



## Fall Newsletter 2022



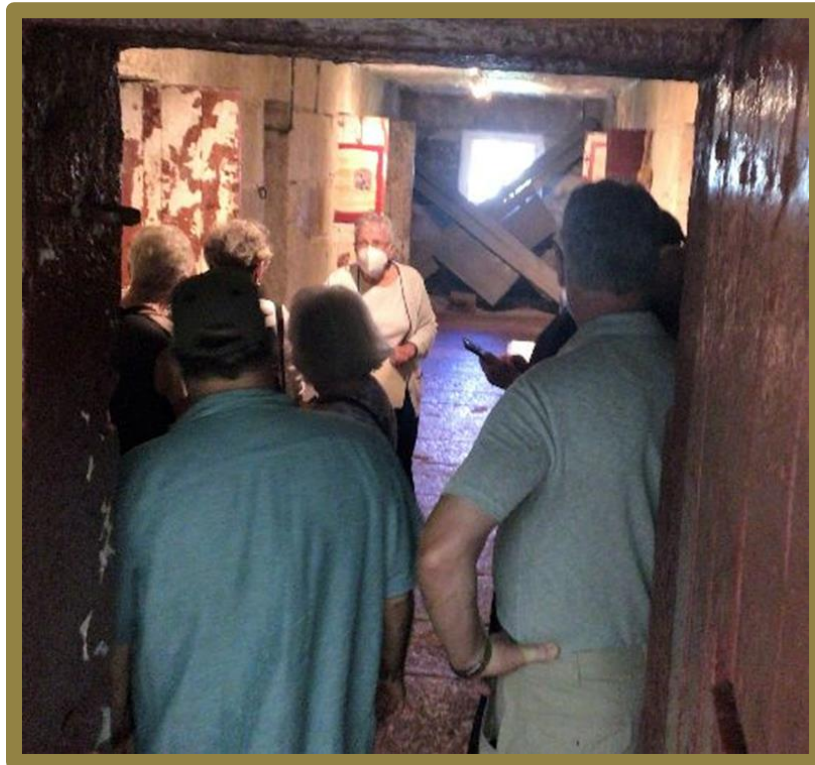
*Local elementary students meet at the Charlotte County Archives to "unpack Charlotte County." Read more ahead!*

### **We're not just jail birds**

At the Charlotte County Archives (CCA) in the Old Jail, we don't just ask for donations of documents, photos, films, and money. We also give out. We welcome visitors and give tours of the historic buildings to tourists. We help researchers discover their family

and community histories. We promote local history in schools and we help seniors across the County record their local histories on voice and video.

You might be surprised at how much goes on at the Archives besides archiving. Yes, we sit in the Old Jail accepting donations of documents and photographs and old movies, and we preserve them in our vault here as part of the County's social heritage. But all through the year we are open to help family and social history researchers explore their roots. And we work to make many of our 25,000 digitized images available to the public through our web site. In the summer, we provide interpretive tours of the Courthouse and Old Jail for visitors who come to our door on foot or in coach tours. We even host the wildly popular Ghost Tours guided by "Miss Demeanor" on many summer evenings. Although not strictly within our mandate, the uniqueness of the experience attracts visitors and helps bring revenue to the Town.



*A tour of the Old Jail this summer, led by volunteer Mary Myers*

## Who we are

In early August, our Archives Manager for the past two years, Heather Wilson, left for a position in Ontario, her home province. We were grateful for her time with us and sorry to see her go, but we were fortunate to recruit a new manager within a month after a wide selection process.

Anna Krentz started work with us on September 13<sup>th</sup> and is already up to speed on the work that we do at the CCA. She has been working most recently as the Archivist at the Modern Literature and Culture Research Centre at the Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly known as Ryerson University), while also volunteering at Heritage Toronto. She holds a first class honours degree in Celtic Studies and History from St. Francis Xavier University and an MA in photographic preservation and collection management from the Toronto Metropolitan University. She adds, "The job of Archives Manager at the Charlotte County Archives is a position of care for an archival collection deeply engaged in a lovely community that speaks to my personal interests and my varied skills."



We were fortunate in having Keith MacKnight with us as an intern Assistant Archivist over the last 18 months. Keith accessioned and organized a lot of material, produced the winter speaker video series and made two presentations on CHCOTV. This summer our tourism services were enabled by summer students Cameron Marshall and Tristan White, and volunteer Jasmine Freitas helped Keith with accessioning.

## Board Directors on the Move

- At the Annual General Meeting in June, we received approval for the following Board changes: Shirley Brinkhurst reached the end of her six-year term of service and Marie La Forest resigned to return to Ontario after three very helpful years on the Board.
- We are very proud that the hard work and dedication of Shirley Brinkhurst and of Sheila Blaggrave, our communications guru, in strengthening the Archives was recognized by the Town's Volunteer Service Awards presented to them by Mayor Brad Henderson in August.
- While Sandi Omson has taken over Robin Burton's role as Treasurer of the Board, Robin continues volunteering as our bookkeeper for now until we can find someone equally experienced. Robin also played a major role in helping us maintain operations after Heather's departure at the peak of the tourism season.



*Board member Sandi Omson gives visitors a tour of the Courthouse this summer.*

## New Directors elected to our Board

- **Sandi Omson** came to St Andrews five years ago and is a retired principal and adult educator from a large school board in Ontario. She has already immersed herself in the work of the Archives, undertaking an intense hand-over from Robin Burton to prepare her for her new role as Board Treasurer.
- **Carmelita Thompson O'Neill** comes from the prominent O'Neill family, long-established in St. Andrews. She is well known in Fredericton and St. Andrews for her work with various community organizations.
- **Dr. Heather Richmond** is a distinguished education professor retired from St Thomas University and was already active with our education outreach program.
- **Susan Waddy** moved to St Andrews in 1973 when she got a job with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans doing research on lobsters. She worked at the Biological Station for 41 years, and was a scientist for the last 16 years of her career.

## Returning board members

- **Sheila Blgrave** taught English at the high school level for a decade before taking on director roles in marketing and communications at Mount Allison and Western Universities, and as a senior manager at a full-service advertising agency.
- **Franklin Cardy**, Board Chair, worked as a geologist in the UK, Africa, and the Caribbean and then with Environment N.B; as a senior manager at the UN Environment Program in Nairobi; and with the World Bank in Washington, D.C.
- **Charles Carson** had a career in telecom with Bell Aliant and continues to provide service with various non-profit boards and committees with a focus on community, people, and senior care, while following his passion for visual art and design.
- **Margo Emrich**, Board Secretary, is a retired school administrator and educator with a long history of volunteerism in the areas of social justice and the arts. She resides in Bocabec.
- **Jeff Holmes**, Board Vice-Chair, has been a prominent local businessman for over 50 years, offering many essential community services from ambulance to limousines, often as a volunteer and as a member of many local service groups and the Legion.

- **Donne Smith**, is a former lawyer and public servant, whose career included 25 years with the New Brunswick government, retiring as founding chair and CEO of the New Brunswick Securities Commission.
- **Caroline Walker**, Artistic Director at Sunbury Shores Arts and Nature Centre, worked for the government in the arts sector for 20 years and as education communications manager at the Beaverbrook Gallery for 15 years before that.

## Preserving Memories in Charlotte County

Do you know a senior in your life or community who has a story to share? The Charlotte County Archives can help you help them tell their stories. Oral Histories are a way of gathering and preserving individual voices to capture the social memory of everyday life, work, and play in Charlotte County. The Archives created CCA backpacks containing all the audio-visual equipment and guidelines you will need to conduct a thorough oral history interview. Archives Manager Anna Krentz ([contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca); 506-529-4248) will be happy to get you started and loan you a backpack. Please visit our “stories” section of our website: <https://ccarchives.ca/oral-histories/> for more. This project will enable individuals or groups throughout the County to record the stories of friends or neighbors so they can be preserved as part of our rich heritage in the Archives and, if the owners give permission, made available as new digital memories for everyone to enjoy.



## News in Brief

- We had 88 visitors in May 2022, compared to 30 visitors in May 2021; 288 in June 2022, compared to 124 in June 2021; 613 in July, compared to 310 in July 2021; 465 in August, comparable to our 498 in August 2021; and in September, we saw 245 visitors, up from 154 in September 2021.
- Throughout the summer, we had 16 research requests.
- In June, 149 visitors out of 288 or 52% were from group tours. In July group tours accounted for approximately 28% of our visitor numbers (Canada Day makes up another 20%). In August, at least 42 out of 465 or 9% were from group tours. And in September 82 out of 245 or 33% were from group tours.
- The Archives purchased a digitizing machine for 8mm and Super 8mm film and can provide this service to anyone who has old home movies that might be of general historic interest.
- Archives Intern Keith MacKnight and Franklin Cardy did two interviews on CHCOTV with Vicki Hogarth. They talked first about Royalty in Charlotte County and the video of the 1953 Coronation Parade in St. Andrews, which can be found on our YouTube page at: <https://youtu.be/DVBCxyZQlvs> and then about Smuggling and Rum Running in Passamaquoddy Bay based on Al Churchill's talk and our Charlotte County Moments videos: <https://youtu.be/Jq7wBgAm4vI> and <https://youtu.be/1vqBRUlo-Rw>
- Our Strategic Plan 2022 has been posted to the website at: <https://secureservercdn.net/192.169.220.245/jpy.b52.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/CCA-Strategic-Plan-2022.pdf> and a hard copy is available for reference in our Research Room and on request from [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca) for those with a special interest in our work.
- In "Visiting Ministers Island in 1956," a new video release on our Home Movies Channel, Henry Hansen comments on film shot by his father Bernard Hansen in 1956. Film footage and stills show the beauty of the Estate at that time, as recalled by a cousin of the Clark family that ran the estate. Henry recalls the pleasure of visiting for his summer vacations. <https://youtu.be/vP2CkGHyeq4>

We received 150 new, stunningly high-quality digitizations of original glass plate negatives in our collection, made by local photographer D. Will McKay ca. 1890 - 1910, thanks to the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick



*Feel the mud on your boots on Milltown Boulevard, St. Stephen, and wait to see more photos soon*

## ***Unpacking Charlotte County* helps students understand Charlotte County history**

The launch of *Unpacking Charlotte County* took place on September 29, at the Charlotte County Archives, 123 Frederick Street, St. Andrews. At the launch, Grades 3 and 4 Vincent Massey Elementary School students “unpacked” postcards and toured the County Jail and the Charlotte County Archives. Students will be able to use their own postcards-in-a-suitcase as a jumping off point for learning about history and social studies, and for building literacy skills.





*Planning for Unpacking Charlotte County educational outreach program. Pictured left to right are Vicki Hogarth (CHCOTV); CCA Board member Caroline Walker; School Principal Lesley O'Leary; and teacher Kurt Gumushel.*

## **Learn about the history of Charlotte County by volunteering at the Archives!**

We rely on our volunteers to ensure our success. Our variety of volunteer opportunities, which can be tailored to your own schedule, include short-term commitments, such as audio-visual production, and longer-term projects engaging with our archival materials. Some projects can be done from home — virtual volunteering! We would greatly benefit from interested volunteers to accession documents, do manuscript transcribing, and/or enhance the archives' vital photography collection. We are also seeking intergenerational volunteers who might assist us in our oral history project or in our educational school and youth programs. Any skills in IT or file organization you have to offer would be a great benefit as well. We know time is important to our volunteers. We work with them to make their contributions meaningful and rewarding. If you are interested in more information about the Archives, don't hesitate to call Donne Smith, a member of the board of directors, at 466-8880 or email at [donnewsmith@gmail.com](mailto:donnewsmith@gmail.com). You may also call our Archives Manager, Anna Krentz, at 529- 4248 or email [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca).

Hope to hear from you soon!

## **Thank you for helping us sustain our crucial archival work**

Your donations, large and small, contribute in a meaningful way to the preservation of the documentary heritage of Charlotte County by enabling us, a non-profit, to retain a full-time Archives Manager and looking after operational expenses not covered by available government grants. Our Archives Manager acts as the nexus of the operation, leading volunteers and other workers and accessioning all the documents and photos that people in the community need and want us to preserve. You may donate by cheque or credit card; by calling our office at 506-529-4248; or through the Canada Helps link on our website: <https://ccarchives.ca/donations/>. We also welcome e-transfers. To make an e-transfer, simply email it to [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca) and fill in the password "Donation." And please consider remembering us in your will. We are so very grateful for your support of the Charlotte County Archives. As our new Treasurer Sandi Omson said recently, "Charlotte County and St. Andrews are steeped in history, which is present all around us." Help us conserve this history, lest we forget.