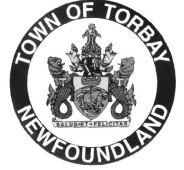




# The Killick

*Newsletter of the Torbay Heritage Committee*

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## Torbay Parish Records Database Up and Running

Starting your family tree can quite often be a daunting task – especially when you don't know where to begin. But perhaps the Torbay Museum/Heritage Commit-

tee can help. We've recently put the finishing touches on our Parish Records Database, which is a computer listing of baptism, marriage and death records from

both Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Parish and St. Nicholas Parish. Our database includes records ranging from the mid-1800s to 1929. Museum curator, Jerri

Pellegrinetti, is now accepting orders for anyone wanting to access the database. Drop by the museum, call Jerri at 437-6571 or e-mail [torbayheritage@nfmil.net](mailto:torbayheritage@nfmil.net)



**A young visitor to the Torbay Museum's booth at the Village Mall on June 15, 2002 checks out one of the stereoscopes from the Museum's collection. The Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador organized the exhibit event to kick off Museum Week.**

## Torbay Represented at Regional Conference

This past May, Lara Maynard, Torbay Heritage Committee President, travelled to Moncton for the Atlantic Cultural Spaces: New Directions in Arts and Heritage Conference. While there, she attended a workshop on Parks Canada's new Heritage Places Initiative and gave a well-received presentation on the Heritage Committee's participation in the Community Memories Pilot Project to conference attendees at Université de Moncton. Her presentation focused on the cutting

edge, yet user-friendly technology that will help small museums create exhibits for the Internet, and its use to date in Newfoundland and Labrador—especially Torbay.

The Torbay Heritage Committee gratefully acknowledges the Canadian Museums Association (supported by Canadian Heritage's Museums Assistance Program) and the Atlantic Cultural Spaces Conference Secretariat/New Brunswick Arts Board for travel funding which made this possible.

## We Need Your Help!

The Torbay Museum is growing so fast we're quickly running out of room. After spending 14 years in the town hall and caring for hundreds of artifacts, the Torbay Museum needs expansion. We are exploring avenues for developing a new museum.

Any residents or other parties interested in identifying possible properties (land and/or buildings) that might be suitable for the preservation and promotion of our museum and community, please call Jerri at 437-6571 or e-mail [torbayheritage@nfmil.net](mailto:torbayheritage@nfmil.net)

## Corporate Community Investment Award for Liddy's

Lynda Lalonde, owner-operator of Liddy's, was nominated for a Corporate Community Investment Award by the Torbay Heritage Committee this past spring. Lynda is an active member of the Committee, and offers space upstairs in Liddy's for meetings. Since Liddy's is Newfoundland's oldest established bar it seems a fitting place for a heritage group to meet!

Lynda received a certificate recognizing her community contribution during the Community Services Council's opening celebration for Volunteer Week 2002 at the St. John's Fairmont Hotel in April.



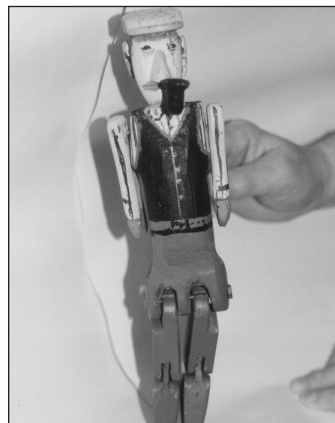
**Lynda Lalonde receiving her Corporate Community Investment Award from John Perlin, Honorary Chair of Volunteer Week 2002. Inset: Lynda was accompanied to the Provincial Volunteer Week Opening Ceremony by Jeff Green, Torbay Heritage Committee Vice President, Lara Maynard, President, and Jerri Pellegrinetti, Torbay Museum Curator.**

## Featured Artifact: Dancing Doll

A handmade wooden dancing doll in the image of the late great Newfoundland musician Harry Hibbs is amongst the most unique items at the Torbay Museum. It was made by the late George Woodfine of Torbay, who did a remarkable job of making and performing with the doll despite his blindness.

Traditional dancing dolls similar to this one have been popular among several

cultural groups, including African Canadians in Nova Scotia and French Canadians. They have been children's toys and added entertainment for men singing in lumber camps. In English, they are known alternatively as dancing dolls, dancing men, and dancing masters. The latter name may refer to teachers, normally male, who once travelled around Ireland offering dance lessons.



**The museum's Dancing Doll.**

## Flea Market

A flea market in aid of the Torbay Museum and Library will be held at the Kinsmen Centre on Saturday, August 17, 2002 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please drop donated items off at the town hall by August 13, 2002.

## Newfoundland Pony Art

The Torbay Museum is pleased to have on display this summer four Newfoundland pony sculptures. Drop by and see these special pieces by ArtSmarts Program students from Holy Trinity Elementary School.

## Artifacts Wanted

- Photos of the old Convent school.
- Old photos of the Club Commodore, inside and outside.
- Photos of old Liddy's.
- Pre-1960 old school photos.
- Inside and outside of the old North Side School.
- Photos of the old Parish Hall, inside and outside.
- Photos of the old Stone Church, inside and outside.
- Photos of the old Anglican School, inside and outside.
- Old photos of the Gully area.
- Old photos of Barry's, Shoe Cove

## From Scrapbooks to Cyberspace: Torbay Voluntary Women's Groups' Memories

This past October, the Torbay Heritage Committee supplied local community-based voluntary women's groups with scrapbooking supplies, and requested that they create a history of their organizations. Since October was Women's History Month with the theme "In Praise of Canadian Women Volunteers," in observance of International Year of Volunteers 2001, it seemed an opportune time to start this type of project.

Scrapbooks compiled by the Catholic Women's League and Anglican Church Women have been completed and deposited in the Torbay Museum.

When the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), invited the Torbay Heritage Committee to participate in a pilot project called Community Memories to create computerized multimedia archives, the women's scrapbooks became the basis for our first digital archive. Our job was to create a digital archive, in the process testing and reporting on the software supplied by CHIN, so that it can be improved and made available to other small heritage institutions across Canada.

Along with the contents of the CWL and ACW scrapbooks, photos of Torbay Brownies and Girl Guides circa 1980 and pages from the guest book from the official



**This photo of the Torbay Anglican Church Women with a handmade quilt is one of over 200 images in the Community Memories Archive.**

opening of Camp Carey off Bauline Line 1975, have been entered into our Community Memories Archive.

Well known community figures appear amongst the over 200 images in the archive. These include Bill Manning,

Torbay's late first mayor; our current Deputy Mayor, Peggy Roche, an active member of the CWL; Sister Winifred Power, who lived at the former St. Michael's Presentation Convent and taught at Holy Trinity for many years; and the late Pat McGrath, who was a familiar singing voice in community concerts and the Holy Trinity Church Choir, and frequently entertained Brownies.

The Heritage Committee looks forward to expanding the archive, sharing it and working on new themes.

## Do you know . . .

Torbay was designated as a National Historic Site in 1952 and given a plaque in 1972 because of its role in the landing of the British Forces prior to the Battle of Signal Hill in 1762. The plaque from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in

our Town Chambers reads:

*"As the Seven Years War drew to a close in 1762 the Comte d'Haussonville led a final French attack on Newfoundland, seizing St. John's. When word of the loss reached the British in New York preparations were at once begun to retake the place; a military force*

*commanded by Colonel William Amherst was dispatched to Newfoundland, supported by a blockading fleet under Admiral Lord Colville. The British forces landed here at Torbay on 13 September and proceeded overland to St. John's, which they forced the French to surrender, five days later."*

## Torbay Museum takes part in National Event

You're cordially invited to attend the 2002 National Heritage Fair and Garden Party, taking place Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Glacier in Mount Pearl from 1-7 pm. This is the first time the

Fair is coming to Newfoundland and Labrador and our Committee will have a display at the public exhibition. Come out and try your luck at our homemade Killick Toss game.

Enter your name for prizes and visit with the more than 160 students from across Canada taking part in the Fair. There will be turkey teas, buskers and games of chance for everyone.

## Your Photos at the Hillside Festival

Drop by the Torbay Heritage Committee's booth at the Hillside Festival on July 28 for treats, giveaways and prize draws. We also plan to bring along our computer and scan-

ner, so if you have any old Torbay photos (people, sites, buildings, etc.) that you'd like to donate to the Torbay Museum or let us make a copy of on site, bring them along. Or drop by

to make arrangements for us to get copies some other time. We're also interested in any kind of old Torbay related documents (clippings, certificates, letters, etc.). See you there!

[HTTP://TORBAY.MUSEUM.TRIPOD.COM](http://torbay.museum.tripod.com)



# How to Care for...Video Tapes

## Introduction

The popularity of video has exploded in recent years with the development of video cassette recorders (VCRs) and portable, hand-held camcorders. People now routinely record television programs, movies, and events from their own lives.

Video tapes unfortunately have a relatively short life expectancy (10–30 years), which makes them a less than desirable option for preserving old home movies. Treating video tapes carefully will maximize their life span.

## Causes of Damage

Video tape is composed of magnetic particles (metal oxides) incorporated into a binder layer on a polyester base, or a thin magnetic film deposited on a polyester base without a binder. The metal oxide particles store or record the signals, and the binder layer keeps the particles where they belong. The binder layer may hydrolyse (a chemical reaction that renders the binder soft or sticky) over time or it may lose its integrity and begin to flake off, leading to loss of information as the magnetic particles are lost. Video tapes in this condition will not play properly because they clog VCR heads. The polyester base can be damaged by uneven winding from recording or playback; this results in tracking problems when the tape is played.

The most common causes of damage are improper handling and extremes or fluctuations in heat, light, and humidity. Dust and debris that get trapped between the layers of wound tape or accumulate in the equipment can also result in damage, i.e. scratching and equipment contamination. Magnetic fields (from televisions, speakers, magnets, vacuum cleaners, etc.) are a problem only if they are strong and close to the tape.

## Handling

Pick up video tapes by their plastic cases; do not touch the tape or allow dust or objects to come into contact with it. Food, drink, and cigarette smoke can contaminate tapes and must be kept away.

When playing a video tape, avoid placing it on “Pause” for long periods as this places stress on the tape. Likewise, do not shuffle between “Fast Forward” and “Reverse” without first stopping the tape. After playing, ensure that the tape is fully wound on one reel before removing it for storage. Do not leave tapes in the VCR.

Store video tapes upright (i.e. standing up on end like books) with all the tape wound on one reel; leaving them flat or partially wound can result in warping of the protective case or distortion of the tape.

Keep video tapes at least 7.5 cm (3 in.) away from magnetic sources and do not store them next to stereo speakers or under television sets.

Avoid extremes or fluctuations of heat, light, and humidity; do not store video tapes in basements, attics, or garages, and keep them away from heat vents or strong sunlight.

## Cleaning and Repair

Techniques exist to retrieve or restore damaged video tapes but these can be carried out only by a skilled professional.

Video tapes recorded on machines that are now obsolete (such as Sony Betamax) can be re-recorded onto newer formats. Again, consult a professional.

*From Canadian Conservation Institute's "Preserving My Heritage" Web site ([www.preservation.gc.ca](http://www.preservation.gc.ca)).*



**Lara Maynard, Torbay Heritage Committee President, and Jerri Pellegrinetti, Torbay Museum Curator at the Torbay Museum's booth at the Village Mall during Museum Week in June 2002.**



**The Torbay Town Council recognized volunteers with certificates during Volunteer Week 2002. L to R: Councillor Jim Cantwell, Torbay Heritage Committee Treasurer Cathy Boylan, THC Vice President Jeff Green, Mayor Bob Codner, Torbay Museum Curator Jerri Pellegrinetti, THC Member Lynda Lalonde, and Deputy Mayor Peggy Roche.**