

Hastings North District

Twenty six guests from New Zealand and their Trent Valley Area Canadian guide, from Alberta, on a cross-country tour were in the Stirling area from July 10-12, 1997. From the welcoming reception to the closing "Dinner with Friends" at which Marg Harris, president of FWIO, expressed greetings, the stop proved an experience to remember.

The guests, hosted by members in the District of Hastings West and North W.I., visited farm operations, agriculture related businesses and tourist attractions in the counties of Hastings and Prince Edward.

Co-ordinator, Rosella Clancy and her committee felt this worthwhile venture promoted goodwill, made new friends and showcased agriculture. How's this for a centennial activity?

Photo: Bus Tour hosted by Hastings West and North W.I. ▶



Hastings North District celebrated the Centennial of Women's Institute by hosting an "Evening of Fashion", that was representative of the past 100 years. There was an eclectic collection of clothes that mirrored the events and talents of members over the years - wedding parties, suits made at W.I. workshops, etc. Models were members from the branches, as well as family members and friends. The audience enjoyed the background music of a keyboard and entertaining description by Karen Bailey.

A musical memory lane from the last century was provided by the 24 member group of the Bay of Quinte "Sweet Adelines", to open and close the evening. Half-time entertainment was supplied by the "the Flipped Out Flappers" by the Hastings County Junior Women's Institute. It was a complete success, with the hall full. Special thanks to the District President, Jean Pollock and the planning committee.

Photo: "After the Fashion Show" ▼



Hart's Riggs

Hart's Riggs branch celebrated the 100th anniversary in style. On Feb. 18, 1997 twenty-two members and ten guests and five members from Madoc Township council attended a Celebration Tea in the Institute Hall. What was noteworthy was the fact that a twenty year lease was signed between the Council and the Institute for their continued use of it. The lunch served was from the suggested menu. Members also participated in the District Fashion Show in April.

The Institute purchased two "For Home and Country" History books and placed them in the local library and the branch library. At the Madoc Agriculture Fair a display board was set up of pictures and events of the Institute.

Photo: Six charter members at the 100th celebration L-R - Doris Pigden, Mable Devolin, Vera Burnside, Daisy Bateman, Elsie Franks, Winnie Ketcheson ▼



Queensboro

Following their Feb. 19 Anniversary Celebration, one of the members wrote the following song to the tune of "I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts", which she sang to them. The writer is Goldie Holmes, a local folk historian and maker of quilts. Said the secretary, "she is 85 years young and as bright as a silver dollar".

100th Anniversary Song

19th February, 1897

The place was Stoney Creek Ontario,

Adelaide Hoodless talked to folk

And this to them she spoke.

To pasteurize and sterilize the milk for health evoke;

They talked about economy and welfare

and discussed what should be done and why.

Then the constitution was drafted

At the Erland Lee Homestead

and so it was the start of W.I.

Chorus: It is their 100th Anniversary, It's a universal celebration, see;

To the Women's Institute I belong and I'm glad to sing this song

For this extra special anniversary

Springbrook

The Springbrook branch have enjoyed commemorating the Centennial at their meetings in 1997. At one, our thoughts turned to 100 years ago as we reminisced and enjoyed pictures and styles of earlier years.

Four members took part in the District Fashion Show, depicting wearing apparel for 1897 to the present day. A few members joined with Peterborough District for their celebration at Lang Pioneer Village. In May, we planted the W.I. Rose at Heritage Hall near Springbrook.