

Halton's History

By WALTER LEWIS
Herald Special

Canada has come a long way from the day when holidays were few and far between. Apart from Sundays, the only holidays generally observed in our pioneer society were Christmas, Good Friday and the reigning sovereign's birthday. And then most forms of recreation were disapproved of on Sundays and religious holidays.

All this left the king or queen's birthday and the local fair day as the principal opportunities for community celebration. Even after Confederation, Queen Victoria's birthday was often more important a holiday than the nation's birthday.

Victoria Day, in the years that Queen Victoria still reigned, was always a lively holiday. For some (the type Scrooge would have recognized as a kindred spirit), the 24th was considered the ideal day for planting potatoes. For others, the day seemed more profitably spent fishing on the shores of the Credit.

Small boats would put out onto the local mill ponds, while on the country roads could be observed many a horse and fancy carriage. But for the 3-4,000 people who crowded into Acton in 1880 or the 4-500 at the 1899 Dublin picnic, the Queen's Birthday was a social time.

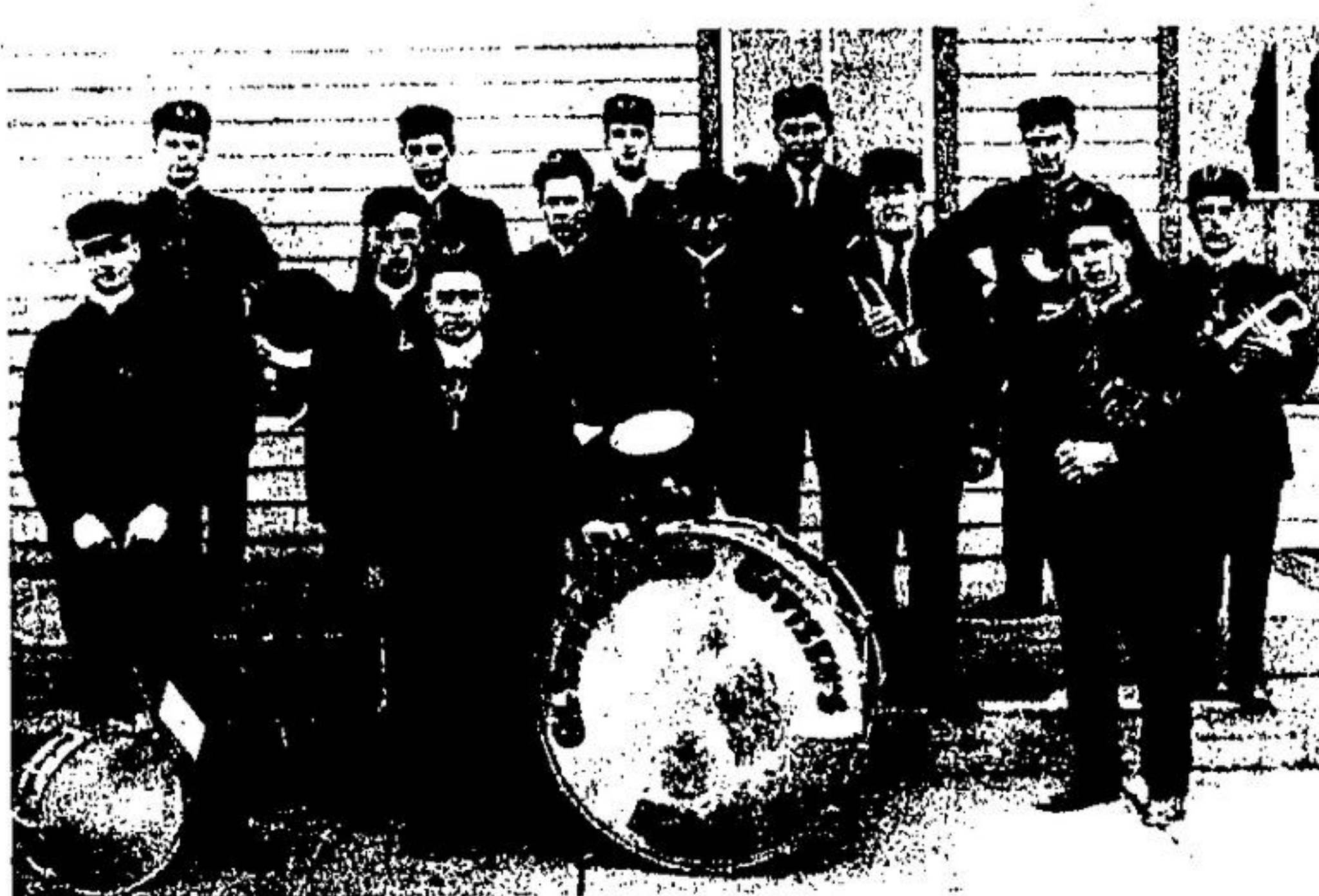
Victoria Days gone by

The day started early. In Acton, a cannon would be fired at the crack of dawn. After breakfast the Acton Cornet Band played "God Save the Queen" and other suitably "patriotic airs" while parading around the residential streets and out to meet the Toronto train. In Georgetown, by the 1890s, the balance of the morning was typically spent at a lacrosse or a baseball match. When the competition came from out of town, excursionists, ardently supporting the visiting team, rubbed elbows with the local villagers and farming folk.

By contrast, 1899 saw Acton almost deserted as the local sports enthusiasts were cheering on their lacrosse team in Galt.

The real excitement built in the afternoon as the track and field events got under way at the parks. The athletic young men would compete in foot and bicycle races, jumping contests and even at quoits and "putting stones". Prizes included money subscribed by local worthies and what could be collected as admission to the park.

After the human athletics would come the horse races, often the most popular part of the day's events. This popularity was in spite, or perhaps because of the gambling conducted along the side



Victoria Day in years past was an ideal opportunity for bands such as the Glen Williams Citizen's Band to make an appearance. Anyone who

might be able to identify the date and the people in this picture please call Elaine Bertrand at 877-8533 or Walter Lewis 877-2681.

of the race course, although this was frowned upon in respectable circles.

FIREWORKS

The grand finale sometimes included a fireworks display, but almost invariably saw the local bands putting in another appearance, this time on

the town hall stage. Georgetown might see both its own and the Glen Williams bands. These, together with other local musical and dramatic talent, would put on an evening's entertainment,

with the proceeds going to some worthy cause (the bills of the volunteer

committee of management being a popular one).

While Victoria Day has never ceased to be observed (it became a national holiday after the Queen's death) it has increasingly taken back place to the other holidays celebrated locally: Dominion Day

(or for the very young, Canada Day), the Drummer's Snack, the August civic holiday, and the fall fairs. Nevertheless, the 24th of May is worth remembering as the earliest and long the most enthusiastically celebrated of north Halton's summer holidays.

Locating polio victims

Polio no longer strikes fear in the heart of man. With the introduction of Salk vaccine in 1956 people came to believe that this dread disease was all but eradicated. Not so, as Dr. Armin Fisher, Chief of Pulmonary Services at Rancho Los Amigos Hospital, California, pointed out.

There are seven to eight million people in North America alone who

happens - possibly a respiratory condition or general deterioration.

Independence and perseverance were hallmarks of those surviving the acute stages of this disease. Now years later these same individuals who managed so well are becoming more limited in daily activities due to muscle deterioration stemming from overuse.

Nerve cells, also, have been damaged or destroyed and those remaining are overworked in an effort to compensate. This unbalanced functioning can and does appear to precipitate early aging. Numbness and other sensory loss set in an earlier age. Likewise weakened chest walls often cause respiratory complications.

This could prove to be a life threatening situation if diagnosed or treated incorrectly!

Many doctors are not familiar with polio's active and latent symptoms. Many individuals correlate disfigurement with brain damage. This preconceived and erroneous notion hinders communication and proper treatment.

Even family and friends unknowingly can create emotional hardship for someone who's been taught to do everything independently - no matter what the cost to an already overtaxed nervous system.

In order to address the very specific needs of post-polio people it is vital that we know who and where all these people are. I am offering my services to the March of Dimes in their effort to locate polio victims in this area. If you have had polio, please contact me at 877-1436.



By PAT WOODE
Herald Special

have not been immunized. Many of these potential victims carry the genetic markers that increase their vulnerability to this deadly and debilitating disease.

Dr. Fisher was guest speaker at a post polio workshop on April 22, 1983 sponsored by the March of Dimes. Many surviving victims are now complaining of weakness, fatigue and pain. This day-long workshop was organized to bring people together to share concerns, problems and possible solutions to the "post-polio syndrome," as it has been aptly named.

Dr. Fischer informed the group that there are about 20 patients at present in his hospital, alone, who are undergoing assessment and treatment for post-polio symptoms. Many that they see at Rancho have been coping well for years, but then, something

Once again this summer Ontario campers can check on the availability of Provincial Park campsites as a result of a co-operative program by two Ontario Government Ministries.

When campers call after 3 p.m., on any given day they receive two types of information. First they get a report on the actual occupancy rate on any given park at 3 p.m. that day.

Second, they are offered a projected occupancy rate for that evening. In this manner campers can decide whether to travel to that park or to seek information on other nearby parks that are projecting a vacancy.

Callers in the Toronto area can dial 364-4722 for their 24-hour tape recorded report.

**Check
vacancy
at camp
-sites**

Victoria Day celebrations started with parade

Continued from page A10
"Hymn Sing". "Love Divine" and other beautiful hymns interspersed the service, closing with "The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended". A social hour followed.

Norval's Victoria Day celebrations got off with a parade up the highway to the Community Centre. Cubs and Brownies, horse back riders, decorated tricycles and bicycles, a couple of bed racers, two vintage cars, a steam engine, MPP Julian Reed, Mayor of Halton Hills Peter Pomeroy, and President of the Norval Association Hugh

McFarlane, all made a grand parade, for the spectators who lined the sidewalks.

Winners of the bed race were the First Norval Scouts, Second prize winners were the Louisa Street Gang, who also had the best-dressed bed and team.

Judy Pomeroy took charge of the sports events which followed - Girls Shoe Kick - 1st prize winners only were Gail Reed, Janice Le May, Michelle Robinson and Melanie Reed. Boys Shoe Kick - 1st prize winners only - Tyler Patricquin, Trevor Crosby, Ralph

Carol, Mike Sweeney. Girls Running Race - 1st prize only - Heather Perrin, Hannah Warren, Janet Hobbs, Stacey Hutton. Boys Running Race - 1st prize only - Robbie Monkton, Timmy Kompton, Greg Hagan, Steve Jarvic.

Girls Sack Race - 1st prize winners only - Gail Reed, Hannah Warren, Janet Hobbs, Debbie Shoebridge. Boys Sack Race - 1st prize only - Tyler Patricquin, Andrew West, Greg Hagen, Jim Hurrelbrink. Ladies Shoe Kick - Barb Hurrelbrink. Men's Baseball Throw - Mike Sweeney.

Other winners in sports were:

GIRLS
Shonna Patricquin, Erin Reed, Donna Lyn Hagen, Sarah Hutton, Carl Hergaarden, Kay West, Emilie Warren, Lori Gaw, Julie Legler, Alexis Kerr, Barbara Shulz, Michelle Mills.

BOYS
Bradley Cahugent, Warren Appleby, Jason Leonard, Ronnie Kampton, Greg Kerr, Rick Jarvic, Rick West, Kenny Robinson, Dameon Carier, Ryan Carney, Rob Lamoureux, Ronnie Shoebridge, Trevor Crosby, Michael Her-

garden, Todd Crosby, Daryle Moffatt.

The lucky draw for \$200 was won by Reta McQueen of Brampton; Stacey Hutton of RR10 Brampton won \$50 for the second prize draw, and L. Wickens of Milton won \$25 for the third draw.

The food booth was kept busy with tantalizing hot dogs and hamburgers, and good home-made pie. Hot chocolate and coffee helped warm up people from the cold wind later in the evening, and fireworks finished off another successful Victoria Day. Hugh and Bonnie McFarlane of Norval were in

Banff, Alberta.

McDonald's Colouring Contest

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

TAKE A TOUR OF McDONALD'S

and see what goes on behind the scenes

Great for groups of all ages. To reserve your tour: call McDonald's at 877-0221

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS:
HARRY GILS 61 Main St. N. Georgetown
SELENA STEVENS Cheltenham
LAURA WEDEMIRE 94 Cobblehill Rd. Acton

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Win McDonald's Gift Certificates And Watches

Krafts & Klocks

SALE

Ruffled Eyelet Lace (1 1/2") ONLY 1.50/m

Bias Tape ONLY 33¢/m

586 Main St. Glen Williams (inside The Old Glen Mill) Open Sat. & Sun.

THE CRAFT CORNER

BONSAI - GROW A LIVING SCULPTURE TO LIVE FOR GENERATIONS

Canadians of all ages have taken to cultivating their own bonsai trees according to Hards Magazine. A bonsai is a tree or plant which has been pruned and trained to a graceful shape and kept artificially dwarfed while it grows to a venerable age.

Brought to Canada by early Japanese immigrants, today the art of bonsai is enjoyed by enthusiasts of all cultures and races.

To grow your own, choose a nursery plant grown in a container. Look for a healthy plant with small leaves or needles. A thick stem helps promise the illusion of age. Juniper and pine are favourite subjects. For apartment dwellers bonsai teacher Jon Inglis of Vancouver B.C., suggests the Pteris (Lily of the Valley) Japonica, azaleas and gardenias.

The first time you prune, be ruthless! Look for the plant's most dramatic curve and work to emphasize it. You may remove entire branches to achieve the desired asymmetry. Leaving the lower third of the trunk exposed increases the effect of age.

After pruning, remove plant from its nursery pot and gently poke away the soil with a thin stick. Keep roots damp as you work. Cut off the central roots from which the plant gets its nourishment.

Trim the root mass to fit into its future container with about 2 cms. to spare at the edges. The new pot should be fairly shallow with two or more drainage holes. Place a layer of screen over them to prevent soil loss. Add some fine gravel and a layer of soil mixture Inglis recommends two parts sterile potting soil and one part sand or aquarium gravel. Add one part moss for outdoor bonsai.

Once planted your bonsai may be shaped even further. Coil fine wire around the branches in loops about 3 cm. apart. Water often and keep plant away from sun and radiators. Fertilize sparingly - you don't want it to grow too large.

For more craft ideas write to Hards Magazine, Box 807, Station F, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2N7.

This is The Place! For all your wool, craft & art supplies

We now carry GRUMBACHER Art Supplies

Col-Craft

Guelphview Sq. 011 Mountbatten Rd. 877-1521

The Old Glen Mill

visit Our CRAFT CENTRE & SAVE

586 MAIN ST. GLEN WILLIAMS 877-1351

To Place Your Ad In the Craft Corner

Just call 877-2201

The ARTISAN VILLAGE

in the OLDE HIDE HOUSE 519 853-1031 49 Eastern Ave Acton, Ont. 7 DAYS A WEEK

no fuss, no bother, have Dinner Out at one of these fine area restaurants

The Goblet Restaurant

LUNCHES: hearty sandwiches and light meals.

AFTERNOON TEAS: Imported teas and home-made desserts pie, scones, tarts.

DINNERS: hot dinner specials.

72 MILL ST. 977-1237

Jack TANNERS TABLE

•Prime Rib •Chicken •Steak •Seafood

TRY OUR SUNDAY BRUNCH (11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

Licensed by the L.L.B.O. FOR RESERVATIONS CALL (519) 853-3440

WE ARE LOCATED AT THE OLDE HIDE HOUSE 49 EASTERN AVE., ACTON WHERE THE CNR TRACKS CROSS HIGHWAY NO. 7

Ali Baba STEAK HOUSE BRAMPTON

... your finest dining in Brampton

TUESDAY DELITE "Junior Filet" Complete with baked potato, and vegetable. EVERY TUESDAY FROM 4 p.m. till closing 4.95 Reg. \$10.95

Join Us For: SUNDAY BRUNCH serving hot and cold buffet every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THUR. & FR. NIGHTS ONLY SURF & TURF 10.95

184 QUEEN STREET EAST 453-1700

Hunters COUNTRY RESTAURANT

WED. NIGHT SPECIAL Filet of Salmon with Hollandaise Sauce 7.00

THURS. NIGHT SPECIAL Roast Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus 8.00

8.00 8 oz. Filet Mignon with Barmoise Sauce 7.00 Stuffed Filet of Sole

Above meals include soup or salad, dessert & coffee

Fully Licensed 99 Mountbatten N. 877-3145 Major Credit Cards Welcome

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

Candle Wicking
Chocolate Making
Quilting
Quilt & Tuck Decorations
Bazaar Items Each workshop 3 hrs. long

Call: Jennifer Barnett 877-4765