

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

National Historic Sites of Cape Breton Island - Lieux Historiques Nationaux du Cap-Breton
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CIC News

The Communications and Incentive Committee (CIC) has been working diligently on behalf of all staff at FOL. We have found that increasing communications at all levels is a good place to start and doing so will answer a number of suggestions/complaints by staff.

Following are some of the actions/activities we have implemented:

1. New hires will be welcomed to the Fortress through a personal profile, including photo, in the *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*. Managers are to submit these profiles to Donna for inclusion, please.
2. Our Field Unit Superintendent, Carol Whitfield, has agreed that she will send a card of condolence to the staff person and family when we know of a death in the family of one of our employees.
3. There is room in the *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!* to profile one employee per edition. This will include a photo, plus information about the person and their work here at the Fortress. Donna can do minor corrections to articles, but will not be writing the articles. Managers, or delegates, please submit profiles to her and she will include them on a by-unit rotational basis. Note - this action has begun with the article on Aubrey Harris and the care and attention he pays to our watchtower clock.

4. An article regarding CIC's role was submitted to the *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*. In that article we committed to keeping staff informed of our activities. The committee members were listed, should you want to talk to anyone of us.

5. Once again Carol has committed to an action we have requested. The details and date are yet to be determined, but during Public Service week (June 11-15), Carol will be in the newly renovated Bigot theatre to meet with staff. During this time we will be giving staff long service awards and staff will have a chance to chat with those of other units. Stay tuned for further detail!

There has been lots of discussion on other items, but these are our main activities/actions -The Committee.

Speaking Engagements

Ken Donovan spoke to the Annual General Meeting of the Lighthouse Preservation Society in Halifax on 25 April 2007, at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

The title of the talk was: "Jean Grenard Dit Belair of Louisbourg, 1674-1744, Canada's First Lighthouse Keeper."

Ken also spoke to the Old Sydney Society on "Imposing Discipline Upon Nature:

Gardens, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in Cape Breton, 1713-1758” on April 26th.

As part of the promotion for this talk, Steve Sutherland of CBC Information Morning came to Louisbourg on 24 April to visit the gardens and interview Ken on the subject. The interview was played on the morning of 26 April.

News from AGB

Excerpt from a letter written by Eliza Grace at the family home in Brantford, Ontario to her son Alexander Graham Bell in Salem, Massachusetts on April 25th, 1875:

My dear Aleck,

It was a relief to get your letter yesterday, and to find that you are not quite laid up, for in the last before that, you were but just out of the Drs. hands ... All we fear is that you will bring yourself into a state of permanent ill-health. Remember that no earthly advantage can be a sufficient reason for that. Remember too, that you are the one prop of our life now. We had much rather that you would marry a woman than science ...

Official Opening

And on April 25th here at AGBNHSC we are preparing for the official start of visitor season on Tuesday, May 1st when we will be meeting and greeting visitors who are paying fees. Some of our FSWP and core staff will begin their season’s work terms that day.

Scanning Project

Madeline Harvey and Valerie Mason completed the historic image scanning project they worked on during the winter with over 400 of our historic negatives now on disc in jpeg and tiff format. This will provide easier access to the images for info request fulfillment.

Atlantic Outreach Education

Aynsley MacFarlane attended Day 1 of the Atlantic Outreach Education Annual Meeting in Halifax where she gave an update on our outreach education lesson plan which is nearing the end of the graphic design application process. From there she headed to Toronto to attend the “Explorer Quotient” training session to learn more about the survey project our Site will be participating in this summer.

Maintenance Work

Please refer to our photos to discover what dedicated effort has gone in to the preparation of the floors in the first exhibit areas this year. More than once did Kathy Kerr and Gary Pierrard arrive at break time to tell tales of their time working together ‘stripping’ – that is - layers of wax off the floors! And, with Danny Kaiser’s



assistance, they finished the ceiling treatment in Sound and Silence where our persistent leaks bring out the bucket brigade on rainy days. The drop ceiling was



permanently removed and paint has been applied to the beams and such. The exhibit panels are almost all back in place and the lights will be installed asap. While we haven't fixed the leaks, there is less material available to suffer water damage and grow mould.

New Book

Judith Tulloch has started to work on a book about Bell's Aerial Experiment Association. This publication is a project of our cooperating association and will compliment the book Judith completed last year titled "The Bell Family at Baddeck."

Computer Programs

We are pleased to see our enhanced programs Bell's Beautiful Mountain and Become an Inventor – Create a 3D Kite posted in the travel trade section of the PC website.

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to John Cann and John Ward's family on the death of their sister, Barbara Cann, Ontario.



Our sincere condolences to Ruby Powell on the death of her very dear cousin, Sharon Burke of St. Peters.

We received word this past weekend that John Parker, former manager of General Works, in Cape Breton Highlands passed away while on vacation with his son, Ben in Cuba. His death was very sudden and we are all saddened by this event. Funeral arrangements are incomplete as

yet but will be announced when known.

Did you know....

Wayne Flynn, our Informatics Specialist has a big heart!! Wayne is forever arranging special lunches for the staff here in the Administration Building. He is our very own Barbecue Chef and he even deep fried a turkey for us one day. This was a new experience for many of us!!

Wayne is a real good sport and doesn't mind getting involved in new sports either. Here is a picture of Wayne developing a new sport called "**Dummy Tossing**". He and LeeAnne Reeves were hoping this would become a new Olympic sport but I don't think it will ever happen!



Georgina Leslie and Amelia Donovan are getting ready to toss Wayne (where - I am not sure!!)

Anyone wishing to submit an article to Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please forward to Donna MacNeil at donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca.