

# School Essay Records Glen Williams History

A lot of research went into an essay which earned Allen Tiasma an "A" in her English course at Georgetown Christian school.

The essay was written on the history of Glen Williams where she lives with her family and she has consented to let the Herald reproduce it so there will be a permanent record for the future.

The land on which the village now stands, 400 acres, was a complete wilderness owned by the late Mr. Mulrhead of Niagara. In 1824 it was purchased by Charles Williams and his family who were the first settlers.

Soon other settlers were attracted by the magnificent water privilege and enterprise. This was the beginning of Williamsburg. At first Williamsburg was only 200 acres with only eight houses which were in the area of Charles Williams' home. When post office was established the name was changed to Glen Williams. Glen means narrow valley.

The first church was the Methodist Episcopal, now the United Church. It was a wooden structure. Not long ago brick was put around it. The Anglican church service was held in the Town Hall by a Georgetown minister until 1902 when a church was built. The ground for the church was given by Mrs. McMaster. It was built by Mr. John Sykes.

The public school was on top of the hill. Two teachers taught in the small building. Later a larger school was built beside it, but collapsed before it was finished. Then the school was built on another site near the centre of the village. The old school was rebuilt into a two-storey house.

Because of the Credit River which supplied water power there were many factories established.

There was a woollen mill owned by Benajah Williams and it was claimed to be second to none in Canada. It was a wooden structure built by Jacob Williams in 1839. Later Charles Williams bought it. In 1867 it was totally destroyed by fire. It was bought by Mr. Sykes and rebuilt and again destroyed by fire in 1875. Rebuilt again, misfortune struck again in a fire in 1883. Several parts of the building still stand.

Mr. Sykes employed about 110 people day and night and 75 a day was the pay for 10 1/2 hours. About \$4.50 was the weekly salary. Yarns and knit goods were made here and whatever their products were displayed they won prizes.

A flour mill was owned by Joseph Williams located near Apple Products. There was a sawmill owned by Charles Williams. Now it is the store room for Apple Products. He also owned a lathe mill known as the bobbin factory, formerly owned by John Hunt.

Of course the Glen had its village blacksmith. This was



Hi Neighbour

Recently, Mrs. Laura Dittich, the Hi Neighbour visiting hostess, called on five families of newcomers to Georgetown. They are:

MR. and MRS. R. MORROW of 211 Delrex Blvd., who moved here from London, Ontario. Mr. Morrow is a pilot with Air Canada and Mrs. Morrow has been doing some supply teaching in town.

MR. and MRS. G. PAWS are living at 49 Langstone Cres. since moving here from Clarkson. Mr. Paws is a driver for McKinley Transport and Mrs. Paws is a nurse at the hospital in Clarkson. They have 2 children.

MR. and MRS. A. MARTIN of 29 Windsor Road, moved here from Manitowadge, Ontario. Mr. Martin is the manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in the Delrex Plaza. They have 4 children.

MR. and MRS. M.E. BOWDEN of 6 Weber Drive, who moved here from Willowdale. Mr. Bowden is a buyer for American Motors in Brampton.

MR. and MRS. W.V. BARCLAY are living at 21 Mackenzie Drive since arriving here from Scotland. Mr. Barclay is employed at Douglas Aircraft and they have 3 children. Mrs. Reid, a sister of Mrs. Barclay's is also living with them.

Mr. W. Tost. He made wagons and worked with horses. Later George Dennis owned it. Now it is Schenk's knitting mill.

There were several stores. One owned by William Watkins also issued marriage licences. He was the village postmaster. Mr. McCrea kept a dry goods and grocery store. The store was bought by Andrew Wheeler and his son John. After both had died it was bought by William Schenk, but later John Wheeler's son Harold bought it and it is again in the Wheeler family.

Timothy Eaton clerked in the ice cream parlour and was bookkeeper. Little did the villagers know that he would one day own a company which would spread all over Canada. It has been said that he started his business here, but this is not true.

The Glen had its hotel which has had several owners. First was Mrs. Mackenernie. The best teams of horses were kept in the hotel stables and good money was made in the business because of the many salesmen who came to the stores and factories. Altogether there were 22 rooms but this was reduced to 18 in later years. In front was a well and a pump which supplied the Glen with water. Women and children stood in line to get their water. About a month ago the well was filled in. It had still been in use until 1965.

Mr. J. Bradley owned a grist mill known as Hurst Shoddy Mills. It was bought by Samuel Beaumont and the five Beaumont brothers worked in it. It was converted into a woollen mill in 1898, knitting machines were added and today it is still in operation.

Beside the river, in front of the second bridge, Tom Board

## Georgetown Bants "C" Titleists Bow to Winnipeg in Semi-Finals

Ron Dixon's Georgetown Bantam Pontiacs won the battle of the breaks to capture the C Division championship of the International Bantam Hockey Tournament in the Memorial Arena Saturday morning.

The tussle earned the "battle of the breaks" label because of the amazing balance of strength between finalists Georgetown and Leamington long time arch-rivals in the playoff hockey business.

Georgetown used a power play opportunity to crack the Leamington wall and emerge with a 2-1 triumph.

It was the second time in the tournament's six year history that a Georgetown team has won its division. They did it before in 1962.

Georgetown and Leamington played two scoreless periods before Martin Fowler batted a waist high shot by Willes into the Leamington net from the edge of the crease at 4:34.

The Pontiacs counted the eventual winner at 9:04 when Fowler did it again from Dwayne Hay and Willes.

Leamington narrowed the difference with a goal just seconds later by Bowman from Klym and Deneau, but that was their total effort.

Pontiacs took charge for the remainder of the tilt to protect their margin.

The win also allowed Georgetown a berth in Grand Championship semi-finals.

Winnipeg 4 - Georgetown 0

Georgetown Pontiacs bumped into a heavier, better-balanced hockey club in the meeting of the C and A division titleists in their semi-final Saturday afternoon.

Winnipeg scored twice in the first period and another pair in the third to gain the shot at the big prize. The 4-0 score was not an indication of the play, however, as Georgetown owned the puck for a healthy share of the time.

Sedgewick, Hill, Downall and Thompson were the marksmen. Their work accounted for one third of the goals scored against Georgetown.

In the eight games they played in the tournament from Friday, April 8th to Saturday, April 16th, the Bantam Pontiacs scored 30 goals and allowed just 12.

Members of the C Division champions are: Bob Neil, John Blair, Glenn Chapman, Ray Inglis, Martin Fowler, Benney Heppes, Bruce Davies, Ron Fogal, Doug Wiles, Bill Neil, Gerry Nash, Paul Fendley, Gord Foster, Neil Korzack, coach Ron Dixon, manager Bob Hooper, assistants Jamie Cunningham and Bill Korzack.

set up his tannery and with 24 employees made the best leather gloves.

Where Apple Products stands, electricity was produced for Georgetown but not for the Glen until later years. Every night at midnight the power was turned off. Every morning the generator was turned on again. If a party was being held arrangements were sometimes made with the operator to run it for a few extra hours.

Alec Murray was the Glen mechanic. Mattresses and wallpaper were made in the Glen. There were two bakery shops, one across from the hotel and another beside Charles Williams' house. There were two butcher shops. Across from the Anglican church was a grist mill owned by Dan Murray (where the Roffels now live).

In 1912 a dam was built, but it was washed away a year later. It was rebuilt by Mr. Speeder of Inglewood and held the water back for a good many years until it was blown up with dynamite. This was because it would do some damage to the new bridge that was just built. The dam also provided a recreation area for swimming and skating.

Years back there was a dance every Saturday night in the town hall.

Charles Williams' home is still standing. It was bought by Mr. Beaumont in 1912.

Through the years the Glen has changed. Factories and stores have been converted into homes. Industries have changed hands and changed products. Buildings have been burned down; others moved. It has continually grown and today has a large population, although not incorporated as a community. It is still a part of Esqueving Township.

## Was Odd Fellows Lodge Noble Grand Fifty Years Ago

A Limehouse native who returned to Georgetown to spend his retiring years, Henry Kerns Dobbie, 83, died at Halton Centennial Manor on April 9.

Son of James and Sarah Wheeler Dobbie, he lived in Georgetown following his marriage to Ella May Batchelor. They later moved to Toronto where he was employed for 40 years with Adams Furniture and Yolles Furniture, then with the Copp, Clark Publishing Co. He retired eight years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Dobbie then returned to Georgetown to live with their son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. E. Bronson, 59 Delrex Blvd. For the past few years they have made their home at Halton Centennial Manor where they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1964. Mrs. Dobbie died later that year.

Mr. Dobbie was master of Orion Odd Fellows lodge in 1915 when he was a town resident. In Toronto he was a life member of Stevenson Masonic Lodge.

He leaves one son, Henry Dobbie of North Bay, his daughter Shirley, Mrs. E. Bronson of town; two granddaughters and four great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. Emma Allan of Acton. He was predeceased by two sons.

Rev. Kelvin Johnston conducted the funeral service at the Harold C. McClure Funeral Home and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery. Pallbearers were nephews Allan, Roy and Sandy Norton, Jim Dobbie, Earl Johnson and a grandson Jack Joubarne, Toronto.

## Use Earlier Offer Buys Town Property

Boosting an earlier offer of \$1,000 by \$300, McIntyre Cresc. resident Bill Barratt obtained a building lot on Princess Anne Drive Monday.

Council decided to sell on an 8-1 vote with only Cr. Roy Ballentine opposing it. Cr. Ballentine said council should first deal with offers made last year and filed pending setting a sales policy for a number of municipally owned lots on the street.

Earlier in the meeting council had decided to engage a land surveyor to appraise the lots with a view of advertising them all for sale.

Another motion to clear brush and fill the lots was lost on a split 5-4 vote; with councillor Harrison arguing strongly against filling land which later might cause trouble for a home builder.

### NORVAL

## Dedicate Baptismal Font, New Pulpit At Norval United

Rev. Clark of St. Paul's United Church, Brampton, conducted a baptism and communion service at Norval United Church on Sunday morning, April 17th. During the service he dedicated a new pulpit and baptismal font in memory of Mrs. Jonny Barnhill. The three chairs behind the pulpit have been upholstered in wine velvet and were in place for the service. The first babies to be baptized using the new font were Deanna Lynn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Fishburn, Kimberly Diane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Smith; and Barbara Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lagerquist. The church was full for the special service.

Unit Two of Norval United Church UCW met at the home of Mrs. Garnet Laidlaw on Thursday evening, April 14th, with the president, Mrs. Peter Pomeroy, in the chair.

Mrs. Don Cleave and Mrs. S. Fishburn were in charge of the devotional. Mrs. Fishburn read an Easter poem 'The Legend of the Dogwood Tree' and Mrs. Cleave gave a reading on 'Thoughts on Spring' by J. S. McBride. The main business was plans for a bus trip on June 1st. The program was an auction of miscellaneous articles and plants, clothing, baked goodies, etc. with Mrs. Peter Pomeroy as auctioneer. A lunch committee of Mrs. Paul Johnson and Mrs. Earl Wilson assisted the hostess in serving lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

Union Presbyterian Church W.M.S. Easter Thankoffering meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Lee Campbell on Good Friday afternoon, April, 8th, with the president, Mrs. L. Campbell, in the chair. About 40 members and friends attended.

The speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. R. Duncan of Norval. Mrs. Leslie Young gave a reading, Mrs. Taylor read the scripture lesson and Mrs. Jack McDonald led in prayer. Mrs. Clarence Anderson gave the courtesies. A social tea hour was enjoyed following the meeting with Mrs. Eric Leslie and Mrs. Clifford Cook assisting the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Fishburn, Georgetown, entertained at a buffet dinner following the service in Norval United Church when their baby daughter, Deanna Lynn, was baptized. Present were the baby's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Fishburn of Norval and Donna and David; Mr. and Mrs. Art Meadows and Richard of Caladonia and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Atkinson of Brampton, Mr. and Mrs. David Proctor and family of Burlington; Mrs. Julian Reed, Christopher and Robert, and Mr. Ronald Fishburn, Norval. Mrs. Ron Fishburn is holidaying in Florida and was unable to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Smith held a family buffet luncheon in honour of their baby daughter, Kimberly Ann, following the baptism service in Norval United Church on Sun. April 17. Present were the baby's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Percy Donaldson and her great grandmother, Mrs. E. Ackroyd. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Donaldson, Douglas and Kevin, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Donaldson of Georgetown, Kenneth Smith and Mr. and Mrs. George Smith Jr., and Paul of Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lagerquist and family, Laurel, Sam and Gus, entertained Mrs. Lagerquist's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Shaw of Mono Road and Mrs. Bob Lagerquist and Donna of Brampton, in honour of their baby daughter, Barbara Ann, following the service in Norval United Church when she was baptized.

A speedy recovery is extended to Mrs. Joe Murray who spent several days in Peel Memorial Hospital, Brampton.

Also get well wishes to Mrs. Harold Saelle who was a patient in Brampton Hospital for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Eyre of St. Catharines were Easter week end visitors with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Eyre and family.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Murray Laird and Peter for Easter were Dr. and Mrs. Sayers of Ottawa, Miss Anita Webb of Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. E. Crawford, Shelly, Liane and Shannon of near Guelph.

The famous Pony Express was a financial failure but a romantic triumph.

### SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. William McNelly, Jane and John, of 22 Market St. motored south for the Easter holidays, staying at Treasure Island, St. Petersburg, for the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Noble, sons Peter and Philip, of 118 Guelph St. and Mrs. Noble's mother, Mrs. G. Crocker of Palmerston spent Easter week in California. Travelling there by plane they visited Los Angeles, San Diego and Anaheim.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hedley and daughter Brenda, 7 Brucewood, spent four enjoyable days in Ottawa over the Easter Holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Brian Boyd and daughters Sharon and Joanne, former residents of Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Long, Norton, New Brunswick, were visitors on Saturday with Mrs. S.B. Groat and Mrs. Aileen Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Long were returning home after a visit with their daughter and son-in-law and family, Mr. and Mrs. Brock Bradley, Comox, B. C.

Mr. and Mrs. William Collier, 47 Normandy Blvd., entertained twin daughters Joanne and Jeannette at a dinner party at home following their confirmation Sunday at St. George's Church. Friends from Georgetown and Islington attended.

### BALLINAFAD

## Displays Wealth Of Home Talent Variety Show

The third Annual Variety concert was held Friday, April 15th at the Community hall. The usual program of songs, music and dances was well received by a full house. Richard Shortill, Jr., was the MC and introduced such favorites as the Georgetown Barbershoppers and Earl Burr, as well as many other guest artists including Mrs. Moore, comic impersonator from Cooksville; Sid Chandler, vocal soloist, Port Credit; Mrs. Vicki Lay's dance group of Georgetown and an Accordion Group from Erin, all of which made excellent entertainment for the whole family. Once again the local youngsters proved that Ballinafad is not lacking in talent. Highlight of the evening was a short play, 'The Ballinafad Gentlemen's Aid', ably acted by several of our own teenagers. Special mention is due performers who on short notice, and very little time for practice, did an excellent job of filling in for several who were unable to appear due to illness.

Winners at the Euchre on Thursday last week were ladies, Mrs. George Burt and Mrs. F. Hall; men, Messrs. John Anthony and Cam McEnery. Consolation, Mrs. M. Madill and Mr. Bill McIntyre.

The April meeting of the Institute was in the form of a luncheon and annual meeting held in the Community hall. The roll call was answered by the paying of fees and following the usual business the following executive officers were installed for the coming year; president, Mrs. Frank Smith; 2nd Vice president, Mrs. J. McEnery; Secretary - Mrs. Wm. McLean and District Director, Mrs. R. McEnery.

The Scout Mothers' Auxiliary met for their April meeting at the home of Mrs. Burgen. Final plans were arranged for their annual Spring dance on April 22nd in the Community Hall. The Cubs and Scouts also held a successful collection and clean up of bottles and papers on Saturday of last week.

Messrs. Murray Cole and Harry Beer conducted the service of worship at both churches on the Ballinafad Charge on Sunday morning, speaking on behalf of the very worthwhile work being accomplished by the Gideons organization.

A few from this congregation attended the opening and dedication of the Hillsburgh Presbyterian Church on Sunday afternoon and we would extend sincere Christian greetings to that congregation from all their friends in this community.

Mrs. Bates, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lawr and Peter attended the Holy Confirmation service at St. George's Anglican on Sunday afternoon when Mrs. Peter Lawr was among the 30 communicants.

Friends and neighbours of Mr. Ralph Robinson will be sorry to learn that he is confined to hospital for a few weeks and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Reid of Brown's Corner's visited on Sunday with the Black family.

### HOSTESSES TOUR MEAT PLANT

Members and leaders of the Ashgrove Homemaking Club, toured the Schneider Meat Packing plant in Kitchener Tuesday April 12.



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