



Old-fashioned lunch pails

This collection of old-fashioned lunch pails is one of many interesting collections of artifacts and memorabilia on display at the Oxford County Museum School in Burgessville. The lunch pail collection is one that interests both young and old alike. (NG Photo).

Museum school popular spot for pupil visits *July 1981*

By SUZANNE HANSON

The Canadian flag is young in comparison to Britain's Union Jack. Such flags are symbols of national identity and people have fought and died under them for the countries they represent.

The fact that Canadians have never fought under the present flag, may explain why we, as a people, have not yet developed the strong sense of identity with our flag that many other nations have.

It is because of the history of the Union Jack and its role in the early schools of this country that it has been singled out to receive special attention in the program at Oxford County's Museum School in Burgessville.

In addition to innumerable other artifacts of an educational and historical nature, there are a variety of Union Jacks throughout the school and children delight in raising and saluting it and learning of its history.

Students from Oxford County schools that attend the Museum School spend a great deal of time studying the Union Jack and its history as did school children in the early 19th Century.

The Museum School has been designed to re-create that earlier era of education for today's school children and the Union Jack was a major area of study during that period, said Museum School teacher Marie Avey.

She suspects there was almost more emphasis on the Union Jack in Canadian schools than there was at that time in England.

"There was a tremendous feeling for the Union Jack in the 1920's," said Mrs. Avey. This lasted throughout the period of the First World

War and through to the Second World War.

In addition to an abundance of Union Jacks at the Museum School, there is an abundance of other artifacts and memorabilia purchased by the county principals' association or donated to the school.

Among the latest additions are an antique rocking horse and a version of grandpa's hot wheel - a toy called the loop the loop. An illustration of the toy can be found in the 1929-30 issue of the Eaton's catalogue also at the school. The collection of early Eatons and Simpsons catalogues, magazines and books at the school is extensive. The book collection alone numbers over 3,000 books, said Mrs. Avey.

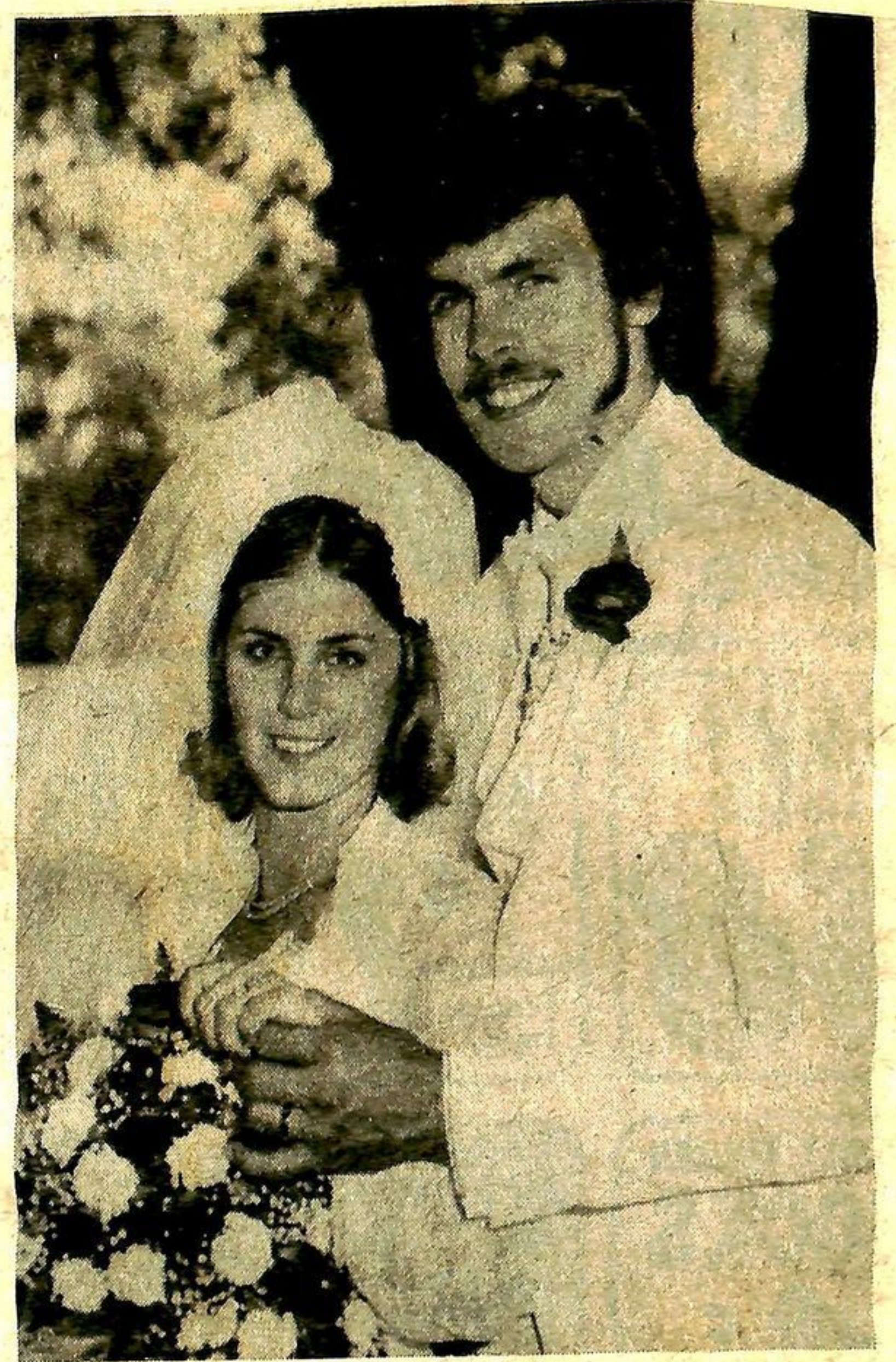
Other items of interest to young and old alike include a large collection of early lunch pails. How many date themselves when they admit they carried a lard or honey pail to school as a lunch pail?

During the school year, students from across the country make use of the centre as part of a historical study of the educational past. It is also open to groups for special tours by appointment.

Roughly 1,200 students visit the museum school during the school year where they experienced school "as it was" under the teaching of Mrs. Avey.

Open Houses are also held throughout the year for students, teachers, parents and other interested persons to attend.

The school is always on the look-out for new items to add to its museum collection in order to better illustrate the educational history portrayed in the museum school setting.



DEVRIES-GILMAR *1981*

Sheena Marie DeVries of RR 2, Burgessville, and Keith Edwin Gilmar of RR 6, Woodstock were married at South Zorra Baptist Church July 25 by pastor Dan Biggar.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete DeVries, RR 2, Burgessville, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gilmar, RR 6, Woodstock.



Bridge winners

Kay Walker, left, of Norwich and Dora Gilmour of Burgessville won the non-master pairs trophy last Friday night at Tillsonburg's Golden Leaf sectional tournament. (TN Photo)