

1974

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

We are fortunate in having an "imported" speaker for our next meeting at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 12 December 1974 in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea, P.Q.

Mr Tony Blunn, Asst. Secretary, City Services, The Department of Capital Territory, Government of Australia has been in Ottawa with his wife and three children on an executive exchange appointment for one year with the National Capital Commission.

Mr Blunn will speak to us about the Australian equivalent of our N.C.C. and its work. His talk will be illustrated with slides and since Australia is now approaching mid-Summer maybe he can transport us briefly away from our oncoming frigid season.

Do not miss this quick trip to the other side of the world!

LAST MEETING

Mr Redmond Quain, Q.C., at the meeting on 29th October, imparted much knowledge on the historical material to be found in old legal records. In so doing he displayed his prowess "before the bar" and he enlivened the whole proceedings with his frequent flashes of wit. Not the least interesting part of the meeting was the lively question and answer period which followed the talk. A most satisfying bill of fare!

BEREAVEMENT

The Society, numerous other organizations, her family and the whole community suffered a sad loss in the death of Kay Walker on 22 October after a brief illness.

Kay was one of the founders of the annual auction sale and has played an active and important role in the twelve sales since. In the early days of the Society she contributed of her knowledge and time in helping establish our museum at Moorside.

She was active in many fields of service and charitable work and this, with her bridge and golfing activities, made her a host of friends. She had the distinction of being the first woman in Canada (and possibly in the Commonwealth) to be granted the King's Commission in her capacity as first head of the Women's Division of the R.C.A.F.

She was such a lively spirit that her passing seems somehow unreal. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

ANOTHER RECORD

Moorside Tea Room closed its 1974 season on Thanksgiving Day after having broken all previous records in business done. The number of guests was swelled by favourable reviews in The Citizen and The Ottawa Journal and also on television.

The Society was fortunate for yet another year in having May Mulvihill and Jean Chapman in charge and in the dedicated staff all of whom rendered long hours of cheerful and competent service to make this another banner year.

The Tea Room has become a cherished institution to many in this broad area and every year it adds a growing number of new friends.

Coping with such success is a real challenge to all involved.

HELP! HELP!

Mr Hugh Robertson has written to us as follows:

"October 30th was the 75th anniversary of the departure of the first Canadian contingent to participate in the Anglo-Boer War in South Africa.

I am engaged in researching the role of the Canadian forces in this conflict, and I am anxious to get in touch with surviving veterans or with relatives or friends of veterans. I am especially anxious to gain access to private papers pertaining to the War. Should readers be aware of the existence of letters, diaries, scrapbooks, photographs, paintings or any other material I would be most grateful if they would write to me at: 224 Springfield Road, Ottawa, Ontario. (K1M 0K9)

In addition to the troops there were also Canadian correspondents, doctors, nurses, priests and teachers who went to South Africa. Any information about these participants would also be greatly appreciated."

We are providing Mr Robertson with some information on Pte Richard Roland Thompson and family but if any of our members or friends can supply other information we know that it will be much appreciated.

GREETINGS

As this will be the last Newsletter of '74 may we express the wish that in due time all of you will have a heart-warming Christmas and a New Year to look forward to with high hopes and confidence.

Arthur Davison,
President.

December 74