

LARK HARBOUR

THE

YORK HARBOUR

BLOW·ME·DOWNER

ABOUT THE OUTER BAY OF ISLANDS, NEWFOUNDLAND

ISSUE 72 : 2013-06-07

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

2013 June 07 Friday

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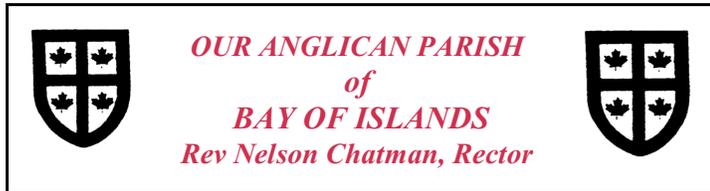
St James School, Lark Harbour, Graduation 2013



Thanks to Mrs Bonnie Wheeler & Ms Stephanie Sheppard for providing the picture

L-R : Kirkland Childs, Jessica Crowley-Youden, Stephanie Sheppard, Emma Pottle, Shelby Sheppard, Lindsay Rumbolt, Staci Durnford, and Malachi Rotchford. Sitting: Andrew Brake.

*The Graduation Ceremony was held at St James School on 2013 May 17, Friday.
Congratulations to all the Graduates.*



Hi Everyone.

I GUESS YOU ARE ALL GETTING READY now to plant the flowers in your gardens and sow your vegetable seeds, now that Spring has Sprung. Soon Summer will arrive. Surely everyone is anticipating warmer weather and lots of sunshine on this Island home of ours, which we call Mother Earth.

As we all should know by now, we should not complain about the fluctuation in our weather. We need the good with the bad, as one would say, meaning of course, the sunshine and the rain. God provides all for a reason. He knows what is best.

We have had a busy Winter and Spring, lots of babies being baptized, and preparing for the wedding ceremonies, which generates new life into the communities.

The ladies of our church here in Lark Harbour are gearing up for the anticipated arrival of the tourists, who arrive on our shore and come this way, taking in the beautiful breathtaking scenery in this area. Yes, we do have a lot to be thankful for.

Our schools will soon be closing for the summer holidays. To all the graduates in our parish, I wish to extend, on behalf of our Parish of the Bay of Islands, congratulations and pray that you will seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in determining your vocation in life. For some of you it may take a while, especially if you have not decided yet. Don't get discouraged. Your future is in the making, just be true to your calling by playing your part to make this world a better place in which to live, being mindful of your surroundings and taking care of and protecting our environment.

I will end with a couple of the stories I've gathered over the years. Sorry, I'm not aware of who the authors are.

CHILDREN IN CHURCH

A little boy was attending his first wedding.

After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly.

"How do you know that?"

"Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said, 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up."

"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?"

"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

May you all have a safe and enjoyable Summer.

God Bless

**Rev. Nelson Chatman, Priest,
Rector, Anglican Parish of Bay of Islands, NL**

LARK HARBOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Report of 2013 May 23 meeting

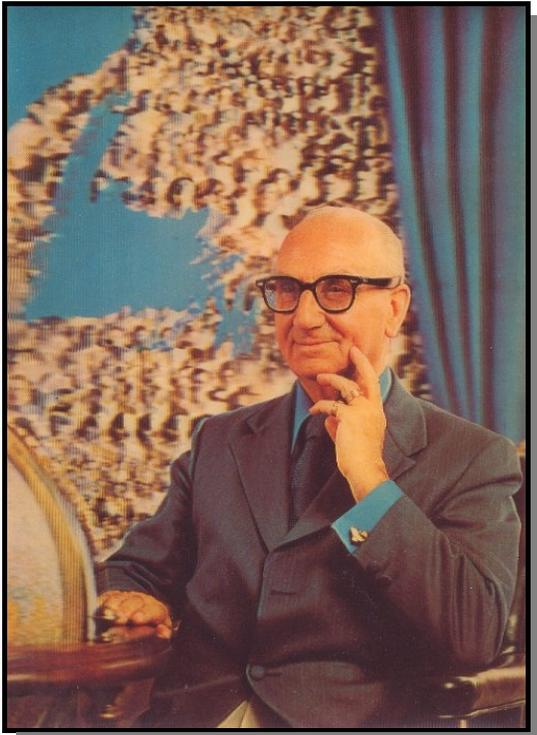
PRESENT: Mayor John Parsons; Deputy Mayor Jamie Park
Councillors: Pauline Sheppard, Llewellyn Childs, Stanley Childs
Clerks: Joanna Pottle (recording minutes), Peggy Sheppard

Meeting commenced at 7:00pm.

- Minutes of meeting of 2013 April 16 adopted as circulated.
- Water/Sewer Update – Contractor is ready to move on this. Clerk directed to contact Anderson Engineering for update and ensure all necessary information has been submitted.
- Regionalisation – Brief discussion on the possibility of postponing the municipal election for a period of no more than 12 months until the regionalisation process is complete or abolished. Resolution by Council to extend the amalgamation process no later than December 31, 2013.
- Fracking – Black Spruce Exploration will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday May 29th at 7pm in the Lark Harbour Town Hall. This is to discuss the possibility of oil exploration in the area. [See page 5 for article on fracking and page 6 for a report of this Meeting.]
- Compost bins – Bins are en route and due to arrive in the next couple of weeks.
- SWASP 2013 – Council has been successful in receiving a SWASP Student for the summer with a start date of July 2, 2013.
- Playground Grant – Letter to Mr. Eddie Joyce, MHA. Council hopes to receive funding to enable the purchase of equipment for the playground and sports area.
- Financial Report approved. No accounts payable at this time.
- Collections Update – delinquent taxpayers and outstanding accounts. Council will follow through with the expropriation of one uninhabited property with significant taxes outstanding.
- Financial Write offs of \$303.82 approved.
- Motion to pay invoices for completion of 2012 audit.
- Building permits – all applications approved.
- Repairs to Town Hall – Roof to be shingled. Clerk will prepare contract for qualified bidders.
- By-roads – Grading to be done since our by-roads are in rough shape. Letter to Department of Transportation and Works to have a speed sign erected on Beacon Road.
- Car Wrecks - Sign to be posted regarding vehicle wreck removals.
- Motion made for Fire Department to join the NFLD Fire Association.
- Clerk directed to write letter to Department of Transportation and Works regarding road conditions.
- Donations - Council's limit is a maximum of \$200.00 per year to cover all donations. Clerk directed to look into the amounts given so far this year before a decision is made on donation requested.
- A letter is to be written to a resident regarding dog complaint.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

THE DAY I MET JOEY SMALLWOOD NEWFOUNDLAND'S FATHER OF CONFEDERATION



Joseph Roberts Smallwood 1900 Dec 24 - 1991 Dec 17
Picture from a 1966 election card

THE FIRST TIME I MET JOEY SMALLWOOD was in Corner Brook in 1968, a year after my immigration to Canada, but it was such a brief meeting that it really didn't count. It was about five years later, after his retirement as Premier and when he was starting work on his *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador* that I can say that I really met him. The date was 1st October 1973, and as I recall he had lost none, if any, of his characteristic verve.

I had been offered an invitation through the Bay of Islands-St George's Integrated School Board to attend a luncheon with Joey and about a dozen other people. It was billed as a conversational event and it was to be held in Corner Brook on the top floor of the Sir Richard Squires Provincial Building in the room where Cabinet meetings were occasionally held. Naturally, I accepted, since I knew that Joey was renowned as a great *raconteur* and a skilled orator by anyone's standards, and I admired him as a consummate politician, a maverick and also a bit of a rogue. I was not disappointed. I took along a box containing some of my copies of his books, with a view to asking him to autograph them if the opportunity presented itself, and unobtrusively I placed the box on the floor near the entrance.

We were seated round a large boardroom-style table, with Joey at one end. He had brought with him a briefcase from which he had taken various folders and binders, and there were papers spread all over his end of the table. I recall nothing about the food we were offered—perhaps a cold plate of some kind—but the conversation was plentiful, though mostly originating from the man himself. He spoke at some length about the fights he had in his early political days over Confederation, and some of his disputes with the unions. Then

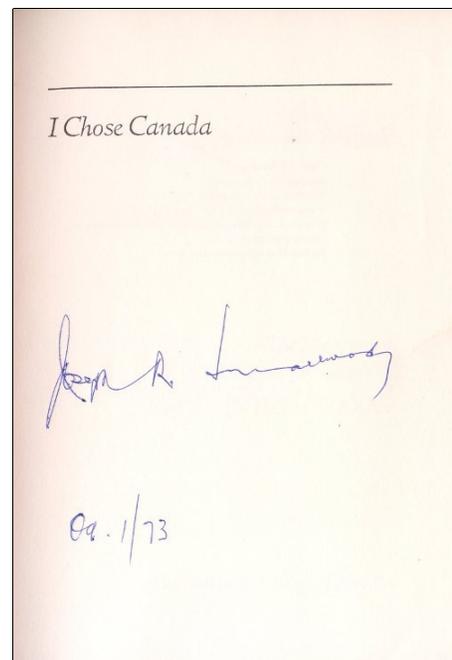
he offered us a chance to ask questions, while he ate a little, but I don't think he stopped talking enough to eat much.

One topic that came up was his famous remark about fishermen burning their boats. That remark, he said, had frequently been misquoted as virtually an order to fishermen telling them to burn their boats. What he claimed to have said was along the lines that if Confederation did not work and if it did not improve conditions for fishermen and their communities then *there would be nothing left for fishermen but to burn their boats*. Whether Joey was simply attempting to excuse himself for some of his errors of judgement, one will never know, and it's easy to criticise after the fact, looking back on the outcomes of some of the projects during his years as Premier. Nevertheless, the Province owes him much, and his imprint will for ever be visible.

After a couple of hours we thanked Joey for an interesting session, applauded him, shook hands, and began to leave. As he was taking a few minutes to pack away the many papers he had spread on the table in front of himself, and having no idea of what his response might be, I availed myself of the opportunity to ask him to autograph my books. To my satisfaction, he agreed immediately, and took a pen from his pocket. The first book I selected was my recent purchase of his autobiography *I Chose Canada*. I opened it at the flyleaf, placed it in front of him, and he signed it. One by one I produced more books from my box, laying them on the table in front of him, and he signed every one, including the six huge volumes of *The Book of Newfoundland*. All the time he was beaming happily and making conversation as if he had never before been asked to autograph his books. He signed every one of those I had brought.

I don't think Joey's signatures in my copies of his books will add to their value—certainly not in my lifetime—but for our family they are fine souvenirs of a great Canadian politician who was instrumental in bringing our province into the modern age. To this day I am proud of those books and of being privileged to have lunch with the Little Man from Gambo, Newfoundland's great Father of Confederation.

SLH



Signature of Joseph R. Smallwood on the flyleaf of my copy of his autobiography *I Chose Canada*

QUÉBEC GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS *FRACKING* DEFENSIVE LEGISLATION IS INTRODUCED

THE MINORITY PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC has recently introduced legislation to place a five-year moratorium on all fracking operations in certain areas of their province. The bill would prohibit *“all drilling, injectivity testing and fracturing operations related to shale natural gas exploration or production in the territories of municipalities located mainly in the St Lawrence lowlands”*. The areas defined are predominantly agricultural and are where fracking operations are planned in Québec Province.

Canadians outside of Québec have been bombarded for decades with negative publicity about the Parti Québécois over issues like their legislation restricting the use of English, but we hear little about their positive actions. However the Péquistes have introduced other innovative measures, such as universal daycare, in the past. The present minority government may not easily gain support from some opposition parties, but this legislation controlling oil exploration is needed and should work well. If passed, it will expire after five years, or earlier if superseded by new legislation. The Province of Québec has already encountered problems from exploration which has begun there, and they are trying to protect their land. As a result Québec seems to be a leader among Canadian provinces in the bid to introduce controls around the fracking process.

At the present time there is no legislation in Newfoundland & Labrador to govern the processes of fracking. But several sites have been selected by exploration companies who have in many cases prepared applications to begin work. Such applications are either in preparation or have been submitted for Port au Port, Gros Morne, and the Lark Harbour region. Until protective legislation is passed by the NL Government, approval should not be given.

Those who attended the April 23rd public meeting in Lark Harbour (See *Hydraulic Fracturing - “Fracking”* on p6 in May BMD) learned about potential risks to the environment, the current lack of regulation, and the limitations faced by our communities in any attempts to assert local control.

It is quite possible that our communities could be drastically changed as a result of fracking activities. Our water supplies, the local commercial fishery, the developing tourism industry, safety on our roads (due to increasing heavy truck traffic), and noise pollution, may be affected by exploration and the subsequent exploitation if it occurs. New jobs for locals are likely to be minimal, and even royalties accrue to the Federal and Provincial Governments, not to our towns.

More and more residents are expressing concern about the risks we may be facing if the projects go ahead. But alone we have no influence to change or stop them.

It may be a little premature yet to make up our minds about fracking, before we have had time to fully digest as much information as possible. But as individuals concerned at the lack of regulations to protect our environment from indiscriminate use of hydraulic fracturing, we must make our voices heard and give support to our Town Councils. They can then transmit those concerns on our behalf to higher levels of government so that people know that we care. We should also express our concerns directly to the Premier, to our Members of the House of Assembly and to our Members of Parliament.

We must demand that our governments get to work and create some defensive legislation such as Québec has introduced.

***LET’S NOT SIT BACK AND WAIT FOR IT TO HAPPEN,
LIKE WHEN THE FISH PLANT CLOSED!
ACTION IS NEEDED NOW!***

Contact the following elected representatives so that they are aware of your opinions and can then take appropriate action:

- Kathy Dunderdale, Premier, Newfoundland & Labrador
P.O. Box 8700, Confederation Building
St John’s, NL, A1B 4J6
- Eddie Joyce MHA, Bay of Islands, 634-7883
Fortis Tower, 5th Floor, Suite 501
P.O. Box 2006, 4 Herald Avenue
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 6J8
- Gerry Byrne MP, Corner Brook office, 637-4540
14 Main Street (Old Canada Post Building)
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 6T2
- Lark Harbour Town Council, 681-2270
- York Harbour Town Council, 681-2280

Letter writing is the preferred means of contact, especially for politicians who have offices and secretarial assistance; phone calls and emails also receive attention, especially when they are received in large numbers.

TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THESE WEBSITES

There are thousands of websites devoted to various aspects of Hydraulic Fracturing, or “fracking”, and a search for either of these terms will yield as much as you want to read. Below is a small selection presenting information on how it can affect the people and communities where it is being used.

- *This Wikipedia article presents a good overview in relatively simple terms of exactly what is involved in the fracking process.*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydraulic_fracturing
- *Gros Morne National Park is one of the areas selected in Western Newfoundland for exploration with a view to hydraulic fracturing. If this goes ahead it is possible that the Park may lose its status as a World Heritage Site. This would greatly reduce the region’s potential for further tourism development on the West Coast, but would be unlikely to add many benefits. For more information visit this CBC website:*
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2013/05/16/nl-.html>
- *The Windsor region of Nova Scotia (Annapolis Valley), where hydraulic fracturing has already been used, has discovered some hazards resulting from it. Note that the NS Government has delayed reviewing the situation until 2014. Our Government has not even thought about it yet! This website has some disturbing information.*
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/story/2012/10/18/ns-windsor-fracking-water-concerns.html>
- *Further from home, this website provides some disturbing information about what can happen to groundwater resources. It is quite long, but even a quick glance provides food for thought.*
<http://www.frackingcanada.ca/alberta-the-campbells/>

REPORT OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BLACK SPRUCE EXPLORATION CORP

A PUBLIC MEETING TOOK PLACE in Lark Harbour Town Hall at 7:00pm on 2013 May 09 Wednesday with representatives from *Black Spruce Exploration Corporation (BSE)*. It was chaired by Black Spruce President & CEO W T David Murray with assistance from Mr Derek Sullivan. About 60 persons attended.

Mr Murray opened by distributing a booklet for each person and describing the proposed process using a slide presentation. Questions were then asked by members of the audience. Most of the remarks and questions expressed various levels of disagreement with the effect of the exploration program on the community and region, although a few individuals spoke in favour.

Mr Murray and Mr Sullivan explained in detail the measures that would be taken to conform with regulations by various sectors of government and the *Canada-Newfoundland & Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (CNLOPB)*, but of course this organisation, as its title states, is mainly concerned with *offshore* operations which are significantly different from the land-based operations proposed for the West Coast of the Island. There are few regulations, if any, dealing specifically with this kind of land-based exploration, especially as it applies to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Concerns were expressed by residents living in close proximity to the proposed site. Among those concerns is the instability of much of the terrain in the Bottle Cove-Little Port neighbourhood. This instability, it was suggested, could result in significant damage to homes if vibration occurs during the drilling. In such cases, how hard would it be for homeowners to obtain compensation, given the reluctance of insurance to pay such damages?

There are also concerns related to the use of chemicals which are pumped into the ground in the fracturing process. Specific information on this topic is not readily available as usage varies according to drilling conditions, but 99.5% of the materials used is water (sea water can be used) and sand. The remaining 0.5% may contain some toxic substances although, we are told, "those chemicals are also found in common consumer products like cleaners and even ice cream"¹. The claim is made that *most* of this is recovered after use, although not all, and that most of the substances can be found in the average kitchen; however the quantities far exceed what is in our kitchens! We are told also that, because of the depth that is drilled, the residual chemicals are unlikely to return to the surface once injected into the well. Questions still remain, however, about disposal of the recovered chemicals after their use in the fracturing process.

Among other concerns raised were: (a) possible noise from the drilling operations; (b) increased road traffic with its associated danger to children who are not accustomed to large volumes of traffic on local roads; wear and tear on road surfaces, and noise; and (c) the effect on the environment as a developing tourist destination.

There was some discussion of employment opportunities which would develop once the program began. Mr Murray stated that his

office had received some 300 applications from Newfoundlanders who were qualified and experienced in this kind of work and who wanted to return to the Province to work. No figure was suggested as to how many might succeed in finding suitable employment here. Mention was also made of the long-term prospects for employment if exploration was successful and significant quantities of recoverable oil were found, but this would be some years in the future.

The meeting became a little heated at times, perhaps due to the feeling held by many of those present that, despite what the Black Spruce people might say to assure us, we have all seen similar projects in the past where local concerns were either played down or completely ignored. Mr Murray insisted that his company did not wish to operate in a manner that would appear inconsiderate or hostile to local people, and that they wished to provide as much as they could in benefits to the communities.

One further issue of concern to some residents is that the regulation of land-based exploration is a Provincial responsibility. The CNLOPB mandate relates to offshore work, which precludes their involvement here. It is uncertainty whether adequate regulation exists in Newfoundland at this time. Scott Vaughn, former Canadian Government Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, stated that: "*federal regulations are not keeping up with natural resource development, that the federal government does not have adequate information about the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing and that oil and gas companies are exempted from reporting pollutant release*". Black Spruce Exploration Corp has stated "*BSE would welcome initiatives by the provincial government to develop higher standards for the fracking operations in NL*".²

In conclusion Mr Murray and his colleagues expressed their interest in keeping the communities well-informed about the project, and holding meetings to discuss their project as it develops. Of course, BCE is naturally going to present their side of the debate, and at this point the opposition to the process here in Lark Harbour is not yet organised. A public meeting for local residents is needed, to discuss openly the feelings of residents to the whole question and to decide on the position our community should take. That should take place soon, before everything is decided for us without our input.

SLH

A recent agreement signed between BCE and Ptarmigan Energy includes the following timetable of activities:

- 1) BCE will drill an onshore to offshore well in Littleport/Lark Harbour area **within the next 12 months**, subject to regulatory approval, which will extend the license rights for EL 1120 to January 15, 2019.
- 2) BCE commits to shoot an offshore 3D seismic survey **in either 2013 or 2014**.
- 3) BCE will drill an offshore prospect well, known as "Lark Harbour" **not later than June 15, 2016**.

1. Quoted on p.12 of *Western Newfoundland Update: Project Magazine, vol 1, issue 1, Spring 2013*, distributed by *Black Spruce Exploration Corp* at the meeting.

2. Quoted on page 12 of *Western Newfoundland Update: Project Magazine*.



LIBRARY NOTES

by
Susan Harvey



For the moment, our library has a fair amount of promising reading available. The latest Rotating Collection, which we understand will rotate no more but stay with us forever, does at least seem to have a number of books which look interesting. Recently, I have found the Large Print books more appealing, as I can often read them without reading glasses; and, to be honest, they are often thinner and lighter volumes. It makes a difference as you get older. Some hopeful new books in the Newfoundland Collection, also.

NOTE; Be prepared for Library hours to change to summer hours June 13 or 20. No opening on Friday at all, or Thursday evening.

(Non) -rotating collection

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----------------|
| 1. <i>Seas of Crisis</i> | | Joe Buff |
| 2. <i>Body Work</i> | | Sara Paretsky |
| 3. <i>The Bishop at the Lake</i> | LP | Andrew Greeley |
| 4. <i>Old Bones</i> | LP | J A O'Brien |
| 5. <i>All the Dead Voices</i> | LP | Decan Hughes |
| 6. <i>Three in Death</i> | LP | J D Robb |
| 7. <i>Darcy's Story</i> | | Janet Aylmer |

Newfoundland Collection

- | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| 8. <i>Wildlife Delights and Dilemmas</i>
<i>Newfoundland and Labrador</i> | | Neil F Payne |
| 9. <i>You Could Believe in Nothing</i> | | Jamie Fitzpatrick |
| 10. <i>That Far Greater Bay</i> | | Ray Guy |
| 11. <i>A Nation Worth Ranting About</i> | | Rick Mercer |

1. *Seas of Crisis* is pure fiction, we hope, as it is set in the context of a world war in which Germany and the Boers of South Africa have united in an entity to take over the world. They might not manage if ALL the other nations were against them; but Russia, though claiming to be neutral, is secretly helping the Germans—most meaningfully by providing them with all kinds of weapons and sophisticated military equipment. The action of this book deals almost entirely with submarine warfare. Jeffrey Fuller is the commander of a submarine team which has been ordered to undertake a very secret mission which is supposed to insure that Russia will stop supporting the Germans; but if the mission does not go exactly to plan, the US could be destroyed. Lots of action under the polar ice, with submarines from both sides using star-wars-type equipment to pursue and attack each other. We have to hope that the basic premise of the story is improbable, but we still really want it to turn out well, and it is hard to put the book down.

2. *Body Work* is basically V.I. Warshawski trying to solve some rather exotic murders in a Chicago night club. A main character is the Body Artist, who allows club patrons to paint pictures on her naked body; some who do wind up dead. As usual, there are organised crime types who have their own reasons for sponsoring the act; and there are also the usual enforcer-types who threaten Vic and others with violence if they don't co-operate. In the end, some of the pictures turn out to have a surprising connection to some casualties in the war in Afghanistan. Lots of action.

3. *The Bishop at the Lake* is a totally different kind of book. Still

some unpleasant characters, but not very violent. A couple of determined, though unsuccessful attempts at murder within an extended family supposedly spending a pleasant month together at their summer home on Lake Michigan. Bishop Blackie, as usual, is friends with everybody, and manages to work out who really wanted the victims dead. Easy reading, lots of the Bishop's family activities—even including a little religion.

4. *Old Bones* is a British procedural of sorts. Bones of a young woman are found buried in an unsettled area near the town; and all that is initially known is that they have been there for about five years. The police check on all the young women reported as missing at about that time, and find that there seem to be a surprising number of connections between them. The team talks to the families and friends of the women, and finally they figure out how some of the connections work out. Several confessions help to sort things out; and finally they discover who actually committed at least two murders. Easy reading.

5. *All the Dead Voices* claims to be a mystery novel set in Ireland, but the mystery is pretty much lost in 400+ pages of criminal violence and thuggery involving the IRA, INLA and various drug cartels. The mystery does get sort of solved, but there is no real resolution. Maybe you have to be Irish to get into it.

6. *Three Threads in Death* is a bit of a change from Ms Robb's (Nora Roberts') usual style. Basically the main difference is that the three stories in the book are set in the future (2058-2060). It seems to be accepted that cars can fly, and people can go off-planet, but not much is made of it. The main action is pretty much as usual: Eve Dallas bravely dealing with vicious criminals in between steamy sex interludes with her husband.

7. *Darcy's Story* is the story of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* told from the point of view of the man in the story. Jane Austen fans will be glad to hear that the story is very faithful to her original one; very much the same tone. Still a romantic story, but nothing physical.

8. *Wildlife Delights and Dilemmas* gives a lot of information about wildlife in our province. The author is a CFA who originally worked here from 1967-1971. He seems to have formed a real bond with our wildlife; even though he then returned to the States to work, he came back many times and had a great influence on wildlife management here. Even before 1900 there were many experiments importing various animals to the province; some more successful than others. Moose were an obvious success; but when Dr Grenfell brought in reindeer, they not only did not survive, but were afflicted with brainworms, which still seriously affect the native caribou. The book tells many stories of working with different animals, sometimes with funny incidents. The last chapter, however, about the effects of developments such as the Upper Churchill on wildlife, is not amusing. Apparently in 1984 heavy rain and release of water from one of the dams caused the drowning deaths of 10,000 caribou! This was a single incident, on top of all the caribou already gone because of the submerging of their habitat. Mr Payne does feel that our wildlife biologists have made a good effort to protect our wildlife in spite of being split up in several different government departments and not funded well enough to enforce the laws which would do the job. He plainly feels that we are lucky to live in a province so rich in wildlife; but obviously we need to be careful not to let the hydroelectric, oil and mining projects destroy our natural heritage.

Continued on the next page

Card of Thanks

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE BRUCE SHEPPARD of Lark Harbour wish to thank all those whose kindness has helped us through the difficult time of the passing of our dear husband and father.

Special thanks go to those who gave donations and gifts of food.

Thanks also to the Pallbearers; to Howard Childs, Johnny and Melanie, for their beautiful music; and to the relatives and friends who gave freely of their love and support in our time of need.

Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

From Joy and Family.

Library column continued from previous page

9. *You Could Believe in Nothing* calls itself a Newfoundland novel, and perhaps the style is authentic Newfoundland; but I found it very hard to get into. Maybe it is more typical of St. John's than where I have lived. Tell me if you finish it.

10. *That Far Greater Bay* seems especially appropriate reading now when we have just learned of Mr. Guy's death. Now reprinted from the original 1977 printing, it is still very enjoyable reading. Mr. Guy's writing is always funny, but also very perceptive. Some of his remarks about politicians still could be referring to current events in Ottawa and Toronto. And everywhere else in Canada. His accounts of "juvenile outharbour delights", including "catching conners" and "randying" will remind lifetime Newfoundlanders of happy times in the past. Even those of us who are not born Newfoundlanders can relate to them and maybe feel a bit jealous. An easy fun read.

11. *A Nation Worth Ranting About* is a good collection of Rick Mercer's rants over 4-5 years, ending early 2012. Most of them were published in newspapers, but there are a few longer ones which may have come from television. Senator Duffy was featured in Rick's rants long before the recent developments, it seems, and pretty funny, too. I think Stephen Harper comes off even worse than poor Joey did with Ray Guy.

THE MONARCHY, YES OR NO?

IT'S 60 YEARS AGO TODAY, 1953 June 03, that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne of Great Britain and the Commonwealth of Nations, which includes Canada. That same year Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay reached the summit of Mount Everest, a fitting event to match the Coronation, and they accomplished it only a few days earlier. I remember the Coronation Day very well, and also the film about Tenzing's and Hillary's achievement, which we were shown in school shortly afterwards.

On Coronation Day I was twelve years old, and we were given the day off school to celebrate. We had no television in our house, but some friends of my grandparents did, and I watched the event for several hours at their house. It was a very wet day, unfortunately, but even so our spirits were not dampened.

Since those days I have gone through a few different opinions on the Monarchy. As a student in university in England, I was an abolitionist, with even more left-leaning ideas than I have now. But when I left England a dozen or so years later and came to Canada →

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

2013 JUNE 03



PICTURED ABOVE ARE SOME of the Lark Harbour and York Harbour volunteers who collected and sorted the food donated to the Bay of Islands Food Bank *Christmas in June* drive.

L-R they are: Joanne Rotchford, Carol Rice, Shelley Swift, Doreen O'Brien (visitor), Joanne Sheppard, Donna Lee Joyce, Susan Harvey (local Food Bank representative), Monica Rotchford, Bridget Swift, Brady Sheppard, Aleah Park, Bernice Joyce, Lorraine Humber, Dorothy Perry, Randy Sheppard, Chloe Connolly, Olivia Perry and, very small and almost hidden by some of the food, Sophie Swift. Missing from the picture are: Jacqueline Sheppard, Patrick Sheppard, Taylor Ann Sheppard, Jessica Youden, and Robert & Evelyn Sheppard who collected; also Don Travers, who willingly transported the 50 or so boxes of food to Corner Brook, and Terry Sheppard who helped him load his truck.

Thanks to all community residents who so generously donated the food items, and especially to those who so willingly gave their time to collecting, sorting, packing and transporting it. It is also particularly gratifying to see the number of young people who helped and clearly enjoyed the whole event, and we congratulate their parents who encouraged them to become involved in this excellent community effort.

On its arrival in Corner Brook, the food from our towns is combined with that from the other Bay of Islands communities and then distributed to the two Food Bank outlets where qualifying residents may obtain supplies to help them through difficult times. Joy Connors, administrator of the Bay of Islands Food Bank, stated that collections around the Bay on this occasion were satisfactory and comparable with ours, so it seems that the entire project has once more been successful, thanks to the customary generosity of the people in all areas of the Bay of Islands.

← my opinions began to change, and now I see the Monarchy under Elizabeth Windsor as a bastion of stability in a world which is increasingly unstable. Of course, at age 87 she is unlikely to be with us much longer—even less if she decides to retire—and how the Monarchy will function under her successor remains to be seen. However I think we need to give that successor a chance.

In the meantime, for my own part, I support her calm, level-headed comments whenever she speaks publicly.

God Save the Queen