



Charleswood Historical Society Newsletter December 2024



Recent CHS Museum Visitor!

To our Members and Supporters Season Greetings!

Len Van Roon Celebrates 103 !



We were thrilled to be able to celebrate Len Van Roon Sr.'s 103 birthday with a cake at our November General Meeting. Mr. Van Roon has been a valued member of our historical society and an integral part, along with his wife Verna, since the beginning. Len still regularly attends our museum. We are very fortunate to have him as a member of our historical society. Congratulations, Len!

Annual CHS Pioneer Dinner



Janet and Kathleen

On a beautiful fall afternoon at Breezy Bend Country Club, we hosted our Annual Pioneer Dinner. Our incoming President, Janet Adam, reported on the busy and exciting year. We had a lovely group of 93 in attendance.

We were honoured to have Kathleen Cook, MLA Roblin, and her associate Jackie Maxted, attend our Pioneer Dinner this year. Kathleen presented us with a plaque to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Charleswood Historical Society..

Thank you Kathleen for this special gift to mark our 50th Anniversary!

This year we honoured residents who contributed to the betterment of Charleswood over the years : Harvey Cantin, Doug Coates and Steve Coates.

And, last but not least. thanks to Ken Fluto for printing tickets, Lavone Caron for doing the printing on the parchments for the honourees, and to Barry Carr for his fine anniversary video which he previewed at our Dinner.



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CHS Lecture Series 2024

On **Monday, November 4**, CHS members and guests were treated to a two presentations related to **Early Charleswood and its Métis heritage**.

Our first presenter, Jackie Corrigan, Amateur Genealogist and blogger of "As Canadian As Can Be", led us through a fascinating history of her direct ancestors, and original Charleswood landowners, the Hogue family. The Hogue family matriarch, Marguerite Taylor, married Amable Hogue Sr. in the early 1800's. They had ten children, each of whom made significant contributions to early Charleswood and Winnipeg life. Many of the local names we are familiar with today are descendants of the Hogue family, such as Morrissette, Branconnier, McMillan, and Beauchemin.

Candace Hogue, Curator, Red River Métis National Heritage Centre, provided us with a history of the Metis "leggings" which represent Metis kinship and connections to original families. Jackie brought an original beaded making beautiful designs, it being only one of two or three from that era.

On **Monday, December 2**, Shauna Bell and Tracey Dumka, provided us with an insightful presentation of "**Behind the Scenes at the Christmas Cheer Board**". With funding solely from non-governmental sources, the legendary Christmas Cheer Board will provide an astounding 22,000 hampers to those in need this Christmas season. Virtually all personnel are volunteers, many of whom sign up for duty year after year. It was an uplifting and inspirational story of commitment and community service. In keeping with season, the very talented Len Van Roon Jr. entertained us with Christmas music on his cello and led us singing a few lovely Christmas carols!

On **Monday, March 5, 2025**: Stephen Britton, Past President of the Headingley Historical Society, will present "**The Life and Times of James Taylor**". Don't forget to put it in your calendar!

Please note: John Burchill's Lecture for December has been tentatively rescheduled to the winter months of 2025.



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Coy Family Presentation



Eric Coy

Also at our November General Meeting, Ric Coy graciously agreed to give a short presentation on his family's history in Charleswood.

Between 1913 and 1929 several members of the Coy family immigrated from Nottinghamshire UK to Canada and settled in Charleswood. Ric's father, Eric, came to Charleswood prior to 1919.

Eric Coy was a talented multi-talented track and field athlete who successfully competed nationally and internationally, including the 1938 British Empire Games in Sydney and the 1948 Summer Olympics in London England. Eric's brothers Gren and Jack also raised their families in Charleswood.

Charleswood History



Lillian James (1895-1990) was an accomplished Charleswood resident. She excelled in athletics and contributed to many community organizations. As a nurse in both the First and Second World Wars, she was honoured by King George VI for her service.

Over the years, the family marker at St. James Cemetery gradually sunk several inches until it was no longer visible. This summer, Gord Crossley & Doug Carpenter skillfully unearthed the marker, with the results as shown. A remarkable ending to a remarkable Charleswood story! Well done, Gord and Doug!

CHS News

The **2024 Grey Cup** has come and gone, but not the result we were hoping for! Thank you, Ken Morrisette, for again generously organizing this very successful fundraiser!

Our **Annual Pot Luck Dinner** will be held at the CHS boardroom, 5006 Roblin Blvd, in late February 2025. Notice of time and date will be sent to all CHS members.

The Buffalo and the Passage



Here is the new Buffalo painting at the Charleswood Library. Come in and have a look at the display! The CHS provided information on the buffalo and the Passage. Thank you to the Library & Staff for acknowledging our endeavors.



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Coming Up - CHS Fundraiser



Charleswood Historical Society is grateful for the recent donation from Myrna Driedger, former member of the Legislative Assembly and current member of our Society. She has donated a beautiful oil painting from Winnipeg artist Michael Reichardt (1926-2020).

This 1985 landscape depicts a winter prairie scene. Myrna asked CHS to use this painting as a fundraiser. We are thankful and are planning a fund raiser worthy of the beautiful donation. Thank you Myrna!

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Local News

Charleswood Legion Tank Room Project: Just a reminder that the Charleswood Legion is selling 100 plaques (\$125 each) to create a maintenance fund for the legion Tank Room. Please contact Tom Crew, Chairman Charleswood Legion 100 at 204-479-2907 for further information.

Charleswood Bridge Dedication:



Evan Duncan, Mayor Gillingham and dignitaries at the 30th anniversary of the building of the Charleswood bridge and subsequent William Clement Parkway. The project was an innovative and successful public/private partnership which concluded this year.



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Charleswood Museum News

Traffic has been brisk at our Museum with new displays and sales of memberships and event tickets, such as the Pioneer Dinner. Gord Crossley prepared the Library display case exhibit celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the RCAF. Future displays will include a display from St. Francis Xavier Historical Society & a display of vintage dolls by Carolynn Derkach.

Artifacts received during the past month included vintage kitchen items donated by Don McLeod and a brass badge from the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry military regiment donated by Barbara Shumeley. Thanks Don and Barbara!

CHS Books and Memorabilia

CHS Book Corner:

Donna Janke's book, "**111 Places in Winnipeg That You Must Not Miss**" has been released in Canada this week. It is the ultimate guide to Winnipeg for locals and experienced travelers, featuring interesting and unusual places, even some in Charleswood! Thank you, Eileen, for your input into this book!

Citizen, Settler, Soldier, Scoundrel: A Social History of the Militia of Manitoba 1870-1885

(<https://www.amazon.ca/Citizen-Settler-Soldier-Scoundrel--ebook/dp/B0DLJ53W65>) by Colonel David W. Grebstad, examines the profound cultural and social impact of the militia garrison maintained in Manitoba from 1870 to 1877, as well as the interactions with First Nations and Métis communities.

CHS Youtube Videos

A reminder to view a couple of fun and very informative Youtube videos featuring Charleswood history:

- **The Harte Trail – Great Outdoors in the City:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWH-TJ6wdBk>
- **Charleswood Little Known Facts:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0YKojEE4us>

Well Done and Thank You, Barry Carr!