

# Bent River W.I. Hall

The Bent River Women's Institute, in conjunction with St. Thomas Anglican Guild of Ullswater, held a successful meat pie luncheon on Saturday, April 16.

A feature of the gathering was the unveiling of the newly installed historic bell. The bell from the 1887 to 1911 schoolhouse in Bent River had been moved to The Cliffs in approximately 1914. It was recovered and stored by the Burton family for

60 years until it was donated to the Bent River W.I. last fall thanks to Bob Burton.

Delbert Kingshott and Brian Thompson cleaned the bell and did minor repairs.

Thanks to Steve Spooner, a newcomer to Bent River and proprietor of the Sugar Mountain Arts Gallery, for donating his time and expertise to craft a unique oak wall bracket to display the 60-pound bell. Thanks also to

Dave Wegner who so expertly finished the superb wall corbel.

This is the second bell to be recently hung at the hall. Late last summer Stuart Barnes and the Beaver Creek Community Services Work Crew built a replica of the bell tower from the 1912 Bent River school. It was installed in August with help from Jim Quinton and Mel Smith's boom truck.

This is another piece of our history reclaimed.



BOB BURTON, donator of the original Bent River School bell shakes hands with Steve Spooner, crafter of the bell hanger. Photos by Nancy Thompson.)