

# WATERFRONT HERITAGE



CELEBRATE OUR STORY

Vol. 13 No. 4  
August 2025



**Website**  
[waterfrontheritage.ca](http://waterfrontheritage.ca)

**Facebook**  
Community Waterfront Heritage  
Centre, Owen Sound

Art by Sue Allison

## Summer 2025



As we shared last month, we were deeply saddened by the passing of Jan Chamberlain on July 1st. Jan was a beloved board member, volunteer, and friend. Her energy and dedication helped shape many of our exhibits and events.

To honour Jan's legacy, we encourage you to support your community—lend a hand, share your time, and make a difference.

A public celebration of life will be held on August 18 at 11:00am at the Bayshore Community Centre. Donations in Jan's memory can be made to the Chamberlain Family Fund via the Grey Bruce Community Foundation.



# Remembering Jan Chamberlain





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## Museum Bus Trip

Join us for a visit to the Sheffield Park Black History & Cultural Museum in Clarksburg!

- Date: August 19
- Depart: 11:15am from CWHC
- Return: 3:00pm
- Tickets: \$25 (includes transport + admission)
- Bring: A picnic lunch to enjoy on the museum grounds

Reserve your spot:

[info@waterfrontheritage.ca](mailto:info@waterfrontheritage.ca) or call  
519-371-3333

## Harbours and Horrors

September 21

Two tours, one spooky evening!

- 4:15pm: Harbour history walk with CWHC
- 7-9pm: Ghost walk with Billy Bishop Museum
- Tickets: \$20 for both tours
- Note: Ghost walk is for ages 12+

Get ready for stories of ships, sailors, and spirits! For more about the tours, check out our Facebook page!

## Meet our Summer Students!

Thanks to grant funding, we welcomed four amazing students this summer:

- Pippa Chevalier – Recent Grade 13 graduate and future English Lit student
- Sam Gould – History undergrad with archival experience and a passion for museums
- Katherine Lindsey – Archaeology PhD student excited to dig into Owen Sounds marine and rail heritage
- Sydney Thornton – Archaeology graduate, and summer student museum veteran, having supported Grey Roots

They've helped with cataloguing, displays, and programs—thank you all!



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## In Memoriam: Ann Kelly

Ann Kelly, a life member and one of our earliest members, died recently. When the community rallied to save the Marine and Rail Museum, she stepped up. In the early days of forming the CWHC, she reached out for financial support using the many contacts that she had gained during her time as the Women's Editor at the Sun-Times. At the 2018 Christmas Café on Coach 4884, she appeared as Mrs. Santa to greet the children. Ann had a special interest in local marine history. Her father, Osburn Long, was the captain of the S. S. Norisle for 21 years.



## Heritage Harbour Walks

Join our curator, Zack McLean for a Heritage Harbour Walk along waterfront to learn about the history of Owen Sound. You'll learn about the origins of some of the buildings on the harbour, and the story behind some of the ones that are no longer there.

Tours leave the CWHC at 4:15pm on Thursdays and Saturdays. Tour tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth (5-11), and \$7.50 for the museum's VIP members. Get your tickets at the museum or online!

Tours are 45 minutes. Most of the path is paved but short sections will be on the grass.

### Heritage Harbour Walks

Thursdays and Saturdays  
at 4:15pm

**Adult: \$10**  
**VIP Member: \$7.50**  
**Youth: \$5**  
**Family: \$25**

For more information, email  
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## Rent Coach 4884

Coach 4884 is now available to rent for private events! Host a party, meeting, or anything that strikes your fancy in our historic Pullman buffet coach! The car seats up to 40 people, and it is equipped with A/C, two working washrooms, and a kitchenette.

You can rent the coach for as little as \$100 for a half day, or \$200 to get the whole day!

To inquire about renting the Coach, email [info@waterfrontheritage.ca](mailto:info@waterfrontheritage.ca)



## 2nd Annual Model Show and Sale

Come down to the Owen Sound Legion on September 13<sup>th</sup> for our Model Rail Show and Sale! Vendors will be set up inside from 10am-3pm with all sorts of modelling gear and layouts. Admission is just \$5 and includes entry to the CWHC!

Interested in selling? Vendor registration is only \$20/table! Interested vendors can email [info@waterfrontheritage.ca](mailto:info@waterfrontheritage.ca) or call 519-371-3333.





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## What do you want to see this Fall?

This will be our last newsletter before the new school year begins. As we inch closer to the end of the season, that leaves us with a question: what would you like to see at the museum this Fall and Winter?

If there are programs, events, or exhibitions that you would like to see at the museum, let us know! We're always looking for new ideas and ways to execute the museum's mission.

Want to help us accomplish some of these feats? Why not consider coming on as a volunteer?



## Sailor Grave Stories & Great Lakes Ghost Ships

Sailor Grave Stories & Great Lakes Ghost Ships is a walking tour that will take place in the Greenwood Cemetery on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. This tour will begin at the mausoleum and take guests around the cemetery, stopping at key locations such as the Potter's Field Memorial and the graves of some of Owen Sound's greatest ship captains. So please put on your best walking shoes and join us for a night of spooky tales of the Great Lakes and sorrowful stories of captains and sailors who never made it back to port.

The walk will be 45 minutes. Tickets are \$10. For tickets and further information, please visit the museum. Dates are subject to change depending on services at the cemetery.



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## Heritage Heroes

Become a Heritage Hero today! The CWHC has started recognizing our biggest supporters with our new donor recognition board, which was specially made for us by Robert Pawley. Donors who contribute \$100, \$500, or \$1000 will be added to the respective tiers on this board.

Join our list of Heritage Heroes today!



## Hidden Gems

The CWHC recently received a grant from the Community Foundation Grey-Bruce! This grant helped increase our technological capacity to carry out our mission by providing funds to replace some of our aging computers. In turn, we will be using our improved working capabilities to develop a "Hidden Gems" exhibit, which will involve showcasing artifacts that were previously under-researched.

## Summerfolk

We're excited to be taking part in the Summerfolk Community Village this summer! You'll be able to find us there from August 15-17 at Kelso Beach at Nawash Park with info about the museum, fun activities, and locally made souvenirs!

The museum will be open all weekend as well, so stop in on your way to see the music!

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## Ship Watch

We've had a few visitors of note since our last newsletter. Less than a week after the *Saginaw* arrived to deliver to the grain elevator, the *Algoma Intrepid* arrived with a load of salt from Cleveland. We had gotten accustomed to seeing one salt shipment for the year arriving in October. This made it extra surprising to have a shipment of salt in June, especially when a week later the *Intrepid* was back with a second one! Maybe they wanted to be extra sure that we were well supplied after our last winter.

On July 20, the tug *Jarret M* arrived in Owen Sound. Originally known as the *Atomic*, it was built right here in Owen Sound by Russel Brothers back in 1945. It arrived in preparations for towing a barge to do work near Meaford.

On July 26, the *Playfair* returned to Owen Sound. This brigantine-rigged sailing vessel travels the Great Lakes with teenage crews, teaching them not just how to sail, but how to work in unique environments.





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## Curator's Corner: A Lasting Legacy

On July 20, the McKeil tug *Jarret M* arrived in Owen Sound. This was of note to us here at the museum because the *Jarret M* was previously known as the *Atomic*, and its hull was built right here in Owen Sound back in 1945.

Along with over 1000 other hulls, the *Atomic* was built by Russel Brothers in Owen Sound. Our Russel Brothers spotlight often falls on the most well known constructions, like the *Ancaster* or *Maid of the Mist*, but they have another legacy in how many of their builds are still alive and well 80 years after construction.

From WWII era tugs under civilian ownership after over 80 years to the *Wm. Lyon Mackenzie* which has been working Toronto's harbour since the 60s, there are plenty of examples of Russel Bros. longevity.

The *Jarret M* is an excellent example of this longevity since even 80 years after construction, she's still working as a project tug. The tug's work assemblage and transporting a barge to Meaford shows that a Russel tug, properly maintained, will last a lifetime.



Top: *Atomic* with its original appearance after construction by Russel Brothers.  
Bottom: The same tug, now as the *Jarret M*, during its recent visit to Owen Sound.

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## Heritage Heroes

Lili Anne Holding  
Pearl Bumstead  
Ted Noble  
Daniel Fletcher  
Janet Iles  
Scott Cameron

Jack and Elaine Osadzuk

