

LARK HARBOUR

THE

YORK HARBOUR

BLOW·ME·DOWNER

OF THE OUTER BAY OF ISLANDS, NEWFOUNDLAND

ISSUE 113: 2017-09-01

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2017 September 01 Friday

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TALL SHIPS OVERNIGHT IN LARK HARBOUR



The barque *Europa* was built in Hamburg, Germany in 1911 and was originally a lightship on the River Elbe where it operated until 1977. The ship was later fitted out as a sail-training vessel and has voyaged to many parts of the world. Click [here](#) for further information.

On Thursday 2017 July 27th residents of Lark Harbour were honoured by the visits of four tall ships which stayed overnight in the shelter of our harbour. It must be many years since so many beautiful sailing vessels were together here, perhaps not since the old fishing schooners gathered here on their way to or from the Labrador.

Top Left: *Fair Jeanne* (white hull) and *When and If* (black hull)

Top Right: *When and If* and *Lord Nelson*

Lower: *Europa*

The vessels then went on to Corner Brook the next day to participate in the City's WestFest on the weekend.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LH=Lark Harbour YH=York Harbour JB=John's Beach
 HC=Holy Communion MP=Morning Prayer EP=Evening Prayer
 P&P=Prayer & Praise HB=Baptism MHS=Mem Hymn Sing
 ● = Full Moon

2017 SEPTEMBER 2017

3rd Sun LH, 7:00pm
 4th Mon Labour Day
 6th Wed ● Full Moon
 10th Sun LH, 11:00am
 17th Sun LH, 11:00am
 22nd Fri Autumn Equinox
 24th Sun LH, 11:00am

2017 OCTOBER 2017

1st Sun LH, 7:00pm
 5th Thur ● Full Moon (Harvest Moon)
 8th Sun Thanksgiving, 11:00am
 9th Mon Thanksgiving Holiday, Canada
 15th Sun LH, 11:00am
 22nd Sun LH, 11:00am
 24th Tues United Nations Day
 29th Sun CLUSTER SERVICE

2017 NOVEMBER 2017

3rd Sun LH, 7:00pm; Then 10th, 17th, 24th, all 11:00am
 4th Sat ● Full Moon
 11th Sat Remembrance Day

2017 ADVANCE DATES 2017

Dec 3rd Sun ● Full Moon
 21st Thur Winter Solstice
 25th Mon **Christmas Day**

Please note that church service times listed above may be rescheduled due to the departure on September 1 of Rev David Taylor to his new responsibility at the Synod in Corner Brook. An update will be provided when available.

GOODBYE AND BEST WISHES TO REV & MRS TAYLOR

We also take this opportunity to thank Rev and Mrs Taylor for their inspiring ministry during their short stay in our Parish. They have been well-liked here for their effective, energetic and friendly ministry which we all will miss. We take this opportunity to wish Rev David similar success in his new responsibilities at the Synod Office, and we hope that he will not be a stranger in our Parish.

BUSINESS & ORGANISATION DIRECTORY

- **Byrne's Store, Main Street, York Harbour**
groceries, hardware, gas & diesel, souvenirs 681-2040
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  - **Captain Cook B&B & Cottages, York Harbour**  
 Email: [info@captaincookbb.ca](mailto:info@captaincookbb.ca) 681-2906; 1-877-681-2906  
 ~~~~~
 - **Creative Photography by Linda, 131 Main St, Lark Hr**
 Email: creativephotographyraphybylinda9@gmail.com
 131 Main St, Lark Harbour 709 681-2255
 ~~~~~
  - **Curling ONE Stop Service Station, Corner Brook**  
*automotive repairs, servicing, fuel* 785-2619  
 ~~~~~
 - **Drop In Lounge, 23 Main Street, Lark Harbour**
entertainment, food, licenced 681-2103
 ~~~~~
  - **Eddie Joyce, MHA, Bay of Islands, Corner Brook**  
*Member, House of Assembly, St John's. NL* 634-7883  
 ~~~~~
 - **Gudie Hutchings, MP, Long Range Mountains, NL**
Member of Parliament, Canada. 709 637-4540
 ~~~~~
  - **Sheppard's Clover Farm Store, Lark Harbour**  
*groceries, hardware, gas, Sears agency, marine* 681-2160  
 ~~~~~
 - **The Roost, Gift Shop and Gallery, York Harbour**
sea glass, paintings, handmade glass beads 681-2341
 ~~~~~
- ● ● Please support our local enterprises ● ● ●

Visit our [Webpage](#) to review eleven years of past issues of

## The BLOW•ME•DOWNER

Items of local, national & world interest, editorial opinion, obituaries, historical information, photographs, and even some previously unpublished fiction at [www.blowmedowner.webs.com](http://www.blowmedowner.webs.com)

*Remember, it's true, like The BMD,  
 The best things in life are always free*

#### A NOTE ABOUT BMD IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS

Some readers have asked what happened to the BMD since May. Issues were produced very month since Issue 87 of 2015 March. In most previous years there have been no issues during the winter months and in August, but after more than 2 years, I was ready for a break. I have also been dealing with some health issues that have required regular trips to the hospital. Regular publication is planned to resume as of this September issue.

Apologies to our readers, and many thanks for your interest and patience. — SLH

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT DONALD TRUMP

I make no apology for the space devoted in the BMD to the antics of America's 45<sup>th</sup> President, Donald J Trump. Never before has there been a President like the Donald (and hopefully there will never be another!) His policies, if they can qualify for such a title, will unfortunately have a prolonged negative effect on both his country and the world. If the effects were limited to the United States, it would not matter so much to the rest of us; but despite our best efforts many of those changes will affect Canadians, and also countless other millions around the world who have had nothing to say in the creation of those measures.

One of the most pernicious of his utterances is his complete denial of *Global Climate Warming*. This is not always obvious in the short term because we have not experienced consistent warming changes, but rather erratic and unexpected variations in what used to be something we were able to understand to a limited degree. The intense cold, stormy conditions such as Newfoundland and many other locations experienced in the last couple of winters, do not exactly fit into the concept of *climate warming*. Moreover, these winter conditions are not as consistent as we remember them, but are frequently replaced with equally unexpected mild spells. The summers have also often brought intense heat and drought as in parts of western Canada, eastern Europe, and Australia. These regions, and others around the planet, have often suffered enormous environmental damage and destruction of homes, property and resources —as in Fort McMurray last year and British Columbia. In eastern Europe this summer people are dying from intense heat, and scientists are projecting that these conditions are only likely to become more frequent and intense.

A [report in the British journal \*The Lancet Planetary Health\*](#) forecasts that *yearly deaths caused by extreme weather could soar 50 times from 3,000 between 1981 and 2010 to 152,000 between 2071 and 2100.*

It has also been pointed out that the ice caps at the north and south polar regions are melting at increasing speed, causing a world-wide rise in sea levels everywhere except perhaps in a very few locations where tectonic movement is causing the land surface to rise. It has been estimated that on a world-wide basis ocean levels are rising by only a few millimetres per year (perhaps only an eighth of an inch) but as the process accumulates and speeds up the “flywheel effect” becomes important.

Given that most of the world's population live relatively close to the sea on low-lying ground such as river deltas, we face the problem of *Where will these people go as the oceans rise?* Given also that most of the earth's agricultural land is at a low altitude usually quite close to the oceans, more of this valuable land will be subject to flooding by salt water which renders the land unsuitable for most crops. Building seawalls may help on a small scale, but financial cost will limit protection to only a small proportion of lowland.

Donald Trump, President of the world's greatest economic power, has declared that global warming is a myth, and he has disbanded or reduced many of the watchdog organisations in the USA. These organisations have provided vital information from many world locations, and their demise is resulting in less knowledge of meteorological phenomena that enables us to plan the most effective responses to it.

It will be interesting to witness Trump's response if one of his resort properties like [Mar-a-Lago](#) in Palm Beach, Florida, a notoriously low-lying strip of land only a few feet above high tide

level in an area where storm surges are well-known, experiences increased flooding as time passes. Rest assured, however, that as a multi-billionaire, his properties will be as well-protected against the ravages of nature as possible. Perhaps he should take a warning from Robbie Burns's poem *Mouse* (see opposite column). Or is the Donald conceited enough to fancy himself as a modern [King Canute](#) who can order the waves to recede at his command? Remember also, he has already passed his allotted threescore years and ten, and may not be around long enough to see much more change in sea levels or anything else!

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## ARCTIC STRONGHOLD OF WORLD'S SEEDS FLOODED AFTER PERMAFROST MELTS

### A CAUTIONARY TALE WE HAVE NOT HEEDED

This potentially unfortunate event reminded me of a famous poem: According to anecdotal belief, the [Scottish poet Robert Burns](#) (whose birthday on 1759 January 25 is celebrated by Scots all around the world) was ploughing a field in December 1785 when the ploughshare encountered the nest of a mouse, totally destroying it. (See Note 1)

The poet saw what had happened to the nest, and was moved by it, comparing the little creature's misfortune of losing her house in midwinter to some of the disasters that affect our human condition. Burns wrote the poem [To a Mouse](#) and left us one of the most meaningful quotations of all time:

*The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men  
Gang aft a-gley,  
An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain,  
For promis'd joy!*

The Scottish dialect may sound strange to us, but the meaning is simple and within everyone's experience:

*The best-made plans of mice and men  
Go often wrong,  
And leave us nothing but grief and pain,  
For promised joy!*

The problem at the [World Seeds Vault](#) in [Svalbard](#) echoes the misfortune of the mouse. And it is just one of many similarly unexpected recent events around the world. It seems that nowadays, with global warming effects causing floods, landslides, violent storms and other cataclysmic events, if we earthlings hope to survive on our little planet we must prepare ourselves much better for events like the one Robbie Burns' little mouse experienced.

The flooding of the Svalbard Seed Vault demonstrates very well that humanity's best plans may frequently be rendered less effective than we thought, and we must expect more similar events. But sadly we are a long time learning the century-old lesson of [RMS Titanic](#), which set out on her maiden voyage in 1912 with an estimated 2,224 passengers and crew, but lifeboats enough for only 1,178 of the people on board. *They will not be needed*, some official decided.

We need to deploy much more of our scientific, technological and intellectual resources on useful ends rather than on developing ever more effective ways of destroying each other, before it is too late.

Brute force rarely solves anything, But will we ever learn?

— SLH

NOTE 1 - *In most parts of the UK farmers can usually plough the land even in winter, and can plant some crops, such as potatoes, as early as March.*



## Obituary

**ELIZABETH SYLVIA SHEPPARD**

1925 November 13 - 2017 June 9

It was with great sadness that the family of the late Elizabeth Sheppard announced her passing on Friday, June 9, 2017 at the Corner Brook Long Term Care at the age of 91 years.

Elizabeth left to mourn with fond and loving memories her sons: Keith (Rosalie), Kevin (Mabel) and Lee (Dale); daughter Faye; grandchildren: Pamela (Dennis), Lorne (Linda), Blaine (Tammy), Coralee (Scott) and Dion (Jamie); great-grandchildren: Jordan, Adam, Ryan, Jacob, Dylan, Alex and Beth; sister-in-law Maxine Burton; brothers-in-law Lloyd and Rex; as well as a large circle of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Elizabeth was predeceased by her husband Wilfred (2005), son Gordon, daughter Mabel Joyce, parents Edward and Dora Park, aunt Renee and uncle Harry Sheppard.

A special thank you to the staff of 2 North and Dr Butt.

Friends visited Fillatre's Funeral Home, 218 Curling Street on Sunday from the hours of 2-4 & 7-9 pm. The funeral service was held on Monday, June 12 at 2:00 pm from St James Anglican Church, Lark Harbour with Rev David Taylor officiating. Interment followed at the Anglican Cemetery, Lark Harbour.

As expressions of sympathy, donations were made to Long Term Care 2 North or St James Anglican Church, Lark Harbour. The family guest book could be signed by visiting [www.fillatre.ca](http://www.fillatre.ca).



## Obituary

**GRANT ALEXANDER SHEPPARD**

1985 February 06 - 2017 July 30

It was with heavy hearts that the family of Grant Alexander Sheppard announced his passing on Sunday, July 30, 2017 at the age of 32 years.

He left to mourn with loving memories his parents Angus and Ruth Sheppard; brother: Garrett Sheppard his fiancée Brittany Park and their children Marrisah and Landon; girlfriend Diane Farnell and his furry friend Oscar; aunts and uncles:

Madonna (Ben) Childs, Margaret (Joseph) Hynes, Jessica Bailey, Melissa Kendell, Winston (Dorothy) Childs, Louise (Russell) Park, Irene (George) Cake, Austin (Lena) Childs, Mildred (Austin) Sheppard, Faye Childs (Barry Garland), Llewellyn (Marlaine) Childs, Ruby (Paul) Sheppard, Nancy (Kirby) Price; special godson Zachary, as well as a large circle of cousins and friends.

Grant was predeceased by his grandparents Llewellyn & Mary Childs and Harvey & Ella Sheppard. In keeping with Grant's wishes cremation has taken place and there was no visitation.

The funeral service was held at St James Anglican Church, Lark Harbour, on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 2:00pm, with Rev Granter officiating. Interment followed at St James Anglican Church cemetery.

As expressions of sympathy, flowers were graciously accepted or donations made to the SPCA or a charity of one's choice. The family guest book could be signed by visiting [www.country-haven.ca](http://www.country-haven.ca).

**WATER & SEWER PROJECT**

Work on the Lark Harbour Water & Sewer Project has, as of Monday 2017 August 07, Monday, finally resumed, but it was several weeks ago that we were informed that funding was imminent, if not actually apparent.

It has been one of those projects subject to the "yesterday, tomorrow, but never today" syndrome. However work has really begun with machines and huge excavations along Main Street between Murrins' Hill and Big Brook Bridge. It must be at least three years since the installation of the access road, the dam, and a couple of kilometres of pipeline, now, presumably, costing us in our town taxes, but giving us no benefit from it except hope. According to official sources, the Water Filtration Plant is also being constructed this year.

One has to be a little sceptical about this start time, too. It would have been good to see work beginning by the end of April, allowing from May to November, seven months, rather than the three or maybe four months of reasonable construction time remaining for this year. The weather has a major effect on such construction work, and surely inclement weather is not only unpleasant and potentially more dangerous for those at work, but the quality of work being done may be affected. Such work would be better limited to months when the

*Continued in column at right*

*Continued from column at left*

weather is at least reasonable. But everyone knows that it is likely that we have a maximum of only three more months of suitable weather before winter sets in, plus the month already past, making a total of four months of construction for this year.

It should be pointed out that the delay is not to be blamed on our Town Council, who told me a couple of months ago that they were all set to deal with tenders and for the funding to be released by the Provincial Government. But someone somewhere must have fallen asleep at the wheel.

Meanwhile, some of us are desperately in need of a reliable and potable water supply, and a decent means of disposing of sewage. These are not luxuries any more, but necessities in a modern community. In this age of increased pollution and climate change it behoves us, despite denials loudly trumpeted by a certain individual south-of-the-border whose life has precluded personal experience of any imperfect plumbing systems, we need a better, clean water supply.

Anyway, drive particularly carefully along the affected section of Main Street. Some of those excavations are *very deep*, and a truck or car could easily be lost in one of them until next year's construction season!

— SLH

## Obituary

**FRANK CHESLEY CARBERRY**

1933 June 22 - 2017 April 16

It was with great sadness that the family of the late Frank Carberry announced his passing at his residence in York Harbour on Sunday, April 16, 2017, at the age of 83 years.



He is deeply missed by his daughter Brenda; son Tony; stepdaughter Lorraine Penney; grandchildren: Melissa, Heather, Savannah, Billy and Frank; great-grandchildren: Shailynn, Summer and Ben; siblings: Fred, Ross (Audrey), George (Marcella), Vera (Frank) Colson, Frances (Allan) Robbins and Barbara (Don) Kavanagh; as well as a large circle of nieces, nephews, other relatives and his many friends from York Harbour, who were his extended family. He was predeceased by his wife Ruby (née Snow); parents Martin and Pearl; siblings: Max and Jean; sisters-in-law: Sylvia and Rowena, and his brother-in-law Garfield.

In keeping with Frank's wishes, there was no formal visitation. A celebration of Frank's life took place at Country Haven Funeral Chapel, 167 Country Road on Friday, April 21, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Cremation followed with interment being held at Mt Patricia Cemetery on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 1:00pm. As expressions of sympathy, in lieu of flowers, donations were graciously accepted by the family. The family guestbook could be signed by visiting [www.country-haven.ca](http://www.country-haven.ca).

**WHITE CARS AND TRUCKS**

Have you noticed an increase in the number of white private cars and pickup trucks on the roads of NL during the last year or two? I don't know of any statistics on how many of the various different colours of private vehicles are being sold, but there seems to be a marked increase in the number of white ones I see as I travel in the Corner Brook area. I am speaking of *pure, pristine, white*, not almost pure white, or vehicles with other colours as well as white. I have also noticed more such vehicles in the dealers' parking areas, and I would estimate that white ones number more than any other single colour on most dealers' lots, perhaps as many as one white vehicle among five of other colours. My own vehicle is a 2015 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport, and the manufacturer calls the colour 'Canyon Gold', but the NL licencing bureau calls it 'orange'.

It seems to me that, although white vehicles look very smart when they are clean and new, but in dirty driving conditions that prevail on our local roads for most of the year, white is the colour most likely to show dirt and damage from flying gravel etc. Do the owners of those vehicles wash them very frequently to maintain such appearance?

On a recent one hour trip, I counted 100 white vehicles. Has anyone else noticed all these white vehicles?

## Obituary

**PHILIP GILBERT**

1926 October 03 - 2017 February 25

It was with great sadness that the family of the late Philip Gilbert announced his passing at Western Memorial Regional Hospital on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at the age of 90 years.



He left to mourn his loving companion Mary Brake; son Alex Gilbert; sisters: Maisie Hynes, Corner Brook and Jenosene MacIntosh, Scarborough, ON; his friends and the staff at the Lohnes Complex; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was predeceased by his wife Geneva (Knott); parents May (Norman) and Charles Gilbert; brothers: Raymond, Wesley, Cyril and Douglas; sisters: Delphine Roberts, Emily Park, Mary Sheppard, and Matilda Sheppard.

Visitation took place at Country Haven Funeral Home, 167 Country Road on Monday February 27, from 2-4 & 7-9pm, and at St James Church, Lark Harbour, on Tuesday February 28, from 12 noon to 1pm. The funeral service was held also on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 2:00pm from St James Anglican Church with Rev David Taylor officiating. Interment followed at the Anglican Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy, donations were made to St James Anglican Church Memorial Fund. The family guest book could be signed by visiting [www.country-haven.ca](http://www.country-haven.ca).

**ISRAELI GOVERNMENT DESTROYS PALESTINIAN SCHOOLS IN WEST BANK**

After the visit by Israeli PM Netanyahu with President Trump some months ago, when warm words were spoken about improved relations between Israel and Palestine, at least three brand new school buildings funded by the European Union within days of their opening for a new school year. The excuse given by Israeli authorities was that these buildings violated stop-work orders issued because they had not received the required building permits. One wonders why.

Fortunately there are no reports of personal injuries to children or adults over these needlessly destructive acts, but damage to inter-racial relations is likely to be significant in an environment where feelings between Israelis and Palestinians have run high for years.

One also has to question the effect these incidents which, says the EU, are numbered among about a hundred others, including social infrastructure such as water systems and even homes provided by the EU during the past year. The Palestinians plan to continue with makeshift schools in tents, rather than allow their children to miss their education.

I wonder if we will hear any censuring comments from our Federal Government on this shameful treatment of the Palestinians?

Read also: <http://mondoweiss.net/2017/08/israeli-destroy-childrens/>

## CANADIAN COAST GUARD SHIP SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER REPLACES MARKER BUOY AT LARK HARBOUR, SPRING 2017



### CCGS SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER

Class and type: Martha L Black-class light icebreaker, buoy tender  
 Tonnage: 3,727.2 Gross Tons / 1,503 Net Tons  
 Displacement: 4,662 long tons (4,737 t) full load  
 Length: 83 m (272 ft 4 in)  
 Beam: 16.2 m (53 ft 2 in)  
 Draft: 5.8 m (19 ft 0 in)  
 Ice class: Arctic Class 2  
 Propulsion: 3 ALCO 251F diesel engines, 5,250 kW 7,040hp and 2 fixed pitch propellers; and bow thrusters.  
 Speed: 16 knots (30 km/h)  
 Range: 6,500 nmi (12,000 km) at 13.7 knots (25.4 km/h)  
 Endurance: 120 days Complement: 26  
 Aircraft carried: 1 x MBB Bo 105 helicopter  
 Facilities: Helicopter flight deck and hangar  
 Builder: Marine Industries, Tracy, Quebec, Yard #: 451  
 Launched: 23 Oct 1986 Commissioned: 13 Feb 1987  
 In service: 1987–present, Refit: 1998

The vessel was designed as an icebreaker ([Arctic Class 2](#)) and was built at Marine Industries Ltée of Tracy, QC, in 1986-7. That shipyard closed around 1995 and now lies idle. The ship visited Lark Harbour on Saturday 2017 May 06 in the early morning.



*For more information and videos on the world's largest and most powerful icebreakers, read on:*

If you are interested in viewing a video of the largest and most powerful icebreaker in the world, the Russian nuclear-powered vessel named *Fifty Years of Victory*, click [HERE](#). The actual name of the ship in Russian is "50 Лет Победы". (Pronounced PYAT'DESAT LET POBEDY)

Also view [Voyage to the North Pole](#), a one hour video which covers the *Victory's* entire trip, a cruise from Murmansk, Russia's Arctic Ocean port, to the North Pole and back.

Construction of this ship began in 1989, to celebrate in 1995 fifty years since the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945. The video details much information in an interesting video and commentary about the ship, its operation, and the entire journey, including passengers landing from the ship at the Geographic North Pole. There are also many scenes from the ship, showing polar bears and other Arctic ocean animals and birds.

Since the commission of *Victory*, a newer and larger version, named [Artika](#), was launched in 2016 and is expected to be operational in 2019.

If you want to take this [cruise to remember](#) on the *50 Years of Victory*, you can book the 14 day trip by Quark Expeditions for US\$28,695 in 2018 for either June 13 - 26 or June 24 - July7. First you fly to Helsinki, Finland, and then take a charter flight to Murmansk, Russia. Expensive, but apparently luxurious and well operated. But you might learn Russian free of charge,