



FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

NOTES AMICALES

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TITANIC - HIDDEN TREASURE IN RETIREMENT

PROUD
SUPPORTERS
OF/FIERS
D'APPUYER

RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE



LE CENTRE
DU PATRIMOINE
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RCMP
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
UNIT



GRUPE DES
COLLECTIONS
HISTORIQUES



Millvina Dean was the youngest survivor of the Titanic Shipwreck. She was 87 years when she arrived at Regina Airport and received a large welcome including two Mounties to escort her, in support of a fundraising event for the Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services. RCMP members are Cpl. Dale Sheehan and Cpl. Jari Brar. Photo: Regina Leader Post.

When you are over sixty and semi-retired, it's time to down-size, find some new challenges and revise your lifestyle. Why? Because you never know what exciting discoveries you will uncover, that are waiting for you in your attic, barn, or secret hiding place that were almost forgotten.

I particularly enjoyed rummaging through an old hump-back trunk filled with antiques, including Mother's family cookbook, Dad's hand-written baking

journals from when he worked for Pauline Chambers in Winnipeg, and a well-worn book at the bottom, with my Grandmother McCormack's



The original antique trunk and book *TITANIC!*

handwritten name and address inside. It had been fondly covered with one of those book jackets that were popular years ago, to preserve them, thus the title was not readily revealed. A cursory examination revealed the name Titanic.

TITANIC? Yes, carefully peeling back the cover exposed the faded picture of the mighty ocean liner, and the full title, “Sinking of the Titanic and other Great Sea Disasters”. How had I forgotten that it had been placed there many years ago, when handed down to me from my mother? I don’t ever recall it being in the family when I was growing up. Like millions of folks around the world we recently took in the latest movie version of this great sea disaster and were intrigued once again by the monstrous reality of this man-made catastrophe. But now — I actually held in my hands the full, detailed factual account that had been read and treasured by family members.

I almost could not believe my good fortune, not

because of the monetary value, but the mystery and intrigue and history that surrounded its’ existence and was immersed between its covers! I glanced around, as if expecting to see some figure from the past looking over my shoulder. As my thumbs separated the fragile aging pages, some reinforced with brown paper tape, the chronicle began with a ‘Spiritual Consolation to the Survivors of the Titanic’, composed by Dr. Henry Van Dyke, dated April 18th. 1912., just three days after the disaster.

I separated the centre and read a list of survivors from the first and second cabins, at pages 174 to 178. This list is followed by a roll of the dead from pages 179 to 182. A footnote tells me the deaths totalled 1635, but third cabin passengers and crew names could not be confirmed. Next, the book opens on a photograph of a beautiful woman identified as Mrs. Lucien P. Smith, who was saved, but her husband of a few months went to a watery grave. At page 72 there are actual photos taken from the rescue ship Carpathia, of survivors in life boats as they tossed in the icy ocean swells.

The musty odour of aging pages adds an element of timeless reality to my imagination. My grandmother, who was born on Sept. 1st. 1880, and was only 32 yrs. old when she received the book, must have trembled with awe, as she leafed

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through these same pages! Wireless radio was in it's infancy and television was only a science-fiction writers dream, thus books were the medium of the day.

Therefore when news of the impending "Night to Remember" special presentation and dinner was being brought to Regina by honorary Captain Wayne MacDonald the Canadian Titanic Historian from Edmonton, I eagerly awaited the details. Then on May 3rd 1999, I contacted George Thomas the executive director of Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, the beneficiary of the project, to reserve tickets and offer our book as an exhibit for the Program.

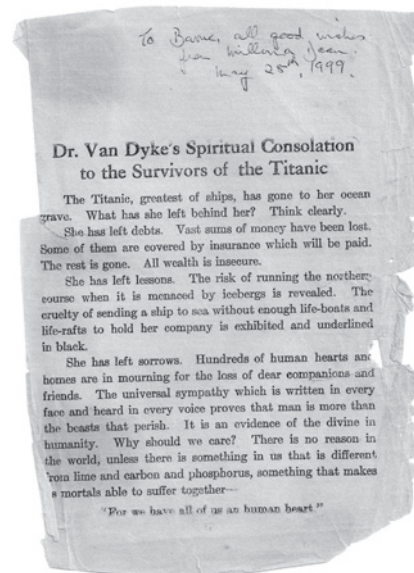
The crowning highlight was the attendance of Millvina Dean, the youngest known living survivor of the Titanic, who was a baby rescued with her mother at the time. She passed up a chance to mingle with the Royal Family at the British premiere of James Cameron's movie Titanic. She declined a chance to fly to Germany to meet Cameron and



Millvina Dean, age 87, with Barrie Nowell, at the "Night to Remember" in Regina, Sask. May 25-29, 1999,

stars Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio. But Millvina Dean had accepted an invitation to come to Regina, Saskatchewan! This British woman who was 87 was the guest of honour at one of the most imaginative charity fundraisers in Regina; a lavish re-creation of the last meal on the Titanic.

Dr. Roy Cullimore, who is world-renowned for his work in the expeditions to the R.M.S. Titanic site by the Discovery Channel and R.M.S. Titanic Inc. presented two fascinating displays of his experiments, at the Titanic events in Regina. Our distinguished guest, Millvina Dean was escorted by two RCMP Officers as she toured the various events, and attended the lavish dinner. She also enjoyed meeting and visiting with the Guests and signing autographs. At this time I was honoured to meet her and she graciously autographed my Grandmother's Titanic book, which is pictured in



First page in book, signed and dated by Millvina Dean, last living survivor of the fatal sinking of the TITANIC.

the photo with the original old trunk. It was this christening touch that gave this rare old volume a brand of originality and a direct association with the historic Titanic, to perpetuity.

Millvina Dean became a high-profile guest at Titanic related events, was interviewed on television and radio and other media. She received numerous letters from admirers and magazine publishers. Sadly, her health failed and she returned to a nursing home in Southampton England where she died ten years after her Regina visit, at the age of ninetyseven. Her memory will live forever in the multitude of written And Photographic records of her memorable existence.

Barrie F. Nowell, April 12th. 2012. Editor

PRESENTATIONS



In June 2011, while visiting Newfoundland, President Bill Greenslade met with RCMP Veteran Richard Dundas at his home in Topsail, Conception Bay South, Newfoundland. President Bill presented Richard Dundas with a Life Membership and Lapel Pin, on behalf of the Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre, in recognition of his generous support and service over the years.

On April 10th, 2012, on occasion of the April 2012 Meeting of the Saskatoon Veterans Association, held at North Battleford, President Bill Greenslade of the "Friends" presented Doug Zorn with a Life Membership and Lapel Pin, on behalf of the Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre, in recognition of his generous support and service over the years.

Photo by Bob Hemsworth.



In June 2010, while visiting RCMP Headquarters at St.Johns, Newfoundland, President Bill Greenslade met with RCMP Veteran George Powell. President Bill presented George Powell with a Life Membership and Lapel Pin, on behalf of the Friends of the R.C.M. Police Heritage Centre in recognition of his generous support and service over the years.

Photo by Div. Staff



WELCOME AL NICHOLSON

Toward the end of 2011, Veteran Member Al Nicholson took over the managing of the Heritage Center. Al comes to the Center with an unlimited knowledge of the Force and great enthusiasm to see the history and traditions of the Force preserved. In addition to his years in the Force, Al has extensive experience as a result of his time with Heritage Park in Calgary. Al has some great ideas for the Center and the Friends pledge their support in assisting Al in bringing the ideas to reality. Welcome Al.

TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty First Annual General meeting (AGM) of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre was held in Regina, Saskatchewan, on Tuesday, March 29th, 2011, in the Community Programming Room at the Heritage Centre.

Fifty Eight persons were in attendance, and the President was in possession of 453 proxy votes.

Regrets were received from the Commissioner, A/Commissioner Roger Brown, Commanding Officer, "Depot" Division. Present were A/Commissioner Russ Mirasty and his wife. Assistant Commissioner Mirasty is the Commanding Officer, "F" Division.

President Bill Greenslade welcomed all guests, particularly Malcolm Wake, one of our founding fathers; Jean Thus, widow of Ivan Thue, who was also a founding father; Murray Grant; and Wilhelm De Lint, long time members of the 'Friends'.

All persons in attendance were in possession of a copy of the Annual Directors report, and annual financial report. President Bill summarized the entire 2010 report, and while doing so, called upon Robin Etherington, CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre; Rhonda Lamb, Manager of the RCMP Historical Collections Unit, and Barrie Nowell, Director, and editor of our quarterly newsletter "Friendly Notes". At this time, President Bill introduced the 2010 Board of Directors.

President Bill then presented Life Membership plaques to Mrs. Shirley A. Dodds, and to Glen & Marlene Ridgway.

Motion by Mac MacGillivray, seconded by Wilhelm De Lint. That we accept the Board of Directors report for 2010. Carried

Motion by Gord Prawdzik,seconded by Murray Grant. That we accept the financial report for 2010. Carried.

Motion by Malcolm Wake, seconded by Kevin O’Callaghan . That we appoint Select Bookkeeping as our bookkeeper for the year 2011. Carried.

Motion to adjourn by Kenn Barker. President Greenslade invited everyone to partake of lunch and refreshments

Ron Ostrum, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2011



21st. AGM “Friends” of MP Heritage Centre

Seated (L to R): Al Nicholson; Asst. Commr. Roger Brown; Suzanne, RCMP Mascot; Janet Wightman; Jill Vandal; Gary Davidson; Kenn Baker

Standing (L to R): Bill Greenslade; Steve Smedley; Bob Cocks; Mac McGillivray; John Worthington; Supt. Gerry Gourlay; Ron Olstrum

Missing: Barrie Nowell; Rhonda Lamb; John Hodgson

Photo by Kenn Barker.

DONOR WALL OF APPRECIATION

The following changes/additions to the “Donor Wall” have been made since our last issue.

\$500 MEMBER

Mrs. Mary Ablott, Newark, Notts, England
George Caldbick, Chilliwack, BC
Agnes Jamont, Surrey, BC
Edward Burnell, Almonte, ON
Ms Nicola Myles, Delta, BC
Kornel Kereluk, Parksville, BC
Bernard G. Frye, Terra Haute IN, USA

FRIENDLY NOTES BY EMAIL

Would you like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically? This e-mail delivery allows you to view the *Friendly Notes* online rather than through the mail. If so please provide your email address to **bnowell@accesscomm.ca** and your e-mail address will be added to the mail-out list. The *Friendly Notes* will be sent in the Adobe Acrobat pdf format.

The benefits of taking advantage of this include:

- convenience and timely access to the *Friendly Notes* – you receive the *Friendly Notes* a week to ten days earlier,
- environmentally friendly, and
- reduces costs of printing and mailing.

It's easy! All you need is access to the Internet and an electronic mail address.

Thanks to those Members of the *Friends* who have already indicated they would like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically.

You think English is Easy!

Let's face it -English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

Author unknown

CORRECTION: In Vol. 22, Issue 2, Spring 2012, on page 6, I erroneously identified the RCMP Officer in the photo as Chrystal Kruszelnicki, when in fact it was Supt. Louise Lafrance, the Training Officer.

Editor

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

A warm welcome to the following persons who have become members of the Friends during the period from March 1, 2012 to June 13, 2012:

Amelia Stewart, Winnipeg, MB

FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President | Bill Greenslade, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Immediate Past President (ODS) | Tom Light, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Past President | Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Secretary | Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | John Hodgson, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | Mac MacGillivray, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | John Worthington, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | Steve Smedley, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | Gary Davidson, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Director | Bob Cocks |
| Director | Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Force Observer | Supt. Jerry Gourlay, RCMP |
| Historical Collections Unit Observer | Rhonda Lamb |
| Heritage Centre Observer | Al Nicholson |
| <hr/> | |
| Historian Committee | Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Membership Committee | Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.) |
| Newsletter Editor | Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.) |

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER/RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTED POLICE HERITAGE CENTRE

- Membership One Year (\$35) Three Years (\$90)
- Life Membership \$1,200 single payment or cumulative over several years to \$1,200 level. Existing members will have past membership payments credited towards the \$1,200 level.
- Donation _____ (Any amount is eligible for a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency tax receipt. Canada Only)

American residents please add \$5.00 extra per year and international residents please add \$10.00 extra per year, to cover postage costs.

Enclosed Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov./State _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____

E-mail Address _____

My membership/donation will be paid by:

- Cheque/check (payable to the Friends of the Mounted Police Museum)
- Credit Card # _____ (Visa, Master Card or American Express) Expiry _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Return or Mail:

Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan Canada S4T 0P4