

# Heritage Update

To keep you informed about current heritage news and events, we bring you our Heritage Update. We hope you will find these periodic newsletters both useful and entertaining. Your feedback is welcome!

## President's Message



I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. The rain, then heat and now smoke bring the usual summer challenges, but everyone at the Village is working hard to make sure our visitors have a happy experience with us. We barely completed the exterior of the Montebello Museum before we started the planning process to change the old museum building into our new Sprig of Heather restaurant and the current Marjorie's Tea Room to the Children's Museum. Committees have been meeting and planning for months and a great deal of progress has been made. To date, we have engaged Canadian Restaurant Supply to design and outfit the new restaurant kitchen and local architect, and friend to the Village, Bernd Hermanski will prepare the drawings for the renovations to the building. Many different factors have to be considered and we are moving forward with enthusiasm and excitement. We are confident this new facility will give us a much more functional kitchen for staff and our dedicated volunteers. The new restaurant will provide more space for interior seating for our popular dinner theatre and for weddings and other events. Manager Susan Mackie is excited about the opportunities this new space will provide. The plan is to start construction in the fall and open the Sprig of Heather on opening day in May of 2019.

Curator Deborah Chapman and a group of volunteers are working long hours moving hundreds of boxes of documents and photos and our precious glass plate negative collection to the new archives room. Thousands of artifacts have also been moved and the storage shelves in the new building are filling up fast. This process gives Deborah the opportunity to go through the collection to assess the items to make sure they are in good condition and depict our local history. Volunteers are also giving everything a thorough cleaning.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Watching the Changes!



2018 marks my ninth season at the Village. My first season I was asked to add a new event to the schedule, and I decided that "High Tea" was needed. That first year 80 ticket holders enjoyed music, entertainment, finger sandwiches and dainty treats. This past May, 145 ticket holders enjoyed High Tea. This is an increase of over 80%!

Planning has already started for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual High Tea on Sunday May 26, 2019 and will feature a very special fashion show of wedding dresses and the stories behind the dress. Purchase your tickets early to this sell-out event.

The Association opened the Montebello Museum in 2017 and celebrated Canada's 150 Birthday with over 900 people attending. This magnificent building is home to nine businesses from Salmon Arm's history and has changed the dynamic of a guests' visit to the largest heritage attraction in the Shuswap.



On your next visit to R.J. Haney Heritage Village, you can discover over 30 exhibits that tell the stories of Salmon Arm and our early settlers. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to go to school in Salmon Arm in 1918? Miss Halpenny, first schoolmarm in the Broadview School rings the bell twice a day, announcing class is in session. Visitors who attend experience what it was like in a one-room school 100 years ago.

*(Continued on page 2)*



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**President's Message continued from page 1**

The Committee studying the concept of the Children's Museum has come up with some very exciting ideas and we are anticipating the drawings, which will be produced by heritage consultant Cuyler Paige. We believe this new museum will be an amazing place for families to spend time having fun and learning about local and natural history. The focus will be on interactive activities and there will be indoor and outdoor spaces to explore.

I want to thank all the members of the board, and the public, who have agreed to sit on these important committees and gave so freely of their time. Also I send a big thank you to Curator Deborah Chapman and her many volunteers who are doing the hard work of moving our collection from the old building to the new one.

Work is also continuing on the dioramas and interior in the Montebello Museum. On Pioneer Day we opened the new exhibit in the Gallery "Can you dig it" and the exhibit in the Telephone Exchange office. Sign up for the tours and check them out next time you are in the village.

*- Norma Harisch, President of the Board of Directors*

**Wanted: Volunteers to play historical characters at events**

Would you like to portray George Armstrong, owner of the Salmon Arm Observer, Miss Halpenny, first school marm in the Broadview schoolhouse or one of the other historical characters at R.J. Haney Heritage Village? Help at our many events throughout the summer. Call the Village today, 250-832-5243 and volunteer!

"Your time is well spent at R.J. Haney Heritage Village"



**Watching the Changes! continued from page 1**

Mrs. Haney opens the Haney House daily to visitors, and interpreters guide you through the house sharing what it was like to live in one of the most beautiful gems in Salmon Arm in 1910. After touring the house, Miss Puff would be pleased to walk with you on a guided Village tour. Cyril Thomson, Mayor of Salmon Arm from 1928 to 1942 and business owner of the Lester & Thomson Garage from 1917 to 1937 can be found every Saturday and Sunday between 10:00am and 2:00pm in the Village. There is always something new to discover, activities change daily and you can plan your next visit by visiting our "new" website at salmonarmmuseum.org.



Dinner Theatre is always one of my favourite events. It is a great way to learn history through a story that is full of humour, song and dance. I enjoy talking with ticket holders and hearing their words of praise, raving about the delicious dinner, the cast and show and that dinner theatre is a highlight of their summer. I have been very fortunate for the past nine seasons to work with Peter Blacklock as

playwright and director of Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre. Peter's very special talent, along with the wonderful cast members over the years, has paid off in a steady growth in attendance from season to season!

I am proud to be a part of R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum, and I am excited as it moves into the next stages of development. Salmon Arm is fortunate to have such a beautiful asset to come and explore and share with visitors from other communities. I look forward to watching the Village grow!

*- Susan Mackie, General Manager*



R.J. Haney Heritage Village and Museum wish to thank the British Columbia Arts Council, and Hucul Printing for their generous assistance in making this issue of Heritage Update possible.

## *Miss Harper, connect me to 13A please*



Florence Johnson happened to be on switchboard duty at the Okanagan Telephone Company when Rex Lingford dropped by in September. Mr. Lingford was photographing businesses and the Okanagan Telephone Exchange was first on his list. He was in a bit of a rush because he had enlisted for service and was headed for Valcartier, Quebec. After he set up his equipment, Mr. Lingford asked me, Sylvia Harper, to stand beside Florence. Just at that moment my older sister Eva walked in. She was running an errand in town and stopped by for a visit. Eva looked a little surprised when Mr. Lingford asked her to stand next to me. She wasn't an operator, but he liked the look of the three of us together. We were two sisters and a future sister-in-law.

You probably know that the Okanagan Telephone Company began operations in Vernon and opened a Salmon Arm office in 1911 with 29 local customers. Subscribers leased their telephones for a flat annual rate, \$36 for businesses and \$24 for private residences. Long distance service was offered as far as Vernon.

What you may not know is that I started my career in 1913 filling in for Agnes Burrell when she had the measles. When May Johnson, the other operator, decided to leave, I was between jobs. Mr. Geo. Dobie told me they were looking for someone down at the Telephone Office. Starting salary was \$27 a month! I was Salmon Arm's longest serving operator and worked for the company until the Second World War.

I married Bert Cummings in 1920 and we lived in the apartment behind the switchboard office, raising our three children Kenneth, Harold, and Gladys. We adopted a girl, Virginia, when her mother died. I was awfully fond of Ginny. She was a real sweetie. It was Harold and Gladys who made a game of running through the telephone office, their bedrooms, and the living quarters until Bert put his foot down!

Days at the switchboard started early and I was allowed to turn in for the night at 11 p.m. I used to get so annoyed with the likes of Mr. Percy Gorse and his chess games! He made a habit of making his chess move and calling his opponent after 11 to tell him about it. Times certainly changed when direct dial was introduced in 1950.



*Written by: Deborah Chapman, Curator*

***Post Script: A huge thank you to the Shuswap Community Foundation, the City of Salmon Arm's Grants-in-Aid Program & Doug Hlina for making this diorama possible.***



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## Mayor's Message

As mayor of Salmon Arm from 1928 to 1942, I would like to welcome you to R.J. Haney Heritage Village and Museum. This is an exciting time for the Village and our community. The opening of the Montebello Museum has provided our Village with a vibrant commercial district. Our residents have access to a variety of shops and services that were not available earlier. During my time as a businessman and community leader, I have had the privilege of watching Salmon Arm grow, thrive, struggle through the Depression, and persevere. R.J. Haney Heritage Village captures a period of time I think of as the Halcyon Days of Salmon Arm.

The first European settlers have been in the district for less than fifty years. They have already endured the hardships of flood and fire, struggled with poor roads and difficult access to markets. Very few communities are spared from these growing pains. R.J. Haney Heritage Village displays the sense of optimism of Salmon Arm from the 1900's through the 1920's.

The Village is fortunate to have representation from strong women in the business community. Agnes McGuire and Emma Abigail Palmer were responsible for the successful enterprises in Salmon Arm. Businesses like Miss Puff's Millinery and the voting of women in SAFE Ltd. Matters before enfranchisement was allowed nationwide indicate the importance of women in business in our community.



The Bank of Hamilton provides validation for a growing community that is beginning to flourish. The Salmon Arm Observer reports on the community and the world. The Telephone Exchange allows us to talk easily to each other at a distance and to others in neighbouring communities. Rex Lingford's Studio has photographic glass plates that are poured over more than a century later.

A number of visitors at the Lester and Thomson Garage are surprised to learn that many of our Village residents had more than one business interest going at the same time. I believe this demonstrates the ability of our first settlers to innovate, adapt and persevere. Our Dinner Theatre actors will point out in song that "our stories are what define us", and there are many examples of this evident in our Village.

There is Agnes McGuire, who inherited 148 acres of property from her son, Charles, in Salmon Arm when he died of tuberculosis on 15 January 1892. Moving here from Winnipeg in 1892 with her three youngest children in tow, forthright and capable Agnes ran Charles' store and the post office and brought her children into the business. When Salmon Arm was incorporated in 1905, Agnes proposed that she open up some of her property for business and residential purposes. In 1906, after further negotiations, a plan was drawn up by the municipal council showing the town site of Salmon Arm, with the first seven street names chosen by Agnes McGuire. They were Alexander, Hudson, McLeod, Palmer, Harris, Okanagan and Shuswap.

Emma Abigail Palmer has her stories, including having the first trades licence issued by the Salmon Arm District Municipality on 30 June 1905. There was a direct phone line from the railway station to the Palmer Ranch, west of Salmon Arm, so orders could be passed along as soon as they were received at the railway station by telegraph.

*Continued on page 5...*



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### Mayor's Message continued from page 4

Her late husband, A.J. Palmer, had his share of stories, like being one of the first families to help bring cattle into the District from the Chase area, planting 5000 tomato plants in 1893 and selling the produce to C.P.R. dining cars and its mountain hotels, and rowing milk out to Slough Bridge on the C.P.R. line by boat so it could be shipped to Kamloops during the flood of 1894.

There is the poignant story of Henry Fraser, who "was here first", and is briefly introduced at our dinner theatre this year. He fought a losing battle with paying (or not paying) property taxes, but generously donated land for the Anglican Church in Salmon Arm, as well as land for what became the first hospital in Salmon Arm.



Volunteer and Board Member Randy Brogden as Cyril Thomson

The other residents of R.J. Haney Heritage Village have their stories, travelling from their homes to begin a new life. Henry Fraser was born in Ceylon, now known as Sri Lanka. Others have immigrated from Wales, Scotland, England, Ireland, Bohemia, Sweden, Finland, Russia, New Zealand and the United States of America. Fellow Canadians have come from Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. These Village residents are defined by their stories, and they have all persevered to have them told.

Listen to their stories, share some of yours, and enjoy your time at R.J. Haney Heritage Village and Museum.

*Sincerely,  
Cyril Thomson*

### Every Dress has a Story!

Every dress has a love story. Planning has started for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual High Tea on Sunday, May 26, 2019, and will feature a very special fashion show of wedding dresses and the stories behind the dress. Every dress has a story, it could be the day it was bought or the love story of a soldier and his war bride. Maybe the dress travelled to an exotic island to be worn on a sun drenched beach, or the dress was worn at Haney!



R.J. Haney Heritage Village is looking for wedding dress and their stories. Do you have your Grandmother's, your Mother's or your own wedding dress? Would you write the story behind the dress? If you are interested in sharing for this very special fashion show, call Susan at the Village 250-832-5243.



R.J. HANEY HERITAGE VILLAGE PRESENTS THE 21ST ANNUAL

# HARVEST Celebration

SUNDAY SEPT 9, 2018 3PM - 6PM

Taste of the Shuswap, come and enjoy tasty samples from local wineries, breweries and restaurants.

Tickets \$27.00  
To purchase call 250-832-5243

R.J. Haney  
Heritage Village & Museum  
www.salmonarmmuseum.org

250-832-5243  
751 Hwy 97B Salmon Arm BC

Find us on Facebook



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**R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum Presents:**  
**Villians and Vittles Dinner Theatre Productions**

R.J. Haney Heritage Village is celebrating twenty five years of Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre Productions. This season the Village is proud to present “*Tales of My Little Town*”

“It was an age of innocence, those years just before the First Great War, a time of confidence and growth and, most of all, optimism. Optimism framed those virtues instilled in the colonies during Queen Victoria’s reign - duty, honour, faith in Church and Empire, and hard work. There was a shape and stability to life in Salmon Arm.”

- From “*Innocence and Apples*” by Lois Higgins

“*Tales of My Little Town*” offers audiences a unique perspective on Salmon Arm and the people who lived in it during the early 1900s.

This heart-warming production promises laughter, adventure, and a wide variety of characters to fall in love with. Travel back in time and enjoy the swampy beginnings of the little town we call home, all set on the stage of the SASCU Amphitheatre at R.J. Haney Heritage Village.

Joining us for his ninth successful season as writer and director is local playwright, Peter Blacklock. “*Tales of My Town*” will charm and entertain audiences of all ages. Peter fills his plays with original musical scores and humorous story telling that will whisk you away to not so far off places, while sharing the history along the way.

Opening night is July 4, with shows every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evening in July and August and a special matinee performance on Thursday, August 16.

Check in starts at 5pm. Come and enjoy a home cooked dinner with all the pioneer fixings served from Marjorie’s Tea Room and dessert will follow the play with homemade rhubarb crisp and ice cream. Reservations are a must! Adults \$27, Seniors \$25, children 5-12 are \$15 and children four and under are FREE.

For more information or to reserve seats, call 250-832-5243, visit our website at [salmonarmmuseum.org](http://salmonarmmuseum.org) or like us at [facebook.com/Haneyheritage](https://facebook.com/Haneyheritage). Follow us on Instagram as well, @rjhaneyheritagevillage “*Tales of My Town*” is a not to be missed highlight of Salmon Arm’s summer entertainment!



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Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre Presents...

**Houseboat Vacation Raffle**

Remember to purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win a prize of a 4 day/3 night vacation aboard a Genesis 66 Houseboat, comfortably sleeping 20 to a maximum of 24 guests.

Sponsored by Shuswap Lake Waterway Marina and Resort! This fantastic prize is worth \$9,080.00!!!

Tickets are only 2 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$10.00 and the draw is on September 9th at Harvest Celebration, so get yours today! Available for purchase from the actors or at the Museum.

**23rd Annual Spooktacular - Oct 20 & 21**

Experience things going bump in the night! It is that time of the year to pull on your scariest costume and explore the spooky side of R.J. Haney Heritage Village for the 23rd annual Spooktacular. Do you think you are fearless enough to venture through the Spook Trail, Haunted House and Shady Lane? There are menacing creatures around every dark corner. For the little spooks, enjoy the not so scary Story Book Trail, the Coloring Room, stories and more. Gate open at 5pm. Come dressed in your favourite Halloween costume! Ghouls and ghosts must be accompanied by an adult over 19. Admission at the gate.



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- QC Universal Coatings Inc
- RMC Systems
- Robert and Michelle Black
- Royal LePage Access Real Estate
- Salmon Arm Homecomfort
- SEDO Old Fashioned Butcher & Deli
- Shuswap Coffee Company Ltd
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- The Stacer Team
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### Visit Marjorie's Tea Room



**Join Chef David Colombe**  
Open May 16-September 15  
Wednesday –Sunday  
10:00am-4:00pm

Famous for our rhubarb crisp  
and baked goods.  
Featuring signature garden fresh  
meals made daily for \$8.99

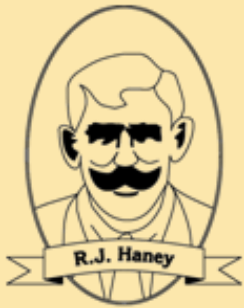
### Programming at its best!

We have some great activities at the Village, and it is all included with your daily paid or annual pass admission.



Every day we have 2 guided Haney House tours and 2 guided Village tours.

The guided tour of the Haney House is the only way you'll be able to see inside, so if you would like to see all the treasures we have inside, as well as hear the wonderful stories behind those treasures, you will want to plan your visit around the tour times of 11:15 am and 2:45 pm each day. The guided Village tour is a fantastic way to hear the stories behind the people and businesses of early Salmon Arm. Tour times are 10 am and 1:30 pm each day.



Donate your antiques, collectables and next to new items to a worthy cause committed to preserving our heritage. Please call R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum. 250-832-5243 or email [info@salmonarmmuseum.org](mailto:info@salmonarmmuseum.org)

### 21st Annual Harvest Celebration - Sept 9, 2018. 3pm - 6pm

Come and enjoy the tastes of the Shuswap and treat yourself to a mixture of mouth-watering local cuisines from some of the best restaurants, delis, cafes, wineries and breweries that our region has to offer. Tickets are \$27 and can be purchased by calling 250-832-5243 or by visiting R.J. Haney Heritage Village at 751 Highway 97B. You won't want to miss this special afternoon of food, drink and entertainment.



There are 2 classes with Miss Halpenny in the Broadview School, so if you've ever wondered what it was like to go to school in a one room schoolhouse, you don't want to miss this! The bell rings at 12:45 pm and 3:45 pm each day. Don't be late!

We also like to add in bonus activities that are different each day. Sometimes, Mayor Thomson will be in his automobile garage. Or maybe Mr. Newnes apprentice will be in the blacksmith.

Occasionally, you can catch Miss Puff in her millinery, working on her sister's wedding gown, or Emily McGuire sorting mail in the McGuire General Store. You just never know who you will run into at R.J. Haney Heritage Village!



*- Rebecca Whitehead, Heritage Program Coordinator*



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## CALLING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS!

As we continue to grow our Village with new exhibits, and increase attendance at events, your help is more important than ever! If you know someone who enjoys volunteering, please encourage them to drop by and fill out a volunteer form. We have positions to suit everyone, with meals and perks included!!!! Gardeners, decorating, serving and bussing, games, tours, cashiers, kitchen support and more. I am looking forward to a great summer with all of our Haney Volunteers. Without your support, we could not succeed! All ages welcome!

[salmonarmmuseum.org/volunteeropportunities](http://salmonarmmuseum.org/volunteeropportunities)  
 250-832-5243 or [volunteer@salmonarmmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@salmonarmmuseum.org)

*-Tara Watson - Volunteer Coordinator*



## 13th Annual Cemetery Tour - Sunday Oct 14, 2018.

Space is limited to 35 special guests. Reservations are required!!

A guided tour of the old section of the Mt. Ida Cemetery features Curator/Archivist Deborah Chapman's personal favourite list of characters. Stories of love, heartbreak, joy and tragedy are told on one of the prettiest knolls in Salmon Arm. Cost is \$10 per person. Call 250-832-5243 to reserve your spot.



## Daily Admission:

- Adults (Age 18-64) \$10.00
- Seniors (Age 65 and over) \$9.00
- Students (Age 6-17) \$7.00  
Including students with valid student ID
- Children (Age 5 and under) Free
- Family \$25.00  
Two adults (parents or guardians) and all dependent children under the age of 18  
 OR two grandparents and all grand children under the age of 18
- Groups of 10 or more 15% discount  
Must be pre paid 24 hrs in advance

What is included in daily admission:

Village, Museum, Trail Access, Haney House Tour and Daily Scheduled Programs

## Annual Pass:

- Adults (Age 18-64) \$18.00
- Seniors (Age 65 and over) \$15.00
- Students (Age 6-17) \$10.00  
Including students with valid student ID
- Children (Age 5 and under) Free
- Family \$35.00  
Two adults (parents or guardians) and all dependent children under the age of 18  
 OR two grandparents and all grand children under the age of 18

What is included in your annual pass:

Village, Museum, Trail Access, Haney House Tour and Daily Scheduled Programs  
 Receive \$1.00 off gate admission to the following events: Father's Day, Pioneer Day, Classic Antique Car Show, and Spooktacular.  
 Does not include special ticketed events.

## Special Events and Visitors

- Visitors to the Archives – Visitor Pass Free
- Visitors to the Restaurant Only – Visitors Pass Free
- Visitors Making a Donation - Visitors Pass Free
- Ticketed Events - Gate admission is included in ticket price, includes High Tea, Concerts, Dinner Theatre, Harvest Celebration, Soiree, Burger and a Beer



**R.J. Haney**  
 Heritage Village & Museum  
[www.salmonarmmuseum.org](http://www.salmonarmmuseum.org)

250-832-5243  
 751 Hwy 97B  
 Salmon Arm BC



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**Membership Means More!**

Your Annual \$10.00 Membership Benefits Include:

- SAMHA Newsletter
- Voting privileges at the AGM in May
- An open invitation to attend any of the monthly board meetings
- A booklet of discount coupons to be used at various times and events during the year
- Membership in the Reciprocal Membership Program
- An entry into a draw for a dinner for you and three friends at Haney House

As a member, you are supporting the Museum’s conservation activities and programs ensuring that a valuable piece of the past is protected for this and future generations to enjoy.

**To donate or become a member of SAMHA, please fill out the information below and return it with your cheque payable to  
R.J. Haney Heritage Village and the Salmon Arm Museum  
Box 1642 Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P7**

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

City, Province & Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fee \$10.00

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*All monetary gifts receive a tax receipt.*

*R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum is a Registered Charitable Organization BN 132153800RR0001*

**Thank you for your generous support!  
Clip and mail**



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