

THE
LIVES
WE
LIVED

History of Burlington



This book belongs to:



Printed By: The Burlington CAP Site

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington

**This Book Is Dedicated To the
Past, Present and Future
Residents of the
Town Of Burlington**

Check Us Out On The Web: www.townofburlington.ca

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Town of Burlington, NL



Message from the Mayor Burlington, NL

As mayor of the Town of Burlington, I take great pride in the completion of 'The Lives We Lived - History of Burlington'. For many years I have said that the history of Burlington should be recorded due to the aging population of the community, by doing this the younger generation will know what took place years ago. On behalf of the town, I would like to thank the CAP Site for taking on this task of tracing the history back, recording and publishing this book. I would also like to thank the residents who willingly contributed information, photos, poems, etc...

Sincerely;

George Kelly

George Kelly
Mayor of Burlington, NL

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington



GOVERNMENT OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment



As MHA for the Baie Verte District, I would like to congratulate the Town of Burlington and the extensive work by the Burlington CAP Site in putting together this wonderful piece of history.

Burlington has a very rich history dating back to the 1800's with the first known inhabitants of White and Mills families. Industry in Burlington in early years revolved around the fishery and building of schooners. Later the mining and the trucking industry offered employment for residents. With over 100 years of inhabitants and industry, comes a great deal of history.

Then we have our fine local talent and now celebrities, Shawn Majumder and Rex Goudie. These fine individuals have helped put Burlington on the Map for the rest of Canada.

As our population ages, it is important that the history of our communities is documented. I commend you on taking the time to prepare this piece of literature for the reading pleasure of those young and old.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Shney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "S" at the end.

MHA Baie Verte District
Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment

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Message from the Honourable Gerry Byrne, M.P For Humber – St. Barbe – Baie Verte

Congratulations to the Town of Burlington on the successful publication of your book describing the history of the town.

Burlington has a significant historical past and the recounting of these events is important for both residents and historical buffs who love to read about significant milestones.

It is very important to document the rich history of the town along with the many memorable events that have helped to make this community what it is today. Burlington also has a long list of well known local residents who have contributed to raising the profile of the community and ensuring its continued growth in the future.

Thank you for asking me to be a part of such an important project.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerry Byrne". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. Gerry Byrne, M.P.
Humber - St. Barbe - Baie Verte



Message From The CAP Site

It is with a great amount of pleasure that we can write one of the opening pages for this book:

'The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington'.

We were employed at the CAP Site in June 2006 and we both looked forward to working with many different people from our great town, people from away and many other individuals who helped make this book possible.

Speaking on behalf of the Burlington CAP Site – we would like to extend our thanks to everyone for their support in this project - everyone who submitted 'stories', information bits, pictures and other material.

Again, on the behalf of the Burlington CAP Site –
We take great pride in presenting YOU the 'History Book of Burlington' and we hope you enjoy reading it, as much as we did writing it.

Regards;

April Kelly (SWASP Student)

&

Josh Thomas (Youth Intern)

Introduction

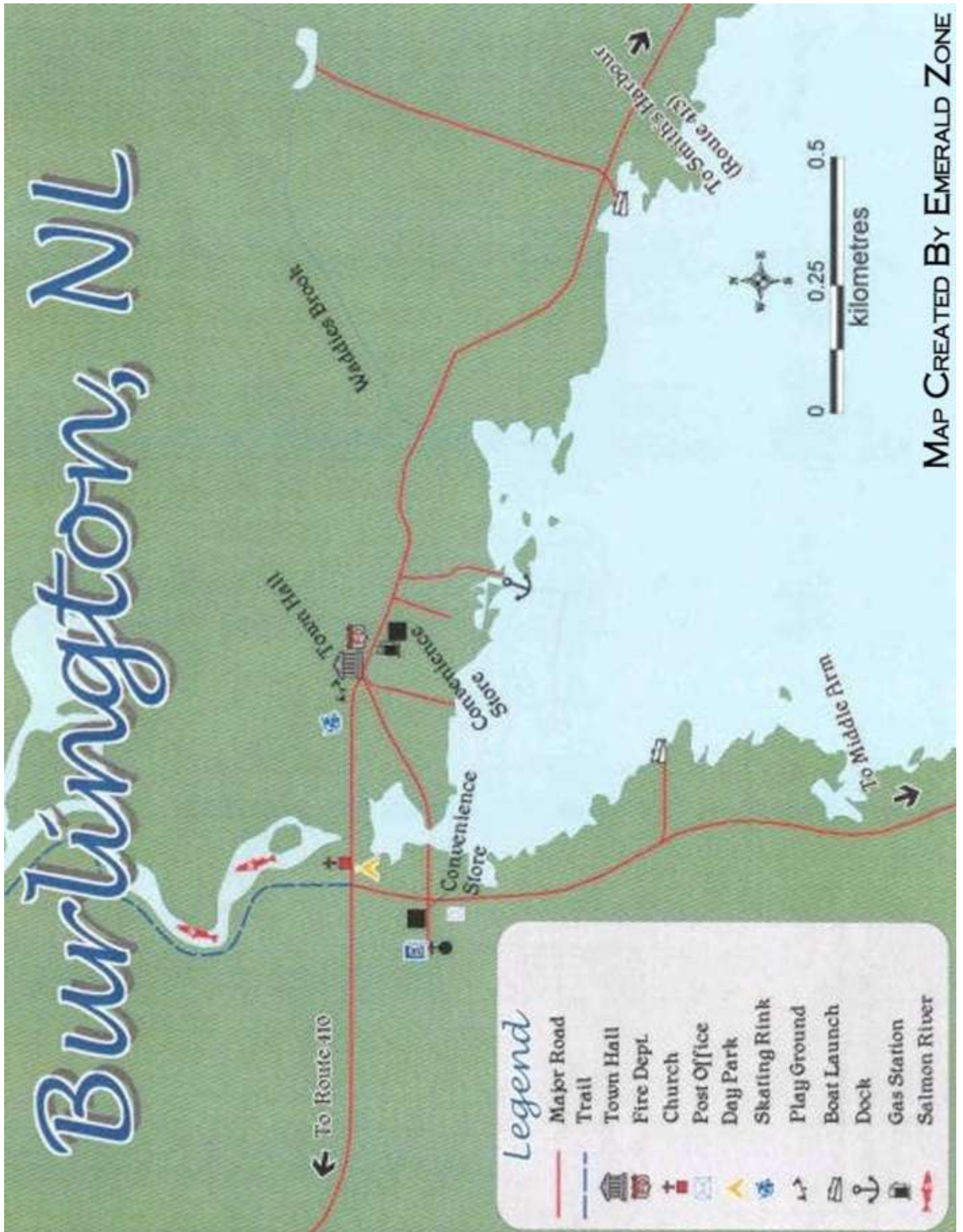
In June of 2006 the Burlington CAP Site hired two workers, Josh Thomas (Youth Intern) and April Kelly (SWASP Student). During their work term they spent uncountable hours in research, trying to trace back the history of the town.

With information from a large amount of people and with the services the CAP Site offered, this book was completed in August of 2006.

Burlington has such a rich and fascinating history and it deserved to be captured.

Each page of this book is filled with that rich history.

As you read the book, we hope that you will pause and reflect upon your memories of this town and cherish each one.



The Place

History

Burlington, formally known as North West Arm, came into known existence around the early 1800's, when the White family settled in what they called 'White's Point'. This family is the first family that has been recorded, but not formally. At the time, residents stuck 'North West Arm' on the land and it was called that from it's beginning until the year 1914 or 1915 when other residents decided that the name must be changed. Government records lead us to think that the change took place in 1915, since this is the year 'Burlington' is used on their writings, however some people still think it took place in 1914.

No one knows exactly why the name was changed, but several local residents have agreed on a base that sounds reasonable. These residents suggest that in the early years, the community's mail kept being mixed up with another community with a similar name to North West Arm. This caused a stir in the community and led to three different suggestions for the name change. 'Graniteville' was suggested by the Lush brothers, Riverville was suggested by the FPU union and Burlington was the idea submitted by Mr. George Robbins, which ended up being the new name.



Burlington can be found in the Green Bay/White Bay region of the province of Newfoundland, nestled between the neighboring communities of Smith's Harbour and Middle Arm, located on the Baie Verte Peninsula. This Peninsula was originally known as the

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'Burlington Peninsula' due to the excessive amount of industry and population growth here. However, the name was changed after the population dwindled and the industry grew smaller and smaller. The year that the name of the peninsula was changed is unknown, but we believe it took place in the early 1900's. Geographically on the world map Burlington is located at 49°45'06"N, 56°01'24"W.



There are roughly 410 residents currently (as of January 2006) residing in approximately 140 homes in the town. Burlington has been many times called a 'picturesque place' by its residents and its visitors. The White Hills are located at the South, rising up above the lush green spruces that cover the lower area. Many different coves and ponds (such as Perry's Cove and Waddies Pond) make the town an inspirational delight for an artist - both in summer and the fall seasons. Burlington harbour is a well known area in the town since it was the place where the fishermen once gathered and fished mostly for cod and squid, with time the harbour would be become almost deserted due to the moratorium years ago. People were forced to work elsewhere and the fishery never recovered. The harbour also played the place of tragedy in later years - when a few men died there.



Burlington has been through her share of both the 'good times' and the 'bad'. From fast, booming industries, to forest fires that destroyed millions of dollars in property, livestock, lumber and more. From happy times such as Come Home Year celebrations that

took place in 1995, to tragic deaths of beloved residents.

The Town of Burlington has had her 'ups and downs' but no matter what happens, she always stands firm and will stand firm - to the end.

Past Structures

Pool Halls

In 1991 a pool hall was opened in Burlington. It was a place where people of all ages could go and spend some time, play pool, arcade games or just listen to some tunes on the good ole juke box.

This pool hall was first started by Dean Kelly, a former resident of Burlington, who is now currently residing in Bowmanville Ontario. He opened the pool hall shortly out of high school, but not long after, in 1993 moved to Ontario- leaving the pool hall in care of his brother Tony Kelly. The pool hall consisted of one pool table, two pinball machines, a juke box, and a couple other arcade games that were exchanged every few months for different ones. Tony ran the pool hall from 1993 to 1995, when his daughter was born they closed it down for a summer, but re-opened again in 1996. This lasted five years until Tony started working in PEI, with no one around to run the place, the pool hall closed down for good in 2001.

However, for a couple years, the Kelly's pool hall was not the only one in town. Around 1995, during the first closure of the Kelly's pool hall, Robert and Lori Green started a pool hall in Clayton Greens



store, called Clayton Green and Sons. They ran the pool hall for about two years, when in 1997 they handed the management of the pool hall over to Bob Dawe He rented the place and kept it running for a year, until 1998 when it was shut down. This pool hall consisted of

two pool tables, a pinball machine, a juke box, and several other arcade games.

Jubilee Guild House

The Jubilee Guild House was a women's organization that was founded in 1935 at St. John's, NL. It provided a chance for the women of the town to gather together and learn instructions on how to do different tasks such as knitting, sewing, etc. The Jubilee Guild House came to Burlington in the late 1930's - early 1940's. Different non-residents would come into Burlington from other outposts around Newfoundland and instructed the women present how to knit scarves, socks, sweaters and more. Another very enjoyable and popular teaching was weaving on looms. Ladies would spend time each week learning how to weave mats, table cloths, scarves, blankets and more. After the projects were done the women could sell their work or keep it for themselves. The 'teacher' (instructor) would come into Burlington at different times and would be paid to show the women her skills. One teacher for the Jubilee Guild House was Iris Jones of Little Bay Island. This practice would eventually fade away and change its name to Women's Institute.

Current Structures

Cemeteries



There are four cemeteries in the Town of Burlington. One located in Perry's Cove, (formally known as Winter House Cove)

and three located on the opposite side of town.

There is little known history of cemeteries due to contradictory knowledge, but one thing most agreed on was the rank of oldest to youngest. The United Church cemetery, located in Mills Cove, is the

first cemetery with the eldest headstone being over 125 years old. Joseph Henry Mills died at the age of 7 on December 27th 1879. We were unable to relate the child with its parents or find if there is any relation to the current Mills family- but we suggest that there is some relation.



The First Methodist Cemetery is the second cemetery that was built in Burlington. It is located in Perry's Cove, a small distance from the ocean. The eldest headstone was found to be 94 years old. Annie May Belle, daughter of James and Bessie

Robbins (a common last name during this time period) died on September 18th 1912. She was five months old. This cemetery was most often thought as the first cemetery in Burlington due to the name of the cemetery- 'First Methodist'. Some residents suggest that the 'first' in the name was talking about the Methodist church in the town- it was the first church.

The confusion of these two cemeteries is based around the name. The 'First Methodist' gives us the feeling it was the first cemetery while the United Church cemetery was the first - even though the church wasn't renamed to 'United' until a later date. Community residents explain that the first real cemetery was left unattended and it 'grewed in' with shrubs, bushes and small trees. After the second cemetery was built and started being used, residents felt the need to fix up the first cemetery and make it useable again- thus naming it the United Church cemetery.

The third cemetery (which is split between the United Church and the Pentecostal Church) is located on the east side of town in an area known today as 'the bog'. A small and barely usable path leads into the cemetery from the road. The oldest headstone found there belongs to Mrs. Fanny Mills, wife of Lloyd Mills. Ms. Mills died on September 3rd 1959 at the age of 67.

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Within the past 10 years, the Faith Pentecostal Church felt the need to open a new cemetery. Located fairly close to the

side of the second cemetery the ground was fixed up, cleaned up and a fence was built around the land to be used. Leander Lush was the first resident to be buried at this site. Mr. Lush passed away on April 24, 2001, at the age of 81. Some 5 years later, Mr. Lush remains the only person buried at this cemetery.



Indian Well



The 'Indian Well' area served many years as one of the main attractions in the town. Located in Mills Cove, just before

Smith's Harbour, the site still serves as an attraction. The history behind the Indian Well is hard to gather since it wasn't a 'big thing' to the residents in the past. The well served as a place to wash clothes in the older days when indoor plumbing wasn't available. The area has been painted and repaired many times in its day by different groups of workers and/or volunteers. The site has three sitting areas along with the well, where people still, to this day, toss a penny in and make a wish. With the Indian Well, a trail also located that leads to 'the lookout' area- a great spot where you can see most of Burlington clearly. This area served as the inspirational spot for Billy Squires who wrote the Come Home Year song.

Town Hall



The town hall was built in 1978 by the residents of Burlington. The town hall was built as a place to hold council meetings and celebrations.

At the time that the town hall was built, Roland Kelly was mayor. When Mayor Kelly built the town hall, it was much smaller than it is today. The top and bottom floors were built but with little 'floor space'. In 1987, Mayor Stanley Dwyer accepted a cheque for \$4,000 from the Department of Fisheries for the construction of an extension to the hall. Bathrooms and a kitchen area was added with this extra money, thus giving the 'floor' (auditorium) more room, which meant larger crowds could be seated.

The town hall is known as the J. A. Bartlett Community Center and was named after the first mayor to be elected to Burlington. Before the Community Center (town hall) was built, the council would hold meetings in the Orange Hall, and record their minutes. Today, the Community Center consists of an upstairs, with bathrooms and a kitchen. This area of the Community Center is used for things such as dances, parties, weddings, suppers, new year's celebrations etc... There is also a downstairs which consists of a council office, where the town clerk spends her hours at work, and a CAP site which is a non profit organization run by local residents who volunteer. The Burlington CAP Site was founded in 1996 and has grown greatly in the past decade.



The basement of the town hall also includes a gym, which was also run by volunteers. There is also a nurse's clinic, and a family resource center where parents can bring their children for some time of fun.

(Pictured: renovations that took place)

During the past year, renovations have been made to the town hall.



The CAP site is now in a new location, still in the basement of the town hall, but instead of being joined with the gym, it now has a room of its own. This offers a great amount of space—both for each designated computer and shelf/cupboard space. We now have a very beautiful CAP area.

The town hall has come a long way since it was first built. It has been renovated a couple times, and it's just getting better and better. A lot of money and time has gone in to maintaining the Community Center but it was well worth the hassle.

Fire Hall



3The fire department was first started in 1983 by Walter Matthews and Bob Dawe. Before the fire truck could be purchased and the dept could be officially considered “open” much fund-raising had to be done. Velma Young was the head of the fund raising committee; the town was responsible for collecting 25% of the cost of the fire truck.

Pictured to the right is a photograph of Mrs. Young presenting a check for the 25% to mayor Stanley Dwyer.



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The truck was finally purchased in February 1984.

(Pictured: Tom Rideout handing over the keys to the fire truck to fire chief- Walter Matthews)

Before the Fire Department was established, there was no one in the town that had anything to do with house fires, or any fire for that matter. If a house fire occurred the owner and

whoever was kind enough to help was responsible for putting out the flames, or else the house would be left to burn.

Pictured are those that were amongst the first members of the Volunteer Fire Department:

Loomis Saunders
Jerry Perry
Sterling Lush
Mark Goudie
Brian Perry
Guy Kelly
Neil Norman
Harry Perry
Arch Antle

Morris Kelly
Navin Young
Bob Dawe
Chester Young
Morris Colbourne
Walter Matthews
Roy Bartlett
Rex Goudie Sr.
Clayton Dawe



The first fire that these men responded to was when the town hall in Middle Arm caught fire in 1984. The town of Middle Arm had no Fire Department of their own, and so the department of Burlington was contacted.

Up through the years some men have left the Department, and some men have joined, but I'm sure the town appreciates them all, as they have helped so many people and volunteered some time in their lives, to maybe save someone else's.

Garbage Dump

The local garbage dump is used not only by Burlington, but neighboring communities Smith's Harbour and Middle Arm. The three



communities use this site to put their trash and waste items. In Burlington, a weekly garbage collection takes place normally on Friday. Resident David Perry currently holds the tender to collect the weekly garbage.

The garbage site is located between the town of Middle Arm and Burlington. Hours are set by the municipality to when the 'dump' (what it is informally known as) is open, the hours are as follows:

Government Wharf

4The first wharf to be built in Burlington was over one hundred feet



long. This wharf was in use when thistles had the saw mill operating. The wharf was used for the transportation of goods. Large steam boats would come in to this wharf,

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bringing groceries coal and flour for the towns local stores. These groceries were carried from the boat to the other end of the wharf by the means of trolleys. There were tracks on the wharf which these trolleys would travel by, and once the ships had unloaded all the groceries, the lumber from the mill was placed on the trolleys to be carried back out to the boat to be shipped elsewhere.

Over the years the wharf was being used less and less, and eventually it was torn down by a contractor.

As time went on, another wharf was constructed by the Rural Development Association in Baie Verte. This is the wharf that is now standing today. However, unfortunately it was no good for the larger ships, because it was not long, and the water was too shallow. As time went on, with little use, this wharf has also deteriorated and is now considered unsafe. A sign has been put up by the community council stating that the wharf is closed, and to use only at your own risk.



No funding is going to be rewarded for the maintenance or renovation of this wharf, and it probably won't be long before the wharf will no longer be usable at all.

Rink/Playground



The Hockey Rink always served as a major area in the town for mostly the men and youth. In the 'not so distant' past, crowds of men and youth would take over the rink and spend hours

playing their favorite sport- hockey. We are unsure of the date when the rink was placed in its location. The playground idea was introduced at the Come Home Year Celebrations in 1995 and it seemed that a few donations poured in to support the cause. In the next few years' swings, slides, monkey bars, zip line; tire swings and seesaws were placed on the grounds, next to the hockey rink. Uncle Claude Lush built a lot of the items himself with a major project of a 'copy house' for the kids to play in. A plaque, which was a poem written by Billy Squires was embedded into a brick frame at the entrance of the playground.

Sadly, the playground area in the past years was left unsupervised and was abused by vandalizers. No attempt was made to fix up the remains of the playground but the slide, swings and monkey bars are still in tack.

The Green

'The Green', located in Perry's Cove, served many years as a place for families and friends to have picnics. The beautiful scenery and the closeness to the ocean made the 'Green' a favorite spot for many. The area is formally known as 'Goudie's Field' since it is along side 'Goudie's Brook'. The Green also served as an area for softball, football and other outdoor sports. The town has yet to build anything in the area due to the uncertainty of the ownership of the land. A bridge is needed to cross the small brook that flows by the Green and is placed and maintained by residents in the area.

Salmon Trail



The Salmon Trail was cut a few years back in two different phases. The first and second phases consisted of groups of workers who 'opened' the path by cutting out the trees and shrubs that were grown in the way. They built bridges for hikers to cross over when the path met with water and/or a lot of mud.

The trail leads into a well known site in Burlington- Two Mile Falls and the trail follows along the North West Brook. The beauty of the area is a favorite to visitors and residents of the town.

Back In Time Museum



The Back In Time Museum was started by Burlington resident Alonzo Saunders. Alonzo is committed to bringing the people who visit his museum on a journey to the past. He does this by showing some of the rarest and interesting historic artifacts you've ever seen. Relating mostly to Newfoundland culture, the Back in Time Museum will bring you on a journey only the greatest of novels can carry you on. Things only dreamt of in books and fairy tales, now becoming reality, as the moment you step inside you literally feel yourself travel through the realms of time, into yester-year and entering the days of your grandfather, great-grandfather, and beyond. Some of the oldest and most interesting objects lie just inside the doorway of this museum. Those who enter leave with a great knowledge and understanding of how life was like before faucets, electricity, and all the luxuries we enjoy today. Owner Alonzo Saunders has also built a great knowledge for the artifacts he carries, and is happy to explain anything you may have questions about or don't understand. Students have visited from schools searching information on history projects. Senior citizens have visited just to bring back memories of childhood days, and even to learn what it was like before their day. Teenagers and young adults have dropped by out of curiosity and have been amazed by all the things they saw. The Back in Time Museum is a result of a lot of hard work and a passion to see History come to life once more. If you would like to learn more about the Back in Time Museum, please visit <http://backintimemuseum.tripod.com>.



Park

The park area in the town of Burlington is somewhat a new attraction for the town. Built about some five years ago, it still serves as a main attraction and hangout to the town's youth and residents. Like the

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Salmon Trail, the park was built at the same time under the same phases. The first part of the park area consisted of one walkway and the gazebo, with the addition of more walkways and a fire pit. Picnic tables were added to make the visit more enjoyable. The park area serves as a main attraction for visitors of the town, this is where they come and have a lunch and sit back to enjoy their surroundings. Located at the intersection of the town, many people, young and old enjoy the area and what it offers.

The People

In 1855 when Mr. Joseph Green went to Shoe Cover from St. John's, there was one family living in North West Arm (later renamed to Burlington) - this was the family of Mr. White. There is no record to who Mr. White was, where he came from nor where he went to after he left. When Mr. Green took his family to North West Arm the following year, there was a month before Mrs. Green saw another woman, so it had seemed that Mr. White and his family had left. The next family who arrived to this growing town was the Mills family from Tizzard's Harbour. Shortly after the Mills', the Perry family came from Indian Islands. The Dwyer family moved in from Hillview, Trinity Bay and the Robbins family came from Bonavista.



The first Government Land Grant was issued to Mr. George Marsh in 1872. This land was located in Winter House Cove (pictured to the left - what is now called Perry's Cove) on the south side of the Arm. Mr. Frederick Martin's grant was dated

1874, as is that of James Young. Subsequent grants were issued until the final one in 1924. In total there were 45 grants of land which covered about 199 acres.

From the Census Returns dating back as far as 1874, we find that the people cultivated the land, kept animals, and followed the inshore fishery as well as the Labrador Fishery. They cut and sawed lumber,

built houses, schools and churches. They cut firewood and sold it to people living in places such as Twillingate, where firewood was scarce even in those days.

The original last names have changed greatly since the beginning of this town. Original names include;

-Marsh	-Hudson	-Pike
-Higgins	-House	-Milley
-Green	-Jennings	-Robbins

Many of these names are not found in Burlington any longer and have been replaced with such names as Foster, Moores, Goudie, Kelly, Elliot, Saunders, Lush, Burton and Mitchell. There was a George Moores on the original list of land grantees but there is no connection with the present Moores families now living in Burlington.

There is very little information available about the White Family - the first family to settle in North West Arm. It seems that this family had left around 1856 but must have been living there for some years previous to this date. He told Mr. Green that when he first arrived, the forest was burnt wood. When Mr. Green moved to the area, he recorded that there was 'plenty of green, growing timber'. Using the simple logic of it takes 50 years for a tree to become large enough to be considered timber, this places the first around 1800 with Mr. White and his family moving in the area shortly after.

In old marriage records at Nipper's Harbour, it shows there was a marriage between Azarilla Mills and Mary Ann White and is dated October 31st 1883. F. White is listed as a witness to the marriage. Past residents thought that these were some relation to the first White family that settled in North West Arm.

In 1884, James Albert Rideout came to North West Arm. He was the son of Joseph Rideout. James married Elizabeth Bartlett of Tilt Cove, daughter of William Bartlett and Martha Mills. Martha Mills was the sister of Abraham Mills who pioneered schooner building in North West Arm. He and his four brothers, George, Ambrose, Joseph and Nathaniel had come to Burlington just after the Green family. Sadly, Abraham and Joseph drowned in December of 1882, along with William Mills, William Young, William Milley and William Gosse. The

schooner building industry was taken over by Abraham's son Eliezer and in turn by his son Abraham- who is recorded to have died in 1971.

Today, the eldest person living in Burlington is Mrs. Levina Rideout who was born May 19th 1914, followed by Mr. Claude Lush who was born on November 11th 1918.

Home Town Heroes

5During World War 1, nine young men from our town went overseas. Joseph Mills, John Roberts, Percy Green, Leander Mills, William Young, Roland Young, Stanley Lush, Fred Martin and Richard Patey. Unfortunately not all those that left, returned. Three of these brave men were killed; these were Joseph and Leander Mills, and John Roberts.



Above: Stanley Lush



Above: James Perry



Above: Geddis Lush

During World War 2, six young men served. These were: Wesley Bartlett, Fred Robbins, Geddis Lush, Winston Lush, Raymond Bartlett and Roland Young. Roland Young served in the Forestry, and there was also one lady who served for her country- this was May Vokey who was in the army's air force.

Reginald Martin and James Perry also served their country.



Shaun Majumder spent many years of his life in Burlington growing up in his mother's hometown. Now that Shaun has moved on and is now a nationally recognized stand up comedian, he's never hesitant to call Burlington "home." When asked where he's from, he's happy to explain the small town in Newfoundland that brought him so much when he was young (including much of his comedy material). Shaun's career in show business is also beginning to proceed into the United States, where he's auditioned for dozens of television sitcoms and movie roles. His resume is quickly growing into something people are willing to pay attention to, but everyone in Burlington has been proud of him since his very early days of stardom when not too many people knew who he was. Possibly the highlight of his career has been his 2004 Gemini Award win. Not long after Shawn won the award he returned home to "show it off" to the rest of the people in the town he loves. Everyone hardly knew what to think of such a great honor for our hometown boy, and celebrated his achievements with a parade through town and a party at the town hall with everyone invited. Many of Shaun's aunts, uncles and cousins still live in Burlington, and we're also be proud to welcome his father, Mani and his wife, Liesl, as of recently. Shaun travels all over the country and all over the world performing in comedy clubs and appearing on television, but there's no doubt that no matter what he does, he'll always be close to home.



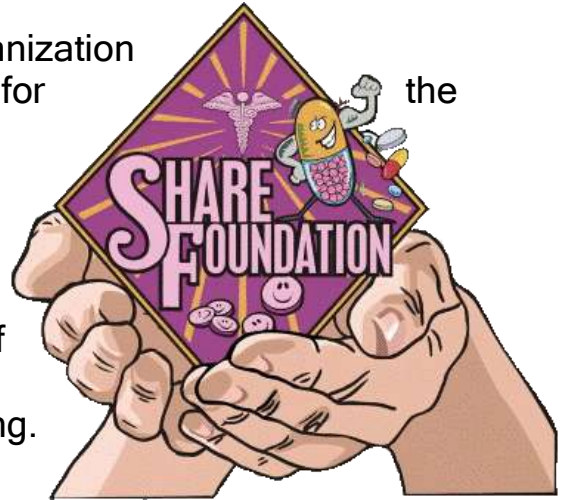
Rex Goudie is one of Canada's favorite rockers thanks to the hit Television show Canadian Idol. Rex entered the competition early in 2005 while he was in St. John's visiting some relatives. His cousin dared him to go try out, so he did-and Canada is glad! Moving his way through the competition, Rex made it down to the final two out of thousands of competitors and became runner up to Calgary, Alberta's Melissa O'Neil. Born in

Dawson Creek, BC., Rex's father was born and raised in Burlington. When Rex was very young, his parents moved back to Burlington and that's where they stayed, and still live. Rex attended school here in Town and that is where many of his musical talents showed. Even from an early age, Rex showed signs that he was very musically inclined. As he moved into High School he was found walking the hall with a guitar in his hand almost constantly. Lunch time breaks included a concert by Rex with a crowd gathered around offering requests. High School also began something that most of Canada believes started when Sass Jordan announced it on national television. But the reality is that the name "Sexy Rexy" only went public on Canadian Idol, and before then was always a nickname many of Rex's female friends stuck on him even at a young age. Now that Rex is amazing audiences and producing albums for the biggest record company in the country, there's no doubt that Burlington is, and always will be "Rexcited" about our hometown boy's success.

SHARE FOUNDATION

The Share Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to help provide medical needs for Baie Verte Peninsula, an area of Newfoundland said to be several years behind the times, especially in the area of Health Care.

They are determined to help the people of the Baie Verte Peninsula receive the attention they have been denied for so long. They are committed to do whatever we can to help make a difference in people's lives by assisting mainly in helping raise finances to provide medical equipment and services. Holding fundraising events and promotion has been our key areas of focus since our formation.



The foundation owes much of its promotion to the two celebrity founders and Burlington natives, Recording Artist Rex Goudie and Actor/Comedian Shaun Majumder. By assisting in the area of health care, the Share Foundation gives back to the Baie Verte Peninsula

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and has the privilege of helping those who need it most, in an area of utmost importance.

You can check the SHARE Foundation out online at:
www.sharefoundation.ca

Church Life

All throughout the history of Burlington, you find that the 'church' always played a major role in the town. In the early years of the town people were mainly Methodist and according to reports, one family registered as Roman Catholic while two were of the Church of England. Shortly after, a census showed that there were eight (8) people listed as Salvation Army. As time progressed, everyone in the town was considered to be of the Methodist faith since it was the only church in the town at this time. However this would later change when a new movement started known as the 'Pentecostal' faith. As you will see in the following pages, the church history is possibly the most exciting since you see the birth of churches, the death of churches and the rebirth of churches in the town.

The United Churches



The first United Church took a long time coming but officially opened on March 19th 1922. The foundation of the church was laid during the First World War by WM House and Andrew Roberts and Co-workers during the depression.

Work did not start again until the 1920's. With the help of the Ladies Aid Society and by public donations the work progressed greatly under a building committee. One carpenter, WM Roberts was hired to do the work on the inside of the church and just a few weeks prior to its opening another worker, Lloyd Mills was hired as a helper.

The opening of the church drew large crowds of people. With people seated, standing in the aisles and even outside the service began being led by Rev. James Sweetapple of Nipper's Harbour charge and Rev. Harold Bursey (pictured to the right) of King's Point charge. The organist was Julia Follett, the united church teacher. The choir had chosen to sing 'Praise the Lord with Hearts and Voice' and 'I Know That My Redeemer Liveth' while Rev. Bursey



soulfully sung 'A House Founded Upon A Rock' while the offering was being collected. This day was indeed a joyous day for not only the church goers but for the community as well.

The church pillars were purchased at Tilt Cove from JM Jackman with the exception of one pillar, which was made by WM Roberts. The pews (seats) for the church were bought at Horwood Lumber Co. in St. John's. A few pews were unfortunately burnt at the railway shed in Lewisporte - this resulted in having no front to the pews. The Communion rail and pulpit were remodeled with parts taken from the

old Mining Church at Betts Cove, Green Bay. Mr. Roberts also made the window sashes and doors. The exterior of the church was painted by Howard Roberts and William Warford who also plastered and painted the Vestry, which was furnished by the Woman's Association. A Memorial Bell was purchased by the Ladies Aid and through public subscription in the year of 1923. The sexton (a person who is responsible for the care and upkeep of church property) at the time was Mr. Robert Gillingham. An organ was purchased from Joseph Perry but that particular organ was replaced by a new one that was placed in the church by the Ladies Aid Society. Rev. Jobez Slade signed for the purchase and the organ was ordered to be placed in the church by him and the trustee board.

Miss Julia Follett, Deaconess, traveled from Baie Verte by the means of snowmobile and dedicated the lights while a bible was dedicated by the N.G.I.T (Newfoundland Girls In Training) in 1955.

The communion table was donated by L.B. Rideout and the communion set was purchased by monies from public donations. The runner and the U.C. Crest were given by the C.G.I.T. (Canadian Girls In Training) and Claude Lush made the frames for the cradle roll.

At this time, an Explorer Group (pictured to the right) was formed and freely gave eight mottoes, under the leadership of Miss



Claudene Winsor (now Roberts). Not to long after all of these donations poured in, a 'larger' addition was added thanks to the Trustee Board, public donations and to a number of organizations who helped provide the funds need to purchase a new furnace. This new object, added much comfort for the congregation as it kept both them and their place of worship warm. Some years later, disaster struck this growing church as it was subject to a fire that destroyed everything the assembly had struggled to put in place.

The morning of February 25th 1973 still plays fresh in the minds of few Burlington residents as they think back on the disaster that claimed

their sanctuary. In the early morning hours of the second month the sexton of the church did as he normally did hours before the service - light the fire. This was usually done before hours before the service to make sure it would be warm during the service. However this time the fire was lit, tragedy happened; due to a hole in the brick chimney a flanker (spark) came out and caught the sanctuary afire - this happened hours before the morning service. The Minister at the time was Reverend McKallum.

After the devastating loss of the church the congregation was kindly invited to use the third room in the Greenwood Elementary. One of the classrooms was closed due to a decline in the enrollment which made a perfect worship area for the community. Little did they know that this would be the place of worship for nearly three years.

The new foundation was poured within two to three years of the old church disaster and the structure of the church was built in a short time after that. The official opening of the Riverside United Church was on October 10th 1976 - some three and a half years since the fire that took their previous church. The opening took place in the fall but people were holding services in the church months prior to the opening.

List of all ministers for the two United Churches:

Cotton*
Belbin*
Sweetapple*
Taylor*
Bourne*
James Cross
Gillard*
Davis*



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Siimmons*
Jabez Slade
Fred Bradburry
Clarence Stanford
Cecil Eveleigh (above right)
Stephen Matthews
Watson Glover
Samuel Bown
Reyden Renolds
Abraham Downey
William Newbury
Norman Abbott
Dorman Sacrey (pictured to the right)
Maxwell Bursey
William Vardy
Don McCallum
Sidney Newbury
Larry Watkins
Wallace Squires
Marilyn Avery
George Stockley



* = Unknown first names

Pictured Right:

The Riverside Untied Church as it is today.



Pentecostal Church

The history of the Pentecostal church in Burlington is not as drastic as the United church's but still plays a key role in the town. In 1954, a Pentecostal pastor who was pastoring in the neighboring community of Middle Arm would come to Burlington to hold services for the residents of the town,



because at the time,

Burlington had no pastor. These services were held in Minnie Rideout's house (pictured above) and Mr. Roland Young's house-which presently belongs to Tiffany Young.

In 1955 Burlington got its own pastor - Pastor Goudie. (Pictured to the left) According to residents, Pastor Goudie worked in the woods when one day he felt God's call on his life to present the gospel to the town of Burlington. Pastor Goudie then held services in a number of houses in the community- this lasted for about two years until 1957 when Pastor Goudie moved to Smiths Harbour to lead worship.

In the past years, many of Burlington residents faithfully attended church, regardless of the weather. Many residents remember when they would walk down to Smiths Harbor and up to Middle Arm for church services, when none were being held in Burlington. This showed that the residents were truly devoted and remained faithful to God.

In 1957, after Pastor Goudie moved on to Smiths Harbour, Pastor Callahan came to Burlington. Like Pastor Goudie, he carried on with the services in homes; these services were normally called "Cottage

Services". These cottage services were held for some time before an actual church building was located.

Burlington resident Igdar Rideout, built a new home, and after he moved in, he decided that he would give his old home as a temporary church. During this, the church founders were desperately seeking a piece of land to build a church on. They later chose a piece of land on "Old Church Road" the same lane which now houses the Back in Time Museum. The land measured approximately 100 feet by 150 feet and this was the start of the construction of the first Pentecostal church.

The land that they chose was mostly bog which caused many obstacles during the construction of the church but the residents and Pastor Callahan (pictured to the right) didn't let it stop them as they strove for their new church building. Pastor Callahan and his helpers had to dig about 7 feet down before they hit a sturdy bottom in which they could pour the foundation for their new place of worship. Pastor Callahan dug holes along with some men in the church and they soon discovered a problem, water would flood the newly dug holes. This caused some confusion for the men before they got the idea to bail the holes out after so much water filled them up. This was done before they could proceed any further. The official date is unknown when the construction started for the new and first Pentecostal church but residents suggest that it took place in either 1958 or 1959.



Despite the many hours of work that Pastor Callahan put into the church's construction, he left without seeing the church completed. After Pastor Callahan left, Pastor Boone and Pastor Lodder were happy to take on the task of finishing the church and leading worship with the people there. With their help, the church was completed in 1960 and measured about 25 X 30 feet. This was a joyous time for the people of Burlington.

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In 1963, Pastor Boone and Pastor Lodder left the town, and their position was filled by Pastor Wheeler. This pastor saw the need for a parsonage and with the help of the church congregation he started the construction of the first Pentecostal Church parsonage. This parsonage was built in the area where Clayton Green's old store is located now.

Pastor Wheeler worked in the church and had a vision about the growth that would take place in the church and the great works that God was going to do in the town.

Between 1965 and 1967 the church congregation, along with Pastor Wheeler, decided that it was time that the church had to be moved. The land that it was built on was no longer able to keep up such a large church building. With the men of the church, Pastor Wheeler and the use of a grader (tractor) they hulled the church up the road a fair bit and planted it in the area where Jethro Saunders now resides. Construction started again after the church was moved, this time adding a piece on, to make the church larger.

Between the years of 1972 and 1977, Pastor Hodder took over the pastoral leadership within the church and thus decided that the parsonage built needed to be relocated - closer to the church. Again with the help of the church members, they successfully moved the parsonage along side the church building. This parsonage would be used for more then 20 years before change would come again.

In 1982, construction of a new Pentecostal Church began, under the leadership of Pastor Clayton Butt. After many months of hard work, the doors were open to the congregation. After they were 'moved in', they sold the old church to Dennis



Newbury, who disassembled it and used the lumber to build his own home.

In 1998, under the pastoral leadership of Barry Hutchings, the church decided that it was time to replace the parsonage. The first bit of

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construction started in late 1998 with many different helpers from the church and community but the building (pictured below) wasn't ready until 1999, when in fact Pastor Hutchings and his family moved in.

In September 2002, Faith Pentecostal Church hired two carpenters to give the church a 'make over'. Renovations on the building started and the congregation held their weekly services in the J.A. Bartlett community Centre (town hall). These services



were held for a few weeks at the hall while construction was underway. In November of the same year, the congregation moved from the hall, back into what seemed to be a brand new building. (Pictured below is the Faith Pentecostal Church, as it is today)



The following is a list of pastors that pastored in Burlington under the Pentecostal movement:

Pastor Goudie

1955 - 1957	
Pastor Callahan	1957 - 1960
Brother Mark Small	Honourable Mention
Pastor Boone &	
Pastor Lodder	1960 - 1963
Pastor Wheeler	1963 - 1967
Pastor Curtis	1967 - 1972
Pastor Hodder	1972 - 1977
Pastor Jeans	1977 - 1980
Pastor Butt	1981 - 1987
Pastor Purchase	1987 - 1994
Dennis Newbury	1993 - 1994 (Assisted)
Pastor Huchings	1994 - 2001
Pastor Brown	2001 - 2004
Pastor Rowe	2004 - Present

Education

7Throughout Burlington's history Education has been a big role in people's lives. You will see that up through the years, as the religions changed, so did the schools. In the early days the schools were focused a great deal around the church.

The first school building was erected in 1877 on the north side of the arm. The first teacher was Miss Margaret Hudson, for the school year ending June 1878. The next teacher listed was in June 1880, and went by the name of Heph'l Stowe (The full Christian name was not given). This school is believed to be built by early members of the Thistle and Mills families.

By 1884 another school building was erected, this time on the south side of the arm. The teacher was to teach there for a period. After both schools were up and running, the practice was to have the teachers teach for five months on the north side and five months on the south side. From 1883 there was a teacher listed every year. There were no records found for 1889 to 1891, but in the year 1881-1882, F. Batstone taught there and in 1882 - 1833 the teacher was F. Manual. There was no way of finding out from the record that was available if these teachers were men or women. No records were found for the years 1893-1898 or from 1902-1905. From 1906-1919 school was in progress each year.

A new, centralized school was built as a two-story building and was rectangular in shape by Bill Bartlett (and other helpers). For nearly twenty years it consisted of one classroom on the ground floor, and a community hall on the second



floor. There school concerts, teas (called “times”), wedding suppers, and other special gatherings were held. In November 1940 this top storey was taken over as a school classroom. The school became a two-room school with the top classroom serving grade 5 to 11, inclusive, and the downstairs room becoming a primary classroom for ‘Primer’ to grade 4 inclusive. The teacher for a period of time was Ms. Knight from Jackson Cove.

Sadly, this school building was destroyed by a fire that took place around 1944-1945. After the school was destroyed, Mr. Michael Dwyer purchased what was left and took it down. He used some of the frame work to build his own house, which has been around for about 55 years.

After the school building burned down, a vacated dwelling house was used as a school until a new building could be erected. This house belonged to Mr. William House and was used for a couple of years. The students and teachers used this house as their learning environment for about a year before the new school was completed.



Greenwood Academy was the school that was built in 1945, following the destruction of the third school. Being built just a few feet from where the school once stood, it served as the main school in town for some years. Started in 1945, the



school was built with two rooms. Two teachers taught during this time. Shortly after its construction, another part was built onto the school making it a three room school. After some time, and a decline in student

enrollment, one of the three classrooms was shut- this room would be later used as a worship area after the United Church burned in 1973. A few years after, the school closed. During the ‘life’ of the school, Graydon Mills was the janitor.

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In 1946 a new one storey, modern school was built. In 1959 a third classroom was added. This building had a library, a room for a kitchen, one for other purposes such as a laboratory space, as well as indoor toilets and a furnace. Today this building is currently a convenience store (currently called Midtown Convenience-owned by Mr. Roderick Hurley).

In the late 1970's and early 1980 a new school was built by contractors that the Pentecostal Church district hired. The school was named after the Pentecostal Pastor that was here at the time - M.W. Jeans. Ed Robinson was the first principal at this new school. Throughout the years, this school has had a long list of teachers and principals ranging from Wayne Manuel, Garland Morris, George Easo, Debbie Pelley and Debra Lush. Currently the staff of M.W. Jeans is made up of 5 teachers, a secretary (Cherry Newbury) and one janitor - Gladys Bartlett.



In 2005, the Nova Central School District announced that MW Jeans Academy would be closed in summer of 2006 as part of several cuts in school buildings which was linked to decline in enrollment. This announcement shocked and upset the majority of Burlington residents which caused them to take action. A small group was formed and rallied to keep the school opened. After some meetings with officials and a number of press coverage's, June 2006 came and the school was not closed - thanks to an announcement made earlier that the closing would be delayed one year to prepare neighboring school MSB Regional Academy (located in Middle Arm) for the new bulk of students. The group was pleased with the announcement, thus giving them one full year to fight to keep their school open.



(Pictured: A typical school group)

Education has always played an important part in the life of Burlington. However, often-a-time it was very difficult to find good teachers, several times there seemed to be little or no chance of getting a teacher who had at least a “First Grade”. In those days a first grade teacher had one year at

Memorial University College. A “Second Grade” teacher had no college, but two summers at “Summer School”. A “Third Grade” teacher was one who had only one summer at “Summer School” and was most likely young and inexperienced.



(Pictured left: class of Greenwood Academy)

As far as equipment at the schools went, in the thirties and early forties, they only had the basics, such

as a few maps and posters, a long blackboard ruler, two wooden set squares, a wooden pointer and wooden compasses. There was no such thing as a school library, science laboratory, or gymnasium. But there were hard working teachers and respectful students.

Due to the fact that nearly all the residents of the town were Methodists, the schools were under the jurisdiction of the Methodist school board, until 1925 when the Methodist church became a part of

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the United Church of Canada. Then the school became a United Church school and continued to be so until the United Church Schools came under the integrated school board.

As the years go by, and the times change, as well as the technologies and the level of education received, we will never forget the roots from which we got started.



Some of the 'older' teachers in the community are listed as followed:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| -Arch Antle | -Ruby Mills |
| -Sandra Harris | -Maude Green |
| -Garland Morris | -Kenneth Elliott |
| -Roy Stockley | -Netta Penney |
| -Violet Elliott | -Jean Knight |

Above: Claudine Roberts

Industry

Quote By Joseph R. Smallwood

In 1940 the 'Handbook, Gazetteer, and Almanac of Newfoundland' was compiled by Joseph R. Smallwood. In the entry about Burlington he states:

'Burlington. Population 230. Important logging-lumbering settlement on the north side of the mouth of Green Bay. It was important, not because it was large or had many people, but because the logging-lumber industry supplied work for 150 men.'

Logging

Burlington, at one point, was very rich in industry. With a population of 230 residents at the time, Burlington was an important logging-



lumbering settlement. It was important, not because it was large or had many people, but because the logging-lumbering industry supplied work for 150 men.

Logs were cut in the winter, and sawn into lumber, staves, etc. the

first sawmill was started around 1888 or 1889, by Josiah Roberts. This was run by water power. Later mills were powered by steam and gas engines. The first steam mill was erected in 1902. Pioneers in the sawmill industry were Josiah and Noah Robbins.

Logging-lumbering was not the only source of employment for the early residents of Burlington. The early settlers fished for cod, cleared land and produced most of their own food. Census returns showed that they grew potatoes, root crops, cabbage, small fruits and by keeping animals provided meat for the winter and milk and butter in season. They built and owned their own boats. Those who did not go to Labrador to fish were employed in the inshore fishery. When mines were opened at Bets' Cove and at Tilt Cove a few miles down the shore from Burlington, some of the men found work there.

Fishery

The fishery was never a major part of the industry in Burlington. Most of the fishing that went on was by its residents who caught fish to feed their family. In the recent past, there were two fisherpersons listed but have since retired, those were Jim and Margaret Squires. Since 1992, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has banned the recreational food fishery and placed it under a moratorium.

Newfoundlanders were devastated at this idea and have been 'punished' ever since. For three years, a small recreational fishery was allowed with the use of a license and tags. In the summer of 2006, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador issued a recreational food fishery without the 'silliness' of tags. They stated that each person is allowed to catch a maximum of 5 fish per day. The season opened August 1st and will close again on the 5th of September.

Schooner Building

Schooners have been another major industry here in the Town of Burlington as well. The 'Mills' helped make this town what it was, with a large amount of experience in the schooner industry. The earliest record of a schooner being completed is back in the year of 1923.



The JS Knight was the first schooner recorded (that we can find) being built in Burlington. The ship measured 53 feet in length and a 6-foot

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depth. The beam of the ship was about 16 feet and other measurements included 27 GT, 25NT and 27 RT. Owned by Moretons Harbour Trader and Dealer Joseph Knight, this ship was registered in 1961 to Harvey Bulgin of Summerford. Later used as a fish collector, Bulgin decided to take her to Cobbs Arm for a load of limestone, which had to be taken to Botwood.

Lone Flyer was a two masted schooner build in Mills Cove- Burlington at around 1926. She said out of Twillingate owned b Ashbourne's Ltd., and skippered by William Pippy. On October 27th 1928, the Lone Flyer was the first vessel to go onto the Grenfell dock in St. Anthony, which was where her bottom was painted for a mere 75 dollars. Nearly two decades later the Lone Flyer was lost on the North Penguin Island.

The Edna Louise was built at roughly the same time as the Lone Flyer, according to records. Launched in June of 1926, she measured an extraordinary 78 feet in length and 9 feet in depth. Registration number for this ship was S926090, ON 152355. Twillingate merchants- Ashbourne's owned her and she was skippered by William G Bulgin. The ship visited the Grenfell dock on June 26th 1933 where she was cleaned and painted for 44 dollars. Bulgin had her back to the dock in June 1934 and again in 1937 and once more in 1939. Charles Gillard was master of the ship when she docked again in 1949 and 1954. She was on her way to St. John's from Grey Islands with 2000 quintals of dried codfish and had reached Green Island at approximately 7pm. At 11pm the skipper tackled strong winds and waves as he tried to enter the harbour when disaster struck - the ship ran ashore. Not to long after, the crew abandoned her and rowed to the Government Wharf at Catalina. The next day the waterlogged vessel was towed to the railway pier by the tugboat 'Sebastopol'. The crew returned home on the SS Earl of Devon. Even though the vessel was a new one, it took more then a month of traveling to reach Catalina, which was blamed on poor weather conditions.

The next ship that we can find record of is one that mostly everyone might



recognize a bit more - the Bessie Marie. A fast auxiliary tern built in 1929 by E.K. Mills this ship measured about 110 feet in length and had a 26 foot beam with a 11 foot depth. She was used for more than one task, such as a fishing schooner, sealer and eventually she was used as a freighter. She was the last ship built in Newfoundland of this kind. Ashbourne Ltd. Merchants of Twillingate owned this vessel and was skippered by E.W. Roberts. Like the rest of the ships mentioned, she was built in Mills Cove and was taken to Grenfell Dock on the 11th of August 1931 to receive a coat of paint a cleaning, which totaled \$70.50. The Bessie Marie is the largest ship recorded to pass through Dildo Run, under the piloting skills of William Boyde of New World Island. In 1932, she was insured for \$3,000 with the Terra Nova Mutual Marine Insurance Company. She returned to the Dock in 1934, 37 and 1940 and was mastered by James Gillett each time. She served as a sealing vessel in the 1948 seal hunt, where her skipper was still Gillett. Once more she returned to Dock in 1949 and went to ice in 1957 under the command of William Barbour. She returned once more and possibly for the final time in the month of July of 1963. Her master at the time was Donald Linfield. The last photo of her taken was in the Twillingate Times and shows her with the aft mast removed and the other two cut down.

Grace Lorraine was yet another schooner that was built at Burlington in 1930. Like the others, she was owned by Ashbourne Ltd., in Twillingate. She was involved in the Labrador fishery and was under the command of Andrew Burden. She docked at Grenfell Dock for the first time on July 15th 1933, with 20 tons of cargo on board. She was then cleaned and painted for \$47.30. Measuring 79 feet long, 9 foot depth and a beam of some 22 feet, she visited the dock a number of more times, at least four more in the next 6 years. Each year she was mastered under Burden, however in 1946 she was mastered by Harvey White. At one time she apparently was owned by James Philpott of Cottlesville and was eventually condemned at Twillingate in 1963.

As you can clearly see by now- shipbuilding was a major role in the lives of many here in Burlington. Some other schooners that were built or repaired (not recorded) here in Burlington are: Earl & Keith, Propricor, Ida M, Jim B, Hettie Belle, Emma Jane, Rio Grande, Autobiography, Geneva Robert, Midlred G Knight, Chanceport, Daisy

GD, JS Knight, Miss Rideout, New Adventure, Kate, Kate & Ruth, Lady Bartlett, Speed Queen, Grace Lorraine and the Harold & Harry.

L.J. Noble Rabbit Factory

Leander J Noble (mostly known as L.J. Noble) of Nipper's Harbour, Newfoundland came to Burlington and started a Rabbit Factory where he canned (also known as 'tinned') rabbits and salmon and sold it. There is no record of when the factory began or when it closed but residents agree that it was a few years before the fire in 1933, which destroyed a large amount of the town. Some residents go as bold and say that the factory started in 1930.

Located on the main strip of road in town, on the land which currently houses the Volunteer Fire Department building the factory use to buy rabbits off of residents who would be willing to sell them. A lot of the men in Burlington, young boys included, would travel into the wooded area of town, snare hundreds of rabbits and return home and sell their catch to the factory for a small yet fair price. After, the factory (which was ran by Archie Noble who had no relation to Leander J Noble) would get Mr. Jim Squires to skin the rabbits, clean them and return them to the factory for canning. After this process was complete, the cans were most likely put on the shelves of the store which was located close to the factory itself. This store was also owned by L.J. Noble who sold his products and also other grocery items. After the fire of 1933, the factory was closed yet the store would remain open for another few years.

Saw Mills



William House had a water mill located by Waddies Brook, where Graydon Mill's house is located today. This mill was run by the House family, as well as a few other residents of the town who were employed there. The mill produced several different sizes of lumber sold to people from other towns and provinces.

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Another mill was located up by the main river, where the new bridge is located to today (by the intersection). This mill was owned by Lys Roberts. He operated out of this area for several years, until the mill shut down.

Goudies also had a watermill which was located at “Goudies Brooke” better known today as Perry’s Cove. This was the third watermill that was in Burlington.

Burlington also had a steam mill owned by the Roberts’s which was located down by the beach, near the “head rocks” behind Clayton Greens house.

However, the largest sawmill to ever operate out of Burlington was owned by the Thistles. The Thistle family moved their business from Kings Point to Burlington in the mid 1930's during the depression years.



Records show that they started cutting pulpwood at Burlington in 1935, just two short years after the fire that destroyed pretty much everything in August of 1933. They cut their pulpwood from the Reid Newfoundland wood lots for shipment overseas. However senior members of the family did not move to Burlington until 1937.



In addition to the cutting of pulpwood by the Thistles, they operated a general store. This business operated until World War II when it reverted to a sawmill operation, located down Thistles Lane, known today as Kelly’s Lane, by the Government Wharf.

Later in the 1950's pulpwood addition to the sawmill became a major part of the business and lasted until the early 60's with the sale of Burlington Stores to Ken Elliott.

The mill at its peak sawed in excess of one million fbm of lumber per year and was to our knowledge the largest sawmill ever to operate on the Baie Verte Peninsula until Northco Lumber went into production. Some of the family names employed by the Mill are as follows:

Kelly	Lush
Dawe	Newbury
Elliott	King
Mills	Vokey
Dwyer	Noble
Bartlett	Moores
Burton	Perry
Rideout	Prowse
Foster	Robinson
Goudie	Saunders
Knight	Squires
Young	

It is generally recognized by the community that the Thistles sawmill and the people who worked in it played a major role in the history of Burlington from 1935 until the early 60's, approximately thirty years.

Current Businesses

Noble Brothers



The Noble Brothers store is located a few yards down the road from the J.A. Bartlett Community Center in Burlington. It is owned and operated by brothers, Melvin and Gordon Noble.

The store was first started in the late 70's - early 80's by the Noble brothers and has been run by the two every since, with a scattered

worker other than themselves filling in when either of the two couldn't make shift.

The store sells a little bit of everything- ranging from groceries items, fabrics, toys, ornaments, tools, household supplies and personal items.

Recently an interact machine was added to the store as an additional form of payment.

Noble's Gas Bar



¹⁰This store is located next to the Noble Brothers store and is also owned by the Noble Brothers. It was opened after the store, though the exact year is unknown. It was first owned by Lewis Noble, brother of Melvin and Gordon, and was then taken over by Garland Morris. It then went

on to be run by Mark and Roxanne Robinson before it went back into the care of the Noble Brothers once again, when Melvin Noble bought it back. It has been run and owned by the Noble Brothers every since. The 'GasBar' (as it is known by most, if not all of Burlington residents) sells mostly chips, pop, chocolate bars and candy. However, it also sells propane tanks, charcoal and a few other household items.

Midtown Convenience



Midtown Convenience, as it is known today, has a rich history in this town. First when the building was built it was used as a school under the United

Church of Canada school district. It served as a school for some years before the lack of enrollment forced its closure. When this school was closed, businessman Roy Goudie purchased it and turned it into a very successful convenience store. Mr. Goudie served as owner of the 'Midtown Convenience' for some time with a few family members serving as cashiers. After much success, Mr. Goudie decided to sell the store and its ownership to another businessman in

the town- Raymond Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell purchased the store in 2000 and decided to change the name - it then became 'Midtown 2000', referring to the year he bought it. He served as cashier along with his wife Bertha for a number of years before he decided to sell the ownership again. In 2005, Roderick Hurley, husband of Burlington native Wanda Perry, purchased the store and kept business going and changed the name back to its original - from 'Midtown 2000' to 'Midtown Convenience'. Midtown serves a great deal of people in the town and sells a large variety of items. The store currently sends around flyers to let the town know of the 'specials sales' that the store offers- these flyers arrive weekly.

Post Office



11The earliest records we have of the post office is 1910, the postmaster was George Robbins. George was postmaster for six years, when in 1916 Teresa House took over as postmistress. 1920 Loretta House was recorded as postmistress for five years. In 1925 the postmaster was listed

as "Operator" and this was also the case in 1931. In 1928 the Postal telegraph operator was Ray Short asst. and Mrs. Short. 1930 the Postal telegraph operator was L. V. Rowsell.

Although the exact dates are not certain, we are also aware that Mrs. Stella Mills (nee Roberts) ran the post office from some time in the 1930's to the late 1960's. For approximately 35 years, Mrs. Mills worked in the post office that was once located where Carson Bowers' house is currently. Later, this building was sold as a dwelling house - both Lester Dawe and Cecil Thomas had once lived there.

These are the last records we have dating up until 1973 when Leah Martin, former resident of Burlington took over the post office located across the road from the J. A. Bartlett Community Center. Before Mrs. Martin, we know that Ivy Squires was postmistress in the post office, though we are not sure of what year she started, we are led to believe that she finished just before Mrs. Martin took over in 1973. The

location of the post office Mrs. Squires worked from is between Kevin Winsor's and Jim Perry's houses.

Mrs. Martin ran the post office for thirty (30) years, before her daughter, Bonita Young, took over in June of 2003. Bonnie (as she is known by many of the town's residents) worked in the post office across from the Community Center for about a year when in November of 2004 she moved the post office a little closer to home.

Navin Young (Bonnie's husband) built a piece onto the house as a new location for the post office. Bonnie now runs the post office from her home, located on Harborview Rd. just after the lane leading in to the Pentecostal Church.



(Pictured Right: The current Post Office in Burlington- operated by Mrs. Bonnie Young)

Past Businesses

Bond Roberts & Sons

Burlington resident Bond Roberts met and later married Ms. Irene Dwyer (known by most Burlington residents as 'Aunt Irene'). Some years after they were married, they decided to open a family business - a convenience store. The first store, named 'Bond Roberts & Sons' was opened down in the garden of the two, which is close to the water. The purpose of building so close to the water was because people use to come into the harbour in boat and visit the store.



Some years after the main road was put through in the town, Mr. Roberts decided to build the store closer to the road. There, his wife

Irene ran the store and always employed a few workers to help her out. After a number of years of successful business the Roberts family decided to close the store, which took place in the late 1980's or early 1990's.

Burlington Store

Burlington store was started by the Thistle family- the same family who owned and ran the sawmill. Opened after the family moved here from King's Point, the store was run by the family and a few other workers who were hired to help. After much success, the store was sold and purchased by Kenneth Elliott. Mr. Elliott and his family ran the store for a number of years before they sold the building to Baxter Lush, who now uses it as a home. Before he sold the building, he built the 'new' store to where it is now located- by his house. Still, it is only a few yards from where it once stood. The store was run under his supervision for many years. It was taken over in the mid 1960's and served the public until 1994- when the store was closed.

John Vokey Store

Mr. John Vokey had a convenience store where Mr. Alvin Vokey and his family now reside. This store served the public for a few years before closing. He sold basic grocery items and also sold things such as fishing supplies.

Clayton Green & Sons

Clayton Green, a successful businessman and resident of Burlington married Jocelyn Roberts- daughter of Herb Roberts. The two decided to start a store with their sons- building the store on the opposite side of town (from where they lived) and naming it 'Clayton Green & Sons'. For many years this store ran very successfully and even had an apartment area located on the side of the building. The store is closed today, yet the building stands firm in its exact location.

Joe Martin's Store

Joe Martin was a resident of Burlington who started a small, one room convenience store. The store was located on his garden which now belongs to Kirk Martin. The store was dismantled years ago.

Perry Convenience Store

Perry Convenience was owned and operated by Jessie and Ernest Perry. The store started in 1988 and was located along side their house. They sold a little bit of everything, ranging from meats, baked goods, canned goods and more. Some years after starting the store closed down due to the sickness of owner -Ernest. The store building still stands today in the exact location.



Advancements

In the past, the residents of Burlington lived their lives much differently than they do so today. For years there was no electricity, telephones, or even running water for that matter.

Before electricity was introduced to Burlington, the townsfolk would light their houses using kerosene lamps. These would be used to light the kitchen, as meals were prepared, and placed in the center of the table during meal time. As well there were smaller lamps of the same kind that people would carry around with them if they need to go to the washroom, or down in the basement.

It wasn't until 1965 that the community first got electricity through a diesel motor, during this time Ross Bartlett would go door to door collecting the payments for the light bill. Lloyd Mills would throw the switch which would turn on the motor, which would start the electricity. It was some time later, between 1970-1978 when Hydro came to Burlington.

The next introduction to Burlington was the telephone, in 1968. Before the telephone came around people of Burlington would communicate with people outside the town by means of the postmistress. Whoever was working in the post office would deliver messages sent by telegrams to the residents of the town, and the residents would pass along messages to the postmistress for her to telegraph out.

It wasn't until the late 60's - early 70's that the Community Council provided running water from Waddie's Pond to the households of Burlington. Before this people would bring their water from wells to wash the dishes, do the cleaning, flush the toilet, and bathe. Some people, instead of bringing all the water needed for laundry to the house, would go to a well and wash their clothes.

Though the people of this town did not have the conveniences that we have here today, they did not complain, for it was a way of life for them; they got by the best way they knew how, and for the most part, that was quite well.

Roads

The roads in Burlington have been a long time coming. The first section of the road was built between 1960 -1966. During this time, heavy construction was underway, plowing through the trees, rocks and ponds- all to place the road leading into the town.



The company belonging to Lungrigan put the roads through with many workers employed in Burlington. Camps were set up where Midtown Convenience is now located and hired cooks to serve meals to the workers each day.

(Pictured: building of the Burlington roads)



The first lot of the road came so far from the Baie Verte Junction and left Burlington and went towards Baie Verte so far. After some time, the road was completed by workers who spent many hours working at back breaking labor.

After the road was put through, it was a number of years before pavement was introduced.

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In the early 1980's the first lot of pavement was introduced to the town, coming from Baie Verte to Burlington. This money came from the Government of Newfoundland.

In 2000, another lot of pavement was laid in the town- which measured about one km. The town wouldn't see anymore pavement until 2005, when another km. was paved.



(Pictured: laying pavement in 2005).



The Council

¹³The Burlington Community Council was first started in 1953 by J. A. Bartlett. The first annual meeting was scheduled to be held in the Orange Hall on Saturday, February 20th, 1954 at 8:00 pm. All citizens over the age of twenty one-both male and female- were extended a special invitation to attend the meeting. It was stated to the residents of Burlington that the meeting must be conducted in accordance with Subsection 3 of Section #21 of the Community Council Act which stated that the first Annual Meeting was to be held within sixty days of the election of the first council in accordance with the provisions of Section 14, and shall pass on the budget for the current financial year, by resolution order the amount to be raised by taxes and by borrowing during the current financial years, and transact such other business as may be required by the Council regulations, if any, or as the council may deem necessary. However, due to some circumstances, which will be mentioned a little later, the first meeting was not held on February the 20th, but rather at a later date.

During a meeting held on January 16th 1954, called to order by the Scrutineer who called upon Mr. F. M. Thistle to act as Chairman. Mr. F. M. Thistle consented to do this.

The chairman supplied all details of happening concerning the affairs and progress of the Community Council since the date of the last meeting (September 14th, 1953, when Mr. Rowe from the Dept. of Municipal Affairs was present). All correspondence and talks had by Mr. F. M. Thistle with the Department of Municipal Affairs leading up to this meeting were related thoroughly. It was explained how Mr. F. H. Thistle had received his appointment to act as Scrutineer for this meeting and also the purpose of the meeting was outlined fully to all present.

Nominations for persons running for Councillors then began - in all, five names were received as follows: F. M. Thistle, J. A. Bartlett, Harold Mills, E. S. Rideout, and W. L. Mills.

Ballot papers were then arranged by the Scrutineer assisted by the Chairman. Balloting lasted approximately ten minutes with each voter marking his ballot in secret and dropping it into a ballot-box placed on the Scrutineer's desk. As soon as balloting finished the ballot box was opened by the Scrutineer who with the assistance of two persons (requested by the Scrutineer to assist) counted the ballots and announced that the following three were elected as Councillors:

- F. M. Thistle
(Pictured)



- J. A. Bartlett



- Harold Mills
(Pictured)

Each Councillor thus elected was congratulated by all, including the Scrutineer who then addressed the meeting for approximately five minutes outlining the duties of the Councillors and how a Community Council should function in Burlington. Before the meeting closed each Councillor was allowed a brief period in which to make a short address concerning their office just begun. The meeting closed at approximately 11:00 PM.

14 The following is a letter to the Dept. Of Municipal Affairs on behalf of the town of Burlington:

Burlington, Green Bay,

March 26th, 1953.

Dept. Of municipal Affairs,
St. Johns, Nfld.

Dear Sirs:

We refer you to our telegrams to and from you concerning obstruction of our First Annual Meeting to be held on February 20th, and give you herewith our report on our subsequent activities.

As suggested in your telegram of March first we contacted the R.C.M.P. Detachment at Baie Verte and arranged with Constable Hoskins to be present in Burlington when we made our second attempt to hold our First Annual Meeting on the night of March 13th. A copy of the minutes of this meeting is enclosed herewith and we have the following to say regarding our failure to have the Budget passed:

1. The ringleaders of the opposition comprising persons who are noted mainly for their lack of interest in Community affairs canvassed the settlement several weeks prior to the date of our meeting and succeeded in spreading sufficient propaganda to intimidate those who once were in favor of the Community Council to such an extent that they felt that if they supported the Council they would cause too much bitter feelings in the Community and for this reason they took the easy way out, with the result that the present situation is that most staunch and civic-minded citizens of this community are in favor of having a Community Council but are backward in voicing their approval less they cause too much of a rift in the community and too much ill-feeling to prevail. Our fairest estimate is that at least 50% of the total voters here are in favor of the Council but lack initiative to take their stand

2. Since our First Annual meeting has to be held within 60 days of the date of the Organization meeting (January 16th), it is not too late for us to attempt another First Annual meeting have the Budget approved. We now find ourselves in the very unhappy position of having no Road Board and no Budget passed and in great need of heavy round repairs this coming summer. Our proposed Budget was an expenditure of \$25,000.00 over a period of three years (as suggested by Mr. Harold Rowe).

3. We assume that we can still ask for a special grant for road construction (or repairs at least) and maintenance in addition to the initial grant of \$1,000.00. Mr. Rowe hoped to arrange an initial grant of \$2,000.00 if at all possible. A copy of our budget enclosed herewith shows that we had intended asking for a Special Grant of \$15,000.00 this year for the purpose of Roads only. Since the Budget was not passed frankly we are not quite sure where we stand on this matter and would appreciate your good help and advice. What is our position regarding taxes here in the community??

4. Regarding prosecuting those persons who were involved in the obstruction of our First Annual Meeting attempted on the night of February 20th. We may say that Constable Hoskins (R.C.M.P) of Baie Verte advised us that we have every right to press these prosecutions and he is very eager to see that we carry them out since he is of the opinion that it is high time that persons of this type be brought to Justice. We are ready to proceed with four prosecutions in this connection after Navigation here opens up again and the Magistrate can come here. Meantime it would be appreciated if your department would arrange with the Magistrate to proceed here at this time. Other advice on this from your department regarding procedure would be welcome.

5. We are arranging with Mr. Fred H. Thistle of Burlington to call at your office within a few days to discuss the entire matter with you on our behalf. It is felt that you will fully appreciate that his opinions on the matter are truly as representative of the exact facts as our views as Councillors could be and any arrangements you should make arising from discussions with Mr. Thistle will of course have our approval and support.

We sincerely hope that your Department will help us to the fullest extent possible under the existing circumstances and assist us in our attempt to see that we can yet transact our business and become something worthwhile in our community. Your good advise and help at all times is welcomed and appreciated.

Yours very truly,

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington

J. A. Bartlett,
Chairman

F. M. Thistle,
Secretary

Later during the First Annual Meeting which was held on March 13th, 1954, and called to order by the Chairman, who after a short address outlining the purpose of the meeting called upon the Secretary to present and read the Budget as prepared by the Council.

The budget was read and explained by the secretary, followed by a discussion period after which the motion was put that the Budget be accepted as read. The result of the voting on the motion revealed that either people agreed to accept it as read, while thirty six persons rejected it, stating that they did not wish to discuss the Budget or any other Budget that the Council might prepare.

Whereupon no further discussion of the Budget took place, and no further attempt to arrive at a new Budget was made.

In the start of the council, the town council was issued 1000 dollars from the Province of Newfoundland under the Department of Municipal Affairs and Supply. This was issued to the council to make sure that it had some sufficient funds to get it underway.

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington

PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

DEPARTMENT OF: Municipal Affairs & Supply. Voucher No. 13/435

To Community Council of Burlington,
Burlington,
Newfoundland.

The enclosed cheque covers payment for the following:

Date	Particulars	Amount
16.7.54	Initial Grant.	1,000.00
	Total	1,000.00

30M-4-54 Dicks

Above is the Grant Voucher of \$1000.00 that was awarded to the community of Burlington to set up the Town Council.
Issue date: July 16th 1954

The first municipal council office was located where Ross Bartlett now lives. The building was a small 'house' and it was where meetings were held. After the town sold it, Mrs. Mary Stuckless purchased it and made it into a livable home- building a piece on. Currently, Mr. Chris Mitchell now owns the building.

The following is a list of mayors for the Town of Burlington, in order:
Jack Bartlett (J. A. Bartlett)
Roland Kelly
Stanley Dwyer
Roy Goudie
Gordon Bartlett
Mr. Robinson
Garland Morris
George Kelly
Kevin Winsor

Currently the mayor for Burlington is George Kelly.

50th Anniversary Celebrations

Our town's 50th anniversary took place three years ago in October 2003.

The 50th anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Burlington we well, many residents came out to make the events a time to remember in our community. The scheduled events began with a cold plate supper that was available to any adult in the community age 19 and over. This was catered to by the Riverside UCW. MHA Paul Shelley as well as Tom Fortier was on hand to pass along congratulations to the town and to present a check to offset the cost of the weekend events. Several other awards and plaques were given out during the evening. Plaques were awarded to all former mayors of the community. Mr. Ross Bartlett received a plaque on behalf of his father Mr. J. A. Bartlett.

Friday night was a great success with supper being provided to the children of the community up to age 18.

Saturday dawned bright and warm as many residents came out to take part in the parade and to enjoy the meals that were being sold by various groups. There were games of chance and many contests and relays for children of all ages. After supper there was a Gospel Sing-Along with many local people displaying their talent.

A dance took place at 10:30 at the community center.

Sunday saw the coming together of two denominations for an Ecumenical Church service held at Faith Pentecostal Church.

Overall the weekend celebrations were a great success!

Recreation

Concerts, Programs & Picnics

Easter was the time when the Sunday School would hold an Easter Program. This was always held at the church on Easter Sunday, usually during the afternoon. The program consisted of a variety of songs, recitations and sometimes put off a little playlet- all centered on the Easter theme. A large number of community members, both who practiced their faith and those who never, would turn out to this event.

Christmas was one of the favorite times for the community of Burlington. Like most outports across Newfoundland- the community held annual Christmas concerts, and Burlington was no different. This concert was different then the Easter program mostly because this concert would be more focused around the non-religious aspect of Christmas. Santa Claus was the main figure at the concerts along with the Christmas tree.

The Christmas concert would really begin in October when the teachers in the schools started to assign parts to the students. They would often put off short plays known as 'dialogues' - this was for the 'older' children and the younger children were taught songs, exercises (one line speeches for each child, or one verse per child) and recitations. These dialogues, songs and exercises were most likely taken from a 'Program' booklet, but many were made up by the teachers.

The concert was usually held at the school a few days before Christmas. Mostly everyone in the community showed up for this concert and it meant returning home to a freezing house at a late hour.

At the end of the night, Santa Claus would always kiss all the girls, young and old, big and small. He would sometimes distribute small gifts to the people as well.

Another enjoyable treat that would take place at Christmas time was 'mumming', also known as 'jannying'. During the Christmas season, residents would often dress up in weird and wonderful costumes and go around door to door. Everyone welcomed these friendly neighbors into their home where they would have to try and guess who the dressed up people were. Most often men would dress up as women and vice versa. They would wear pillow shams to cover their faces; they would put mitts on their feet and 'pantyhose' over their heads. They would dress up in whatever way and hope that people would be able to guess who they were. After they found out 'who was who', the mummers would take off their mask and spend some time with the family in their homes. Most often cake and syrup was served to the mummers along with some traditional candy - such as peppermint knobs (pink hard candy). A short dance would take place while someone would play some kind of music - most often a guitar or spoons was the choice of instrument. This practice would take place for many years but would later die out after the tradition would die out.

During the summer, there was a Sunday School picnic held. During this -cakes, pies, cookies and sandwiches were made and served at the event. Sometimes homemade ice-cream was available. If someone in the community had been able to save enough ice from the icebergs or large ice pan, this would be done. The ice would have been stored away under a large pile of sawdust to keep it from thawing and would have been dug out and used in hand turned freezers to make ice-cream. In the old days, ice-cream was a real treat.

After the Orange Lodge was completed, sometime in, during or shortly after 1941, the teenagers in the community would occasionally hold square dances. This activity was most often unapproved by the elders in the community and this would cause a 'fuss' (argument) between parents, grandparents and their children. The dancing would normally take place after a 'time' or a supper was held in the building; this meant that the dancing would go on for hours in the night.



The Orangemen usually had a parade in the month of July. On the day of the parade, everyone in the community had a holiday. This was just another way to socialize, provide entertainment

and enjoy the intermingling of friends.

Burlington Day

Burlington Day was started some 33 years ago, a short period of time, but most residents were unable to pinpoint the first celebration. Unlike today, the events were held in July. The recreation committee was formed and took on the task of celebrating Burlington. Many games were performed, from 'Dunk the Fireman' to 'Darts' to 'Toss' (a game where you would throw a beanbag through small holes that was cut in a piece of board to win a prize), and different items were put up on tickets.

Burlington resident, Bryce Burton, won a bottle of wine on the very first Burlington Day. He can not recall much information about the events but he still has yet to drink the wine and it still rest in their fridge. Gladys Matthews also won a bottle of wine at the first Burlington day. The wine was put up on tickets and at the end of the celebrations, the tickets would be put into a random draw, with the name pulled- winning a certain prize.

The winners of certain games received awards and plaques for their win. The dart game had a lovely plaque and trophy. The prizes were wonderful things to win, during the time period. Burlington day drew large crowds, for it was something 'new' for the community to take part in.

Today, Burlington Day is held in the later part of August. The recreation committee noticed the lack of interest during the summer (July) and a lot of people were not home for the day. It was moved to August some years ago- which showed some rise in visitors to the

events. Today, Burlington Day is put off by the recreation committee and is ring lead by faithful and devoted recreation volunteers Nelson and Christine Matthews. Today's games include 'Plinko', 'Balloon Stomp', 'Punch It' (the game with 26 prizes hidden in the holes of a box. A small fee is paid to punch any hole other than the last, which is kept for the last punch, since it is the biggest prize) and they still stick with some of the classics such as 'Dunk The Fireman', 'Darts' and items going up on tickets.

Come Home Year



'Twill Come Alive In 95' was the slogan chosen by the Come Home Year committee for the Burlington Come Home Year celebrations. After a search for a slogan, Garland Morris (former resident) suggested 'Twill Come Alive in 95 and it proved to be a favorite among the committee and town members. The Come Home Year celebrations officially started on July 31st (in 1995) but planning prior to the event started much earlier.

The official opening took place in the evening of July 31st. Roger Barnett (of VOXM Radio Station) was the emcee of the night, introducing a number of guest. Peter Goudie was the first to take the stage and sing the Come Home Year Song (Ode To Burlington), which was written by former Burlington resident - Billy Squires at the age of 21, Billy had went down to the Indian Well area and with the peace of looking over the harbour, hills and most of the community in sight, he came up with the official Come Home Year



song. Following Mr. Goudie was the congregation singing 'O Canada'. Chairperson Garland Morris then took the stage and introduced the committee - those who were responsible for all the events that took place during the week.



(Pictured Left: Nor' Wester Newspaper Article covering the Come Home Year Celebrations)

Mayor George Kelly was next to take the stage to introduce the Community Council members, which all were present with the exception of Neil Norman who was away at work. Following the mayor's introductions, the cutting of the ribbon took place- that officially opened the celebrations of the week long Come Home Year.

Wayne Wiseman of the Dorset Trail Organization took the floor and welcomed the 'home comers' and guests to the celebrations.

The Come Home Year committee purchased a cake for the event, which was a 12-cake mix size and was baked and decorated by Burlington resident -Judy Thomas. The cake design was by Garland Morris and consisted of the well-known vessel, the Bessie Marie- within the outline map of the Burlington Harbour, which also outlined the coves, islands and rivers on the map. After the welcoming comments of Mr. Wiseman, the cake was cut by its decorator and distributed later that evening after the ceremony.

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington

Come Home Year Committee Members Are:

Garland Morris
Mark Goudie
Barbara Noble
Phyllis Young
Maureen Rowsell
Sherry Goudie
Jean Janes
Kim Foster
Rex Goudie

Kirk Young
Nelson Matthews
Dean Budgell
Kevin Winsor
Dwight Goudie
Mina Matthews
Sterling Lush
Sheila Yong



On August 1st, there was a large schedule of events that took place. First off, at 8am, a breakfast was sold at the J A Bartlett Community Centre, sponsored by the Women's Missionaries. Breakfast consisted of eggs, bacon, toast, tea, etc. Following the breakfast, boat rides were given. Also, along with boat rides, horse back and hay rides took place at Kelly's Lane. These rides were free of charge to individuals who wanted to take part. During the afternoon there was a 'Kid's Lid Show' for the youth of the community. At 5:00pm, residents and guests could purchase cold plates for their supper; this supper was sponsored by the Smith's Harbour Recreation Committee. To

conclude the day, a 'Newfie Night' and a traditional Newfie concert was held at the Burlington rink- this drew large a crowd.

On August 2nd another lot of boat and horseback rides were held in Kelly's Lane (formally called Thistles Lane). Dinner was served by the UCW (United Church Women) which consisted of bake beans and



stew- a true Newfie favorite. The Sunday School and Family picnic was held at the M.W. Jeans Pentecostal School, following the dinner.

(Pictured: Big Bird and Bert visited during the Sunday School Family Picnic)

At 8:00pm there was a Gospel Sing-a-long at the Burlington Rink where many different residents of the town sang. Peter Goudie, Bruce Rowsell, Paula Hutchings, Pansy Mitchell and Jessie Perry were a few of the highlights.

On Thursday, the 4th, at 11:00pm a community parade was held which consisted of many vehicles and a few floats- one being a model Bessie Marie. Throughout the day different activities were held and meals were served at the town hall. In the evening, a boat ride was held- where Mr. Wally Shiner used his boat to take residents and guests to Little Bay Island, a trip to the crab factory. On the way home, the residents and guest had a wonderful feed of crab. Activities continued throughout the remainder of the week and Sunday, which was a closing day, consisted of an interdenominational church service. Also the closing ceremonies were held on the rink with many 'thank you's', and prizes rewarded. The community was truly 'Alive in 95'.

The following is a copy of the 'Ode To Burlington' - the official Come Home Year Song:

The Lives We Lived: The History of Burlington

16 Ode to Burlington

Written By: Billy Squires

Performed By: Peter Goudie

On the north east coast of Newfoundland
Is a tiny little town
Most folks ain't even heard of her
They don't know that she's around
She's been called home to many
Who now live far and near
Many will pay their tribute
To their town this come home year

Burlington you still shine like the sun up in the sky
Many years have come and gone, her memory will never die
You always will be home to us
Wherever we may go
So hats are off to you Burlington
We'll always love you so

There are scars to prove that she's been burnt
Many times down through the years
But she always seems to stand up tall
Through the trials and the tears
And the beauty of her scenery
Will never fade away
From the hills that stand behind her
To her harbour and her bay

Burlington you still shine like the sun up in the sky
Many years have come and gone, her memory will never die
You always will be home to us
Wherever we may go
So hats are off to you Burlington
We'll always love you so

Since the mining and the logging
and the fishery has slowed down
Many folks were forced to go away
Wherever work is found
But it's always nice to come back home
To family and to friends
And we thank God He has kept you well
And brought you home again

Disasters

Burlington has had her share of good times, but as we all know, along with the good, comes the bad. Burlington has had many unfortunate events in her “lifetime” which has wreaked havoc in the town, and in some of the lives of the residents. However despite it all, she still holds fast, and stands firm in her roots.

Some of the disasters which have occurred in town are described below, as unfortunate as they were; they all played a role in making Burlington what she has become today.

Fire of 33'



In August of 1933 a fire swept through the town of Burlington, destroying everything in its path, including the hopes of the Residents. The weather had been warm, from the 10th of June until August there had been no rain, and the forest was dry to say the least. A couple of people were picking berries off in the woods, they lit a fire in hopes of keeping some of the flies away. Before they knew it, the fire was way out of hand, and they could not get it under control. George Robbins who was working at the post office at the time notified the residents that the fire had started, and that it was well on its way towards the town. The fire swept through the town within two hours, destroying everything it came in

contact with. Black Hill was burned over. As well many industries were lost. Sawmills were destroyed, hundreds of thousands of dollars in lumber was destroyed, a plainer was destroyed, 12 dwelling

houses burned, gardens were destroyed, livestock, such as sheep, goats, horses, cattle were all lost. Also there was a house owned by Goodman Batstone that burned, and a house own by Will and George Dwyer, who were brothers, was also burned in the fire. This house was located out in the cove on the turn, where Wayne Manuals house is currently standing.



(Picture Above is of Perry's Cove after the fire)

This fire was a great loss for all, and a big downfall in the industry area of Burlington. Because this occurred during the depression years, many people didn't even bother to rebuild, in fear everything they would work so hard to repair, would only be lost again, so they just packed up their families, and their belongings, and moved elsewhere to find employment.

Fire of 84'

The summer of 1984 was a scorcher. The hot weather started early in July. Weeks of high temperatures meant the forests were a time bomb ticking away, just waiting to go off. Most people heeded the warnings about fire safety, but unfortunately not quite close enough



One Saturday evening in July, a few miles from Burlington in an area known as Dorothy's Pond,

someone had a picnic and a camp fire along by a small brook; they thought the fire embers were safely out, and left the site. However, little did they know that their small camp fire would soon make big news.

Within a short while, fire was racing through standing timber, destroying everything in its path. As it threatened the community, some people chose to leave on their own, and for those residents not so eager to leave, arrangements were made to evacuate them to safety as well.



The Department of Forestry quickly set up base camp in the gravel pit of Bear Pond. The event was coordinated by a fire boss and crew. About 150 men fought the fire on the ground; some were transported to hot spots by helicopters. Five water bombers (Canso's) were called to the area to help.

The fire proved to be a tough one to fight. It was stubborn. It kept coming back day after day. The fire just refused to quit. In the early mornings, the fire crews saw just ground where a fire had been, before noon it was a burning inferno again. For six weeks that pattern repeated itself. One moment it looked to be contained, the next moment it was burning deep in the ground until the wind had whipped it back to life again.

Ground crews worked fiercely on areas that threatened the town. Smoke, heat and steep hills played havoc with the operations. The wind in the harbor was also dangerous for the Canso's picking up water. The pilots had to look out for other Canso's in the air as well as many helicopters. But the water bombers kept the fire in check until the ground crews could get there.

The fire had grown too big for the Canso's to make much progress. But it was nature that finally defeated the fire, as a week of steady

rain finally brought the fire to an end. After almost two exhausting months, some of the crews were finally about to go home. Others stayed to battle hot spots in the ground.

Working together, man and nature, the fire was finally defeated, and Burlington was saved. Twenty five square miles of forest had burned. A sawmill business was lost. But the community of Burlington had escaped.

THE DISASTER OF THE SCHOONER KATE

It was a cold December day in 1882, when a little known sea tragedy occurred in Green Bay. The Schooner Kate was moored off North West Arm (Burlington) and on board was two seamen: Thomas Randell and 14-year-old William Young, the son of James Young, who was the master of the Kate. On that particular day, Tuesday the 12th, the town's harbour was covered with the first ice of the winter season.

As far as those on the shore knew, the two young men were in their berths asleep when trouble began.

Just after daylight the wind increased to gale force and the vessel's chains broke. The Kate was slowly being driven out of the harbour with the sheets of ice and to the dismay of those watching helplessly from shore, there was no sign of the two seamen on deck. It was decided something had to be done to warn or rescue the young sailors.

Eight men set out in a skiff to awaken the two crew members; if they could just secure the Kate to a better anchorage, all would be well. But the wind and seas proved too rough to do anything about the ship, so the rescuers turned their attention to saving the lives aboard.

By this time, Thomas and William had woken up and were aware of their serious predicament. Amazingly, and despite the high waves, the two managed to escape the Kate by boarding the skiff. But now the rescue craft was laden down with 10 men. As the rowers attempted to get to shore, they passed a shoal and a large wave

struck the skiff, upsetting it and throwing everyone into the icy surf. They struggled to swim but the waves, rocks and ice proved too much. Only two of the men made it to shore. Shortly after, the Kate struck a rock and sank.

In the days that followed, the local people knew no rest until everything possible had been done to recover the remains. With drags they found five of the eight bodies: John Mills, William Milley, Elijah House, Stephen Goss and Thomas Randell. Abraham Mills, Joseph Mills, and William Young were never seen again. While there is no record of the hometowns of most of the victims, the Mills men certainly lived in Burlington (North West Arm), and indeed Mills is a surname that still exists here today.

Though not many records are kept of the tragedy of the Kate, as long as the story is told to every new generation, this Green Bay disaster, however obscure, need not to be forgotten.

DROWNING:



March 16th, 1997 was a tragic day for some of the residents of Burlington. Francis Matthews, who was 28 years old at the time, left Saturday night, March 15th, to go to a friend's house. It was in the early hours of March 16th when he left to return home. When his parents woke up the next morning to find him not there, they became worried, told the fire department, and some of his fellow volunteer fire fighters went to look for him. He was found later that day. The members of the volunteer fire department pulled his body back in over the edge of the ice; much to their dismay, they were too late. The funeral took place Wednesday, March 19th 1997. He left to mourn his mother Rita Dove, and his father Norman Dove who is now deceased as well.

DROWNING:



Garfield Matthews died while spending some time at the brook with his friends. They were at the merry-go-round swimming. Garfield had not intended to get in the water, but after all his friends jumped in, he couldn't resist. When he jumped in the water, he fell into the "hole" which is basically an area of very deep water with a strong tide. He couldn't get out. Garf's friend Clyde Young tried to rescue him, but was unsuccessful. Sadly, the strong currents claimed the life of this young man.

Drowning



Parmeanus Kelly (Uncle Mean) at the age of 14 years he began working with the Thistle's and Sons in King's Point. In 1936 he moved to Burlington 1936 where he ran the lumber yard for Thistle and Sons. When the lumber yard moved, he took up snow clearing- in which he started out with a small John Deer Tractor, later buying a D7 tractor. During this time, Uncle Mean cleared the snow from Burlington, Middle Arm and Smith's Harbour. This went on for some time, until the highways took the task of clearing snow during the winter months- when this happened, he retired.

Sadly, Uncle Mean drowned on May 13th 1983 in Rodger's Pond while he was fishing. He was 79 years old.

Car Accident



Elmore Mills was born on July 29th 1937. On December 7th 1974, at the age of 37, Mr. Mills, his wife and two children (Shane and Sheldon) were on route from Springdale to Burlington. He was driving a 1970 Plymouth Fury car when tragedy struck. A budget furniture truck pulled out to pass a grade and ran into his car, claiming this young family mans life. The accident took place around the Sleepy Valley Area.

Car Accident



Roy Goudie served on the Municipal Council in Burlington for 25 years. He was the only council member to receive a plaque from the Municipal Affairs office for his lengthy years of service to his town. In 1995, Mr. Goudie retired from the council with someone stepping in to fill the void.

Mr. Goudie was a businessman in the logging industry for 40 plus years and employed many men from this town under his company. He was a co-owner of Northco Lumberyard in Baie Verte for a number of years and he also ran a store (Midtown

2000) in Burlington. Tragically on November 9th 2005, Mr. Goudie was driving with his wife and daughter-in-law to Grand Falls for a doctor's appointment- they were involved in a car accident that claimed his life.

Car Accident



Howard Moores was born on November 7th 1934. He was married on February 8th 1957 and had eight children. Howard worked as a cook in Logging Camps for many years. In a change of jobs he took over driving trucks for construction companies - Advocate Mines and Iron Ore company in Lab City. On February 2nd 1977, he was tragically killed in a trucking accident.

Car Accident



Marion Jean Norman (Nee: Bowers) was born on December 13th 1962 to Albert and Voila Bowers. Being married with two kids was the highlight of this young woman's life.

Tragically on September 25th 1989 the unthinkable happened - a car accident which took place just past Westport branch. This accident claimed the life of the 27 years old.

Car Accident

Randy Young was born to Willis and Phyllis Young of Burlington. On August 4th 1973, at the age of 4 ½ years tragedy hit the Young's Home. A speeding car hit Randy in front of his home, claiming his young life.

Poems & Fables

19 Writing poems and telling tales was nothing unusual for the early residents of Burlington. They would write poems about their work, and their pass time. They would make up

Stories or fables for entertainment, and to tell the children and grandchildren. As you continue through the pages of this book, you will get to read some of the poems and stories, as told by former residents of this town, as well as residents that are still currently residing in the town.

20 *Little Red The Beaver*

Oh boys stop your sawing and put down your axe.
I'll tell you a sad yarn, and give you the facts.
T'was late in may and year fifty-one.
We started dam-building and this story begun.

Our fine crew of men were one dozen strong.
There was Lee and Claude Lush, Steve Furey and Tom.
There was Ted Mills and Ned, and Gus and Big Ben.
Bert Downey was there but he went out again.

This was our brave crew when we made our start.
Including John Hurley and his dear brother Art.
Tom Shelley and Roy came in from the bay.
And the old camp ten traitor, he joined us next day.

It was a sad story as I told you before.
When we went down with Purchase at camp 24.
And cut our first trail it was 3 miles long
to build the first dam on the either mile pond

You should see us the next morning all clearing away.
The beaver got shamed and he left so to say
Then we built up the wings on the north and south shore.
And I don't think the beaver will be back anymore.

We put a few nicknames on some of our crew
You should see the ole Latrop when he had in a chew
And Rennard and Torbay when using an axe
And old Universal who made the queer tracks

Then we left 24, and westward we went
To camp 27 to sleep in a tent
T'was there we learned fighting, lying there on the ground
And sung all the songs with the rain pouring down.

T'was there Furey left us, and took Jack along
To go build a camp at freshwater pond

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William Kelly then joined us, our teamster was he
Until the but scrimmage at camp 23

When we left 27 oh what a hard time
We cant get a truck, we must walk down the line
We cant take out blankets, the tools or the dray
Oh get the Sheppard's horse he's a tractor they say

We hooked up the tractor, and we tramped on behind
To Jack Bailey cutting though the mud and the slime.
I think Sheppard's horse at the end of the drag
Was less like a tractor and more like a nag.

Then at Baileys Cuttings we laid down the load
And wiped off the sweat by the side of the road
The road boys got angry, and started to swear
But he send us a truck or we'd have always been there

At camp 23 I'll tell you the truth
They picked on poor Kelly for having no boots
T'was get out in the water or you'll get your time
"go to hell sir" said Kelly "I can go down the line"

So then Clifford Mills out teamster was made
From college he came, a teacher by trade
Hauling gravel and logs he wasn't so bad
If he gets paid for Sundays he'll be a smart Lad

Our cooks Percy Short, and Francis Newbury by name
If you didn't get fat, there was no one to blame
There was Big Ben and Gus, they sure ate a lot
And Purchase isn't sure if they earns it or not

T'was up to Red Cliff the grizz aim arose
T'was Art and the skipper and it near came to blows
They say that the cabling was all out of line
And the end of the row brother Art got his time

We all know that Arthur was not in the wrong

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And it wasn't the same with the old Latrop gone
But we heard he'd been talking to the walking boss Pat
And before very long brother Art would be back

The Skipper was cranky, the water was deep
The cobbling was flat or else t'was too steep
T'was dig it down farther or else hail it back
And go cut another, bring it out on your back

The one that we cut was a little too big
The boss said to Benny "I do what I can, but for two feet of water you
got the wrong man"

Now one of your gang you know whose to blame
He says to the Skipper "I know it's a shame
But that's a fine pair of boots that you have on there"
The answer he got I just cant mention here

So for a few days no joking was done
And nothing was said at least not for fun
With the Skipper so sour we each did our part
Afraid we'd join Kelly or else brother Art

And then camp 15 where the grub it was poor
You should hear Harry Lacey call out from the door
"Oh come to the cook house, come boys right away
For you'll get no milk in your lunch box today"

The boss looks quite smart in his old army pants
And if he returns uncle Ned has a chance
And he'll have his red coat on the next time he builds dams
And Ben and poor Gus wont be in on his plans

Now We've finished the dams and we've cut out the brook
I hope you will pardon the time that it took
To tell you this story of sweat and hard work
Good luck to all loggers in the woods at Baie Verte.

By: Stanley Dwyer

The Diversion Drive

Come all you bold drivers that worked on the diversion
I'll sing you a song of the path you have trod
How you got al the wood without someone being "drowned"
Tis a wonder to all and the mercy of God

Our Skipper comes out every morn to call you
"Come all you wild driver be up and live
I thing it's all right to drive out all night while the winds in our favor we
surely must drive"

There's men from the Green Bay and men from Seal Cove
Gord Parsons is down on the freshwater gate
But the men that's up here to bring down the rear
Is the wild bunch of drivers that come from camp 8

There's Mills and Wils Pynn and all of the men
That worked up at Cross Pond where the wild poppies grow
They got all the wood and we think they done good
For you can't move a junk when the water is low

And now I must mention the boat in Pine Pond
Her tank is gone out and we can't get it back
Her oil can is leaky, the rubber is missing
Her shaft is plied up and the blades they are slack.

When a boom you will tow, you can't get her to go
Her cheeks are all stuck and the gas it wont burn
Put a rope on her stern and try her again
For she works like the devil when she goes astern

"Now try her once more" said the brother Stan Dwyer
Give her oil through the throttle and p'raps she will work
Says I "so she do" for tis only too true
She can't get her oil from the tank in Baie Verte

When you gets her to go she works very slow

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She burns up the primming and then she will stop
But when she gets her oil every man wears a smile
You opens her out and she works like a top

Stan said unto me one fine Tuesday evening
My arm is worn out from using the crank
Let Cec have a try, said Cecil "not I-
Not for all the money they got in the bank"

So we put her ashore and took off the propellers
With only one wrench, but that had to do
If there's anything wrong mentioned here in this song
I will draw all my wages and give it to you

There's England's and Greens , their names I must mention
There's Lee Lush and Claude, Wills and Ralph Gillingham
There's Cec Dwyer and Stan, Bert Rideout and Sam
Max Thomas and Vokey who works on the sam

We have a fine cook, his name is Fred Rideout
We hear no complaints from the men anymore
I think he is able to put on the table
A lot better grub then we had here before

We are now sacking Pine Pong, each man he is weary
His patience is gone and the weather is bad
There's a full thousand cord high and dry on the shore
When the sacking is over I know they'll be glad

The work now is over, the driving is finished
The ponds are all sacked and the brooks are reared down
While driving from Pine Pond, we made up this fine song
It will go to the tune of the squid jiggling ground

Now if ever you get a chance to go driving
Just pick up your axes and hang up your saws
And pick up your pick poles go down on the rivers
Go back to cutting again in the fall

Unsure of Author

Six Wonderful Years

Oh, how well we remember one cold February day
We drove into town to preach for one Sunday
Not intending to stay, but our God had other plans
And we were asked to stay, first for six months, then for six years.
We know God had His way.

Six wonderful years, dear people God allowed us to minister here
Twas a time of great learning and a time of great blessing

Ladies can you remember, seven weeks with much prayer
Sandra and I, talked in the spirit as we sat by the chair

George Lush can you remember, just how it felt
To be too late, we were locked in on the wrong side of the gate

George Newbury can you remember that first day in the woods
The jacks were drove by George, George and George, Gid and John
That was the start of many great things

As we all pulled our weight to build a new House of God
And girls that meal tested great.

Men can you remember in a hole pastor fell
Right to his armpits. T'was the dead of the winter and he was soaked
to the skin
But he still went on working, He would not give in.

Lots of wood was cut that day, everyone worked together
God smiled down on them
Margaret can you remember, when you got that bad burn
Pearl Mills flew to Baie Verte in her chariot
Almost missing the turn

And Ross can you remember hitting Gid in the head
With the bucket of the loader, he fell to the ground, pastor thought he
was dead

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Ray Foster can you remember pastor said "come lead a song"
Emma said "Ray, you cant do it tonight, you got the wrong pants on"

And Jessie can you remember hauling gill in your truck
Many hands made it easy, some drove, some paid, we didn't depend
on luck

Harv Newbury can you remember when the glory did fall
You were slain on the alter right in front of the pulpit
Not much room at all, you were lost in the spirit

For almost an hour, one foot on the floor
Both hands in the air
Yes we all saw Gods power

Now, Robin you can't remember cause you weren't even born
How a young man came knocking on the parsonage door

One winter morn he said to Debra "wont you come for a ride, I've got
the skidoo, it's a lovely day and I want you b y my side"

I was standing at the window when they returned
Could see in their eyes, that she'd be his bride
I even wrote it on the floor
Folks can you remember those who have gone
They are passed off the scene, some on to glory and some up-a-long

There's Lonna, Ed, Gid, and Jean
Melinda and Lean
George Perry and Clar
Johnny, Maisie and Arch
Aunt Minnie, Eggie and Pearl
And of course Uncle Lee Lush, a giant of a man
Im sure there are more, and we'll meet with them in the glory land
I could go on all night, so many wedding and babes
I remember our last Sunday, we were blessed
Many stood who'd been saved.

I remember our precious youth, and many filled with Gods power
But if I don't stop now I'll take more than an hour

By: Mrs L. Butt

The School House on the Hill

This world is made of sorrows and joys, of accidents great and small
And everyone has their share boys, but this one comes to us all

I will tell you how it happened, if attention you pay still
How a little spark of fire had caught our school house on the hill

We were all in school one day, it was Thursday afternoon
A pupil to the teacher said "Please may I leave the room"

She had not long gone through the door when she came running
back,
The school house roof is all afire, and soon we heard it crack

Our teacher she looked very pale, one could not blame her much
For it was our only school house, also our little church

We saw no way to save it, so we put on our coat and hoods
And ran out and shouted fire, but the men were in the woods

But two by chance had just got out, and to our rescue ran
There is no way to save it boys, but we must do the best we can

There was one thing we thought of most, it was our little shields
In memory of our darling boys, that fell on Flanders Fields

Of course it was an awful sight, the men were all inside
To see the roof all in a blaze, some of the children cried

Everything was brought to safety, and the burning roof it fell
As a man jumped through a window, of the school house on the hill

Three seats was all that burned that day, and they would have been
saved
But the man he got an awful burn, and his eyebrows closely shaved

The old school house is gone boys, but its memory's burning still
All our school days now are over, in the school house on the hill

Unsure of Author
Bill Nobles Mare

On the twelfth day of November, in nineteen-forty three
William Noble bought a pony, for William number three
It was on one Sunday morning, this pony she got clear
So just sit awhile and listen, this sad story you shall hear.

The pony she was frolicsome, this unknown to Bill
As he gently took her by the mane, to lead her to the well
He threw the rope across her neck, she started out to jog
Just as fast as she could gallop, up across gripe water bog

Bill he took after her with young Bill on Behind
Then Theodore joined in the chase but he was just in time
To see that pony disappear and go into the woods
Ha Ha now Bill its just as well to give he up for good

It was late on that evening when Theodore got back
Uncle John stood in the door Aunt Martha at his back
Says uncle John to Theodore, what are you doing here?
Why don't you go and join the chase, and catch Bill Noble's Mare

Then Theodore made this reply, my back it is to bad
For dodds kidney pill now I Cannot buy since the prices are gone mad
Says Bill I'll phone to Middle Arm for curiosity
to see what all my friends up there can really do for me

But when he got the answer back, he found out it was wrong
There's a Nag astray up Belgium way, but to Bill it don't belong
Now Uncle John got very mad, and started into swear
How are you to get your firewood across the bogs and pond this
year?

Says Bill I'll go for Wesley, once more we'll camp down
Through four miles of must and water, that leads to Belgium town
It was on one Thursday evening, much to their surprise
Out back of Mr. Perry's, she lay before their eyes

Bill onto that pony, you get around that shore

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And when you lands upon the strand, you'll get away no more

Now every man upon the strand is feeling very good
Young William he feeds the rooster, Theodor gets the wood

Bill he feeds his pony, on water oats and hay
But he keeps his pipe well out of sight, along gripe water way
Last year as the story goes, Bill's drake just had no vim
Bills luck was very poor or so it seems to him

It seems his luck is better now it is another year
Bill's drake is spry, he got a boy, and a thirty dollar mare
Now let this be a warning, to the man who lives quite near
Who also has a pony, in case she may get clear

When you throw the rope across her back, hold fast it in your hand
Because if she strays, she will rue your days, upon gripe water strand

By: Gus Rideout and Stan Dwyer

21 *The Wedding at The Gut*

Will you come and sit a spell, such a story I can tell;
‘Twill make you laugh, or cry to break you up,
‘Bout the time we had last fall, ev’ry critter great and small
Attending to the weddin’ at the Gut.
Everything that mooed or bawled, everything that walked or crawled;
Billy-goat, Shanghi Rooster, Bard or Dunce,
Tom, Dick and Uncle Ted, whom everybody thought was dead...
O, such a shindig happens only once.

We had some moonshine and some beer, we’d been saving for a
year,
And some gin that we’d gotten off a ship,
In a bad upon our shoulders; we climbed ‘round the boulders,
But careful on the kellup, not to slip.
Coming slowly thru’ the fog, as we sampled up the grog;
‘Twas not the Northern Ranger but a punt,
Paddles chunkin’ in the water, Jacob and his daughter,
Both heading for the weddin’ at the Gut.

Auntie Mag and Uncle Joe, Lizzie May, Joanne and Chloe,
With Skipper Charlie Jones and Billy Butt,
Betsy Blake, and Uncle Stan with their daughter Mary Ann,
All headin’ for the weddin’ at the Gut.
Cousin Jarge had his fiddle, Aunt Louazer had a kettle,
Arthur had his blood-red guernsey on;
On his arm was sweet Mariah, on his breast was ‘Blood and Fire’,
On his back he has moonshine and some rum.

O, the bride was like a queen, aple blue ribbons, blue and green,
She chewed a chaw of frankum, like a pup;
And her Maw was by her side, with a smile three fathoms wide,
All waiting for the bridegroom to turn up.

One dainty toe looked quiet blue, where her boot was worn right thru’,
Her stockings, they were screwed on, standard thread,
But her eyes were bright and clear, but one cheek had quite a smear;
Her hair was never meant to fit her head.

He comes, in all his glory, new painter in his dory,
New pipe was sending flankers in a cloud,
Ships the paddles with a bang, coldly smiles on all the gang
That's waiting for his coming bold and proud.
His boots were kind of scrubby, his beard looked kind of stubby,
His guernsey had used up its better days;
His best pants had lost their crease but the knees had lots of grease,
His socks were homeknit, good old homespun greys.

Wearing just a brand new tie, colors that would blind your eye,
He wore it with a swagger and a strut;
His shirt had neither collar, his wallet just a dollar,
Arriving for his weddin' at the Gut.
Preachers face had turned quite blue, by the time they said "I Do",
The no'wester wind was blowing up a strife,
The bride slowed up her chewin', just to fi nish her I do'in,
And the preacher said, "Now you're man and wife!"

O' the cliffs around the Gut, when the music started up,
Rang stompin' Newfie music like a choir.
All the women swung the men, who just swung them back again,
While Uncle Ned kept patching up the floor.
When the bridegroom sung the sons, so very loud and rather long,
The gulls took flight and faded down the bay.
When he made that final screech, ev'ry crab just left the beach,
And have never since returned, so people say.

When it neared the zero hour, the moonshine showed its power,
Young Patey hit the fiddler with a swipe;
Uncle Joe was up and rearin', Aunt Mag did lots of swearin',
The dance was done and over for the night.
Big Jarge then grabbed young Patey, with a roar said, "Now, matey,
You'ad better have your paste all made wit God!
Say goodbye to all your friends, 'cause you won't be back ag'in,"
And poor young Patey faded through the fog.

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Then another rumpus rose, as the night drew to a close;
The bride had lost her nightgown, so she cried.
The groom now lost his calm and rolled his sleeves up with a damn,
And many of the dancers took his side.
O' his face was quite a sight, how his words rang through the night;
His bride blew snowy bubbles through her tears.
We searched the Gut all over, turned over ev'ry boulder;
We'd never know she had a gown for years.

Is you're dead, gone to heave, how unlucky, what a shame!
There will never be a caper in this land,
Like the weddin' and the fight, lasting far into the night,
A thought years won't bring the like again.
If you're still above the ground and your funny bone is sound,
When ever tho' your joints are acting up,
You will laugh until you cry, or until the day you die,
When you think about the weddin' at the Gut

By: Gus Rideout

Jim Bits

Did You Know...?

- **That** Burlington resident, Beverly Welshman, won the Miss Teen Burlington contest. Judges included Garland Morris and Irene Roberts.

- **That** Reuben Bartlett, former Burlington resident, helped invent an ideal mouse pad for gamers (people who play games online) that increase the accuracy of game play. It was so good that a deal was signed with the computer manufacturer- Alienware, to include one of his mouse pads with every computer they sold.



- **That** the oldest house in Burlington is Melvin and Gordon Nobles'. The house was built about 100 year ago and belonged to Bill Noble. Today it is still being used by his sons Melvin and Gordon.

- **That** the first baby christened in the Faith Pentecostal Church was Jamie Norman. And the first baby that was christened in the First Methodist Church was Marjorie Young.

Who? From Where?

On this page are a few of the 'names' that were around when the town of Burlington started. It also shows just where the names and people came from.

Bartlett	-	Devonshire (West of England)
Dwyer	-	Ireland
Gillingham	-	Dorset
Knight	-	England
Jennings	-	Channel Islands
Lush	-	Dorset
Mills	-	Dorset
Newbury	-	Devonshire
Noble	-	Portugal
Perry	-	Dorset
Rideout	-	Dorset
Roberts	-	Ireland
Squires	-	Devonshire
Vokey	-	England or Scotland
Short	-	Devonshire
White	-	Spain, Ireland and Dorset
Thistle	-	England
House	-	Dorset
Green	-	Devonshire
Burton	-	Dorset
Flemming	-	Ireland
Marsh	-	Dorset
Hudson	-	Portugal

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Arch Newbury's Old House



A bear that was shot and killed.



Below: Lynx that was shot by George Dwyer

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Lodge Parade

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Unknown Funeral



L Roberts' Horses



Mills Cove- one of the major areas in the town back in the early days. This area has sawmills, houses and now houses the Indian Well.

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Bond Roberts & Mike Dwyer loading a Cod Trap



Perry's Cove

Below: Schooner tied up to wharf.



Right: Pony pulling wood.

Below: Old truck



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