

The Bowring Park Trumpet

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2005

Summer in the Park Peter Pan Festival A Big Hit

Thousands of visitors came to Bowring Park to celebrate the 2005 Peter Pan Festival. Officials estimate that over thirteen thousand people came with their families and pets to enjoy the day. This is the sixth year for the Peter Pan Festival and crowds continue to grow. Highlights included soap-box derby car races, the Great Big Car Show and live performers entertaining at the Cabot 500 Amphitheatre. The event was sponsored by the Bowring Park Foundation in cooperation with the City of St. John's.

John Downton, chairman of the Foundation said "this event could not happen without the generous support of our corporate sponsors and

volunteers". Over forty St. John's and area businesses supported the Festival with donations of cash, goods or services.

The Great Big Car Show was a great big success with over 110 cars on display throughout the day. The impressive line-up of antique and classic cars drew high praise from the thousands who took time to view the exhibition.

Kids were treated to the annual Soapbox Derby Races open to children from ages 7 - 14 yrs. Over 170 participants showed their driving skills during the fun filled afternoon. Steve Cooney and John Lampkin and their talented Cadet Corps ran the track operations.

Sonya Abbott lead a cast of performers that entertained festival goers throughout the afternoon. Ten different groups regaled the crowd at the Cabot 500 Theatre that featured a variety of music and dance. The event was hosted by 99.1 Hit's DJ, Mickey T.



The Peter Pan Festival held in Bowring Park this past August was by all accounts a very successful event. Thousands of residents from St. John's and the surrounding area came to the Park for an enjoyable day with their families. Young mothers walked with their children, antique car enthusiasts were treated to the Avalon region's biggest car show and smiles were in abundance as many happy children took advantages of the fun activities available throughout the day. Erin Ryan and Kristen Williams were the event coordinators of this year's Peter Pan Festival.



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Looking Ahead • In This Issue

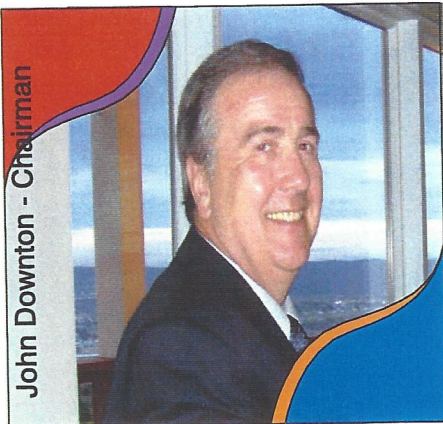
P2 Chairman hosts award luncheon, thanks Peter Pan festival organizers, invites public to the AGM.

P3 The Bungalow In Bowring Park, John Murphy in Reflection

P4 About the Bowring Park Foundation



Bowring Park Foundation Recognizes Supporters Chairman Hosts Awards Luncheon



The Foundation hosted a special luncheon at the the Bungalow in Bowring Park this summer to give thanks to many of the Park's supporters and volunteers. This is the second year that we have hosted this event and it is a way for the Foundation to pay special tribute to those who have assisted the Foundation's Board in achieving it's objectives. This year the Foundation recognized, John and Debbie Patton of Browning Harvey Limited, Marie Evans of Marie's Mini Mart and Elizabeth Coleman of New World Fitness. All three of these companies have been long-standing supporters of the Foundation.

The Peter Pan Festival was an outstanding success this year. The Foundation was very pleased with the level of support that we received from many organizations who participated in and supported the Festival. I would like to thank Erin Ryan and Kristen Williams who were the coordinators of this years event. Kudos also go to the City Hall staff who supported this year's Festival and to Evelyn Bennett, Administrative Assistant to the Board who worked tirelessly on behalf of the Foundation.

The 2005 Annual General Meeting will be held in November at the Bowring Park Bungalow. Notices will be sent to all members and a public notice will be carried in local newspapers. The meeting is open to the public and we encourage everyone to come and participate.

The Bowring Park Master Plan, that has been endorsed by the Foundation's Board, will go before St. John's City Council for ratification following the current municipal elections. The Foundation is anxious to see the plan move ahead and is looking forward to working with all of the stakeholders in implementing the strategy.

Did You Know?

Frederick Todd, the commissioned designer of the original 50 acres of Bowring Park trained in the firm owned by Frederick Law Olmstead Jr. Olmstead was the designer of New York's famous Central Park.

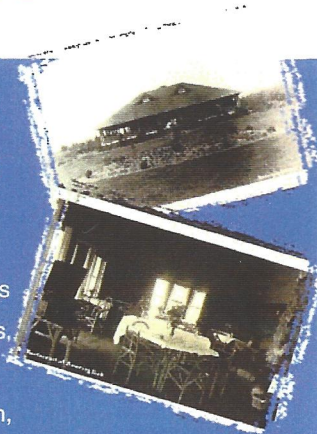
Bowring Park's landscape is described as being designed in a Victorian Romantic Picturesque style.



Beneath the Weeping Beech The Bungalow in Bowring Park



For the past eighty years The Bungalow has stood at the heart of Bowring Park in quiet majesty overlooking a sizeable area of unparalleled beauty on an expanse of lawn ringed by stately trees. Her grand veranda has welcomed Kings and Queens and children with ice-cream. Young lovers, smiling brides with handsome grooms starting a new life and seniors in reflection, have all been welcomed by this place called The Bungalow.



John Murphy in Reflection

“We could get on the train and travel to Bowring Park for ten cents. We would spend the day there swimming in the old pool that was located at the south brook in the Park. We also spent a lot of time playing tennis. It was very popular with all of my buddies at the time. When I got a little older we would walk to Bowring Park and save the ten cents, it was a lot of money in those days. “

John Murphy, former mayor of St. John's, reflecting on Bowring Park remembered fondly bright sunny days when he and his two sisters would go to the Park with his parents and enjoy a family picnic near the tennis courts. The

Murphy's were West Enders and Bowring Park was a big part of their life.

“I have always loved two things about the Park, the rivers and the flowers. The river on the north side of the Park, with its many brooks, waterfalls and great looking bridges, was a wonderful place to walk. I have always been a lover of flowers. Years ago I knew the Stanley family from Kilbride quite well. They planted most of the flowers in the Park in those days and I spent hours talking with them about that”. Another of John's favorite activities was to row one of the boats around the Duck Pond. *“We would always have a full day at Bowring Park,*



John Murphy and Ben

“I got a lot of enjoyment from Bowring Park”
John Murphy

there was lots to do, it's a wonderful place.”

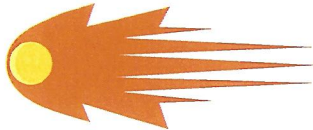
One of the things that bothers the former mayor most about Bowring Park is the loss of Cherry Lodge, the summer home of Sir Richard Squires. *“It was a great loss to the city of St. John's”*

But his greatest day in the Park was in 1997 when he had lunch at the Bungalow with the Queen and he witnessed Derrick Bowring present an endowment cheque to the Bowring Park Foundation. *“That was a great day.”*

Bowring Park Foundation Newsletter
Honorary Patron - Derrick Bowring



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Reminder

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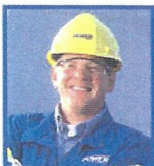


About The Foundation

The Bowring Park Foundation was established in 1995, as envisioned by Derrick Bowring, Honorary Patron of the Bowring Park Foundation, and living descendent 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.

Already the Foundation has completed a new steel arched bridge over Captain's Falls, and a major restoration of the Conservatory that is opened to the public. We have added two new accessible play structures to the playground and installed 20,000 sq ft. of hard pack around the site. The Foundation, working in cooperation with the City of St. John's, the Grand Concourse Authority and ACOA, have completed a major restoration of the Duck Pond. The Foundation is recognized by Revenue Canada as a charitable organization (registration number 89826 7471 RP0001). Donations are gratefully received at the Foundation office.

For further information please contact the Foundation's office (see contact information this page)



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