World War. He died two minutes before 11 am on November 11, 1918.
Padre Albert McCreery	ON	He was killed in May 1945 by a German sniper even though he was a Padre and in a Red Cross van at the time.
Padre Walter Brown	ON	Walter was the first Canadian Chaplain to step foot on the beach at Juno Beach on D-Day with just a suitcase in hand on 6 June 1944. The details regarding his death are somewhat confusing, but shortly after midnight he and others delivering supplies to a field hospital were killed by Hitler Youth under orders of German General Kurt Meyer.
David Hume	US-PEI	Second World War, US Army - Purple Heart
Dick Carson	PEI	Second World War
Bill Monteith	PEI	Korean War
Padre Alfred Seaman	PEI	Second World War – He died in France from shrapnel wounds, a month after D-Day — and on the day of his 10th wedding anniversary. http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/p-e-i-chaplain-s-sacrifice-brought-to-life-in-drama-1.2830948
Bob Santer	PEI	Peacekeeping service Bob is an avid military archivist

SOLO EXHIBITION BY STANHOPE ARTIST ALISON STOREY

The show, **Medieval Times**, will include over 40 interpretative art works and other imaginative art using her favourite mediums; collage, acrylic mixed media and printmaking processes. Her art work will take you back to the Middle Ages, when castles dominated the landscape and the regalia of Knights and their Ladies were specific to their fiefdoms. Most pieces are inspired by the historical research of her birth county of Cumberland, in Northern England, and the turbulent period after the Norman conquest of England in 1066 A.D.

Alison's love of history, whether books, visiting castles, museums, and genealogical research, is a fundamental part of her life, just as art is her passion. When she isn't drawing or painting 'pleine aire', she is in her home studio in Stanhope working on a series of work relating to her environment or her interests.

The exhibition opens on May 25th, and is on display until June 5th. The **Guild Gallery** is at 111 Queen Street, Charlottetown, and is open daily 9 am to 5 pm as well as during evening performances at the Guild Theatre.



Alison has lived in Canada since 1971; she moved to PEI in 2011. She has been instructing acrylic painting and drawing classes at Seniors college for three years and gives workshops in Printmaking to children and adults. She has had numerous solo, juried and joint exhibitions in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, PEI and Salt Lake City.

Another of the artist's works appears in the May issue of *The Buzz* (p A22).

<http://buzzon.com/index.php/25280-medieval-times>

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:

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

2015-16 EXECUTIVE

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The Executive last met on March 14, 2016. President, Lou Watts will convene a meeting of the Executive on Monday, June 13th.