

Society Newsletter

Chair's Report



These winter months have been challenging for many of us and also for your Society. We mourn the passing of past Board member William "Larry" Ashby and Board members have been dealing with personal and family matters. PHDHS will be seeking additional Board members and volunteers. Your Board will be meeting soon to discuss our priorities for 2026 and reflect on the 45th anniversary of the donation of Dorothy's House Museum buildings and property to the Society by Dorothy Wilson and family.

We will be seeking new Single, Family, Corporate (Business) and Single Lifetime members and as noted in this newsletter membership fees may now be paid on our website through PayPal. We thank our website service provider Gerry Freyman of Interpool Development who guided this writer during the challenging process of setting up the PayPal account and verification process. We now have two new Single Lifetime members – from Arizona and Port Hope – whose membership fees were paid through PayPal. This payment option was requested by our members. PayPal retains about 3.7% of monies paid as a service fee.

Dorothy's House Museum will not open until necessary repairs and renovations are completed. Your Society needs to conduct an inventory of our holdings and the contents of our storage unit. While it appears that Dorothy's House Museum and property has fared well over the winter months with regular inspections, the two square timbers holding up the large sign on our front lawn rotted out at the base and the sign fell over. Neighbour Jim Wheeler has offered to repair and reinstall this sign, with the Society paying for necessary materials. Your Society will need to review what necessary major repairs and renovations will be needed to the Museum and barn buildings in the future and perhaps apply for a Trillium Grant or seek other financial support.

Your Society continues to receive inquiries from individuals from across Canada and the U.S.A. for historic family information. It has been a pleasure communicating with these individuals, sharing resources and information, and on occasion doing some "detective work"!

Your Society is in sound financial shape. Board members have generously given of their time to maintain the integrity of the Society, and carry out their fiduciary responsibilities.

Your Individual, Family, and Corporate memberships remain valid for the calendar year. Should you wish to join the Society or need to renew your membership please contact Secretary-Treasurer Joan Ashby Parrott or renew your membership online. For all donations and membership fees over \$10.00 a receipt for income tax purposes will be issued.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

"Board of Directors"

Chair
Donald Davis

Vice Chair
vacant

Secretary/Treasurer
Joan Ashby Parrott

Directors
Tim Austin
Mark Clayton
Jennifer Dawson
Tom Mason

**Preserving the past for
future generations**

We're on the Internet

<https://porthopehistorical.ca>

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Ready Print



ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND DONATIONS

PHDHS members and others may purchase their membership and make donations via our website using PayPal. A considerable amount of time was invested in establishing our credentials with PayPal and a link to our bank account. This payment option was requested by our members and most organizations offer this option. PayPal retains 3.7% of a transaction as a service fee. Arizona and Port Hope residents recently purchased PHDHS Lifetime Single memberships using PayPal. Go to our website and click on the green "MEMBERSHIPS" button on the top right side of the home page.

"It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting." (Paulo Coelho)

PH&DHS is pleased to have the support of our business members, as listed below.

Perrytown

BURNHAM FAMILY FARM MARKET
 7760 County Road 2, Cobourg, ON K9A 0X4
 burnhamfarmmarket@gmail.com
 www.burnhamfamilyfarmmarket.ca
 905-373-4578

Lending Library of over 5000
 Christian Books, DVDs and CDs
 www.HaveAGoodDay.ca

READY PRINT
 DESIGN.PRINT.COPY
 Renee McLachlan
 info@readyprint.ca
 905-372-8888
 334 Spring Street
 Cobourg, ON K9A 3K4
 www.readyprint.ca

Garden Hill Farmers Market
 3402 Ganaraska Road
 Garden Hill
 Featuring LOCAL Produce & Products
 + on-site bakery
 289-436-2081
 GardenHillFarmersMarket.com

HOLTON Flowers
 62 Walton Street • Port Hope • Ontario L1A 1N1
 905-885-7439

Ganaraska CONSERVATION

ELLIOTT INSURANCE SERVICES
 27 Queen Street P.O. Box 41
 Port Hope, ON L1A 3V9
 (905) 885-2061
 www.elliottinsuranceservices.com



St. Paul's Anglican Church

In the 1800's Perrytown and area boasted a population of one hundred and fifty residents.

The village was settled about the year of 1820 -21, by the families of John Perry (for whom the village is named) and Sam Caldwell Senior.

At one time there were four churches (Presbyterian, Methodist, Bible Christian and Episcopal-Anglican). The present church was built in 1914 from field stone by local contractor Cecil Mercer. Of the four churches in the village only the Anglican Church survived. This church is a great credit to the congregation and a valuable addition to the Municipality of Port Hope.

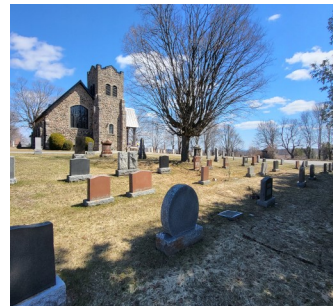
The first log structured school house was built in 1843.

The village had no water power and consequently no mills. The village had no major industries but in 1884 there were several small businesses set up including a general store, carriage and wagon shop and a shoe shop, as well as the four churches.

There was a tavern located just north of the village which remained operational until 1855.

A cheese factory just west of the village was eventually moved to Campbellcroft in 1908.

There was a post office established in 1851. The post office also serviced Garden Hill and Campbellcroft until these two villages established their own post offices. Mail was delivered every Thursday from the Port Hope Post Office. The Perrytown Post Office was officially closed in 1917.



St. Paul's Anglican Church 1914 to present



Presbyterian Cemetery 1837-1948



Bible Christian Cemetery 1840-1945

“Don't be pushed around by the fears in your mind. Be led by the dreams in your heart.” (Roy T. Bennett)

Donated by Janet Sheridan, Fenelon Falls Ontario



ANNE LAURIE
Maxwellton's braces are bonnie,
Where early falls the dew,
And 'twas there that Annie Laurie
Gave me her promise true.

PHONE 194

J. L. WESTAWAY
HOME FURNISHER
The House of Quality

PORT HOPE :: ONTARIO

| 1916 OCTOBER 1916 | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| SUN. | MON. | TUES. | WED. | THU. | FRI. | SAT. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

A Message of Interest on Other Side



SWEET AND LOW
Sweet and low, sweet and low,
Wind of the western sea;
Low, low, breathe and blow,
While my little one, while my pretty one, sleeps.

PHONE 194

J. L. WESTAWAY
HOME FURNISHER
The House of Quality

PORT HOPE :: ONTARIO

| 1916 NOVEMBER 1916 | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| SUN. | MON. | TUES. | WED. | THU. | FRI. | SAT. |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

A Message of Interest on Other Side

J. L. Westaway's was known as the House of Homes. The exact store location is unknown other than it was on the north side of Walton St. At the printing of this calendar the store had conducted business for the past 14 years. It was always the aim of the proprietor, Mr. Westaway, to see that every person entering the store was perfectly satisfied before leaving. That was a policy that never failed. The business stood as a monument to the worthy and honest principles the manager had in view during the years that he had catered to the residents of Port Hope. It was one of the largest furniture stores in the County and the stock carried was extensive and up to date. The building itself was a substantial structure, comprising three floors and every part of its interior was nicely furnished. Courteous and willing clerks were always on hand to attend to the wants of customers, and anything in the house furnishing line could always be secured at the most reasonable prices. The residents making their purchases at this store could rest assured that whatever they bought was the best of its kind. The proprietor, Mr. J. L. Westaway, was one of Port Hope's most trustworthy business men, and was well known in the world of commerce as one who always considered principles before gain. The reputation he had built up after years of straightforwardness and a progressive and honest business policy, meant he stood at the head of an institution that was unsurpassed by others of its kind in Durham and Northumberland Counties.

"Yesterday is but today's memory and tomorrow is today's dream." (Khalil Gibran)



Update on Port Hope Archives

Thanks to Abigail Miller, Archivist, Northumberland County Archives & Museum (NCAM), for providing this update: “ Following closure of the Port Hope Archives in early 2023, the Volunteer Board operating the Archives officially dissolved in March 2024 and transferred care and responsibility for the collection to the Municipality of Port Hope. The collection is currently still housed in Port Hope and maintained by the Municipality. At this time, the Municipality can only facilitate requests for materials required under the Land Registry Act and the Vital Statistics Act. You may submit your inquiries to the Records & Information Management Coordinator at records@porthope.ca. NCAM can provide support to process inquiries for non-legislated requests where there is a limited and specific scope. The Municipality has expressed interest in transferring their historical municipal records to NCAM. We do not have firm dates for this transfer as there are still many moving parts related to completion of the facility, but we are eager to partner with the Municipality in this capacity to ensure ongoing preservation and access to the collection. Official decisions have not yet been made for the transfer of private collections to NCAM.”



William Lawrence (Larry) Ashby
(October 25, 1942 to February 6, 2026)

Larry was a life time member of Port Hope and District Historical Society, who served on the Executive Council from September 2011 until May 2025. Larry was a recipient of the Municipality of Port Hope Civic Awards in 2012 for his contribution to the Arts and Culture. Larry will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Events Calendar 2026

Wednesday May 27, 2026 at 7 p.m.
AGM Meeting will be held at the Ganaraska Conservation Authority Meeting Room, 2216 Hwy 28 North, Port Hope, ON.

Dorothy’s House Museum is closed. Opening date still to be determined and visitation will be by appointment only.

Saturday August 22, 2026
17th Annual Monarch Butterfly Tag & Release at Dorothy’s House Museum, 3632 Ganaraska Road, Garden Hill, ON. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Contact Information

Port Hope & District Historical Society
P.O. Box 116,
Port Hope, ON
L1A 3V9

Web: www.porthopehistorical.ca

Email:
phdhs_81@porthopehistorical.ca

Secretary: Joan Ashby Parrott
Home: 905 885 2981
Cell: 905 922 6439

Membership Rates
Single \$15.00
Couple \$25.00
Business \$40.00
Lifetime \$75.00

PH&DHS is a registered charity and will issue tax receipts for donations of \$10.00 and over.



“Don’t walk in front of me... I may not follow. Don’t walk behind me... I may not lead. Walk beside me... just be my friend.” (Albert Camus)