



# ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 2010 ARCHIVAL REPORT

John Mark Rowe, Archivist

### ARCHIVAL ACTIVITIES

We started 2010 off with a rearranged website to provide easier access to more items. Ron Raffan volunteered to give the web site a fresh look and to maintain it. All of our newsletters since 1975 are now on-line, thanks to our summer student Brittany Prince-Cox. She was very useful to the Society who hasn't had a student in a couple of years. She also uploaded our Archives inventory, our oversized photographs and the Acton Women's Institute Tweedsmuir history. All of this required rescanning of many items, a time-consuming exercise. These new additions were integrated into *Halton Images*, the Halinet website which only had our photographs available on it. The Library received a donation from the Halton-Peel Branch of the OGS to digitize the microfilm of local newspapers (*Acton Free Press* and *Georgetown Herald*) into *Halton Images* as well. This means a search on *Halton Images* for a phrase like "Kennedy" will show newspaper references, including births, marriages and deaths, EHS Archive references, EHS newsletter references, Tweedsmuir History references AND photographs. WOW! Walter Lewis, long-time friend and supporter of the EHS was the driving force behind this technological leap! On February 3, 2011, Walter received the Ontario Library Association's Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contribution to the libraries of Ontario, in part, for his work on *Halton Images* and the *OurOntario* software.

A less technical achievement this year was the microfilming of the *Georgetown Leader* newspaper, from the 1960s. This can be viewed at the Library on the microfilm viewer. Our student, Brittany Prince-Cox also began the transfer of our digital image collection from CDs to DVDs.

The Society acquired many more photographs this year, including 44 old photographs that once belonged to Luena Campbell. We spent over \$300 this year printing negatives to add photographs that would enhance our collection. We continue to sell copies of our photographs, including the wonderful images placed in the windows of the new Shopper's Drug Mart, in Georgetown. The library had the Archives Advisor from the Archives Association of Ontario visit to advise us on the proposed plans for the Archives in the renovated library in Georgetown and to advise us on the most prudent way to box up the Archives.

The Georgetown branch of the Halton Hills Public Library will be closing in March 2011 for a week while they move to 224 Maple Avenue, the former Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church. Unfortunately for researchers our Archives will be closed and are being stored in the Wellington County Archives. The packing-up of the Archives has already begun, thanks to Karen Hunter, Geoff Cannon and other Library staff. We have access to the storage facility to add items to our collection, so please remember that the EHS is still accepting donations. Tell your great-aunt and uncle as well!

## 2010 ACCESSIONS

The Archives had donations from Ron Law, Georgetown; Ann Lorusso, Georgetown; Dawn Livingstone, Georgetown; Lise Currie, Georgetown; George Pek, Hamilton; Elise Lyons, Cheltenham; Gloria Brown, Milton; Karen Scott, Oakville; Audrey Hillman, Huntsville; John Sommer, Georgetown; Milton Historical Society; Mary Finley, Mississauga; Library Archives Canada; Irma Coles, Acton; Geoff Cannon, Guelph; Tom McDonald, Milton; Woodstock Public Library; Halton Hills Public Library; Karen Hunter, Georgetown; Mark Rowe, Glen Williams; North Halton Red Cross; Nora Zylstra-Savage, Acton; Mike Harley, Acton.

## EXTENT OF HOLDINGS

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Textual – General Collection:    | 46 linear metres                       |
| Textual - Restricted Collection: | 0.64 linear metres                     |
| Textual - Newspaper Collections: | 14 linear metres                       |
| Cartographic Collection:         | 241 items                              |
| Architectural Drawings:          | 136 sets                               |
| Photograph Collection:           | 19 621 images (processed)              |
| Digital Images Collection:       | 10 000 images (processed) est.         |
| Audio-Visual Collection:         | 1 linear metre                         |
| Negatives Collection:            | 23 linear metres (mostly un-processed) |

## WEBSITE USE – [esquesinghistoricalsociety.ca](http://esquesinghistoricalsociety.ca)

Our website had 9977 visits over the past year, an increase of 1096 visits over last year and 1988 visits more compared to 2008. This averages out to 27 visits a day. These visits originated in the Canada 54% of the time followed by United States 35% of the time. The top ten countries were Great Britain, China, Thailand, Germany, Japan, The Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Moldova and Australia. Two countries bumped from the list from last year are Sweden (25) and The Netherlands (13). The unique visitors to the site (once only) were 81%.

Besides searching for EHS directly, the most popular search phrases were newspaper articles, Esquesing, Halton, Georgetown Herald, Speyside, Glen Williams, Ballinafad, and Acton.

Web pages accessed on our website in order of popularity were the Index, newspaper articles, Archives, Map of Georgetown 1854, EHS meetings, About Us, EHS executive, Links, Heritage Halton Hills, and features.

There were 4340(1592) downloads from the site, for our Archival Table of Contents. Next in popularity was the book list, The 1913 *Georgetown Herald*, various newsletters, the Kennedy Family files and then the 1893 *Toronto Daily Mail*.

The most popular months of visits were November (1300), December (1140), and March (1036). Local history was thought about least in June with 506 visits.

## ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2010 LOG OF INQUIRIES

| DATE     | PERSON  | INQUIRY   |
|----------|---|---|
| Jan. 04  | Carrie Pierce                                 | Local Ghosts                                      |
| 14 Jan.  | Lydia C. Medeiros                             | EHS442 copy                                       |
| 15 Jan.  | Colleen Longhurst                             | Local ghosts                                      |
| 19 Jan.  | Bill McIlveen                                 | Glen woodlot locations                            |
| 27 Jan   | Russell Eldridge                              | John Scott 1821-1839                              |
| Jan.     | Arizona, USA                                  | Information on Dr. Neilson, town chiropractor     |
| Feb. 09  | Steve Deschenes                               | Herald negative for 3 August 1977                 |
| 02 Feb.  | Peter Adourian                                | 1923 Herald                                       |
| Feb. 10  | D. Lavonne Koskitalo                          | Gibbons or Gibbens family, Acton                  |
| Feb. 12  | Sandra Williamson                             | Georgetown Horticultural Society                  |
| Feb. 19  | George Pek                                    | Luena Campbell photos on offer                    |
| Feb. 22  | Stephen Stanley                               | Photos of Roxy Theatre, Acton                     |
| Mar 12   | Duncan McLaren                                | Experiences of a Backwoods Preacher               |
| March 28 | Andy Kyle                                     | Membership; Joseph Kyle – Norval PM               |
| April 5  | Jen Snow                                      | Fairy Lake, Acton                                 |
| April 11 | Ron Drake                                     | John Drake in Greenwood Cemetery                  |
| May 05   | Merle Duncan                                  | Acton Tweedsmuir                                  |
| May 05   | Andrea Johanson                               | Arthur Albert Johanson                            |
| May 06   | Diane Coldwell                                | Clark burials in Glen Williams                    |
| May 13   | Jim Brain                                     | Brain Brewery                                     |
| May 14   | Margaret Blenkhorn                            | Bank of Hamilton history                          |
| May 18   | Tammarishka Kerman                            | Georgetown ghosts                                 |
| May 20   | John Clinton Kennedy                          | Kennedy family                                    |
| May 22   | Katherine Fort                                | “A Street in Glen Williams” by A.J. Casson        |
| May 25   | Michael Parsons                               | Photos of Georgetown                              |
| May 27   | Shannyn Lyras                                 | Builder of 444 Barber Dr.                         |
| June 4   | Jay Copp                                      | Photos for Lions Magazine                         |
| June 30  | Julia Roberts                                 | War of 1812                                       |
| June     | Elizabeth McDonald                            | Correction of text on Reid’s Hardware, Georgetown |
| July 4   | Geo. Matheson                                 | William Alexander Stephens                        |
| July 2   | Ann Lawlor                                    | Photos for Shoppers Drug Mart                     |
| July 7   | Kathryn E. Hill                               | Hill / Logan families                             |
| July 10  | Curtis Marshall, Planning Dept., Halton Hills | Photos for Shoppers Drug Mart                     |
| July 14  | Jonathan Colenbeck                            | History of 12 Credit Street                       |
| July 14  | Tara Westman                                  | Chronicles of Ginger Farm                         |
| July 14  | Dennis Gibbons                                | Acton Free Press copies                           |
| Aug. 04  | Don Fendley                                   | Lower Mill closing                                |
| Aug. 04  | Nancy Surette                                 | Speyside  |
| Aug. 17  | Leone Hinds                                   | Township surveyors notes                          |
| Aug. 20  | Don Fendley                                   | White Bridge, Georgetown                          |
| Aug. 26  | Diana Pooke                                   | Isabella Preston (for RBG)                        |
| Aug. 26  | Joseph Cook                                   | McNaughton letters                                |
| Aug. 31  | Don Fendley                                   | Boat factory Lamb St.                             |
| August   | Gordon Tibbles                                | Peter Scott, Scotch Block                         |
| Sept. 02 | Glenn Dinsmore                                | Post Office Buildings                             |
| Sept. 10 | Sherri Clement                                | Wm. Stewart -Beardmore                            |
| Sept. 20 | Dr. Greg Stott                                | Armenian Orphans                                  |
| Sept. 27 | Drew Neilson                                  | Neilson website link                              |

|         |                   |                                  |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Nov. 07 | Lorrie Scambler   | Thompson family                  |
| Nov. 09 | Joe Cairney       | Acton Constabulary               |
| Nov. 12 | John Hewson       | Donation –Erwin family           |
| Nov. 23 | Elise Brunet      | Ramsay and Farquhar              |
| Dec. 01 | Jennifer Gwilliam | Research Information             |
| Dec. 02 | John Butchart     | Townsend in Salmonville          |
| Dec. 08 | Bill & Veronica   | William Gordon of Esquesing      |
| Dec. 17 | Dan Boucher       | Whiteside Family                 |
| Dec. 17 | Cdn. Red Cross    | 1940 Georgetown Soldiers' Relief |
| Dec. 18 | Bob Pitruniak     | Laidlaw Family                   |
| Dec. 28 | Julie Kentner     | Ballinafad community quilt       |

The EHS keeps a record of inquiries made and the name and address of the interested party. If any of the above mentioned topics are of interest to you, we will attempt to contact the person and ask for permission to share their address with you. Please note that most inquiries are by e-mail and addresses do expire.

The Esquesing Historical Society Archives are housed within the Georgetown branch of the Halton Hills Public Libraries. We would like to thank the Library Board and staff for their support and cooperation over the years. We would especially like to thank Geoff Cannon and Beverley King for their support and hard work on our behalf.

J. M. Rowe,  
Archivist

EHS19 376  
**GEORGETOWN-** The sanctuary of Holy Cross Church showing the 20 foot high wrought iron figure depicting the *Second Coming of Christ*, by Gastone Fantuz.  
 DATE: c. Dec. 1979  
 PROVENANCE: John Sommer Acc#08.28  
 FORMAT: Colour matte

