



The Bowring Park Trumpet

Fall 2004
Newsletter

- Bowring Park a place of reflection.
- Annual meeting held
- The swans of King VI return.
- The Master Plan prepares the Park for future growth.
- Duck food pays
- Chairman thanks volunteers

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Lest We Forget

In Flanders Fields

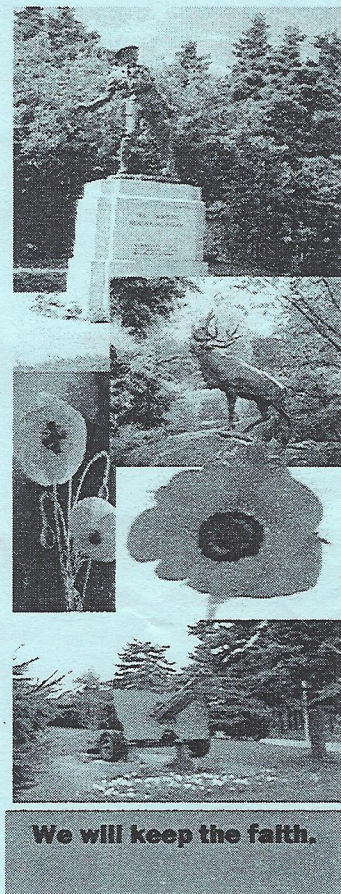
*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields*

Punch
Dec 8-1915

John McCrae



We will keep the faith.

We Remember Those Who Sacrificed

Bowring Park embraces three distinct monuments dedicated to the memory of those who paid the ultimate price.

The Caribou, a gift of Major William Howe Green, was unveiled on Memorial Day 1928. This monument stands as a tribute to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. A

bronze cross located near the Caribou bears the inscriptions of the battle honours won by the Regiment.

The Fighting Newfoundlander, donated by Sir. Edgar R. Bowring, was unveiled on September 13, 1922. This city land-mark will forever remain, as its inscription says,

"A Tribute To The Undying Memory Of The Royal Newfoundland Regiment 1914-1918".

The Field Gun, donated to Bowring Park in September 1967, stands as a tribute to all Newfoundland and Labrador field gunners of World War II.

2004 Peter Pan Festival A Big Success

By: Evelyn Bennett

The annual two-day Peter Pan Festival got underway on Aug. 21 to the delight of thousands of park visitors. The weather threatened to be uncooperative however each day saw all scheduled events proceed without any problems.

The Foundation received a HRDC summer student employment grant that allowed the recruitment of two students as Event Coordinators. Corey Park and Amanda Day put their newly learned skills from the

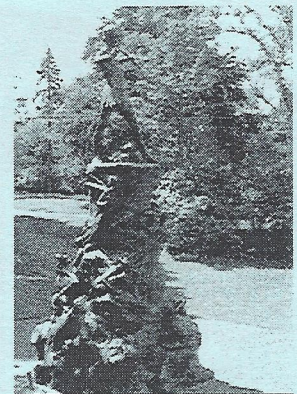
marketing Program at the College of the North Atlantic to work in planning, organizing and operating a Festival with appeal to families and people of all ages.

This years Festival included live entertainment at the Cabot 500 Amphitheatre, the popular show & shine car show, soap-box derby, sports challenges, not-for-profit partnered activities and inflatable kiddy rides.

A goal of the Foundation is to

keep costs to the public as low as possible. There was no entry fee and many of the activities were free of charge. The public and the business community were very generous with sponsorships and donations.

The two day Festival could not operate without the cooperation of a large number of volunteers. The Foundation thanks the City of St. John's, the Park Staff, Aliant Pioneers, the Fort Pepperell & Fort Townsend Cadets & all other volunteers and sponsors for their help.



20,000 people visit Bowring Park during two day Peter Pan Festival

Did You Know?



Bowring Park was once known as Rae Island Farm.

The first concrete bridge ever constructed in all of Newfoundland was in Bowring Park.

Six swans that were introduced to the Duck Pond on July 1, 1946 were from the personal collection of King George VI.

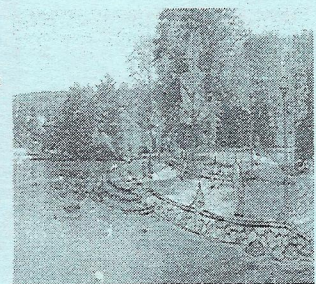
There are over 400 varieties of trees in Bowring Park

Let Them Eat Duck Food

The waterfowl at the Duck Pond in Bowring Park are eating well these days. In fact, Park visitors who feed the ducks, geese and swans have purchased over \$10,000.00 worth of the duck food according to figures released at the Foundation's AGM. The Duck food is

packaged for the Foundation by The Button Shop, a division of Vera Perlin Industries and distributed all year long through all Marie's Mini Marts located throughout the city and at the Lodge during the summer. The message seems is getting out that the bread scraps are not a

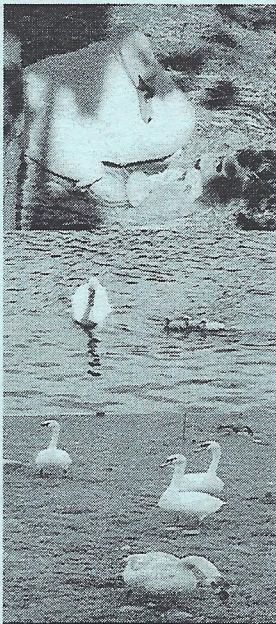
good idea nutritionally for the birds and bad for ecology of the waterways. The money raised through the sale of the duck food assists the Bowring Park Foundation with its mandate of Park restoration and development.



The Duck Pond

Cygnets in Bowring Park

By: Murray Smith



All in the family

The first of the two pairs of swans that the Foundation gave to the City this spring gave birth in May.

Mother laid five eggs but only four hatched. Unfortunately, the last born had problems from birth starting with having trouble getting out of its shell; even after going to a spa (Roland Peddle's incubator) to get rejuvenated, this fellow never got up to full speed. Another died after falling off its mother and landing on its back; we subsequently learned that they will have a heart attack if left on their back. And unable to right themselves.

From the bottom picture (left) taken October 30th, you can see that the two surviving cygnets are nearly as big as Mom and Dad and are doing great. By the way, the difference in the cygnets' colouring comes from variations in their dominate genes. Within two years, they will both be pure white, black footed and have orange bills just like Mom and Dad. By then they will be mature enough to discern which sex they are.

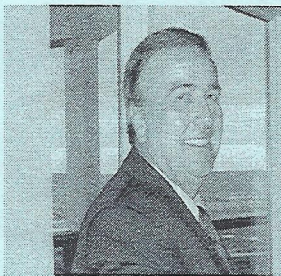
The Foundation's project of bringing back swans to Bowring Park has been a great success.

The swans' presence have given enormous enjoyment to the visitors of both Bowring Park and Mundy Park. In the future, more ponds in St. John's will benefit from this gift. We take this opportunity to again acknowledge our appreciation for the sponsorship by Air Canada Cargo and the Elk's Club of St. John's along with the anonymous donor who collectively covered the costs incurred. We extend thanks to Melanie McLeod and her staff for all the care and attention they gave the swans, their efforts were terrific.

Chairman Delivers Report To AGM

"The establishment of the Endowment Fund makes a reality the original vision of Mr. Derrick Bowring"

John Downton



John Downton, chairman of the Bowring Park Foundation, in his report to the AGM, held at the Bowring Park Bungalow on 11/07/04, reported on the establishment of the Bowring Park Endowment Fund. Mr. Downton said "the establishment of the Endowment Fund makes a reality the original vision of Derrick Bowring that a

Trust be established to manage his financial gift for the benefit of Bowring Park." The Trust will be managed by three trustees. Besides Mr. Bowring, John Downton and Mike Power, both members of the Bowring Park Foundation's Executive, will serve as the initial trustees for a five-year term.

Following the initial term, the

number of trustees will remain at 3 with one appointee each from the City of St. John's and the Bowring Park Foundation. The third trustee will be a member of the Bowring family.

The Chairman extended a vote of thanks to G. Roebathan and his law firm who completed the legal work for the Trust at no cost to the Foundation.

Keith Coombs Gives Status of Master Plan.

"The Master Plan protects the heritage of the Park and plans for its future growth for the benefit of the thousands who use the park."

Keith Coombs

St. John's City Councilor Keith Coombs gave a status report on the Bowring Park Master Plan at the AGM earlier this month. Mr. Coombs said that following a Steering Committee meeting in June, the City undertook a round of public consultations to provide feed-back on the design proposals put forward.

The Councilor said that revisions to the plan are underway following direction provided by the Steering Committee as well as results of the park user survey compiled by the City. Major revisions to the plan include removal of a proposed mountain bike course, relocation of the off-leash dog park

to the Partici-park located between Waterford Bridge Rd. & the river. Other revisions include altering the size of the proposed field house, Reconstruction of Cherry Lodge former home of Sir. Richard Squires as well as a new swan barn. He said a second round of public meetings are planned.

Bowring Park Foundation Newsletter

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Support The Bowring
Park Foundation

Send us an article and
tell us what Bowring
Park has meant to you.



About The Bowring Park Foundation

The Bowring Park Foundation was established in 1995, as envisioned by Derrick Bowring, Honorary Patron of the Bowring Park Foundation, and living descendant of Benjamin Bowring, to undertake the restoration and further development of BOWRING PARK in St. John's. The scope of this vast undertaking will involve many and varied projects in the west section, as well as a major restoration and enhancement of the original 50 acre park.

Some of the projects that the Foundation has completed include the Cabot 500 Amphitheatre, a new steel arched bridge over Captain's Falls, and a major restoration of the conservatory. We have added two new accessible play structures to the playground and installed 20,000 sq. ft. of hard pack around the site.

Most recently the Duck Pond Restoration has been completed by the Grand Concourse Authority with financial assistance from ACOA.

The Foundation is recognized by Revenue Canada as a charitable organization (registration number 1045525-53). Donations are gratefully received at the Foundation office (see address below).

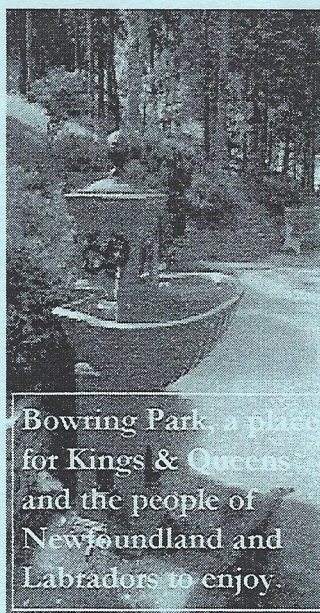
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John Downton Thanks Foundation Volunteers



Bowring Park, a place
for Kings & Queens
and the people of
Newfoundland and
Labradors to enjoy

The Chairman of the Bowring Park Foundation, John Downton, reported to the annual meeting of the Foundation that the organization continues to have an excellent working relationship with the St. John's City Council and Council staff. Mr. Downton also commented on the great support that the Foundation receives from the business community in the region in addition to the many individuals who have made generous contributions.

Those attending the AGM were informed that the Foundation is actively participating in the City of St. John's Steering Committee focusing on developing the Bowring Park Master Plan. Mr. Downton said that the work is progressing at a rate that is slower than we may wish, however, this is necessary he said in order that the Master Plan reflect the wishes of Park users to the greatest degree. Mr. Downton hoped that the Plan can move forward next year to a point where we can start a major project in the Park.

In his report Mr. Downton reported how pleased he was to be associated with the Grand Concourse Authority and to participate in the valuable work that the Authority has undertaken for the benefit of citizens in the St. John's area.

The Chairman thanked the Board and many of the Foundation's members who volunteered in many ways during the past year. Their work resulted in a very successful year for the Foundation. The Chairman encouraged members to continue their volunteer effort and to invite friends to join.