

# History magazine sells well

By Jim Robinson  
A unique experiment to combine English, history and journalism has produced a winning magazine for a group of Grade 11 Burlington secondary school students.

The magazine is called Brass Tacks. The first two editions were sold out and it is quite possible the third edition, just off the press, will follow suit.

It focuses on Halton's historical past with the students of Burlington Central High School in one Grade 11 class being

responsible to write, photograph and lay out the publication each semester as a term project.  
Maggie Sharland, an English teacher, and Doug Cole, a history teacher, came up with the idea after noting a similar magazine published in the United States has been very successful.  
Mrs. Sharland said the students are split up into two-person teams and given advice on story ideas or, they just go out on their own and come

back with a story and pictures.  
After much convincing of Halton Board of Education members, the project got off the ground three semesters ago and the students have never looked back.  
Mrs. Sharland says the experiment "is much more interesting than just straight lessons in English and history."  
She says the project gives students "a rewarding experience" and, because it combines use of the English language and the media,

it is much more exciting.  
Ben Sharp, one of the students, was recently in Milton where he toured the Milton courthouse and jail. He did the photography and helped in the writing of the story of the imposing edifice.  
With the aid of former Canadian Champion publisher Jim Dills and Val Grimshaw of Milton Historical Society, Ben was able to turn in a story he is quite proud of as opposed to "ordinary school work."  
Brass Tacks has also

wetted Ben's interest in journalism as a career.  
He said he had trepidations at first of going out to interview people, but now he actually looks forward to it.  
"I was scared at first, but I found out people just love to sit around and tell their story."  
"You have to interrupt to get them back on topic when they stray a bit, but they usually tell you everything you need to know."  
"And they will give us names of other people to go and talk with," he said.

These other people have proved to be a backbone of the Brass Tacks approach to editing and publishing a magazine. The students have already built up a good file of contacts for future story ideas and photographs.

Judy Costle, another student on Brass Tacks, photographed the cover picture and she has found the exercise to be something of an eye-opener.  
"When you read it, you'll find it is really good."  
"It goes to show just what a group of Grade 11 students can really do," she said.

The magazine retails for \$2.50 per copy or \$4 by subscription which results in two editions per year sent to a subscriber's home. It is also on sale in a number of outlets throughout Halton Region.

Mrs. Sharland feels the magazine will sell well because it has come out just before Christmas and "it is interesting to read, a real historical tour of Halton Region."



MIXING ENGLISH, history, journalism and marketing is the idea behind a magazine called Brass Tacks published by a Grade 11 class of Burlington Central High School. Teacher Mrs. Maggie Sharland, left, of Milton is shown with two of the magazine photographer-writers Ben Sharp and Judy Costle.

## Drumquin

### Christmas changes from 1800s to today

By Mrs. Cecil Patterson  
The regular meeting of Bethel United Church UCW was held on Dec. 5 in the church, beginning with a pot luck luncheon at noon. Nineteen ladies and three children enjoyed the meal. Mrs. Pickett, president, opened the meeting with Christmas carols.

The worship program was in charge of Mrs. Emily Featherston and the theme was "What Makes Christmas?" Her message stressed that to get love one must first give love and kindness to our fellow man. The members made a cash donation to the St. Michael's Anglican Sisters, Oakville, and also to Miss Audrey Laurence, who is a missionary teacher in Taiwan China.

Plans were made for the congregational Christmas party Dec. 16, and for white gift Sunday and clothing to be sent to the Fred Victor Mission following the Dec. 9 worship.

Mrs. Margaret Wark and Mrs. E. Ball had the program and gave customs at Christmas from the 1800's up to date. In the early days, food was very scarce and diaries show that boiled eggs were often on the menu. After confederation in 1867, food and celebrations were more elaborate. Gifts were

usually homemade such as mitts, socks, toques, and hand made ornaments. Today in 1979 we are blessed with an abundance of everything the family desires—often too much—and Christmas is getting very commercialized. With alcohol, food and pleasures, many forget the true spirit of Christmas.

Mrs. Ada McCann was guest speaker and demonstrated making Christmas decorations, corsages, table centres and door swags.  
The concert and pot luck dinner held on Dec. 16 following church, with a fine program of skits and musical numbers.  
To our many friends of the Drumquin news, extend a most sincere wish that all will have a happy and joyous day with friends and loved ones. Merry Christmas to all.

The weekly church at Hornby Community Centre was held Saturday Dec. 15 with nine tables on play. Prize winners were Mrs. Ethel Martin, Mrs. Myrtle Cunningham, Miss Ethel Brownridge, Harvey Dunn, Martha Richardson, Vi Preston.

Mrs. V. Sinclair received the flowers donated by Flash Taxi and Wilmer Mason won the Christmas flowers given by Keith Webb. florist. Next party is Dec. 22.

#### ARTHRITIS CURE

Many people with arthritis look for some pill, injection or liquid medicine which will cure their disease. A cure does not exist. Arthritis control may be achieved by a combination of rest, exercise and drugs, but only under supervision of a doctor.

Let's hear it for a New Year filled with peace, prosperity and good feeling. Remember, it's the first year of the rest of your life... enjoy it! YOUR EXTRA TOUCH FLORIST

**MILTON Greenhouses**  
Barry Burne Proprietor  
FLOWER & GIFT SHOP  
228 MAIN ST. 878-9501

**MOWBRAY INSULATION**  
Blown In Cellulose Installation  
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS  
475 Ontario St. S.  
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to  
Our Very Good Friends  
Best Wishes  
for a  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
ross brancier Jewellery  
220 Main St., Milton 878-6341  
"Renowned for Quality"

The Corporation of the  
Town of Milton

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
SNOW PLOWING & SNOW REMOVAL

Please co-operate in keeping parked vehicles in driveways and OFF streets in the Town of Milton to allow for prompt Snow Plowing & Snow Removal.

On cul-de-sac streets the presence of even one parked car prevents our snow plowing equipment from plowing any part of that street because of turning area required for the snow plows.

Work Crews and Police are authorized to have parked vehicles which are left on the roads & streets towed away at the owner's expense if they obstruct snowplowing & cleaning operations.

**PROPERTY OWNERS**

Your co-operation in clearing snow from the sidewalk in front of your property is requested.

When clearing snow please co-operate by not plowing or shovelling snow from your property on to the road. Besides being dangerous it is illegal and offenders can be charged.

Your co-operation in observing these regulations will assist greatly in the winter control programme and be to the advantage of all citizens.

# BOXING DAY AT MILTON MALL

Thursday  
December 27  
10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Take the family and shop in a climate controlled fully enclosed Mall.  
Acres of Free Parking  
Take advantage of many In Mall Sales  
Wishing all a Spirited New Year  
We expect an up-tempo '80 exciting and zestful! Many thanks to all our many patrons.

**MILTON MALL Shopping Centre**  
55 Ontario St. South

**MALL HOURS**  
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY  
10:00 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. SATURDAY 9:30 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

ACRES AND ACRES OF FREE PARKING