



MHS fall program timing a moving target ... So stay tuned!

By John Challinor II
President, Milton Historical Society

The Board of Directors of Milton Historical Society has been meeting monthly by teleconference since April, charting and re-charting the 2020 program calendar based on the latest decisions by the Province of Ontario regarding permissible human interaction within the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

While financial sustainability is a board imperative, the safety and security of MHS volunteers and members as well as that of the general public is of even greater concern. As eager as the society is to host Miltonians and their families at the shop on a Saturday morning or at a monthly speakers series meeting on a Thursday night or at a walking tour on a Sunday afternoon, the Society isn't prepared to risk anyone's health to do so.

Following the specific requirements of the Province of

Garage Sale rescheduled to Saturday September 12

Milton Historical Society has rescheduled its annual Garage Sale to Saturday September 12 at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop, 16 James Street, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All proceeds from the sale of items go to supporting the good works of the Society.

All funds raised assist our society to preserve our archives and help with educational heritage programs! Please no clothing or large furniture items! Please drop off items Friday Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information: please call (905) 875-4156 or email us at info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca. Hope to see you there!



Ontario's Emergency Order, the society will dip its toes back into the waters of public engagement and entertainment on Saturday August 15 when it hosts an Open House to encourage Ontarians to sign up for blacksmith classes at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop this fall.

Based on the success of that event and continuing provincial progress in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic, the Board will continue to adjust the Society's fall program, bringing Miltonians and their families back to the shop when appropriate, safe and secure. The latest fall calendar can be found in this edition of The Journal as well as on the Society's website at www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca.

The board will meet again in early August to review the society's fall program plan. For the latest information about the society's plans this fall, please visit www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca, watch your email for society information sent your way, follow the society on Facebook or Twitter, email us at info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca or call the office from time-to-time at 905-875-4156.



Although traditional town-wide Canada Day celebrations couldn't be held this year, that didn't stop many homes in historic Milton from celebrating.

What's new at the blacksmith shop?

By Bruce Carlin

The blacksmith shop has been largely quiet since the middle of March when our last blacksmith course was held. We have had to cancel six courses leading up to the summer break in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Refunds or credits for future courses were administered so we can turn our sights to the future.

Blacksmith Open House

There is also a Blacksmith Open House which is to be held on August 15. It is open to anyone interested in learning about blacksmithing techniques, tools and Waldie Blacksmith shop courses in the Fall.

The open house begins at 9 a.m. and there will be a total of eight half-hour sessions led by our two teams of blacksmiths. There will be blacksmith demonstrations and examples of course projects to view. Visitors can also speak to the blacksmiths in person and the blacksmith course coordinator will also be on hand to speak about the Fall schedule and registration.

Admission is free and visitors must pre-register by going to our blacksmith page at <http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/?event=blacksmith-open-house>.

Visitors to the open house who register for a fall blacksmith course by August 31 are entitled to a discount of approximately 10% off the course fees. We will have COVID-19 safety measures in place to protect the safety of everyone in the shop.

Blacksmith Volunteers

Our volunteer blacksmiths remain sidelined as the blacksmith shop is closed to the public at this time. When the Downtown Milton Farmers Market returns to Main Street, we plan to restart our volunteers.

In the meantime there is a significant upgrade scheduled for stone forge. A fire pot is being added to the stone forge to



It hasn't all been bad news at the blacksmith shop. The down time has allowed a significant upgrade on the stone forge to be done.

provide for a better blacksmith experience with more concentrated fire in the forge.

Fall Course Schedule

We do have a full slate of courses scheduled for the Fall and these can be found on our website at <http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/blacksmith-courses/>. The schedule includes six beginner courses and one intermediate course.

Shop Safety During the Pandemic

There are new safety measures put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the blacksmith shop. The safety measures include the use of personal protective equipment including masks and leather gloves, cleaning supplies to sanitize commonly touched areas and physical distancing measures for visitors to the shop.

THANKS

The Milton Historical Society would like to thank Mark Ford who stained all of the exterior doors to the Waldie Blacksmith Shop and made a number of general repairs throughout the building! Thanks Mark!!

Longtime MHS supporter Walt Elliott passes



By John Challinor II

Longtime local volunteer Walt Elliott, who served as president of Milton Historical Society and also served on its board of directors in the early 1990s, passed away on June 4, 2020. He was in his 87th year.

A former secondary school principal, department head and teacher as well as the Member of Provincial Parliament, Halton North, from 1987 to 1990, Mr. Elliott volunteered with many other local community organizations, including the Halton Children's Aid Society Foundation, Ontario Agricultural Museum/Country Heritage Park, Grace Lutheran Church in Oakville, Halton Recovery House, Halton Region Museum, McMaster University, Oakville Art Society and the United Way of Milton.

However, he spoke mostly proudly to his fellow MHS members about his considerable research into his family history, his related volunteer work with the Canadian Region of the Scottish Elliot Clan Society and his roots in Chesley, Ontario, a community founded by his great-great-grandfather.

For his volunteer contributions to Milton, Ontario and Canada, Mr. Elliott received a Milton Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005, a 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada medal in 1992 and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal in 2012.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Anne, his son Paul (Evelyn) his daughter Tina (Joe), his grand-daughters Emily, Violet and Katie, his brother Brian (Irene), sister Audrey (Ken), sister-in-law Marilyn and many nieces and nephews and their families.

A small, private funeral and interment attended by family members recently took place at Chesley Cemetery.

Former MPP Walt Elliott passed away in June. He was a long-time supporter of the Milton Historical Society.

Milton District High School 100th anniversary postponed

Milton District High School, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in our community this year, has had to postpone its planned festivities for October 2 and 3 of this year to October, 2021, because of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

Organizers had put together an action-packed agenda for the fall, including a walk back in history presentation, a video montage featuring notable MDHS grads such as former astronaut Col. Chris Hadfield, Women's National Basketball Association star Kayla Alexander and former JAG TV star David James Elliott, a pub crawl and a golf tournament.

As COVID-related health matters in Milton become clearer, organizers will advise revised dates and plans.



Events to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Milton District High School have been postponed for one year.



A time capsule was buried when the forge was original built in 2002. It was updated to include new material and put back.



Here's some of the crew who are rebuilding the forge to accommodate coal. From left, Justine Southam, Mike Armstrong, Megan Carter and Lloyd Johnston.

Forge upgraded to accommodate coal

By Mike Boyle

The Waldie Blacksmith Shop has been using the recent down time to good use.

A team of four individuals has rebuilt one forge entirely to accommodate coal instead of charcoal. Coal is a more efficient way of attaining higher heat, a favourite of blacksmiths.

To accomplish that, the base of the forge was rebuilt to make room for a firepot and a bottom clean out channel. The rebuild required heavy duty saws and jack hammers to break up the original stone and concrete blocks and a small truck-load of rubble was taken out of the base of the stone forge. There was also a heavy steel beam added to the base of the chimney to provide added structural support.

An updated time capsule was also placed in the base of the forge. Included in the capsule was a recent copy of The Canadian Champion, names of those who worked on the forge and some money.

Students and blacksmiths had complained that this forge wasn't as efficient as the other forge. So now, they'll be equal.

Both forges were built when the blacksmith shop was restored in the early 2000s.

Milton Historical Society directors Bruce Carlin and Marsha Waldie organized the reconstruction. Lloyd Johnston, the president of the Ontario Blacksmith Association, is spearheading the working team which is doing the work. It began during the last week of June and should take about a week.

Mr. Johnston has been a blacksmith for almost 50 years.



Here, Justine Southam gets inside the forge for the reconstruction.

He helped restore the gates at Parliament Hill in Ottawa in 2001-2002 and with the Hendrie Gates at the Royal Botanical Gardens around 1995.

Helping him is Justine Southam, a mason, from the Eastern Townships of Quebec. She's also a stone carver and instructor at School of Restoration Arts at Willowbank in Queenston, Ontario. Justine has done stone work at Parliament Hill.

Megan Carter and Mike Armstrong, owners of Armstrong and Carter Ironworks were the other members of the forge reconstruction team. Mike and Megan are well known blacksmith instructors at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop and they provided skilled labour along with their knowledge and experience with the Waldie Blacksmith shop forges. What a great team effort from these four skilled individuals!

Alfred Higginbotham • 1868 - 1950

Druggist, Merchant, Volunteer, Politician

By Marsha E. Waldie UE

Alfred Higginbotham was the son of Sarah Billings (1825-1894) and John (1827-1901?) Higginbotham who were both from England.

Alfred was born August 20, 1868, in Bowmanville, Ontario. He married Agnes Gertrude Robertson (1872-1946) on July 18, 1894. She was the daughter of Jeannette Morse (1843-1919) and M.P.P. David Robertson (1841-1912). Agnes and John raised at least two children: Jeanette (Nettie) and Ross.

Alfred purchased the elegant Italianate residence at 66 Victoria Street in 1901 where he and his family resided. Alfred owned and operated the Higginbotham and Company, Druggists and Stationers at 212 Main Street. The drug store was the location for Milton's first Bell Telephone office in 1893 – listing 14 lines. It is interesting to note that others in the Higginbotham family were also druggists.

He was a member in various community groups as part of his social life. He was president of the Halton and Local Improvement Society, and president of the Milton Gun Club. Alfred also served as president of the Merchant Retail Association and was on the local Board of Trade.

Mr. Higginbotham served on Milton Town Council in 1901, 1903, and 1904. He also served as reeve in 1907 for Halton County Council and as Milton's mayor in 1905, 1906 and 1911.

The community was shocked when in June 1911 he announced that he and his family were moving to Nelson, B.C., where he had become interested in fruit farming. On June 28, 1911, the leading men in town organized a farewell banquet to be held at the McGibbon Hotel, which was located on the southeast corner of Main and Brown Streets.

The mayor had sold his drug business to F. B. Smith and in 1914, he sold the building to a local solicitor. Alfred had initially purchased the building at 212 Main Street in 1896. A number of other Milton residents had moved to western Canada and were sending regular updates about the opportunities in the western provinces for business and professional men to our local newspaper.

Alfred died on August 12, 1950. He and Agnes are both interred in Fraser Cemetery, New Westminster, and Greater Vancouver Regional District, British Columbia. Their daughter, Sara J. Sclater, is also interred in the same cemetery.

MHS hosts Blacksmith Education open house August 15

If you're inspired by History Television's *Forged In Fire* series or you've run out of cool birthday or Christmas gift ideas for a family member, you need to sign up for a special Blacksmith Education Open House at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop on Saturday August 15 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

In accordance with the Province of Ontario's Emergency Order, the Open House will be restricted to five guests plus instructors each hour.

To participate, please visit <http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/?event=blacksmith-open-house> and register for the time you wish to be in attendance that day. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no fee to attend. All are welcome. Please remember to bring your own face mask to wear.

During the 30-minute visit, you will see live demonstrations and will also be introduced to the tools and techniques of the blacksmith working as a modern-day artisan manipulating iron and steel. Specifically:

- Our blacksmiths and course coordinator will be on hand to review our course curriculum and answer your questions;
- We will share our fall course dates and registration procedures; and
- We will accept registrations that day and help with the registration process, if needed.

Those in attendance on August 15 will be eligible for a \$25 discount off the Beginner Course rate and a \$50 discount off the Intermediate Course rate if they register by August 31 for any of our 2020 fall classes.

MEET THE EXECUTIVE

President's local roots play key role in MHS

John Challinor II President

Milton Historical Society President John Challinor II is becoming one of those local rarities – a native Miltonian.

Now in his final term as MHS President, John was raised in Milton as a result of his dad being a part of the team from Chatham, Ontario, that opened Ontario Steel Products on Steeles Avenue in 1953 to manufacture chrome bumpers just-in-time for Ford Motor Company, which had also opened in 1953 in Oakville. His great-great grandfather, Washington Best, was the patriarch of one of the eight founding families of Chatham.

John and his brothers, Geoff and Mark, grew up in what once was rural Milton on Given Road West, which became Main Street West and is now Given Lane. The family home was torn down last year and replaced by a much larger, more modern residence. He attended J.M. Denyes Public School, Martin Street Senior Public School and Milton District High School before heading off to what is now Ryerson University to earn a Bachelor of Applied Arts, Journalism.

John worked as an editor and reporter in newspapers and television in Southern Ontario for six years before spending 33 years in public affairs in Canada's high technology and health industries. He has operated his own business, Given Road West Communications, since 1988 and has been focused on that full-time since 2016.

MHS co-founder and former Canadian Champion Publisher Jim Dills and his son, Steve, were life-long friends of John's and it was Jim who encouraged him to engage his love of history locally. Up until Jim's passing in July 2019, the two local historians had worked together on a number of projects, including developing and maintaining the Town of Milton's naming conventions and database for Milton neighbourhoods, parks/industrial parks and streets and authoring three books of local history – Milton Remembers World War 1 and The Men and Women We Never Knew; Milton Streets and The Stories Behind the Villages, Hamlets, Neighbourhoods and Roads; and Milton and Area Churches and Their Architecture, Their History, Their Significance.

John also assisted another friend, the Honourable Jim Snow, with editing his biography, Mr. Jim, The Personal Recollections of Jim Snow, and wrote its epilogue when Mr. Snow passed away in 2008.



John Challinor II grew up in Milton and has been involved with the Milton Historical Society for a long time.

John has been a local volunteer since his teens, most notably serving as chairman of the Board of Trustees, St. Paul's United Church; member, Advisory Committee, Community Foundation of Halton North; member, Advisory Board, Hope Place Centres Alcohol/Drug Treatment Centres; former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Hope Place Centres Alcohol/Drug Treatment facilities; former member, Board of Directors, Milton Millennium Community Residences; and former Co-Chairman, Fund Development, Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Hadfield Education Bursary Fund.

He is currently on his second tour-of-duty as a member of Milton Council. In association with that, John is a member, Board of Directors, Grand River Conservation Authority and member, Heritage Milton Ad Hoc Committee. He is a former member of the Board of Directors, Milton Public Library; former Chairman, Heritage Milton; former founding chairman, Milton Economic Development Advisory Committee; and former founding member, Board of Directors, Milton Hydro Holdings Inc.

John and his wife, Liz, who were high school sweethearts back in the day, recently celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary. They are proud parents of Ashley, now Vice President, Policy, Ontario Chamber of Commerce; and John III, who operates his own business, Electric Mango Film Company.

And, did we mention that John owns a classic car and can always be found at a Hamilton Tiger-Cat football game...

MEET THE EXECUTIVE

Appreciation for history dates to primary school

Anne Fisher Secretary

Anne Fisher was born and grew up in Cambridge, England. Her parents were Irish immigrants from County Mayo in Ireland. An appreciation of history has been in her life as long as she can remember. Whether that was fueled by her parents' interest in history or the fact she lived in a beautiful historic city she is not sure. During her childhood her family toured throughout almost all of the United Kingdom and Ireland and wherever they went they visited the important historic sites whether they were battlefields, castles, museums or stately homes. Her interest in history was well established even at school as she won both her school's Junior and Senior History prizes.

After studying Urban Planning at university, Anne began her career working in the Planning Department of the City of Westminster in London. Much of her work there involved dealing with heritage buildings including some of the most important British historic buildings from the Houses of Parliament to Buckingham Palace. Anne has spent most of her working life reviewing planning applications in various different municipalities in both England and Ontario. After working in Westminster for more than 10 years, she worked for the City of Coventry. While working there she lived in a 300 year old stone cottage in a tiny village not far from Banbury in Oxfordshire.

Anne moved to Canada in 2002 with her Irish husband Norman and their three young children. Norman is an architect and the company he worked for offered him a job in Ontario. Anne and Norman fancied an adventure so took up the challenge. The fact that Anne was pregnant with her third child at the time was no deterrent. Anne and Norman had only intended

staying for two years. Now nearly 20 years later, while they miss and love home in both England and Ireland, they now also love Canada.

After settling in Canada Anne started working as a development planner for the Town of Milton. Her experience of dealing with, and love of old buildings and historic places, made her move to a role as a heritage planner both logical and smooth. Anne worked closely with both Heritage Milton and the Milton Historical Society during this period. Afterwards Anne spent some time working as a Heritage Planner in Georgetown for the Town of Halton Hills before moving to Toronto. Anne now works in the City of Toronto managing a team of planners who deal with development and heritage buildings within the west of the city.

Anne and Norman live in an Ontario Gothic Revival style heritage home in downtown Milton. It feels like a modern house to them compared to their 300 year old cottage in England. Their children are now grown up. The eldest two are at university and the youngest, who was only a baby when she came to Canada, will graduate from Milton District High School this summer.



Anne Fisher

Membership is due



Just a friendly reminder that some members haven't paid their 2020 annual membership dues. The membership form is with The Journal.

If you need help, contact the MHS at info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca or call (905) 875-4156.



PIONEER CEMETERY

**Many of Milton's earliest settlers
are buried at the town's first cemetery**



Thousands of motorists pass by a gem of Milton's history every day. Probably most are unaware of the significance of Pioneer Cemetery located just south of the railway tracks.

At one point, that was considered a central point in the village. There was a school next to it.

Once the cemetery became full, and the focus of the town shifted eastward, Milton's Evergreen Cemetery was built and Pioneer Cemetery slowly became of lesser interest.

It wasn't until the 1980s that a concentrated effort was put together to bring it back into higher standards.

What follows is the history of the cemetery, the list of some of the individuals buried there and a story on the restoring project in the 1980s.

Early settlers donated land to build cemetery

The following is an excerpt from
Milton's Cemetery Story 1824-2018
by Jim Dills

A glance back to the area's first Pioneer Cemetery, closed but still located on Bronte Street, and managed now by the Town of Milton, reflects a much smaller area that received the earliest settlers, including Jasper Martin who died in 1833 and his wife, Sarah who preceded him in 1830.

The site was part of the Martin crown land received by that family in 1820. In 1860 Edward Martin, William Dempsey and Johnson Harrison purchased the site and many years later the deed was made out to three trustees of the burial grounds, Thomas Rixon of Nelson, Wm. Dempsey and Johnson Harrison of Trafalgar Township.

Over several generations and inactivity it became overgrown and ignored. There were 61 plots separated by a pedestrian walk in the shape of an X and the dimensions of the plots were drafted on the original plan by Henry Winter and Abrey, Surveyors, dated Nov. 7, 1860.

That pioneer location was central in the original settlement. The town's first school was beside the pioneer cemetery site.

Many years later, in 1922, Dr. J.H. Fell of Gore Bay recalled that his grandfather, Wm. Fell, a Scotchman and graduate of Glasgow University, was Milton's first school teacher in the little old building, the ruins of which were removed early in the 1860s, from the north edge of the old cemetery. Mr. Fell had taught there for some years beginning in 1832 and his grandson was able to show the attendance roll of 1834 that included the names of the Martins, the Dempseys, the Fosters and other old Milton families. (Mar. 9, 1922 cc)

There are of course conflicting stories about the first teacher, which the Halton Atlas credits with being Elizabeth Harrison, whose husband was the first buried in the cemetery in

1824. (*Halton Atlas original pg. 85*)

By the 1880s Milton's population, according to the 1881 census, was 1302 (*Jim Dills' Book of Lists*). While it was the centre of a thriving agricultural area and of county government and justice, the entrepreneurs of the community must also have anticipated growth, fostered by the recent completion of two railways.

Eventually there were no more plots available in that earliest cemetery.



A unique metal marker crafted for the Harrison family retains a place of prominence.

An early record, almost like a census of the early community, lists the owners of the plots as: George Brown, Robert Britton, Absalom Bell, Hugh Bell, Joseph Brown, Dr. Cobban, John Clements, Socrates Center, John Culp, William Cummings, George Dempsey, John Dempsey, David Downie, Hugh Foster, Robt. Ferguson, William Green, Alexander Hogg, John Holgate, Henry Huffman, William Hill, William Harrison, Johnson Harrison, Henry Harrison, Charles Harrison, William Joyce, Thomas McFerran, William McFerran, James McMaster, J & H. McDowell & J. Clements, John Martin, Edward Martin, James Ruxton, James Rixon, John Reid, Benjamin Scriver, John Trotter, John Turnbull, Chas. H. Thompson, John Thompson, James Winter. (*From a paper compiled by Jim Dills 2002*).

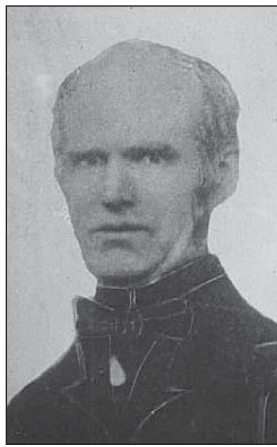
There were attempts by trustees to annually clear up the grounds.

In 1928 the John Milton Chapter I.O.D.E. collected funds, cleared brush, levelled ground and erected an iron fence. Council at that time accepted responsibility for perpetual care, that was confirmed by Council in June 12, 1972. In 1986 Milton Historical Society led a restoration project. Maplehurst labourers collected and reassembled all possible stones gathering them into a cairn.

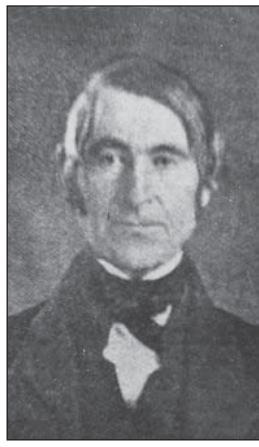
Today the Pioneer Cemetery is well maintained with some of the original stones still marking their place in the history of the community.



Caroline Walker



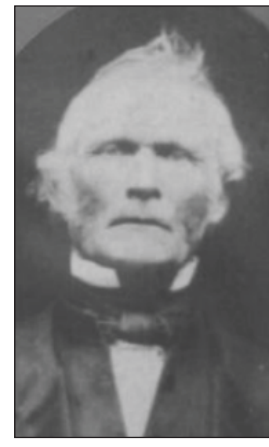
George Brown



Hugh Foster



Dr. James Cobban



John Dixon Sr.

Notable early residents buried in Pioneer Cemetery

Submitted by Marsha Waldie U.E.

Discovering the resting place of some notable interments in our Pioneer Cemetery makes us ever mindful of those early settlers and their family, who settled here in the 1820s.

Some of our notable pioneer interments include:

George Brown (1808-1860) – He came to Milton in the 1830s. He was a merchant on Main Street and named the town's first postmaster in 1836. In 1857 when the town was incorporated, he was the town's first mayor.

Caroline Walker (1819-1863) – She married George Brown in 1837. The couple raised nine children.

Hugh Foster (1794-1858) – He came to Canada in 1816 and married Jane Coates. They had five children. Following her death, he married Sarah Ann Centre and they had one child. He was a cooper establishing the first cooperage in town. He owned most of the land along the south side of Main Street. He registered his land in 1854 and eventually gave four acres for the County Court House and Jail. Today this is Milton's Town Hall and Victoria Park.

Dr. James Cobban (1802-1857) – He was the third pioneer doctor between Hamilton and Toronto. Dr. Cobban came to Milton in 1837 owning a farm south of Milton near 16 Mile Creek. He married Catherine Jarmy and they raised five children.

John Dixon Sr. 1790-1874 – He married Jane Bell and they had 10 children. He started working for Robert Ruxton who owned a mill. Jane and John purchased land near Milton in order to farm. Their family home later became known as "Sprucedale". John also helped to clear the land for the Pioneer Cemetery.

Sarah Coates (1797-1830) and her husband **Jasper Martin** (1797-1833). They had five children and arrived on their

land near 16 Mile Creek in 1821. Jasper built a grist and saw mill from which the early settlement developed.

Margaret Hume (1816-1902) and her husband **John Martin** (1815-1871) raised their 11 children in the area. John was the eldest son of Sarah and Jasper Martin, who took over the grist and saw mill operations when his parents died. He also raised his siblings and became a land developer subdividing the family land on the north side of Main Street into lots.

Elizabeth Hodges (1782-1867) and her husband **Thomas Harrison** (1777-1824) arrived on their farm homestead in 1820. They had eight children to raise. When her husband died four years later, she had to manage her land, provide for her family, the eldest was 17 years of age and the youngest less was then three months old. She was a devout Christian, farmer and Milton's first schoolteacher.

Phillip Walker (1785-1865) and his wife **Susannah Cline** (1792-1875) had 15 children, with 10 surviving. Phillip purchased land just west of town in Nelson Township in 1827, along the escarpment. They were pioneer farmers.

Mary Book (1824-1888) and her husband **Samuel Morse** (1820-1870). Samuel and Mary had six children. He owned a foundry and agricultural implement business developing the "Morse Plough" and was a town councillor.

Mary (1791-1868) and **John Dempsey** (1788-1871) had six children and received ownership of their land in 1836, which was located north of Woodward Avenue. Their home was beside 16 Mile Creek and their farm was known as "Winding Sixteen".

Martha Mosher (1835-1932) and her husband **William Smiley** (1821-1898). The couple had six children. William was a carpenter and a member of Milton's first town council.

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By the 1980s, the lack of care at Pioneer Cemetery was showing. A major MHS project restored it. These pictures were taken in 1984.



MHS spearheaded major restoration in the 1980s

Pioneer Cemetery is a small cemetery. As the town grew exponentially, and a new cemetery built on what is now Ontario Street, the grounds of Pioneer Cemetery eventually became neglected.

By the 1980s, many stones were broken and some were scattered throughout the grounds.

The Milton Historical Society made restoration of the cemetery a priority.

MHS reached out to the Town of Milton and a number of relatives whose relatives were buried in the cemetery. A fund was established and enough money was raised to properly reconstruct the cemetery.

After restoration, the property had been cleaned up and all the stones recovered and placed in a permanent concrete pad. Those that could stand erect were reset.

An agreement was reached with the Town of Milton to care for the grounds going forward and as a result, the cemetery has been properly maintained ever since.

In the summer of 2019, Halton Region did some work near the road to determine if any burial plots were located outside the fence on the road side. None were found.

Early residents buried at Pioneer Cemetery

• Continued from previous page

His parents, Samuel and Ellen, are both interred in Pioneer Cemetery.

Jane (1822-1900) and **John Holgate** (1816-1896) had 13 children. John was a merchant on Main Street and was appointed town auditor in 1857.

Elizabeth Buck (1812-1868) and her husband **John Humphrey** (1805-1882) had four children. John purchased land along Main Street (north side) near Elizabeth Street, which was named in her honour. The Humphrey family were farmers and their home is still standing on Elizabeth Street.

Dr. William Hume (1830-1864) and his wife **Pricilla Bessey** raise one daughter. In 1855, he began his practice in Milton after serving in Haldimand County for five years.

Some of the other family names, which are interred in the cemetery, are Sherwood, Tock, Rixon, Bell, Downie, Anderson, McFerran, Armstrong.



MHS member Mark Ford has been busy around the blacksmith shop fixing, staining and painting. Among his projects was this weather vane, which sits at the west end of the building.

Weather vane gets updated on building

The Waldie Blacksmith Shop has always featured a weather vane on top. For years, Alfred Waldie raised and bred show chickens. It was a passion of his.

Often, those chickens were entered into local fall fairs, the Canadian National Exhibition and the Royal Agricultural Fall Fair in Toronto. Mr. Waldie raised various breeds such as Plymouth Rock, Hamburg, and Rhode Island Red.

Mr. Waldie made the weather vane and placed it in the middle of the two shop buildings. Over time, the vane weathered with time. MHS member Mark Ford, who has done a lot of work in the blacksmith shop lately, restored the rooster and remounted it at the west end of the building.

Members Marsha Waldie and Gayle Waldie said they are very pleased to see it again on the shop.



Here's Alfred Waldie with one of his prized chickens. The weather vane atop the blacksmith shop has been restored to its original glory.



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*To contact MHS executive members, email
info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca
or call (905) 875-4156.*

MHS Activities

Monthly Meeting:

Ancestry.ca

Thursday September 17, 2020 • 7:30 pm, Free

We will host Lesley Anderson from Ancestry.ca. This will be a great opportunity for those interested in learning about their family history through various genealogical resources. You don't want to miss this one!

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Walking Historic Victoria Park Square

Sunday September 6, 2020 • 2:00 pm

Explore the heart of Milton's civic precinct on this guided tour of the historic Victoria Park Square area. A perfect introduction for new and older residents, as well as first time visitors to Milton.

When: 2:00 pm

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Cost: \$10 – Book online or cash at the start of the tour

Price includes a copy of the guide booklet.

Walking Historic Victoria and Mill Streets

Sunday September 13, 2020 2 PM

Explore one of Milton's oldest and most beautiful neighbourhoods on this guided tour of historic Victoria and Mill Streets. A perfect introduction for new and older residents, as well as first time visitors to Milton.

When: 2:00 pm

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Cost: \$10 – Book online or cash at the start of the tour

Price includes a copy of the guide booklet.

Digging Into What Makes Milton, Milton

Saturday September 19, 2020 • 10:30 am, Free

Learn about Milton's history as we look into our beginnings and development through the years and decades. This is a great opportunity in a friendly form to improve your knowledge of the community you live in.

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Walking Historic Main Street

Sunday September 20, 2020 • 2 PM

Explore our historic downtown on this guided tour of Milton's Main Street. A perfect introduction for new and older residents, as well as first time visitors to Milton.

When: 2:00 pm

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Cost: \$10 – Book online or cash at the start of the tour

Price includes a copy of the guide booklet.

Digging Into What Makes Milton, Milton

Saturday September 26, 2020 • 10:30 am, Free

We will be sharing some early history on the settlement of Halton and the various early Milton families who help to open up the district. Learn about some of their legacy as we celebrate of 200 years of Settlement.

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Walking Historic Martin Street

Sunday September 27, 2020 • 2 PM

Explore one of Milton's oldest neighbourhoods on this guided tour of historic Martin Street. A perfect introduction for new and older residents, as well as first time visitors to Milton.

When: 2:00 pm

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Cost: \$10 – Book online or cash at the start of the tour

Price includes a copy of the guide booklet.

Monthly Meeting:

Milton Treasures

Thursday October 15, 2020 • 7:30 pm, Free

Our guest speaker will be Mr John Duignan a local historian, collector of all things Milton. John has a passion for all things Milton and loves sharing his Milton treasures which he has collected over many years, he will keep us entertained with stories behind the stories!

Where: Milton Historical Society, 16 James Street

Special October Evenings

Gourmet and Spirits

Tuesday October 20, 2020 • 7:30 pm

Following the great success of last year's event we will be offering a similar event in 2020 with local historian John McDonald. However, the subject will change. We will once again dine at La Toscana Ristorante – The Historic 1864 Thompson House Hotel!

Cost and more details to follow.

Milton Historical Society MEMBERS

FEATURED MEMBER

Hibbert Foot Clinic provides variety of services for your feet



Hibbert Foot Clinic provides full service foot care treatment for the whole family. The clinic is staffed by highly qualified foot professionals who will assess and provide a treatment plan for all needs.

A complete foot assessment and medical history can identify the origin of foot pain. Acute pain may require immobilization, and physical therapies. Chronic structural problems may require orthotics, insoles, and footwear advice.

All ages require skin and nail care. Skin and nail conditions such as calluses, corns and ingrown or problem nails can

be treated and prevented from returning. Skin and nail infections such as athlete's foot, warts and wounds can be successfully treated and resolved.

As well, Hibbert provides service for diabetic foot care, soft tissue surgery, children's foot care, custom made orthotics, shoes and compression socks, and sports foot and ankle injuries among its services.

Hibbert Foot Services
470 Bronte St., South,
Suite 107
905-876-1132
miltonfootclinic@bellnet.ca

Membership Information

We'd greatly appreciate your support to keep our mandate going
for another 40 years!

We at MHS, call it History in the Making!

Corporate Memberships

Level A: \$100 yearly for businesses
with 10 employees or less
Level B: \$200 yearly for businesses
with 10 employees or more

General Memberships

Single\$25 yearly
Family\$40 yearly
StudentsFree (ages 12-18)

Corporate Members

Casa Americo Italian Bistro & Restaurant
(Member since September 25, 2018)

Dr. Glen Hunter
(Member since January 8, 2019)

Edward Jones Investments - David Illingworth
(Member since July 2018)

Fitzgerald Insurance –
a division of Spriggs Insurance Ltd
(Member since September 2018)

Given Road West Communications
(Member since January 2019)

Halton Region Heritage Services
(Member since March 2019)

Hibbert Foot Clinic – Foot Care Specialists
(Member since January 2019)

Historic Lumber
(Member since October 2018)

Hudson Restoration
(Member since May 2019)

Johnson McMaster Law Office
(Member since January 2020)

J. Scott Early Funeral Home
(Member since January 2017)

La Rose Bakery
(Member since July 2018)

La Toscana Ristorante
(Member since June 2019)

Ollie's Roofing Limited
(Member Since February 2020)

Pressé Law – Barristers & Solicitors
(Member since Aug. 28, 2018)

Roto-Static Milton
(Member since January 3, 2019)

Sedgwick Marshall Heritage Homes Ltd
(Member since October 2018)

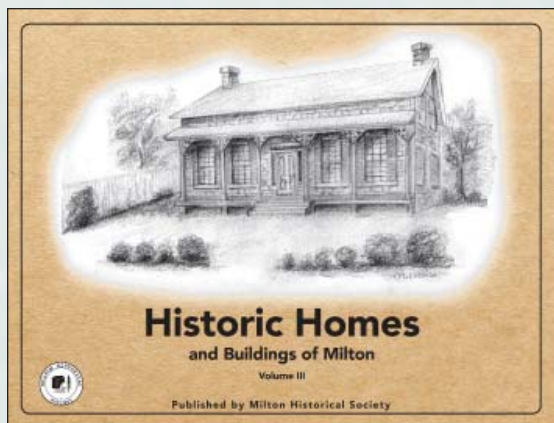
Strutt Armstrong
Chartered Professional Accountants
(Member since July 2018)

TLC Mortgage Group
(Member since October 2019)

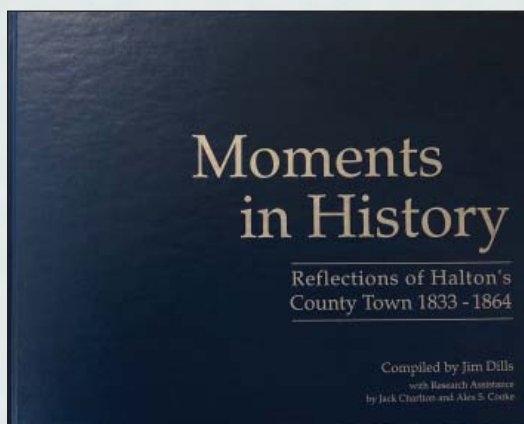
Watada Medicine Professional
(Member since November 2018)

**Special thanks to our valued
Corporate Members. Please kindly
support their businesses.**

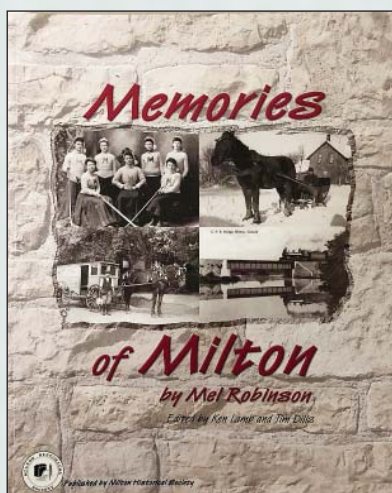
MHS
BOOKS
FOR SALE



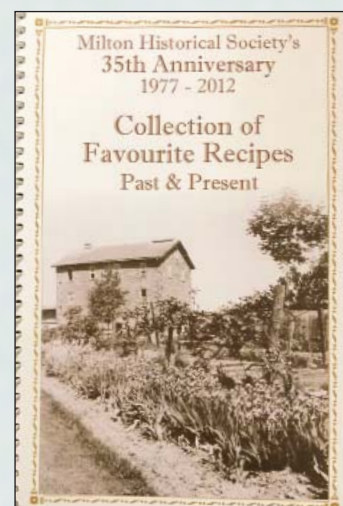
Historic Homes Volume 3
\$30



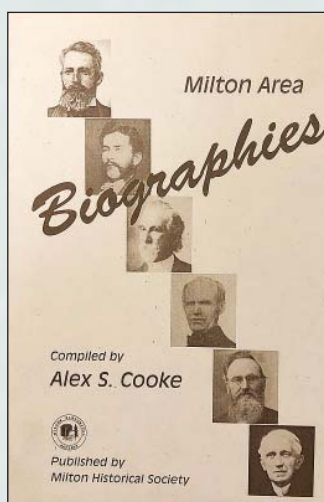
Moments in History
\$15



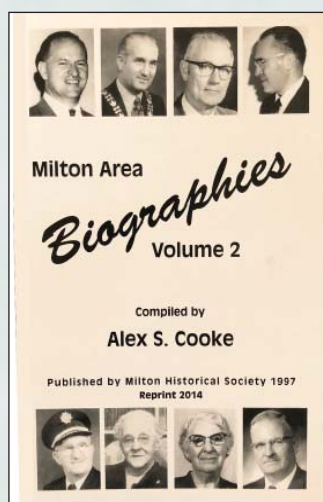
Memories of Milton
\$10



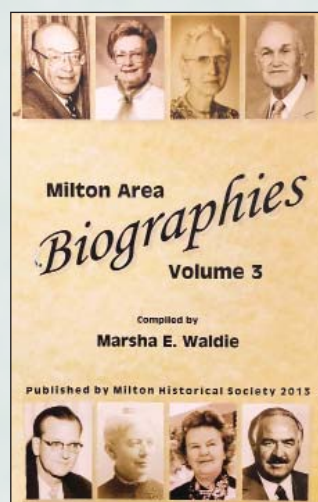
MHS 35th Anniversary Cookbook - \$15



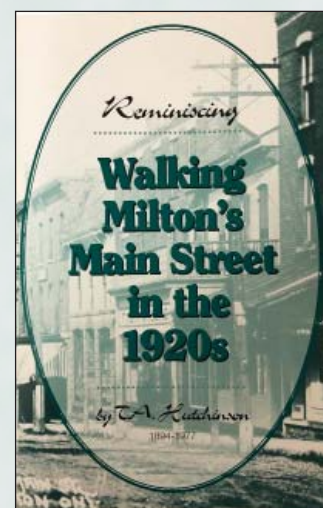
Milton Area Biographies Vol. 1 - \$20



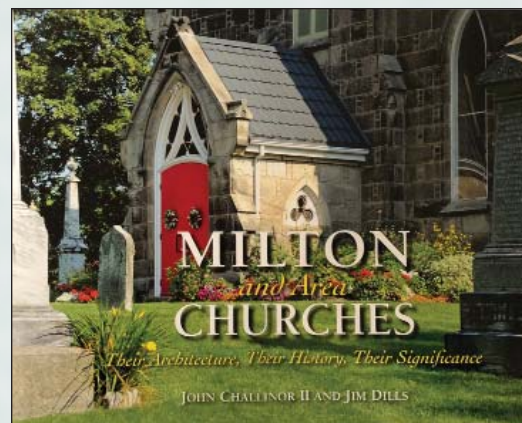
Milton Area Biographies Vol. 2 - \$25



Milton Area Biographies Vol. 3 - \$30

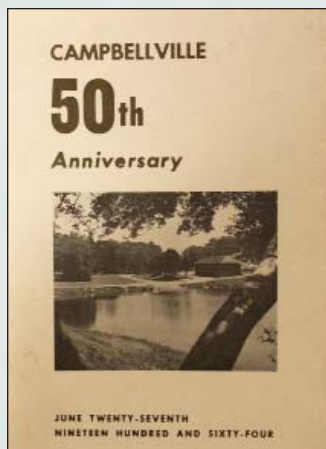


Walking Milton's Main Street 1920s - \$3



Milton and Area Churches
\$40

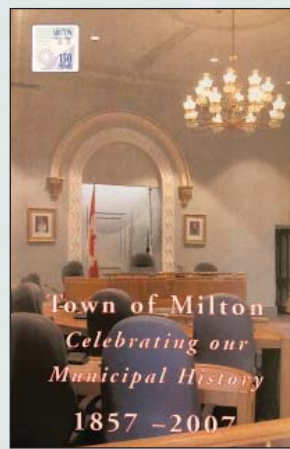
All these books (and more) are available for sale from the Milton Historical Society's website with payment and delivery options. For more information, or help with ordering, please contact Mike Boyle at mikeboyle539@gmail.com.



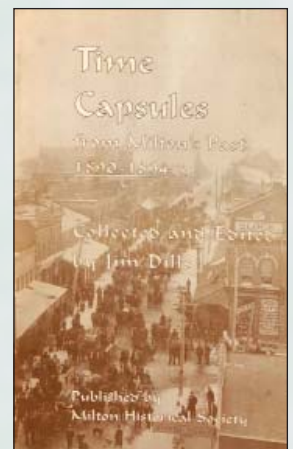
Campbellville 50th Anniversary \$ 20



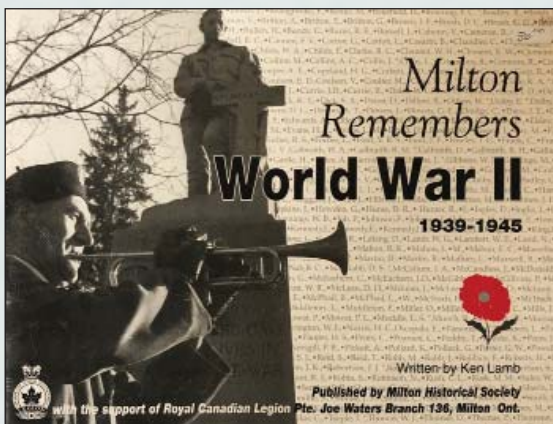
Milton Centennial \$20



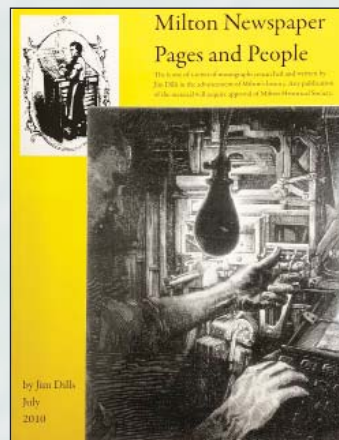
Celebrating Municipal History \$1



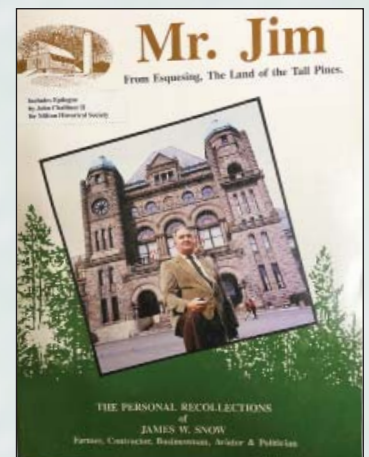
Time Capsules \$1



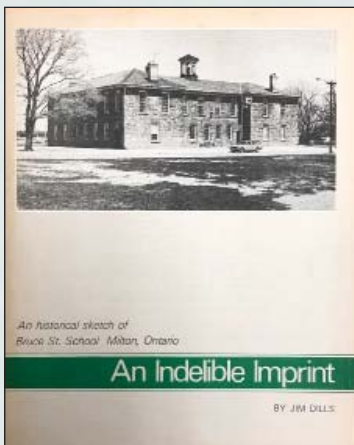
Milton Remembers World War II \$20



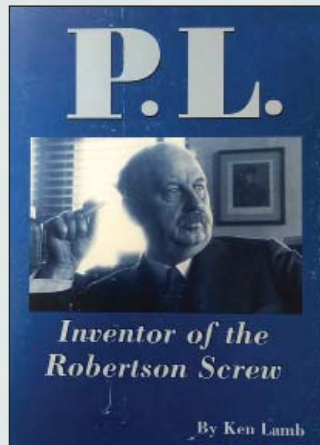
Milton Newspaper Pages & People – \$20



Mr. Jim (Snow) \$20



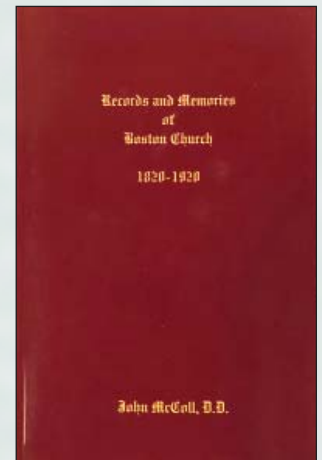
An Indelible Imprint, Bruce Street School – 50¢



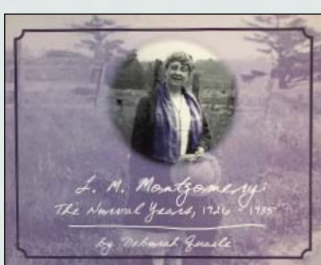
P.L. Inventor of the Robertson Screw – \$30



Halton's Pages of the Past \$20



Records of Boston Church – \$20



L.M. Montgomery Norval Years \$10



Milton Semi-Centennial \$20



THE MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving Milton's History for Future Generations

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email (please print) _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES (Check categories that apply)

☐ New Member or ☐ Renewal

☐ Single \$25

☐ Family \$40

☐ Youth (free)

☐ Corporate (10 or less employees) \$100

☐ Corporate (11 or more employees) \$200

☐ Yes, as a new member I wish to receive the Journal and other e-communications.

VOLUNTEERS HELP US FORGE OUR FUTURE

We know all members have certain unique talents, skills and abilities.

We ask you to share these, as our society relies on your active support and involvement.

These are just a few of the areas you can help the society with:

- Office Support/Communications
- Special Events
- Finance Opportunities
- Education Opportunities
- Graphic Artist Opportunities
- Building Stewardship
- Museum Greeters
- Archives Cataloguing & Care

(Please check those that interest you as listed on the back of this form)

DONATIONS

I wish to make a separate donation to MHS in the sum of _____.

Donations and payments can be made on line through **PayPal** from our website.

(A tax receipt will be issued for all donations totaling \$25.00 or more)

Note: The Milton Historical Society has set up a foundation under the "Community Foundation of Halton North" (CFHN).

You can also donate through this foundation towards the Milton Historical Society.

Please contact our Society for further information.

The Milton Historical Society is a registered charity # 110041358RR0001

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society

Mail completed form/remittance to:

The Milton Historical Society

16 James St., Milton, ON L9T 2P4

HELP SUSTAIN MILTON'S RICH HISTORY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!

The Milton Historical Society was founded in 1977 to encourage appreciation of, and promote knowledge of, the historical and cultural heritage of the Town of Milton. To that end, the Society organizes popular community activities throughout the year and undertakes numerous projects including:

- The restoration and operation of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop
- The publication of books on the history of Milton
- The operation of the Cooke / Dills Archives
- Research and plaquing of Milton's historic properties
- Walking Tours of historic Milton neighbourhoods

To help fund these worthwhile projects, the Milton Historical Society is actively seeking to engage members of Milton's business community as sponsorship partners through our Corporate Membership Program. As a Corporate Member, you will not only help to support a vital and high profile local cultural organization, but you will also receive recognition and benefits including:

- Name mention in The Journal (the Society's quarterly newsletter)
- Name mention in the monthly e-Newsletter (Launching this Fall)
- Name mention on the MHS Website
- Name mention on Social Media Channels
- Name mention in Media Press Releases
- Name mention at the Speaker Forum Presentations
- Name mention at the Student Educational Class Presentations
- Name mention at the Monthly Meeting Series
- 10% off Guided Walking Tours
- 10% off all MHS Publications
- MHS Member-Level access to the Cooke/Dills Archives
- 10% off Carriage Room rental
- 10% off Blacksmith Classes (Waldie Blacksmith Shop)
- One free employee activity evening at Waldie's Blacksmith Shop
- Company presentation by the MHS President



Note: Visit our website for more details and how to take advantage of these special offers.

Becoming a Corporate Partner costs only \$100 for businesses with 10 employees or less, or \$200 for those with more than 10 employees. By the way, Single memberships are \$25 and \$40 for Family. These memberships are a great way to get your employees involved. We are always looking for Volunteer Support at our numerous events around town.

Note: These prices are for a year and renewed on their anniversary date.

Also see us around town at various events • Display at the Milton Downtown Classic Car Show • Display at the Milton Downtown Farmers Market • Float in the Milton Santa Claus Parade • Pot Luck Dinners for MHS Members • Festivities surrounding MHS Heritage Week • MHS Garage Sales (please visit our website for more details).

As a registered charity, the Milton Historical Society will be happy to issue a tax receipt for your contribution (Our registered charity # 110041358RR0001).

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society. Mail completed form/remittance to: The Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4

On behalf of the MHS Board, we very much appreciate your support and working together to advance our historic mission!

Brad Collis – Community Marketing Lead



LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS



~ MHS ~
OVER 40 YEARS
IN THE MAKING!

- Preservation
- Education
- Recognition
- Celebration

A special thank you to all
of our Corporate Members
for their ongoing support.
Please kindly support their
businesses!

OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS



Corporate Member	Member Since
Casa Americo Italian Bistro & Restaurant	Sept 2018
Dr. Glen Hunter	Jan 2019
Edward Jones Investments	
– David Illingworth	July 2018
Fitzgerald Insurance	
– A division of Spriggs Insurance Ltd	Sept 2018
Given Road West Communications	Jan 2019
Halton Regional Heritage Services	Mar 2019
Hibbert Foot Clinic	Jan 2019
Historic Lumber	Oct 2018
Hudson Restoration	May 2019
J. Scott Early Funeral Home	Jan 2017
Johnson McMaster Law Office	Jan 2020
La Rose Bakery	July 2018
La Toscana Ristorante	June 2019
Ollie's Roofing Limited	Feb 2020
Presse Law Barristers & Solicitors	Aug 2018
Roto-Static Milton	Jan 2019
Sedgwick Marshall Heritage Homes Ltd.	Oct 2018
Strutt Armstrong	
Professional Chartered Accountants	July 2018
TLC Mortgage Group – Staci James	Oct 2019
Watada Medicine Professional	Nov 2018

VISIT TODAY! miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

Contact: Brad Collis, Community Marketing Lead
marcommguy@bell.net



MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P2
905.875.4156 or info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca



LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH

MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

~ MHS ~
OVER 40 YEARS
IN THE MAKING!

- Preservation
- Education
- Recognition
- Celebration

**STEP INTO
HISTORY!**

WE WANT YOU!

Volunteer
Ambassadors are
appreciated &
Donations are
kindly accepted



- Corporate & General Memberships
- Publications Library
- Spring & Fall Garage Sales
- Member Pot Luck Dinners
- Milton Community Events
- Heritage Educational Series
- Journal Newsletter & eNews Bulletins
- Historic Building Plaques
- Monthly Meeting Series
- Cooke/Dills Archives
- MHS Gift Shop
- Historic Walking Tours
- Carriage Room Rentals
- Blacksmith Courses
- MHS Facility Tours
- MHS Speakers Bureau

**LEARN
MORE
TODAY!**



VISIT TODAY!
miltonhistoricalsociety.ca



Payment Options
• Cash • Cheque • PayPal

MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P2
905.875.4156 or info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca