



DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM'S
THE GAZETTE
 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



DHM 2002.22.1

WELCOME JOANNE!

We have several welcomes to give for this summer, not the least of which is to our new Manager-Curator, Joanne Pepers!

Some of the Nova Scotian museum lovers out there may recognize Joanne from her long work with the Uniacke Estate Museum Park as Senior Heritage Interpreter. She has also worked with the Waverley Museum and as a museum evaluator with the Association of Nova Scotia Museums.

We are excited for Joanne to join us and guide the Dartmouth Heritage Museum into an even brighter future!



JOANNE PEPERS

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COLLECTIONS CORNER

A TITANIC MYSTERY

BY SHANNON BAXTER

When I first started working at the Dartmouth Heritage Museum as an intern back in late 2016, there was one artifact listed in the museum's database that caught my attention. There was once a life jacket, which had been recovered in the aftermath of the tragic sinking of the Titanic.

Note the use of the word "once."

Unfortunately, by the time I was reading the record, the life jacket had been gone from the collection for nearly 50 years.

Museum mandates change over time, and back in the 1970s, the curator at the time felt that an artifact relating to the sinking of the Titanic was simply "Not Dartmouth enough." The story goes that it was traded to a private collector for a different set of artifacts that would, one would imagine, fit the collection mandate of the time.

As I said, mandates and ethics for collections management has changed greatly from back then. Even now, the idea of deaccessioning artifacts can be a daunting task for a museum. Decisions like this are made when reviewing the entire collection and keeping in mind several factors that inform such decisions. These factors include the condition of artifacts, whether they are duplicates of items that may already be represented in the collection, or whether the item has any connection or 'provenance' relating to the museum's mandate. The mandate which to this day prioritizes anything made in Dartmouth, or was owned and cherished by the local community.

It is a process that takes a lot of time and careful consideration by museum staff. However, I am sure that many readers are far more interested in knowing the fate of this unique life jacket!

There were several confusing and convoluted notes left behind after the life jacket left the halls of the museum. Some alluded to a stage magician being involved, though I genuinely cannot discern whether that was the private collector who ended up receiving the life jacket, or there just happened to be a performance being held by the museum

that featured said magician.

However, this peculiar story with all its winding paths and paperwork has recently gotten a happy ending. Pat Teasdale, one of our long time volunteers, and member of the Titanic Society of Atlantic Canada, reached out to inform me that the life jacket had been identified and located. It had made its way back to Northern Ireland, to the Titanic Belfast Museum. There are photographs of the life jacket featured on the Belfast Titanic Society Facebook page, and there is a short article about the life jacket itself on the Titanic Belfast Museum website. It notes there, that this is one of only six lifejackets that have been identified as being on the Titanic and recovered along with the bodies of the unfortunate victims of the sinking.

While the Dartmouth Heritage Museum was only a brief part of the life and journey of this fascinating artifact, we are very pleased to know that it has emerged to be on display for the public to view!



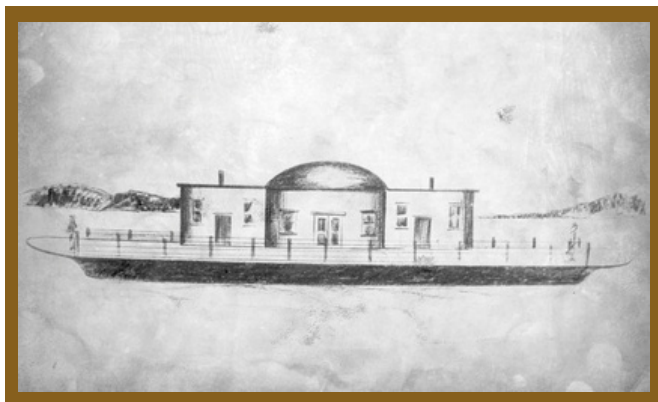
Above: Photo of the lifejacket on display at the Titanic Belfast Museum, from the Belfast Titanic Society Facebook Page.

THE FERRY COMPANIES

BY ELIZABETH CARBONNEAU

The Steam Boat Company was incorporated in 1815. It was composed of a group of local businessmen who wanted to improve the ferry system, which at the time consisted of man-powered rowboats. These powerful businessmen were knowledgeable in commerce and trading and believed that the introduction of newly-developed steam boats would greatly improve local trade.

After much consultation and construction quotes, though, the directors of the company decided to build a horse-powered boat instead. The *Sherbrooke* made her first journey across the harbour in 1816. Unfortunately, it became obvious that horse-powered boats were better suited to calm rivers and not the stormy Halifax Harbour. The horses had to work very hard to make the crossing, and keeping them fed was very costly due to the lack of cultivated farmland to produce their fodder. Sadness and great expenses were incurred when an intoxicated passenger stabbed all eight horses and they all had to be replaced.



Above: Old Team Boat Ferry "Sherbrooke", DHM x.216.1

At one point the company attempted to switch the horses with oxen, and even added a sail to the ferry, but it was clear that a proper steamship was needed. The first steam ferry, the *Sir C. Ogle*, launched on 1 January 1830. By 1844 the company had added two more steamships, the *Boxer* and the *Micmac*, to its fleet.

The Steam Boat Company's charter expired in 1866 and was renewed in 1867. In 1886, though, the company decided to sell its assets to the



Above: *Sir Ogle Ferry*, DHM 1969.11.1

newly-formed Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Company, Ltd. This new company promised better service and two new steam ferries. By 1890, however, locals were furious with the company: it only built one ferry, overall service was poor and slow, and the popular nine-dollar quarterly family pass had been replaced with individual five-cent fares. Citizens voted unanimously to ask the Legislature for a \$110,000 loan to start a public ferry service. The Legislature passed this act on 15 April 1890. The Dartmouth Ferry Committee was established on 23 April. The resulting citizens' boycott forced the Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Company to sell everything to the Dartmouth Ferry Commission for a total of \$110,000.



Above: *Dartmouth Ferry Terminal* in 1920, DHM 94.9.207

THE FERRY COMPANIES, CONT'D

The next major change occurred in 1955 with the opening of the Angus L. MacDonald Bridge. This new vehicular crossing meant car ferries were no longer needed. Two new passenger ferries were launched in 1956, thereby keeping a modified version of the harbour ferry tradition alive. In 1958, Mayor Akerley recommended the Ferry Commission be abolished. The Legislature passed this Act and the Commission was disbanded on 31 December 1958. The City of Dartmouth managed the ferries until 1994, when it transferred control to Metro (Halifax) Transit.

Source: *We Love to Ride the Ferry* by Joan Payzant

Pictured, Right: Dartmouth Ferry Terminal, 1954, DHM 86.45.1



EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

Roster of Events by Dartmouth Heritage Museum



FRIDAY, 15 JULY 2022
DROP-IN FROM 12PM-3PM
\$2 PER ADULT; CHILDREN FREE
 JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF PRIDE AT DHM! ON JULY 15TH, WE WILL HAVE A FAMILY-FRIENDLY RAINBOW-THEMED TEA PARTY IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY! COMPLETE WITH RAINBOW SUGAR, HERBAL TEAS, AND A FEW SWEET TREATS!

RAINBOW PRIDE TEA



EVERGREEN OUTDOOR COFFEE HOUSE

POSTPONED TO AUGUST 2022
(DATE AND TIME TBD)
IN THE GARDENS
 AN AFTERNOON MADE FOR SINGERS AND POETS ALIKE, JOIN US IN THE GORGEOUSLY BLOOMING BACK GARDENS OF EVERGREEN HOUSE FOR AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC, POETRY, LIGHT SNACKS, REFRESHING BEVERAGES, AND GOOD FRIENDS!

For full details on events, please check out our website for the most up-to-date info! Trouble finding info? Just give us a call or send an email! Contact details on back page.

MEET OUR SUMMER STUDENTS!

Ethan Clark

My name is Ethan Clark, and this is my first summer working for the Dartmouth Heritage Museum. In my role as a heritage interpreter this summer I will have the pleasure of giving tours of Evergreen House as well as Quaker house when it opens to the public. As well the other heritage interpreters and I will be helping the permanent staff at DHM with Research Requests and writing for the Gazette. I am a resident of Dartmouth and a current student at Saint Mary's University in the Political Science department. Looking forward to giving tours this summer!

Mirren Tevors

My name is Mirren Trevors, and this is my first year working as a heritage interpreter at the Dartmouth Heritage Museum. I am originally from New Brunswick, and I am going into my second year at the University of King's College, where I am completing a degree in early modern studies and art history. My Position includes giving tours of Evergreen and Quaker house, researching and writing for the blog and gazette, as well as helping the permanent staff with research requests, and I am very excited to spend this summer helping visitors experience and connect with local history.

Sebastian Dunne

Hello! I've been volunteering with the Dartmouth Heritage Museum for a few years now, but I'm glad to be experiencing my first summer here as a Heritage Interpreter! I'll be doing research and giving tours in both the Evergreen House and eventually the Quaker House once it opens this Summer. I'm enjoying learning about Dartmouth history, and I'll be going into my second year at Saint Mary's University studying computing science this year.



L TO R: BRIGHID, JULIA, MIRREN, ETHAN, SEBASTIAN. JESSICA

Brigid Connolly

My name is Brigid Connolly, I am originally from Waverley Nova Scotia, and I am going into my second year at Saint Mary's University. This summer I will be one of two heritage camp leaders where we will be running weekly summer camps for children ages 8-12. Throughout the week they will learn about the history of Dartmouth including the history behind both Evergreen and Quaker houses. I am very fortunate to be working with the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and I am very excited to begin the summer camps.

Julia Cuthbertson

My name is Julia Cuthbertson, and I am very excited to be joining DHM this summer as a heritage camp leader. I am entering my third year of Saint Mary's University, studying anthropology and classics. You will occasionally see me giving tours, but most of the time, I will be programming and leading the summer camps. I am thrilled to give kids an opportunity to learn more about Dartmouth's fascinating history.

Jessica Webber

Kwe'! My name is Jess Webber and I am a third year History / Anthropology student at Saint Mary's University. I will be the Virtual Content Technician for summer 2022, and am looking forward to helping create some exciting and engaging stories for everyone. Before studying at SMU, I worked in design and digital marketing, and as a student, my focus is on digital heritage and helping foster inclusive narratives for the often marginalized and overlooked. Fun fact, I am an avid traveller, and to date have visited 54% of Canada!



PHOTOGRAPHIC MYSTERIES



We need your help! Can you help us identify anyone in these photos? If any look familiar, please reach out to us!



DHM 1993.015.218



DHM 1995.031.262



DHM 1992.007.010



DHM 1995.031.358: Unidentified Group with Helen Creighton (center)
Written on back: "Saturday, August 4, 1979 at Allan Wilsons at Northwest Cove, Dartmouth Day"



PHOTOGRAPHIC MYSTERIES



DHM 1994.055.005; Photo by George Craig



DHM 1993.015.1174



DHM 1988.046.007a; Possibly a Keeler sister



DHM 1994.009.053



DHM 1994.009.054



DHM 1994.009.055

These men are unidentified, though we do know they were members of the Dartmouth Union Protection Company.

BOOKS AND BOTTLES

BY ARIES CASTEEL

Though I have always been a voracious reader, I have become increasingly picky about the historical fiction I pick up. While I do not expect my fiction to be written only by authors possessing a PhD in the history of their fictional settings, I do find a few spoonfuls of historic reality helps keep me invested in the story. Even so, I could never have expected my taste in literature to aid me in identifying an artefact.

As many of our readers may know, the Dartmouth Heritage Museum collection is home to some 40,000 artefacts – including photos and archival materials. Within this vast collection, there are always little mysteries to be solved. The mystery I am addressing here refers to a bottle in our collection, accession number DHM 2019.1.18



Above: DHM 2019.1.18

As you can see, the bottle itself is not especially flashy. Covered in something like a metallic wicker, the bottle is without a lid, and was identified in our database only as a potential container to hold wine or other beverages. I came across it while searching for a different bottle in the collection, and something about the metal weaving around the bottle struck a memory.

A few years ago I started the Lady Sherlock Series by Sherry Thomas. As the name suggests, this mystery series follows Charlotte Holmes in solving mysteries around Victorian England. In the first book in the series, an inspector questions a butler about making carbonated water in a gasogene.

Gasogenes were a Victorian invention used to make carbonated water at home. They consisted of two globes screwed together, with the still water in the bottom globe and a mixture of tartaric acid and sodium bicarbonate in the top. This mixture produces carbon dioxide, combining with the water and forcing it out through a tube.

The book also accurately describes the heavy wicker weaving around the gasogene globes as a safety precaution against explosions. Though the bottle in our collection was not the described bulbous shape, the weaving stood out to me, and I began researching. A short time later, I found that this bottle was likely a soda siphon. Soda Siphons were used to store, rather than create, carbonated water. Given the same risks, soda siphons were also wrapped in the metallic weaving that first peaked my interest.

Excitedly, I took my findings to our Collections Manager, Shannon Baxter, who agreed I had likely solved the mystery. And all thanks to my fussy reading tastes. We are often taught as children about the importance of reading, though I could never have guessed it would serve me in solving museum mysteries.



Above: Victorian Gasogene Illustration



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YOU LOVE.

www.willpower.ca/charities/dartmouth-heritage-museum/





EVERGREEN RENTALS



Helen's Gardens



Reference Library



Red Parlour



Sun Porch



Green Parlour

Did you know the Dartmouth Heritage Museum has room rentals for small events and gatherings? Are you looking for a charming space, full of historic character AND a fantastic view of the harbour? Evergreen may be the space for you! This glorious mid-Victorian manor was a family residence before being restored and converted into a museum. Since then, the house has played host to several movies and television shows, including the newly released *Chapelwaite*, a Stephen King inspired series. Currently, for private functions, we rent out rooms in the museum for small events, as the Victorian charm also comes with limited space. In the warmer months, there are also the Gardens. Directly behind the house, the sloping green hill rolls down to a lovely garden complete with stone fences and a gorgeously blooming rhododendron. Reach out to us directly or head over to our website under "facility rental" !

Standard Pricing*:

Private booking: \$20.00/hour

For individual booking such as baby showers

Non-Profit booking : \$25.00/hour

For booking from non-profit or other charity organisations

Corporate booking: \$30.00/hour

For government departments, for-profit companies and others

**Pricing current at time of printing. For the most up-to-date pricing and availability please visit our website.*

GIFT SHOP SPOTLIGHT



Lapel pins: \$2
 Buttons: \$1.50
 Beaded Pins: \$1.25
 Patches: \$2.00



Dartmouth Photo Prints
 by Lewis Billard
 \$5.00ea



DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with its bylaws, the DHMS AGM will be held on **Tuesday 28 June 2022** at 6:30pm at Evergreen House (26 Newcastle St, Dartmouth, NS B2Y3M5), for the following purpose:

- To read and approve the minutes of the 2021 DHMS AGM;
- To receive the report of the Chair;
- To receive, consider, and approve the financial statements for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2022 (Treasurer);
- To receive annual report from the following:
 - Manager-Curator
 - Auditor
 - Vice Chair (Nominating Committee Report)
- Collections Manager (Collections Management Committee Report);
- To appoint the auditor;
- To elect Directors;
- To approve revised bylaws;
- To approve the DHMS Strategic Plan 2022-2027; and
- To conduct such other transactions as may properly be brought before the meeting.

DHMS MEMBERSHIP

We have 3 categories of membership:

- **Individual Membership** is for one (1) person
Price: \$20
- **Family Membership** is for a family unit, consisting of at least one (1) adult and one child under the age of eighteen (18)
Price: \$30
- **Group Membership** is for societies, museums, universities, libraries, corporations, firms, partnerships, foundations and governmental departments.
Price: Please Contact

Why become a member?

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society operates the Dartmouth Heritage Museum on behalf of the Halifax Regional Municipality, which owns both historic houses and the collection. This allows interested community members to have a real and impactful voice in what happens with the DHM. One of the easiest ways to use your voice is by attending and voting at our Annual General Meeting (AGM). Society members have the right to vote for Board Director nominees and on changes to the Bylaws, both of which have incredible influence on the Society and the museum itself.

Membership Opportunities and Benefits:

- Voting! Society members have the right to vote on important issues at each Annual General Meeting.
- A 10% discount from the gift shop. This discount is applied by our staff in-person with a valid membership card, or online by using your unique discount code. Please contact museum staff for any help needed with this process.
- Early-bird access to event tickets. This includes popular events such as our Murder Mystery Nights, exhibit openings, and more!
- Discounts on events and activities. In addition to the ability to purchase tickets early, we often have deals and discounts for members.



DHMS Membership Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership Type:	Annual Fee	# of years	Total
Individual	\$20.00		
Family	\$30.00		
Donation (tax receipts are issued for donations)			

Cheques should be made out to:

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, 26 Newcastle St, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3M5

May we have your permission to add your email to our mailing list? (This mailing list is used to send updates about our news and upcoming events, as well as send out our quarterly newsletter) Yes _____ No _____

May we use your name in public recognition of our donors? Yes _____ No _____

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum

"Protecting, preserving, and promoting our heritage."



Evergreen House

26 Newcastle St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Hours*:

Sept-June	July-Aug
Tues-Fri	Tues-Sat
10am-5pm	10am-5pm

*see below for more details on opening hours



CONTACT US

26 Newcastle St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Canada
B2Y 3M5

www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca
902-464-2300
info@dartmouthmuseum.ca



Quaker House

57 Ochterloney St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Hours*:

July-August
Wed-Sat
10am-5pm

*see below for more details on opening hours



OPENING SOON!

Visiting the Museum:

Due to COVID-19, the museum hours listed here may not match those in this newsletter. For the most up-to-date information on our opening hours, please visit our website at www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca or check our Facebook account.

Appointments can be always be booked by contacting the museum. Please note that face masks are still highly encouraged when visiting the museum. Visits and tours remain free of charge for all. Donations welcome.