

Fall 2018



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## Les fantômes de la Nouvelle-Écosse

Julia Clarke

If you have visited Evergreen House recently, well since September 5, you may have noticed a big, black cardboard haunted house lurking in the corner of the sun porch. This is a project by 10-year-old Madeline Mooney of Yarmouth called *Les fantômes de la Nouvelle-Écosse* (The Ghosts of Nova Scotia). Madeline recently sat down with her father Fraser Mooney to talk about her project, Helen Creighton and ghost stories for this edition of the *Gazette*.



Madeline's project *Les fantômes de la Nouvelle-Écosse* on display during the Helen Creighton HSMBC plaque unveiling ceremony at Alderney Landing.

### Tell us a bit about yourself and your project.

My name is Madeline Mooney, and I'm 10-years-old and in grade 5 at Yarmouth Central School. I take French Immersion. That's why my project is in French. My project was from last year, when I was in grade 4.

My project is called *Les fantômes de la Nouvelle-Écosse*. There are a lot of old houses where we live (in Yarmouth). I was surprised to find out that a lot of the old houses have ghost stories told about them. You can learn a lot about the history of a

place by the stories people tell about them. And ghost stories are a fun way to learn about history. So when my school was doing the Heritage Fair, I thought ghost stories would be fun to do.

I was going to put my project on just a plain black background. But I thought it might be fun for the background to be in the shape of a haunted house. My dad helped me cut out the windows, and we added doors and painted the whole thing

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What's the best Halloween costume you've ever seen? (DHM 1974.040.001, October 1965)

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black and gray. We live in an old house with a widows walk, so I wanted to put a widows walk on my project to make it look like our house. Pretty soon, the thing took up the whole dining room table.

We like to decorate for Halloween, so it was a good chance to use some of our Halloween decorations.



Madeline in Evergreen House sitting at Helen Creighton's desk.

(Note from Fraser - Not all schools in Nova Scotia participate in the Heritage Fair. Or at least not all of them take part in the "competition" part of it. Participating schools hold a "Heritage Day" where all the projects are presented and judged. The top winners from each grade proceed to "Regionals." In our case, the Regional Heritage fair was held at the Yarmouth NSCC campus. The 1st place winners at Regionals are invited to participate in the Provincial event at Saint Mary's University. Madeline came in 2nd for Grade 4, but also won the "people's choice award" which allowed her to advance to the Provincial event in Halifax, where she met Mr. Jon Stone from the Helen Creighton Folklore Society. Some more info on the provincial Heritage Fair is on the Saint Mary's [website](#).

### Which story was the most interesting?

I think the story about Churchill Mansion is my favourite. There is romance and a murder and probably more than one ghost.

Aaron Churchill's nickname was Rudder Churchill, and there is a restaurant named after him in Yarmouth. He owned ships and was very rich and built a big house not far from Yarmouth. You drive by it when you go to Port Maitland beach.

Aaron and his wife adopted a little girl named Lottie. One day, Lottie was spying on her father and her mother's sister, and saw them kissing in the garden. She was mad, so she put poison in her Aunt's tea, and she died. When she told her mother, her mother told Lottie that her Aunt was really Lottie's real birth mother. So she killed her own mother! Lottie went into a mental hospital. They say the ghost of Churchill Mansion is either Lottie, her real mother, or Rudder Churchill himself. Or there might be ghosts of all three of them.

I'm not sure if all that is true. But it is a really spooky story.

### Do you think any would make a good movie?

The Churchill Mansion story would make a good movie. There is murder and romance and a big mansion on a hill. Aaron Churchill got his nickname "Rudder" after going overboard on a ship to fix the broken rudder a bunch of times when he was a teenager. So there is some danger and adventure too.

They say Churchill Mansion might be haunted by three ghosts (Aaron "Rudder" Churchill, daughter Lottie and Lottie's Aunt/Mother). So the movie could be about the three ghosts fighting with each other and scaring off the people who try to live there.

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### Did any of the ghost stories scare you?

The Vengeance House ghost story is spooky, because it happened to a young girl like me. A girl named Lydia, which is my sister's name, and her friend heard this "tap-tap-tap" sound that followed them around the house. They even asked it questions and it would "tap" out answers. Its creepy to think the tapping only happened when the little girls were in the house.

I don't like the Waverly Inn either. My Dad wanted to spend the night there. But I read that people felt the ghost was trying to choke them, or was sitting on their bed when they were sleeping. My Dad's old boss stayed there and said her purse was knocked off the bed. I don't think I want to stay there. Besides, they don't have a pool.

### Had you heard of Helen Creighton before you did your project?

Not really. When I told my teacher Mr. Bourque that I wanted to do my project on ghosts, he said that I had to have something about Helen Creighton. He brought in some of her books, and I looked her up online. (Fraser – her teacher Mr. Glen Bourque was very enthusiastic and supportive of Madeline's project. I think he is very interested in the subject himself. He said he got hooked on Helen Creighton when he attended Université Sainte-Anne. He told Madeline that any history project about ghosts in Nova Scotia absolutely had to have something about Helen

Creighton).

I'm glad I did. It was amazing how many ghost stories she had in her books. There were stories from all over Nova Scotia, and even Yarmouth. I'm glad she did all that because it makes it easier for people like me who want to learn about ghost stories to find them all in one book.

We went to the Yarmouth library to get *Bluenose Ghosts*, but it was always out. (Fraser – another true story. We went back to the library several times, and it was always checked out. Helen Creighton's work is still very popular in Yarmouth to this day).

I don't think I knew how important she was until I went to the Helen Creighton event in Dartmouth. That was really cool.

### Lastly and maybe most importantly, do you believe in ghosts?

I'm not sure. I don't think I do, but I still don't want to spend the night in a haunted house. I think there are a lot of things that you can't explain. Its fun to think there might be ghosts. But I don't want to see one.

Thank you to Madeline and Fraser for answering our questions! Come see Madeline's project at Evergreen House before it floats away...

## DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM PARTNERS WITH CODEX

We have partnered with [Codex](#) to bring DHM's amazing Collection out from our hallowed walls to you, our community. This platform, developed by Dadavan Systems Inc., will not only allow you see our Collection, but also to participate in the storytelling process. We'll keep you posted as this project develops!

"There are so many amazing stories to be told here and we simply don't have the space to do so... we want the public, our residents and visitors to be able to access all of our amazing artifacts and learn about this great city's past at any time. With Codex, not only can we present our archives but we can build detailed stories around them and publish for all to see."

Terry Eyland, Manager, DHM



## Staff News

### Visitor Services Officer

#### Julia Clarke

Summer has come and gone, which means it's time for our second annual summer sound-off.

We had another fantastic summer at the Dartmouth Heritage Museum. Both Evergreen House and Quaker House saw lots of visitors from outside of Nova Scotia and even quite a few international guests. We had a full roster of summer students again this year. Although they have come and gone, we would feel remiss if we didn't introduce you to our awesome students. We had Laurie Fleet and Regan Bennett who



Regan giving a tour to a group of students from the Dartmouth North Community Centre.

were returning to us for another summer. Beth Hawco, Elizabeth March and Anna Latimer were joining us for the first time. All the students had varied academic backgrounds: history, performing arts, early modern studies and international relations. We hope you had the privilege to meet and get a tour from them over the summer! Behind the scenes, Devon Mullins worked on the Evergreen and Quaker gardens. He made a start at re-creating the Evergreen gardens which we will ramp up in 2019 with the goal of making the property a community destination for rest, relaxation and recreation!

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Rosalee Peppard entertaining guests.

What about the events? Well, our weekly event, Afternoon Tea at Evergreen, was a hit! (I know I said that last year too, but this year was even better!). We had quite an increase in guests. We even sold out some sittings a few days before! We were fortunate to have live music at our teas in

provided by Tidewater Trio (siblings, Alistair and Lydia Maksym, and their mother, Jennifer Publicover). There



Fashion dolls

was lots of entertainment at the teas in August. We were delighted to welcome Rosalee Peppard back to Evergreen. Rosalee performed at our strawberry tea on August 3. We were also visited by members of the Barbie Club and the Mayflower Doll Club at our Teas on August 10 and 17, with some of their collections. Everything went off without a hitch and brought in new visitors to the museum. Thank you to everyone who attended one of our events during the summer! And, thank you to our staff and volunteers for their tireless effort.

Do you have an ideas for next summer? Let us know! Send your suggestions [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca).



Strawberry shortcakes served at the strawberry tea. Strawberries were donated by Noggins.

Maggie Muggins doll



## Tom Forrestall Art for Evergreen Fundraiser



*Cleaning Up*



*Distant Boat*

If you've ever wanted to add a Forrestall to your collection (or start an art collection!), now is your opportunity! We will be raffling off two custom-framed, original pieces by local artist, Tom Forrestall.

The two lucky winners will be determined by draw and funds raised from this event will go towards the development of Evergreen House.

*Cleaning Up* is an artist's proof and *Distant Boat* is a 2018 watercolour painting done in one of Forrestall's non-traditional shapes. Both pieces are available for viewing at Evergreen House.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00 and are available for purchase at Evergreen House. Cash, credit, and debit are accepted at Evergreen House. The winners will be drawn on December 15 during our annual Christmas Cheer and Song event. The first winner will have their choice of art and the second winner will receive the remaining piece. If you are interested in selling tickets, please contact the Museum at 902-464-2300 or [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca).

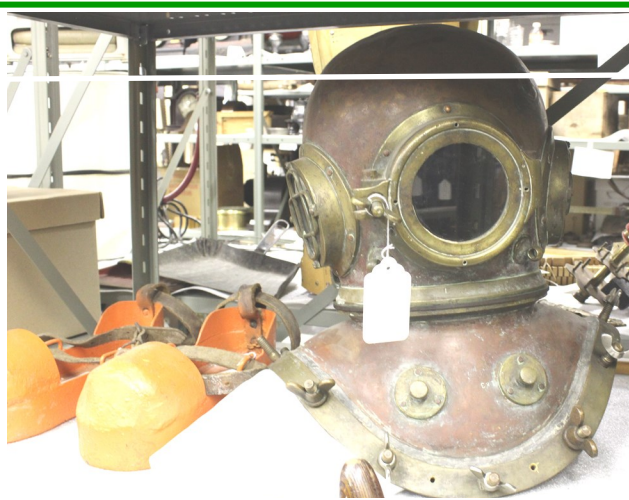
"I seem to have developed an ability to astonish myself. I look at my hands – usually my left hand because I'm drawing with the other one – and I'm astonished by this strange apparatus we all have. It's so common, but who looks at it that closely?"

Tom Forrestall

## Warehouse Finds

*With over 44,000 artifacts in storage, the warehouse has lots of interesting stories waiting to be shared.*

Here is a diver's outfit from the pre-1950s. It was used by marine engineers working for contractors T.C. Gorman Co. Ltd. The Bedford Institute of Oceanography hired the company to construct its jetty in the early 1960s. They also worked on the construction of the Canso Canal. The outfit consists of neck gaskets, gloves, orange-coloured iron "slippers", leather weight belt (weights missing), and a copper helmet with rubber air hoses. It is made of heavy canvas with a rubber shoulder. (DHM 1977.53.1)







## Women's History Month Talk

To celebrate Women's History Month we will be hosting a talk by Holly Hanes entitled "Women: Ordinary and Extraordinary in Nova Scotia's Past". It will be held on October 20 at Evergreen House from 2:00-3:00 pm.

**Admission is by donation.** Light refreshments will be served.

The talk will discuss the evolution of women's roles in society, featuring ordinary and extraordinary women from the past. Outlining the early and typical occupations, and how women have paved the way through outstanding careers in male dominated worlds. From rural Nova Scotia to the urban centers, and even overseas we all have a story to tell.

Holly is a resident of Upper Kennetcook, Hants County, who now lives in Halifax. She recently finished her Bachelor of Arts in History from Dalhousie and began her Masters in History this fall at Dalhousie, with focus on the Moirs Chocolate advertising.

## HALLOWE'EN AT HELEN'S

Join us on October 27 at Evergreen House from 2:00-4:00 pm for a spooktacular afternoon of ghostly tales, delicious treats and, of course, piping hot tea.

Tickets are \$12.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. They can be purchased online at [www.dartmouthmuseum.ca](http://www.dartmouthmuseum.ca) or spots can be reserved by calling (902) 464-2300. Space is limited for each sitting so reservations are recommended.



## November Talk: Remembering Sacrifice



Ardenne Abbey

On November 10 from 2:00-3:00 pm, we will be hosting a talk by Holly Hanes at Evergreen House entitled "Remembering Sacrifice".

The talk will focus on remembering those from the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and Sherbrooke Fusiliers Regiment who gave the ultimate sacrifice in 1944 at the Ardenne Abbey. The little known story of the men whose lives were taken by Kurt Meyer, a

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German War Criminal, and how Canada reacted to the news during a high profile war crime trial. **Admission is by donation.** Light refreshments will be served.

## Cyanotype Workshop

This is your opportunity to beta test the first workshop offered at the Carriage Room studio in Evergreen House. We are looking for four members only.

The cyanotype process was invented by Sir John Herschel in 1842. It is a non-silver based printing process that relies instead on a photochemical reduction of iron(s). It was popularized by engineers and draftsmen by making copies of their drawings known as blue prints.

Learn how to prepare the paper, and print out your cyanotype using sunlight. No camera, no enlarger, no special magic required or necessary; just creativity and a mind for having fun!

All photo materials and necessary equipment will be provided. Please bring your own safety glasses and wear old clothes. Fee for this beta test of the workshop is \$50. Call 902-464-2300 to reserve your spot.

**Date:** ~~October 25, 2018~~ **Postponed**

**Time** 1:00 – 4:15 pm

### Afternoon Tea at Evergreen in November!

You're not dreaming! If you missed out on attending Afternoon Tea at Evergreen during the summer, you're in luck! Join us on November 17 at Evergreen House from 2:00-3:30 pm for fresh scones, shortbread cookies and, of course, piping hot tea. Since November has become associated with the sporting of moustaches, we've decided to showcase moustache cups from our Collection (like the one to the right!) during the event!

Tickets are \$12.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. They can be purchased online at [www.dartmouthmuseum.ca](http://www.dartmouthmuseum.ca) or spots can be reserved by calling (902) 464-2300. Space is limited for each sitting so reservations are recommended.



## Coming soon! – Main Level – Helen Creighton and the World of Folklore

Dr. Helen Creighton moved in to Evergreen House with her family in 1921. In 1928, she began her career as a folklorist: collecting songs and stories from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. A new permanent exhibit here will focus on her long and significant career. This exhibit will feature many artifacts and will include audio-visual rooms, encouraging visitors to listen to songs that Helen collected, and to view snippets of documentaries on her life and work. You may even be able to record songs and stories of your own!

## Upper Level – Explosion! Dartmouth's Ordeal of the 1917 Disaster

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To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Harbour Explosion, we present the exhibit, *Explosion! Dartmouth's Ordeal of the 1917 Disaster*. This exhibit explores and reflects upon the impact of the event on Dartmouth. It focuses on the cause of the Explosion and how Dartmouth residents worked together to rebuild their community. Come see the much talked about Frank Baker diary, oral histories from survivors, eyewitness accounts, and artifacts from affected homes and families. Due to its popularity, it has been extended indefinitely.

### Main Level – **Cutting Across the Water: A Brief Look at Lake Banook**

A new temporary exhibit looking at Lake Banook, and its pivotal role in the sports and recreation of Dartmouth. Artifacts showcased include oars and paddles, trophies from Natal Day Regattas of years past, and a few curious items found beneath its cold waters. Cutting Across the Water will be up until the end of October when it will be replaced by the new addition to the Helen Creighton exhibit.

### Lower Level – **The Carriage Room Photography Studio**

Come and visit our recreation of a 19<sup>th</sup> century Photographic Studio to learn how the art of photography has developed through the years. Peer into the past through the lenses of select antique cameras, and witness the process of creating wet-plate photographs.

26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth

T: 902-464-2300

[www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca)

\$5.00 Admission. Members and children under 12 are free.

Tuesday-Friday, 10am-5pm. Saturday, 10 am-1 pm & 2-5 pm

### **Evergreen Writers' Group**

We welcome newcomers to our meetings at Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street in Dartmouth. We get together the first Wednesday of each month for discussion, encouragement, providing feedback to each other on works in progress, guest speakers and workshops. For more information, call 463-5612 or email [evergreen\\_writers@yahoo.ca](mailto:evergreen_writers@yahoo.ca)

The gift shop at Evergreen House is now restocked with *Out of the Mist* and *Off Highway*, the two anthologies published by the Evergreen Writers' Group. Both books are also available online at [www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca).





## DHM Society Donors:

Each year Society Members give over and above the membership fees to help us run our programs at the Museum.

Hats off to their ongoing generosity!



Holly Gunn

Barbara MacKenzie

Elinor Benjamin

Lorna Huestis

David & Sylvia Harvey

Joyce Foote

Margot Walker

June Marsden

Carmen Moir

I. Joyce Earle

and all our anonymous donors!

*To make a donation, please complete the form on the last page of this edition of the Gazette.*

### A NEW WAY TO DONATE

We want your nickels and dimes!

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum now has a drop-off account set up at Canadian Recycling, 365 Portland Street. This is an easy way for you, our supporters, to donate to the Museum. When you drop off your bottles at the depot just mention the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and the refund will be donated to us.



### WANT TO BE 'EVERGREEN'? JOIN THE TEAM!

Over the summer our volunteers and Devon were hard at work on the garden at Quaker House. They added two new period-correct wooden framed beds and planted Giant Russian Sunflowers in the front, which definitely brightened things up! Significant portions of the fence had to be replaced and painted. They cleaned-up the four wooden framed beds in the backyard and planted lots of new flowers. Devon did lots of work in the backyard of Evergreen



House too. Come take a look!

We have big plans for both House gardens in 2019 and we need your help! If you want to volunteer and help us realize our gardening dreams, contact the DHM at 902-464-2300 or [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca).

# Dartmouth Heritage Museum

protecting, preserving, and promoting our heritage

26 Newcastle Street  
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3M5

Phone: (902) 464-2300  
E-mail: [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca)  
Website: [www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/)

Like us on Facebook: [Dartmouth Heritage Museum](https://www.facebook.com/DartmouthHeritageMuseum)  
Follow us on Twitter: [@dhmuseum1](https://twitter.com/dhmuseum1)

We now have Instagram! Find us @dartmouthheritage

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018-2019

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## *DHMS Membership Form*

### Individual Membership - \$20

Individual membership entitles you to free admission to both historic houses (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card, invitations to exhibit openings and functions, a \$10 tax receipt, our newsletter, and a vote at our AGM.

### Family Membership - \$30

Family membership entitles you to free admission to both historic houses (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card, invitations to exhibit openings and functions, a \$15 tax receipt, our newsletter, and a vote at our AGM. Family membership includes two parents and children under 18.

### Please also consider the following levels of giving...

\$50 Donor - Your name will appear in the newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$100 Friend - You will help sponsor one of our exhibits, your name will appear in the exhibit, the newsletter and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$500 Benefactor - Your name will appear in our annual calendar, your name will appear in our newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

Group Member - For companies, universities, foundations, governmental departments, etc. Please visit our website for more information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Select Membership Type	Annual Fee	# Years	Total
Individual Member (tax receipt for \$10.00)	\$20.00		\$
Family Member (tax receipt for \$15.00) Includes parents and children under 18	\$30.00		\$
<b>Total Membership Fee</b>			\$
<b>Donations are helpful and appreciated with tax receipts issued for the full amount. Would you like to make a donation at this time?</b> If yes, please indicate amount in the box to the right.			\$
<b>Total Payable (Membership + Donation)</b>			\$

Please make cheques payable to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society and send to:

**Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth NS, B2Y 3M5**

Check the box if you would like to receive the E-bulletin  Yes  No If yes, by \_\_\_ email or \_\_\_ post mail?

Would you like to receive our Newsletters?  Yes  No If yes, by \_\_\_ email or \_\_\_ post mail?

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