

# MUSEUM NEWS

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## How to Find Us

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## Hours of Operation

The Museum is open  
Tuesday - Saturday  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Who We Are

Administrator – Jackie Pearase  
Board of Directors 2021-2022  
President: Sandra Farynuk  
Vice-president: Sue Phillips  
Secretary: Bob Cowan  
Treasurer: Diana Inselberg  
Directors: Judy Fischer,  
Joan Cowan, Desiree Roell

**Come visit  
the museum  
this summer!**

## President's Message

Summer is here and we are all keeping our fingers crossed for an extreme heat and smoke free season. Last year was so damaging to our health and our environment. Here at the museum, we have been busy as always: Jackie, with all her ongoing projects, still manages to find new ones for all our industrious volunteers and they all, very willingly, work hard at their tasks.

Our work will soon be made more efficient with our new computer and updated systems set-up. This also has been a very time consuming project, thanks mainly to Diana and her husband Alex for arranging this. Thanks also, to the generous donation from Jim McQueen's estate for enabling us to do this.

We are very pleased to have been loaned all the articles to set up the tribute display to all the Ukrainians devastated by this war and the previous ones.

Another big project we are seeing completed is the new metal shelving for Springbend Hall. Joani is busy preparing all the artifacts from the back room to move out there so we can get going on our vault project.

Everyone here is doing their part to make our museum the best it can be. Come down for a visit and see what we have done and maybe look up some of your family history!



### Enderby Cliffs in spring

This gorgeous photograph of the Enderby Cliffs framed by spring flowers was taken by Rev. Hugh Irwin or Dave Jones around 1953-57 and hand-painted by Ida Teece. The picture was used for the drawing on the cover of the book, *In the Shadow of the Cliff*, a book about pioneering families in North Enderby. The photo was donated to the museum by Eve Cartwright. [edms 4308]



## Museum notes

By Jackie Pearase

Well, it has been two years since I started at the museum and I still look forward to my days here. I have plenty to keep my hands and mind occupied. Things are running smoothly – the board members are working together to accomplish some important items on our to-do list and volunteers continue to dedicate time to their individual projects. We are progressing on many levels and it is wonderful to see and be a part of.

### Nursing presentation

Our presentation, The History of Nursing in Enderby, held May 23 was a huge hit. We were packed to standing room only and the speakers really delivered. Dawn Hawrys, Jean Early and Jacqueline Malkinson were the main speakers, covering the history of nursing and hospitals in Enderby and public health. Other speakers included Carine Baird, Sarah Blurton, Marlane Hay, Diane MacPherson and Mary McMynn. If you missed it, the transcription is now part of our Oral History Project in the museum. The subject of nursing was a good topic because it fit with current events. If you have a topic you would like to learn about in a future presentation, give me a call.

## Flooding a springtime tradition in Enderby



Though newspaper reports on the 1972 flooding was minimal, there was considerable high water that year as this photo shows. [edms 6794]

Spring flooding is an annual topic of conversation in a community with a river running through it.

The timing, power and duration of flooding each spring is never known, as a review of local flooding history demonstrates.

Flooding from north of Enderby to Grindrod in 1894 closed roads and cancelled trains but the first major flood to be reported in local newspapers was in May 1928.

On May 31, 1928, the Enderby Commoner reported that the river was “over the banks at several points between Enderby and Mara and all low lying lands are covered from one to four feet of water.”

Roads to Mara, Mabel Lake and the highway to Salmon Arm were all impassable, bridges along Mabel Lake Road were washed out, and railway lines were under water north and south of the city.

Kingfisher was also inundated as the paper reported: “The protection along the riverbank put in this spring by the Department of Works at Hupel proved two or three hundred feet short. The water getting in behind washed out the roadway and cut its way to the Barton flat and flooded everything to Pot-ries.”

Within Enderby the wooden sidewalks were floating and the water level was 22 feet at the bridge.

Despite the flooding, the Ashton Creek Social Club continued with its Saturday night event involving singing, music, poetry and a presentation on Russia’s Rebirth by Henry Walker.

Mabel Lake Road reopened to traffic on June 7 with a detour at Hupel.

A few nights of warm rain resulted in flood waters washing out roadways and bridges on July 1, 1935.

Ashton Creek was hard hit and in the book, *Reflections Along the Spallumcheen*, Caroline Bawtree recalled the rust colour of the water and a strong earthy smell caused by iron deposits coming from the higher creeks. Large rolling rocks also diminished the falls at Ashton Creek that were previously enjoyed by locals.

Thousands of acres of farmland from Hupel to Mara were inundated by flooding in mid-June 1948.

City basements flooded and the CPR did not run for 19 days. Flooding was experienced in Lumby, Mabel Lake, Trinity Valley, Ashton Creek, Grindrod, Mara, Sicamous, Silver Creek, Shuswap Lake and Eagle Valley.

People enhanced their resilience to and preparation for flooding over the years so when flooding reached 1948 levels in June 1972, newspaper headlines focused on the flood's negative impact to tourism revenue.

Heavy rain in late May 1985 resulted in a two foot rise to water levels over a weekend but only localized flooding was experienced.

A debris torrent and mudslide at Falls Creek in Kingfisher in 1990 resulted in the destruction of several homes, sections of roadway, and four hydro transmission towers. There were 22 slides across Mabel Lake Road.

Flooding in mid-July 1997 was considered worse than 1990, with parts of Enderby closed due to high water, flooded roads in Kingfisher, Grindrod and Mara, sections of road washed out at Cooke Creek and Falls Creek, damage to the Brash Creek reservoir, and a slide at Swansea Point.

The flooding was minimal in 2014 but a debris torrent at Cooke Creek from Dale Lake in May resulted in considerable damage to the roadway and the Kingfisher Interpretive Centre.

Mabel Lake Road was closed at Ashton Creek in mid-June 2012 when the creek overflowed its banks. Hwy. 97A was also closed in two places south of Sicamous and the houseboat business there was severely damaged by a slide.

Torrential rain on May 4, 2017 resulted in mudslides, road closures in Mara and Deep Creek, and a boil water advisory for city residents.

No one can predict spring flooding because there are so many factors that can play a part including heat, rain events and snow-pack levels.

So, will 2022 be a major flood year? Maybe, maybe not – only time will tell.

### Springbend Hall



Work is ongoing at Springbend Hall to make it a better storage facility. Old shelves were donated to the Lions Club's garage sale, a collection of bottles that are excess to our needs is finding new homes, cleaning is being done and new metal shelving was erected inside the hall. Joani is working diligently on organizing and boxing up artifacts that are currently in the back room that will be stored in the hall. I came into the museum recently and was amazed to see floor space and empty shelves in the back room. Progress! A wonderful thing.

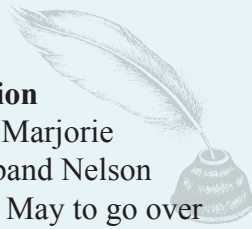
### Spring cleaning

The museum received a thorough cleaning – vacuuming, washing and dusting all the artifacts in the display rooms. It was quite a task, particularly the workshop with its many, many items. But it was a great opportunity to move some things around and discover what some items are. New curtains in the kitchen made by Sandy have perked up that space. The overall result is transforming. So come down and check out the museum again.

### Displays

Sandy and I have been working hard to keep the museum interesting by changing up the displays regularly. We have plans to change up the living room and we are looking for ideas on the next display to replace the Ukrainian display that is currently drawing many visitors. A new (old) hand-cranked wool carder made by Tom Dale is a great new hands-on hit with the kids. If you have an idea for a static display, give me a call.





### Jim McQueen donation

Jim McQueen's sister Marjorie Ouimette and her husband Nelson visited the museum in May to go over some of the items included in the donation from Jim's estate. I got to identify some people in photographs and she took home a pile of documents, photographs and framed pictures that I determined were not needed in the collection we are keeping at the museum. Marjorie was so pleased to see the chair and table repaired by the Higginbottoms and see Jim's filing cabinet filled and organized. There is still a lot of work to do to get the items into our archives but I can almost see the light at the end of the tunnel.

### New computer

We are using some of the money left to the museum by Jim McQueen to upgrade our computers. With so much important information on our computers (and the work that represents), we are always cognizant of our vulnerability in terms of a computer failure. We need more storage, a more reliable server and the same program package for all of our computers. We are also upgrading our database program, which will result in two computers having access to the database, thus increasing productivity. More progress! So wonderful.

### New brochure

We now have a new rack card, which is the modern brochure. The old one was from the 1980s, I think, and it had to go. Jody Goldsmith at Graphic Rabbit did the layout and TMS printed the cards. We will get them out to neighbouring communities before the busy summer season.

## An organization focused on community

The Grindrod Women's Institute was formed in 1925 with a commitment to community service.

The group sponsored projects benefitting the community such as a homecare nursing course, dressmaking and glove-making classes, dental clinics, children's gardens, a sewing club and a chicken contest (they donated hatching eggs to school children).

The group sponsored children's swim lessons and gave book awards to top students each June. They built bath houses at the park and supported sports activities.

The women donated to the local hospital and other causes. They fundraised for projects supporting soldiers during the war. They sent knitted articles overseas and two members even made dozens of tablecloths from flour sacks and sold them to people across Canada.

They hosted monthly meetings where roll call was answered with a recipe and there were always interesting speakers and demonstrations.

The meetings were first held at the Orange Hall located above the J. Monk and Son store but they moved to the old log school when membership outgrew the space.

When the log school became a teacherage, meetings moved to the Farmer's Hall kitchen.

In 1951, the group purchased Mary Tomkinson's house on two lots for \$600. It was converted into a hall that served the group until it disbanded and served the community until the current Grindrod Hall was constructed.

In 1959, Jennie Lowes wrote in *The Institute for Modern Pioneers, 1909-1959, B.C. Women's Institute* that the "Grindrod Women's Institute's main source of income was catering for the June 3 (Grindrod) Sports Day and Dance in its early days."

In 1932, the group earned \$68 at the event, a sizable portion of the \$222.89 they raised during the entire year.

The group worked with the North Okanagan Farmers' Institute to put on the annual Grindrod Fall Fair from 1926 to 1939, when the war slowed everything to a halt.

This large, successful event was held in August. People submitted entries into divisions for farm produce, home canning, baking, needlework, flowers, handicrafts and children's classes. In 1937 there were almost 200 entries into the fair.

Their plays, concerts and talent shows were always well attended and enjoyed in the community.

They even hosted a "turn around" fashion show where males donned female clothing (see article below).



Grindrod Women's Institute members (with some unidentified children), circa 1932-33: (front) Elsie Bailey, Susan Salt, Margaret Dangel, Mary Tomkinson, (rear) Minnie Edgar, Mrs. Lidstone, Ivy McEwen, Dorothy Hancock, Mrs. Tom Kinson, Bea Williams, Mrs. Bladen, Winnifred Peacock, Maude Pritchard, Nellie Emeny and Nellie Anderson. [edms 3858]

The group disbanded due to declining membership in the 1970s. The hall was sold to the Grindrod Recreation Commission in 1971 and the last meeting of the Grindrod Women's Institute was held March 22, 1976.

True to its commitment to community service, before disbanding the group made final donations to Queen Alexandra Solarium, Children's Hospital, the Haven, Enderby Old Age Pensioners Association, Enderby Hospital and the 4-H Sewing Club.

*The following was included in Grindrod Notes in the Enderby Commoner on March 19, 1948:*

**Boys Don Girls' Robes and Roles**

The Grindrod & District Women's Institute held a dance here on Monday which proved to be a great success. Kew's Orchestra from Salmon Arm played.

The popular fashion show by the "Popular Young Ladies of Grindrod" was an added attraction, which, judging by the applause, was also a success.

Betty Halksworth played the appropriate music for each model, Mrs. H.M. Wells being the M.C. and giving a good description of each costume.

Models were as follows:

High School Girl and Cocktail Gown, Donald Wells; Sweater Girl, Jessie (Jim Emeny); Bathing Beauty and Gibson Girl, Vickie (N. Anchicoski); Evening Dress, Bunny Wool Dress and Gibson Girl Sports Outfit, Freda (E. Wolf); Bridal Dress, Frances (E. Peacock); House Dress, Gwen (K. Crandlemire); Bath Robe, Clara (C. Tomkinson); Fur Coat and Hat, Flora (E. Hipp).

## Volunteers

As usual, I have only good things to say about the group of people who come each week to take on projects that keep the museum moving forward. Tapes and letters are being transcribed, printed transcriptions not already digitized are being digitized, photographs are being added to the database, organized and scanned, the people files are being organized so the clippings will not get lost, the property inventory is being updated and digitized, the historical reference files are being updated, and our book inventory is getting digitized. There are also a few other projects on the go, visitors wanting tours and research assistance, and all the little things required to keep the place open like bookkeeping, ordering and picking up supplies, and ensuring the bills are paid. I am always grateful to have such dedicated volunteers.

## 50th anniversary

Sandy Farynuk and I are working on celebration plans for our big anniversary in 2023. Our official anniversary is in September but we want to have events throughout the year. We want to be involved in events like Canada Day and Friday Night Lights in the city, but also other community events like the Strawberry Tea and Grindrod Days, with historical displays, photographs and maybe even some swag. We are currently seeking outside funding to purchase a branded tent we can use to attend these events and to get a new sign in front of the museum. We welcome all ideas on how we can best celebrate this important anniversary.

### Canada Day

With plans already underway for a return to Enderby's traditional Canada Day celebrations, the museum is looking forward to taking part. Our fire truck is not ready for the parade but we will be at Barnes Park to give people a close-up look at the artifacts in Museum in the Park. Have you got an old-fashioned talent, idea or item you would want to share at this event? Give me a call to discuss.

### Facebook

Our Facebook page continues to generate interest. I am trying to do timely posts and the ones on the anniversary of the Fortune School fire were quite popular. People have also been helpful in filling in names of people missing in our photos, which allows us to add to our files.

## Wanted!

**Volunteer(s) to mow the lawn at Springbend Hall for the museum. Lawn mower provided. Big gratitude and a small honorarium provided in payment for service. Call the museum for details, 250-838-7170.**

## Wanted!

**Rear passenger side fender for 1930 Chevy truck. Similar fenders may be workable; just needs to be similar to photo. Talented bodyman ready to make it work! Needed for restoration project on Enderby's first fire truck.**



## Enderby celebration events change over time

Enderby loves a celebration so much that one event has morphed into several over the years.

The Victoria Day long weekend in Enderby was a big deal back in the day.

The celebration started in 1891 and involved mainly horse racing. The event grew with the city and soon it was a full day of fun. People would come from the surrounding communities to watch and participate in the May 24 celebrations that included a parade, water sports and field sports like baseball, lacrosse and foot races. Water sports on the Shuswap River was a big draw, with people lining the bridge to watch log rolling, the greasy pole and canoe races in the morning.

A parade followed, heading down the main street then to the Enderby Recreation Grounds (now Riverside Park) for an afternoon of games, food and activities.

Local churches and organizations would host refreshment booths. The day ended with a masquerade ball in the evening.

The train added special coaches and the SS Thompson paddle-wheeler was chartered from Shuswap Lake to accommodate the crowds.

The event was cancelled in 1910 due to the death of King Edward VII.

There was discussion of switching to a July 1 event in 1931 but the idea was nixed.

The event continued until 1940 but the war changed things and the event changed in 1946 to a sports day in celebration of the king's birthday in early June.

Sports Day, or the King's Birthday Celebration, in 1946 included horse races and competitions, athletic events, a dance, chuckwagon races and a chariot race. About 1,200 people attended.

Water sports were added in 1947; a parade, logging events and lacrosse were included in 1948.

The 1949 celebration was marred by tragedy when nine-year-old Ronald Czepil drowned after falling off a boom made for the water sports. He was recovered about 100 yards downstream and efforts to revive him by Dr. Kope were unsuccessful.

Sharon MacNair also fell off the boom a short while later but was rescued by Donald Green.

"As no events were scheduled at the river at the time, no adults were about," reads a June 16 Enderby Commoner article on the tragedy.



The Enderby Lions began sponsoring Sports Day in 1951 and in 1954 the group moved the event to the Labour Day weekend. Enderby's 50th birthday in 1955 resulted in a special Golden Jubilee Celebration on July 1 that included water sports, parade, lunch at the skating rink, band concert in the park, square dancing demonstration, logging events, kids' races, tug-o-wars, baseball tournament and dance at the school. An old-timers dinner and awards preceded the weekend events.

A two-day Victoria Day celebration returned to the city in 1963 and 1964. It was called Fun-O-Rama and included horseshoe competitions, chopping contest, music, water sports, tug-o-war and dinner.

"It was impossible to see it all! There was such variety!" a person at the event was quoted as saying.

The city hosted a celebration on July 1, 1967 to commemorate Canada's centennial but the Canada Day tradition we know today started in 1969.

The fire siren at city hall started the day, calling people to breakfast served in the Texaco parking lot. The day included a canoe race from Ashton Creek to Enderby, a Bavarian beer garden at Barnes Park with live music, swimming, free ice cream for the kids and Shriners with their tiny cars.

New activities were added over the years to the Dominion Day event: a raffle for a steer in 1970, a parade in 1971, an evening dance in 1972, helicopter rides in 1980 and a seven-team baseball tournament in 1983.

The Buccaneers Hockey Club introduced River Rafting Day held July 4, 1987 and the event was included in subsequent Canada Day celebrations, along with bed races for a couple of years, special kids' races in the 1980s, fireworks starting in 1994 and a classic car show in 1995.

Enderby has changed when and how it celebrates over the years; what has remained constant is residents' love of a celebration.

*An advertisement for the 1958 Sports Day in Enderby on the Labour Day weekend.*

**ENDERBY'S CENTENNIAL YEAR**  
 1958 年 100 周年  
**LABOUR DAY SPORTS**  
*Two Day Baseball Tournament Starts Sun. 9 a.m.*  
 ELEVEN TEAMS COMPETING  
**MONDAY...LABOUR DAY**

8:30 - CHILDREN'S RACES ON CLIFF STREET  
 9:30 - WATER SPORTS-AT ENDERBY BRIDGE  
*Log Rolling, Indian Canoe Races, Greasy Pole*  
 11:15 - GIANT PARADE - Forms on Old Vernon Road  
*Vernon Girls' Trumpet Band  
 Kamloops J.C.C. Rube Band Enderby City Band  
 Floats, Clowns, Costumes, Majorettes*

*A Full Afternoon of Fun at the Grounds!*  
 TUG-O-WAR LOG SAWING & CHOPPING CONTEST  
 RACES WATERMELON EATING CONTESTS  
 LADIES' NAIL DRIVING BAND CONCERTS  
 GAMES OF SKILL KIDDIES' RIDES  
*Featuring Western Canada's Largest  
 Travelling Merry-Go-Round*

**MONSTER DANCE AT NIGHT**  
 DON ROSS'S ORCHESTRA  
*Don't Miss It! Come to*  
**ENDERBY LABOUR DAY WEEK END**



Joe (Dominic) Christian and Adrian Alexander demonstrate their log rolling skills at May 24 celebrations in 1932. [edms 286]



### Enderby Arrows

The Enderby Arrows led to the formation of the Highway 97A Fastball League. Splatin members started the team and that led to the creation of Quilakwa Ball Park. Casimir Felix came up with the team name and Brian Schreiner suggested the league name. Money for uniforms was raised by stud logging and Spallumcheen Development Ltd., a reserve-based farming company at that time. Shown in this photo from about 1975 are (rear, l-r) Dan Alberts, Faron Jones, Joe Leon, Brian Schreiner, Leonard Edwards, (front) Wayne Christian, Ken Sawyers, Jerry Tregar, Wayne Schreiner and Morgan Felix. [edms 7098]

## Old book on Shuswap gets new life

*"Tucked in between the rocky fastnesses of Northern British Columbia and the semi-arid bunch grass country to the south lie the pleasant valleys of the Shuswap and its tributaries, stretching from Kamloops up to Sugar Lake, and to the headwaters of the Eagle.*

*To those accustomed to think of British Columbia as a country of rocky canyons and snow-clad peaks, the Shuswap Country comes as a pleasant surprise. Here is a land of wide river valley and many-armed lakes, bordered by long forest-clad ridges. These ridges, in turn, are intersected by scores of smaller tributary rivers and creeks, and the summits of the higher ridges have been flattened out by glacial action to form grass-covered plateaux."*

These words, part of the forward in the book, *The Shuswap Country*, demonstrate the author's ample knowledge of this region.

Erksine Burnett did the earliest form of 'cut and paste' to create this travelogue of his journeys through the Shuswap region from about 1937 to 1950.

Burnett was born in Scotland in 1878, immigrated to Canada in 1897 and homesteaded in Coldstream in 1908 where he set up a fruit orchard.

He travelled for business and pleasure.

He took photographs during his trips then painstakingly typed out descriptions on carbon paper to fit their spots in the album beside the numbered photographs. The carbon copies allowed him to produce more than one copy of the same book. His colourful descriptions of the people, places, landscapes and events he encountered on his travels are a wonderful snapshot of the times.

Burnett sometimes included stories and his perspective in these descriptions, which add further detail, humour and insight to the author.

He developed his own photographs and produced two separate albums, *The Shuswap Country* and *B.C.'s Inland Empire*.

The books are essentially the same, with the former including Kamloops, Revelstoke, Sicamous, Mabel Lake and Sugar Lake, and the latter including both the Shuswap and Okanagan areas.

Burnett made 80 of the scrapbooks, which he likely gave to family, friends and his fruit customers.

The Enderby & District Museum & Archives is the proud caretaker of both books, donated by the Vernon Museum in October 1990.

Salmon Arm author Jim Cooperman discovered the books in his historical research travels and became intrigued with *The Shuswap Country*.

Seeing the value in disseminating the historical information and photographs to a broader audience, Cooperman began fundraising to have the book published.

His project has come to fruition and the book is expected to be launched this month at the RJ Haney Heritage Village & Museum. Burnett's grandson Gerry Parkinson, the son of his daughter Frances, is expected to be in attendance.

The books are being donated to museums within the Shuswap as a fundraising tool. Thanks go to the book's sponsors: Community Futures Shuswap, CSRD, RDNO, SASCU, Askew's, W.H. Laird Holdings Ltd., Darroch Investments and Landmark.

The Enderby Museum may host its own launch party and has the book available for \$30.



Photo #143 from *The Shuswap Country*: Ashton Creek in dry season. Some of the creeks which the highway crosses are raging torrents during the spring run-off. Later on they are hardly recognizable as boulder-strewn, dried-up creek beds. The reason it must be admitted is the de-forestation resulting from fires. This bridge was wiped out in 1935 flooding. [edms 5183]