

The Centennial Herald

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Issue 109

Promoting the rich history of Penetanguishene



Last Printed Edition



Last Printed Edition of the Centennial Herald

This marks the final printed edition of the Centennial Herald — but don't worry, the Herald itself is not coming to an end. We're simply evolving. After many years of mailing out our newsletter, we're transitioning to a fully digital format to better serve our community and keep pace with modern communication.

The software we've relied on to produce the Herald will officially expire in October 2026. Rather than waiting until the last minute, we've chosen to make the transition now to ensure everything continues smoothly. Moving to a digital platform allows us to maintain the same quality of content you've come to expect, while also giving us more flexibility and efficiency behind the scenes.

You'll still receive all the familiar features — updates on upcoming events, historical highlights, news from the Friends of the Museum, and more. The only major change is how you'll receive it. Future editions will be delivered by email, which allows us to share information more quickly and reliably than traditional mail. It also helps us reduce printing and mailing costs, making the Herald more sustainable for the long term.

Our new system will also make it easier for readers to reserve spots for upcoming programs and activities. We're excited about the improvements this will bring, and we believe the digital Herald will be just as engaging and enjoyable as the printed version — if not more so.

If you currently receive the Herald by mail only, we encourage you to visit our website and sign up for the digital newsletter (after March 6th) so you don't miss future editions. For those already receiving this by email, no action is needed — you'll be automatically added to the new system,

and you may unsubscribe at any time if your preferences change. Thank you for your continued support as we take this next step. We're proud of the Herald's long history, and we're looking forward to continuing that tradition in a fresh, modern format.



The first edition of the Herald!

Hallo, and welcome to this first edition of the Centennial Herald! We hope you enjoy it and will wish to subscribe for subsequent issues. To be published as a quarterly (4 times per year) this expanded Centennial Museum Newsletter is to be more than just your average newsletter. The Museum Board together with the Friends of the Museum recognize the need for Penetanguishene to have a place to show off her rich history which is the mandate of the Museum. But, since the Museum is closed until further notice we are doing this newsletter will enable us to bring her to you and perhaps raise a few dollars for her while doing so.

Yea at the same time, the history of Penetanguishene encompasses the whole region and so various historical organizations will be submitting interesting and educational articles for your reading enjoyment. It's our goal to be to bring you up to date on various historical activities in the area but mostly it will inform and entertain you about all of our past.

For this first year, your \$15.00 subscription will enable you to receive the Herald and support the restoration of the old C. Beck General Store and Lumber Office. Once she is saved your future subscription will enable you to free admission to the Museum. Further to this, you will be kept informed

The first Beck-McGibbon reunion: July 1992

It was an event that surely would have made Charlie Carr and family Beck and Charlie and Adeline McGibbon smile. On Sunday, July 19th, 1992 their descendants came home to Penetanguishene on the grounds of the historic Centennial Museum, for the first ever Beck-McGibbon (and Stronach) Family Reunion. Their day began with a morning boat cruise about the Georgian Bay with former Mayor Gil Robillard providing the colour and historic commentary. Then the 200 plus gathering converged on the Museum grounds for a huge barbecue prepared by L. & M. Cairns. Reunion Chairman Fred Beck welcomed old and new alike and printed family who came from as far away as England, California, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Boston. Honorary Chairman Bill Beck thanked the organizers while organizer John Beck thanked the Museum Board for hosting the event. Museum Chairman Margaret Stronach, David Dupuis thanked the organizers while organizer John Beck thanked the Museum Board for hosting the event. Margaret Stronach, David Dupuis thanked everyone welcomed everyone



The Penetanguishene Centennial Museum & Archives

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Tel (705) 549-2150 Fax (705) 549-7542 www.pencenmuseum.com museum@penetanguishene.ca

Tuesday Talks 2PM to 3PM

Come out of the cold this February and enjoy our new Tuesday Talks series. Every Tuesday from 2PM to 3PM, our museum staff will explore stories from Penetanguishene's past by diving into our collection. Throughout the month, we'll feature topics such as General Stores in the late 1800s, 77 Years of Winterama, Meet the Becks, and the Logging Years. These interactive sessions are free for museum members and open to non-members by monetary donation. There's no need to reserve—simply drop in, warm up, and enjoy an engaging hour of local history.

February 3: General Stores in the 1800s
February 10: Winterama
February 17: Meet the Becks
February 24: Logging Years



Winterama Craft Show Saturday, February 14th 10AM to 3PM

Come and visit the museum on Winterama weekend for our annual Craft Show, featuring more than 20 vendors set up throughout the building. The show takes place on Saturday, February 14th from 10AM to 3PM, and admission is free with a Winterama button, available at the museum in advance for \$3 or at the event for \$5. While you're here, warm up with pea soup or chili in our replica fire hall, hosted by the Friends of the Museum, or head outside to try your hand at Crockicurl on the museum grounds. You can also hop on a horse and wagon ride right from the museum to Town Dock to enjoy the rest of the Winterama festivities.



FROM THE CURATORIAL ASSISTANT



March Break Fun March 16 to 20 9:30AM to 11:30AM \$5 per child

Join us every morning during March Break for a fun and creative themed craft and scavenger hunt designed to spark curiosity and imagination. Each day offers a unique theme for children to explore: Under the Sea on March 16th invites participants to dive into ocean inspired crafts and search for hidden marine treasures; St. Patrick's Day on March 17th brings a burst of green with lucky crafts and a festive hunt; Backyard Fun on March 18th celebrates outdoor activities with a birdhouse themed craft and a playful scavenger search; Radical Robots on March 19th encourages young inventors to get hands on with futuristic creations; and Spring Flowers on March 20th welcomes the new season with bright, cheerful crafts and a floral themed scavenger adventure. Each session runs from 9:30AM to 11:30AM and costs \$5 per child. Registration is required, ensuring every participant has the materials and space they need for an enjoyable morning at the museum.

Under the Sea Workshop Tuesday, March 17th 1:30PM to 2:30PM \$15 per child

This March Break, dive into creativity with Tiny Fun Parties' Under the Sea Slime Workshop—a perfect afternoon activity for young makers who love to get hands-on. Children will mix, stretch, and swirl their very own ocean-inspired slime, complete with shimmering glitter, seashell charms, and playful sea creature add-ins. This sensory rich workshop encourages imagination and exploration, and every participant will head home with their own magical "ocean in a jar." All supplies are provided, making it an easy and enjoyable experience for families. The workshop takes place on Tuesday, March 17th from

1:30PM to 2:30PM. The cost is \$15 per child, and adult supervision is required. Registration is required to ensure enough materials and space for all participants.

Magic Show
Wednesday, March 18th
1:30PM
\$5 per person

Join us at the museum for an exciting magic show featuring the Amazing Frank, guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages. This lively performance takes place on Wednesday, March 18th at 1:30PM, offering a fun and memorable March Break outing for families. Admission is \$5 per attendee, and please note that both children and adults must be registered in order to participate.

Hat Decorating Workshop
Thursday, March 19th
1:30PM
\$17 per child

Get ready to show off your style at our Hat Decorating Workshop with Tiny Fun Parties on March 19th at 1:30PM. Participants will design and decorate their own hats using a variety of colourful materials, and they'll also create a trendy hat chain to complete their custom look. It's a hands-on, creative session where every child leaves with a one-of-a-kind accessory that reflects their personality. The cost is \$17 per child, recommended for ages 7 and up, and parental supervision is required.

FROM THE
FRIENDS OF THE
MUSEUM

Winterama Pea Soup & Chili Sale

Please remember to join us at the Museum's Firehall on February 14, 2026 for our annual Winterama event of Chili and Pea Soup. Tickets can be purchased at the Museum's concession stand at 11AM until

2PM (or until Chili and Pea Soup are sold out!) We will also have hot chocolate, warm apple cider, and coffee, available. The prices remain the same as last year.

\$7:00	Chili with bun
\$6:00	Pea soup with bun
\$1.00	Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Apple Cider, Juice boxes , or Water

An Intimate Evening with Kevin Firth Concert

The Friends hosted an intimate musical evening with Nonie Thompson on Friday, November 21st, 2025. It was in the Museum's Great Hall, with a sold out show. It was a wonderful gathering of Nonie's old and new found fans.

The Friends will be hosting another such evening on Friday, March 6, 2026 from 7PM to 9PM. Doors open at 6:30PM and it is general seating. This time we will be listening to the songs and stories of local musician Kevin Firth. Tickets are \$20 each, and are selling out quickly.

Seating is limited to 50 people and can be purchased by contacting the museum at museum@penetanguishene.ca

MEMBERSHIP
RENEWALS

Nancy Camling	Beth Desrochers
Pat Houlton	Dora Szabo
Carol Ann McConnell	Denis Desroches
Mike & Gail Tinney	Sharon Garroway
Waxy Gregoire	Freda Nicholson
William Norris	Garry Vangelderren
Anita Dubeau	Mary Louise Flagg
Kelly Beck	Jeanne Hanna
Judith & Steve Holland	Colleen Kearns
Steve Antal	Mirella Salerno
Irene Ashworth	Karen Ryan
Bev Ward	Emily Ellis
Zac Thiffault	Michelle Gillesby

Penetanguishene Centennial Museum & Archives

MARCH



Events

March Break Fun

March 16th - 20th

Timeslots from 9:30 am- 11:30 am

\$5.00 per child

Join us for a different themed craft and scavenger hunt every morning for March Break!



Under the Sea Slime Workshop

March 17th 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

\$15.00 per child.

Dive into creativity with Tiny Fun Parties! Kids will mix, stretch, and swirl their very own ocean-inspired slime. All supplies included.

Hat Decorating Workshop

March 19th, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

\$17.00 per child

Get ready to show off your style with Tiny Fun Parties! In this workshop, participants will design and decorate their own hats using fabric markers, patches, and more. All supplies included.

Magic Show

March 18th 1:30 pm

\$5 per person

Join us for a mystifying magic show at the museum! Both children and adults must be registered to attend.

Easter Eggstravaganza

April 4th 9:30am - 12:00 pm

\$6 per child

Complete an egg hunt, meet the Easter bunny, receive a goodie bag and enjoy crafts and games!



**Reminder that
registration is required
for all programs unless
otherwise stated**



www.pencenmuseum.com

705-549-2150

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