



Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and District
Historical Society

October 2019 — Issue 307

John Murray: Oceanographer

Professor Ronald Roberts Ph.D. has had a distinguished career as a veterinary scientist. Born in Liverpool during the “blitz”, he has resided and worked in many countries including the US, Thailand, Scotland and England. Currently he resides in Scotland. Dr. Ronald Roberts is widely thought to have revolutionized the attitude of the veterinary profession to the significance of fish and shellfish. “By his research, his teaching, his writing and the force of his personality, he built an Institute of world calibre.” He has inspired veterinary scientists to continue his work. He has received many awards including the “Queen’s Award for Exports from Her majesty Queen Elizabeth II” and Princess Diana also visited the Institute he founded.



What brings this distinguished scholar to Cobourg? Now that Dr. Roberts has retired from this work, he has been studying the work and life of Sir John Murray, born in Cobourg, considered to be the Father of Oceanography. Sir John Murray who worked in Scotland where Dr. Roberts met his grandson, Sir Antony Murray, produced work significant in marine and freshwater science and even to the outcome of World War I.

Doors open at 7:00 PM for coffee and cookies. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. Guests are always welcome. Admission, including refreshments, is free for members and \$5 for non-members. All are welcome so bring a friend or two! See you on Tuesday, October 22.

Our Previous Meeting

History of Irish and European Bagpipes

Steafan Hannigan thrilled audience who listened intently to his talk on the history of Irish and European Bagpipes. Steafan is a renowned musician who has had an amazing career. He composed the music for a 24-episode, animated series which aired worldwide in 2015, worked with a diverse range of musicians such as Bjork, Depeche Mode, Loreena McKennitt and AfroCelts. He has appeared on MTV, BBC and CBC. Along with his wife Saskia Tomkins, he was hired to work on developing the hit theatre show, *Come From Away*. Steafan was born and raised in Belfast, Northern Ireland and came to Canada 12 years ago with his



wife and three children. He is also technical Director for Fourth Line Theatre. He has been involved and appeared in such television shows as *Friends*, the Canadian show *Coppers*, and been a session musician on *Black Harbour*, *Relic Hunter* and *Earth Final Conflict*. Many feel that playing a bagpipe is simply blowing to make a noise. There is far more involved! Note the fingering by Steafan in the photos.



Cobourg Historical Society Program: 2019 — 2020

Date	Speaker	Topic
November 26, 2019	Gail Corbett	Barnardo Children
January 28, 2020	Randy Barber	Trench Art
February 25, 2020	Michael Peterman	Delicious Mirth: The Life and Times of James McCarroll
March 24, 2020	Leigh Barnum	The Barnum Family History
April 28, 2020	Dave Patterson	The Extraordinary Number of Indian Gifts to the World
May 26, 2020	Randy Barber	Wine and Cheese social at the Loft Discussion of Churchill followed by screening of <i>The Darkest Hour</i>

Armistice18 Update

CDHS members were delighted and impressed with Cobourg's celebration of the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI. Others agree! Cobourg's Armistice18, together with two dozen other celebrations, has been shortlisted for the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Community Programming.

"Canada's History is pleased to announce this year's shortlist for the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Community Programming. The organizations featured represent remarkable and inspiring initiatives that encourage public engagement in Canadian history. The award will honour two recipients, one French and one English, for innovation in community programming".

Visit <https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/awards/2019-shortlist-for-the-governor-general-s-history-award-for-excellence-in-community-programming> to learn more about the award and the others on the short list.

Member Matters

Santa is Coming!

After the enthusiasm at the Canada Day Parade the CDHS Executive is considering participating in Cobourg's Santa Claus Parade on November 17. If you have suggestions for a float or want to participate please contact Leona by email to leonawoods@sympatico.ca or at 905 372-7624.

New Members

Please join me in welcoming our newest members: Hannah LeBlanc and Ian and Beryl Grieve.

Proposed Tour of Union Cemetery

The Union Cemetery, a non-denominational burial cemetery on Elgin Street in Cobourg, is the final resting place of many important Cobourgians who made significant contributions to our community. Walking through the cemetery you will see the simple headstones of the veterans of WWI who fell during that war, the headstone of Colonel Foote, a Victoria Cross recipient, chaplain and M.P., the headstone of Reuben Jackson, architect and builder, and others. You will see family names that you recognize now: Burnham, Turpin, Hoskin, Closson. Cemetery walks that reveal clusters of dates on the tombstones speak to epidemics, and family tragedies. We have an opportunity to unbury the history in this cemetery by

researching, designing, and conducting a cemetery walk in 2020. The history of the cemetery can be found at <https://www.cobourgunion.com/history.htm>. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Leona at 905 372-7624 or leonawoods@sympatico.ca.

Announcements

What is Heritage?

Explore the modern meaning of heritage as panelists present a Fireside Chat discussing the changing views on what is considered heritage in the 21st century and then stay for a hands-on demonstration of preservation and repair methods for the fabric of heritage buildings. This event is sponsored by the Cobourg Heritage Advisory Committee. Saturday, October 26, 1-4 pm, Venture13, 739 D'Arcy Street. You can RSVP by email to djohnson@cobourg.ca or visit <http://cobourgheritage.eventbrite.ca>.

LAV III Monument Unveiling Event

The Town of Cobourg, in partnership with Canada Company, will be hosting an event to formally unveil the LAV III monument on Friday, November 8th starting at 3:30 p.m. at 700 D'Arcy Street. All members of the public are welcome to attend. To learn more about Canada Company visit <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9449>

Lakeshore Genealogical Society

The Lakeshore Genealogical Society has scheduled several meetings of particular interest. LGS meetings are on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30pm to 9:00pm in the HTM Building, 1185 Elgin St. West, Cobourg:

Thursday, November 14, 2019 – Researching Religious Records

Speaker: Gabe Blaschuk, PLCGS:

Thursday, December 14, 2019 – Potluck & more

For additional information visit the Genealogical Society website at <http://www.lakeshoregenealogicalsociety.ca>

Sifton-Cook Heritage Centre

The Sifton Cook Heritage Centre will be open in October on Sundays from 1pm – 5pm. Visit their website at <https://www.cobourgmuseum.ca/> or phone (905)-373-7222 for further information.

CDHS Executive for 2019 – 2020

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