

# YESTERDAY

News from the Tavistock and District Historical Society

VOLUME 33

FALL 2018



Queen Victoria's Jubilee - 1897



Pretoria's Surrender - Boer War 1901



WWI Ends - Nov. 1918



Empire Peace Day Parade - July 1919

## PARADES IN TAVISTOCK



Fall Fair Parade - September 1950's

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# People and events in the news 1918

Coal shortage is becoming serious during the worst blizzard in the history of Tavistock. Businesses may have to close. George Zimmerman secures a carload of coal just as people were nearing their last shovelful. (January)

Local Fire Chief Peter Steinman and his firemen petition for a raise, protesting that their current rate of 50 cents a practice and \$1 a fire is not enough. (January)

Annual meeting of The German Union Cheese & Butter Manufacturing Co. Ltd., records 200 tons of cheese made. (February)

UK Government pleads for more food from Canada as shortages are dire. Lack of food threatens the battle line. Millions starving in Europe. Canadian government reports that 50,000 men will be needed for the harvest. (March and months following)

Pte. Harry MacKay of the Army Medical Corps, London spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George MacKay. (July)

Flax pulling starts. Flax is used in the manufacture of airplane wings for the Royal Air Force. Men and women earn \$4 a day. (July)

Upwards of 5,000 people attend the Tavistock Fall Fair. (October)

Andrew A. Kaufmann picks an apple at his farm in Cassel measuring 14 inches in circumference. Joseph Roy on the 14th line grows a cabbage 32 1/2 inches around weighing 11 pounds. (October)

Cases of Spanish Influenza develop in the village, totalling about 100. Included is Assistant Postmaster P.W. Morgenroth and

Dr. Cawthorpe. The flu claimed the local Chinese laundryman, Lee Yum, and people had to wait 3 weeks to get their laundry back. The local school is closed as is the Library and the churches. (October)

Rev. Stockmann of Trinity Lutheran Church in Sebastopol is named as an enemy alien and accused of being a German sympathizer. He is sent to the prisoner-of-war camp in Kapuskasing. (December)

Lemp's Drug Store's Christmas present suggestions include shaving brushes and motor goggles for men. The Glasgow Warehouse suggests boudoir caps and beaver coats for women. George McKay, General Merchant, expects the Christmas shipment of oranges shortly. (December)



**WINHOLD WEDDING:** Cliff and Lottie Winhold were married April 10, 1918 under an arch of evergreens and roses overhung with the flags of the Allies.



**GEORGE MACKAY'S STORE:** George MacKay - 500 pounds good raisins for sale at rock bottom prices. Wanted every week 1000 fresh eggs. Highest price trade or cash. 100 packages Jello at 10 cents. Your last chance. The present price is 12-1/2 cents.

**Tavistock & District Historical Society**  
37 Maria Street,  
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**Executive:**  
Secretary – Mary Nicklas  
Treasurer – Bob Rudy  
  
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Brian Bennett  
Sherrill Calder  
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**Volunteers:**  
Bill Gladding  
Tim Mosher

**MUSEUM HOURS:**  
Now Open third Saturday of the month 1-4 p.m. Closed months of January & February  
Other times by appointment:  
519-412-0067 or 519-655-3342



# World War Ended



**WWI PARADE:** In Tavistock, the event started with a calithumpian and fancy decorated car parade. Local soldiers who had returned from the war proudly marched alongside the band. Look closely. In the back right is a hanging effigy of the German Kaiser.

*By Sherrill Calder*

WORLD WAR ENDED! This was the headline everyone was waiting for.

After four long years the fight that would later be called World War 1 was finally over in 1918. As is so often the case, rumours leaked out before facts were confirmed. Days before the official signing of the armistice the London Free Press reported, in box car letters, that Germany had surrendered. The newspaper said the report was unofficial but the genie was out of the bottle and couldn't be stuffed back in. Celebration was the order of the day.

In Tavistock a public holiday was declared. The Gazette reported that "flags and bunting were in profusion everywhere and all places of business were closed and everybody was in the streets in their best holiday attire. A procession of gaily bedecked automobiles came briskly up the road, containing all classes of people from the youngster to the aged man, sedate business heads and numerous ladies and girls all shouting and cheering at the top of their lungs. The procession travelled over all the streets of the village and finally wound up



**PARADE:** First prize for the best decorated car in Queen's Park was \$3.

on the village square. In the evening a huge bonfire was lit".

Days later, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, a ceasefire was officially put into effect. The news reached Tavistock the same day. Within minutes bells began ringing and whistles were blowing. A monster parade was quickly organized, headed by the village council and the clergy, and followed by a long line of decorated automobiles. The noise and the jubilation

continued well into the evening when gun powder and blasting powder were ignited and an effigy of the German Kaiser was first blown up and then burned. Everything was brought to a close by singing "God Save The King".

The end of a war that took 37,000,000 lives deserved far more than a few spontaneous celebrations. Big plans were put in place and throughout the British Empire Peace Day was celebrated on July 19, 1919. In Tavistock the event started with a calithumpian and fancy decorated car parade. Local soldiers who had returned from the war proudly marched alongside the band. Later in the day each received a handsome black leather club bag along with a hearty three cheers and a tiger. Children raced to the finish line in a series of sprints, hoping for a prize. When they caught their breath they sang patriotic songs. Everyone enjoyed the banquet prepared by the ladies. Men cheered at the football match that pitted the Tavistock District Champions against The All Stars. At the close of the band concert that ended the big day everyone went home happy.

# Wall art makes a splash

By Bill Gladding

For as long as many people in Tavistock can remember, 47 Woodstock Street South was known as Krug's Funeral Home. The property was transferred from George Staebler to Elizabeth Krug in 1914 and later granted to son John Krug in 1919. John Krug had begun his funeral business and built the furniture store next door at 51 Woodstock Street South in 1915. The business passed to the next generation in 1948. Bob and his wife, Beatrice, managed the furniture store and funeral home and the family lived "above the shop" until 1990.

The property was purchased by Eric Skinner and Tami MacDonald in 2008 and two new and unique fences were erected in 2010 to reflect the history of the house.

With history in mind, Eric set out to complete another project that has added more unique charm to the log home that was built around 1870.

Eric, a sign painter by trade, who operates Art & Function Design, and works for the City of Kitchener, decided to do a total kitchen remodel in 2017. And it has one special feature.

The backsplash was created using photos from the home's history and appropriate street, business and event photos from the Lemp Studio Collection. The photos were made into a collage and printed on digital vinyl, then stuck to the back side of a 10 ft. x 18" sheet of plexiglass.

From left to right, the collage features the home's 1914 sale indenture to Elizabeth Krug along with a streetscape that shows the



**ERIC SKINNER** leans on the kitchen counter in front of the unique backsplash he created from old photographs and memorabilia.

blacksmith shop that was located in front of the home for many years. There's a photo of Rebecca Krug with their summer hearse drawn by prized horses, Fitz and Fritz. Bob and Beatrice can also be seen standing in front of their new black Pontiac Classic Cruiser in the 1950's.

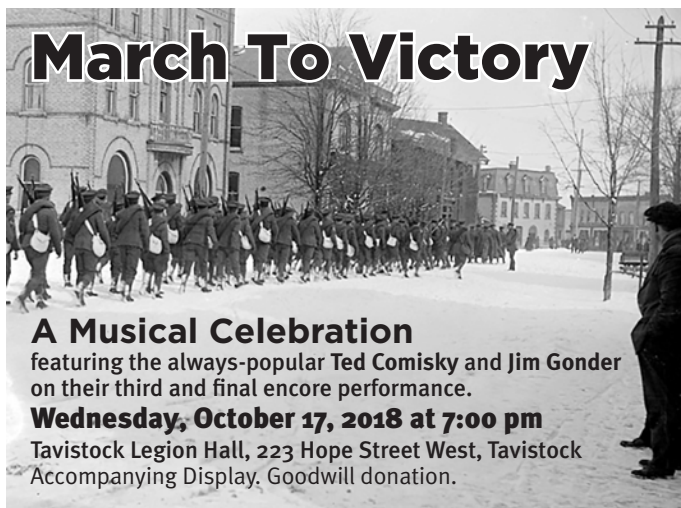
Behind the sink and under the back window is the wide angle photo of the 1948 Tavistock Centenary celebration in front of the cairn at the centre of the village. On the

far side are photos of other prominent Tavistock scenes including the five corners, Jickling's Garage, Tavistock Bakery and the 1926 Fire Truck and crew.

The rest of the kitchen has also seen an upgrade with an island featuring the butcher block from the Weicker Butcher Shop which was located two doors away and purchased at a local garage sale.

Eric's partner, Nancy Dagenais "was a big part of the renovation and design," Eric said.

## March To Victory



**A Musical Celebration**  
featuring the always-popular Ted Comisky and Jim Gonder on their third and final encore performance.

**Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm**  
Tavistock Legion Hall, 223 Hope Street West, Tavistock  
Accompanying Display. Goodwill donation.



## Postwar Women Emerge

Keynote presenter:  
**Gwynneth Canfield**

**Friday, October 19, 2018**  
**at 1:00 pm**  
Tavistock Legion Hall,  
223 Hope Street West,  
Tavistock

Accompanying Display