

THE GREY OWL SOCIETY

Bulletin No. 25



Edited by Betty Taylor

November : 2006

Contents

Page

1a	Colin Taylor : Ethnologist of the Plains Indians (A Memoir edited by Barry C. Johnson). 2006	
1b	Obituary : Derek Norcross, O.B.E. (1930-2006)	Betty Taylor
2	21 st Anniversary Special Publication. 2002.	
3 - 5	The Ethnological Content of Grey Owl's Writings Part IV : The Indian Cosmology	Dagmara Ginter
6 - 7	The Angele Egwuna Project : Arlington Hoffman's Exhibition, Kennedy Gallery, North Bay, Ontario	
8 - 10	Celebrating the centenary of Anahareo's Birth. Mattawa, Ontario	
11 - 12	Grey Owl Discovered in Norfolk	Sheila French
13 - 14	Society's Summer Visit : Pett Level Preservation Trust	Betty Taylor
15 - 18	Donations to the Society	
19	'How The Indians Tanned Buckskin' : Anahareo As Informant. (1954).	
20	Christmas Card painting of Grey Owl by member Clive Stone	
21 - 22	Update on the Hastings Museum/Refurbishment/Extension : New North American Indian & Grey Owl Galleries	Victoria Williams Curator
23	Poem 'Solitude' Written by Cathy Carpenter (nee Boulter) aged 14 years (1938)	
24 - 25	A 'Grey Owl' Discovery in Eastern and Southern Africa	Berry White
26	Hastings Week 2006 : Winner of the 'Best Dressed Shop Window' by Nelson House Antiques. GREY OWL	Ian Porter
27	Members ' and Friends' Correspondence	
28 - 32	STOP PRESS	
33 - 34	Membership List	

COLIN TAYLOR

Ethnologist of the Plains Indians

A Memoir: 1937-2004

Recollections by his Friends

A Bibliography of his Work



Edited by
Barry C. Johnson

The editor contributes a memoir, based on a long friendship; and also an up-to-date bibliography of Colin's work, consisting of 25 books, 68 papers and 30 book reviews. Appendices list "obituaries and appreciations" of Colin; and "work in hand" at the time of his death. Colin founded the Grey Owl Society and was a prominent member of the English Westerners' Society: both organisations are described in the memoir.

Illustrated with 23 photographs, this booklet is intended to preserve the memory of a remarkable personality and to put in convenient and permanent form a record of his achievements.

Available from Bartletts Press, 37 Larchmere Drive,
Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8JB, U.K. (Sterling cheque for
£5 – post free – made out to Barry C. Johnson)

Derek Norcross, O.B.E. (1930-2006)

Just before 'going to Press' the tragic news reached us of the death of Derek in a road accident. As all local members will know, Derek was involved with virtually every Society and Charity in the area and was particularly well known and respected for his time as Chairman of St. Michael's Hospice, Hastings. Derek had already featured in several events this year connected with the Grey Owl Society and I have decided to leave the Bulletin as it is, including the photos of him on pp. 14 and 28.

Derek's life work could fill a volume of many hundred pages but I just want here to list his connections with our Society.

Derek and his wife Audrey, joined the Society in 1985, and in 1988 Derek joined the committee and became actively involved in the Grey Owl Society Centenary Year Programme of events (18 – 24 September). As Headmaster at that time of St. Paul's School, he organised a competition for all junior schools in the town, to enter paintings or craft work on a Grey Owl theme and a selection of this work was shown at Hastings Museum. In addition he designed a Grey Owl Bookmark (see Bull. 7:7) which was distributed free to six thousand school children. He arranged for this to be printed on recycled paper and got the local paper (Hastings & St. Leonards Observer) to pay for them! Finally, he held a musical evening at his school. 'We are the Indians', written by the successful Carl Davis. He also participated as a 'Reader' at the Society's performance of **The Tree**, held at the Stables Theatre on the Wednesday of the Centenary Week.

In 2002, Derek organised the summer visit to the Woodland Enterprise site at Flimwell, East Sussex. The concept behind the Centre is to promote 'wood awareness and use' and to link wood growers with wood users. This visit, initiated by Derek, resulted in the Society donating a cheque for £500 to the Centre's programme.

The Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mrs Phyllida Stewart-Roberts, and her husband Lord Andrew, had long been friends of Derek and Audrey, and in 2003, Derek gave them a guided tour of the Grey Owl haunts, taking them to Hastings Museum to see the cabin/exhibition and finally bringing them up to High Wickham to see the Society's archives and for tea.

Derek was a contributor to the Society's '21st Anniversary Special 2002' publication, with his article **Grey Owl: A Famous Son of Sussex** (p.52). Another special interest of Derek's was the life of Philosopher, Tom Paine (1737-1809), who lived for some time in Lewes and this article compared the lives of the two men, both 'difficult and complicated'. He introduced the members of the 'Tom Paine Project' in Lewes (whose Chairman was Derek) to the world of Grey Owl by arranging for Colin Taylor to give an introductory talk before the showing of the Richard Attenborough film GREY OWL at the All Saints Art Centre in that town.

Derek's enthusiasm for introducing schoolchildren to the conservation work of Grey Owl carried on to the end of his life as can be seen in last year's bulletin (24:30). He gave an illustrated talk at Hamsey School, Lewes and took along some of the Society's archives to show the children who, he said, were 'fascinated' by the story.

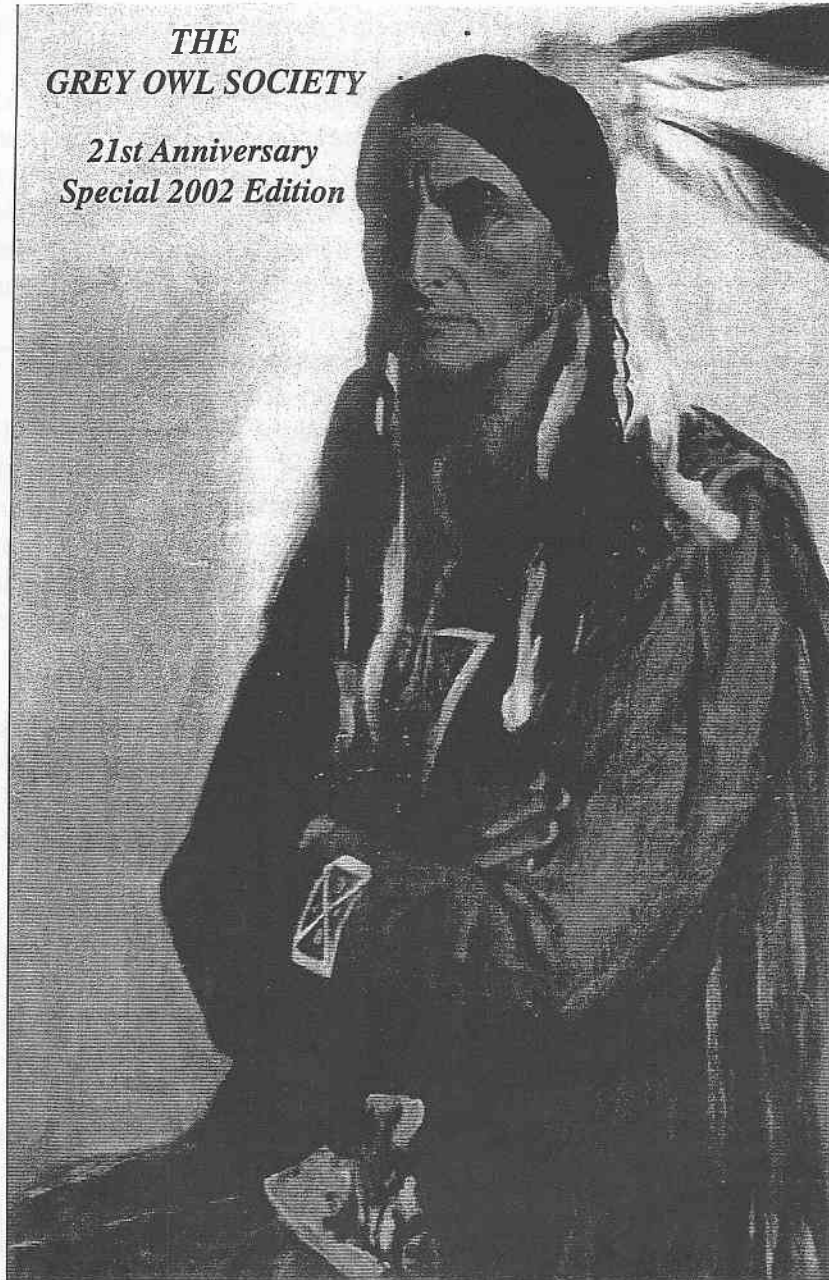
The Argus (November 13) reporting on Derek's death listed his many achievements (including the 1066 Award in 2004) and his numerous involvements – including that with **The Grey Owl Society**. The Hastings & St. Leonards Observer (November 17) also included the Society (p.9) in its long list of Derek's interests.

He will be very much missed by very many people.

Betty Taylor
18 November, 2006

**THE
GREY OWL SOCIETY**

**21st Anniversary
Special 2002 Edition**



The 21st Anniversary publication of the Society has gone into a 2nd printing (the 1st edition has now sold out). The new edition has an Addendum to the Bibliography (an extra 17 books have been added!). A few small corrections have been made and the list of Society Office Holders (inside front cover) has been updated.

Available from Hon. Secretary.

Cheques (sterling only) to be made payable to **The Grey Owl Society** :

£6.50 Inland (includes postage)

£7.50 North America (includes postage – Surface Mail)

£8.50 North America (includes postage – Air Mail)

The Ethnological Content of Grey Owl's Writings

Part IV: The Indian cosmology

Dagmara Ginter

Grey Owl refers to the Indian God as an "all-powerful Spirit whose outward manifestation is the face of Nature". This agrees perfectly well with what Walter McClintock observed while living with the Blackfeet: "The Great Spirits, or Great Mystery, or Good Power, is everywhere and in everything - mountains, plains, winds, waters, trees, birds, and animals" (1968: 167). Grey Owl differentiates between that "ever-present God" and malicious "Spirit of the North", which, as he believes, corresponds with the Christian belief in both God and Satan. McClintock can be again referred to as providing a ring of authenticity to this statement. He points out that the Indian firmly believed that their affairs were controlled by both benevolent God and the evil power (1968: 167).

However, Grey Owl's consideration of the Indian God as a friendly and personal deity "to whom [the Indian] can apply at a moment's notice" does not necessarily agree with the real Ojibway beliefs.¹ Sister Hilger, who spent a considerable amount of time living with that tribe maintains in *Chippewa Childlife* that although the Indians were firm believers in a Supreme Being whom they called Great Spirit, they rarely addressed him directly, feeling that he was very far away from them residing somewhere in the heavens. If the Indians spoke of him they did so in subdued tones and *Midewiwin* was the only occasion when they made some offerings to him (Hilger 1951: 60). W.J. Hoffman confirms this information pointing to the fact that the name of the Great Spirit was only mentioned in the context of *Midewiwin* (1891: 163).

The spiritual world of the Woodland people is not only limited to the recognition of two most powerful spirits - the Good and the Evil one. As Grey Owl aptly notices, "For the Indian the woods are peopled with spirits....Certain dark ravines are mausoleums in which dwell the shades of savage ancestors. Individual trees and rocks assume a personality, and a quiet glade is the abode of some departed friend..." (1931: 215). This reflects very well the strong connection between spiritual sphere and the sphere of nature. As Marion Wood observes in *Native American Myths and Legends* multifarious spirits were believed by the Ojibways to reside everywhere, in the tree, in the mountain, or waterfall. And some ancient trees or weird-looking rocks were regarded as having certain power the natives should pay respect to. The old abandoned encampments associated with the dead were considered as dangerous places and were consequently avoided (1994: 104).

Speaking about mischievous spirits, Grey Owl mentions the names of three which did indeed loom in the Woodland mythology. There is, thus, the famous *Windigo*, who is a half-human, man-eating beast with a heart made of ice, haunting the woods in winter and eating anyone that crosses his path. There are mysterious sprites called *Pukwajees* and bush fairies named *May-may-gwense* which play nasty tricks on travellers.²

The Indians always attempted to interpret all kinds of natural phenomena in spiritual terms. The best example of that is viewing the Northern Lights or *Aurora Borealis*, a frequent subarctic phenomenon, as, what Grey Owl points out, "the Dance of the Deadmen" (1931: 215). Grey Owl is not alone in crediting those people with such belief. Philip Godsell, a fur trader and explorer, related

in *Red Hunters of the Snows* how his Cree guide referred to this brilliant spectacle; it meant for him "the dancing of the spirits of our departed friends", or, simply, "*Pahkuk-kar-nemichik*" - "The Dance of the Spirits" (1938: 101). And Sister Hilger quotes her Chippewa friends commenting on the same phenomenon: "... the souls of the old people who lived long ago as well as those who died recently were dancing" (1951: 106). Grey Owl's statement that for Indians the thunder was a bird, is also heavy with ethnological meaning since the Ojibways believed that the lightning was produced by the flashing of the eyes of a giant bird and the thunder by the beating of its wings.³

One of the typical features of the Ojibway system of beliefs was the conception of, what Grey Owl refers to as, the Happy Hunting Ground, where the souls of the dead go to. Quite contrary to what the name of that Indian heaven may suggest, it is the regions where no hunting is necessary and where men and animals can live together in harmony. Sister Hilger confirms the existence of such tradition amongst the Ojibways referring to that mysterious land of the dead as "the camping grounds of eternal bliss and happiness". Both Grey owl and Hilger maintain that the spirits of the dead go westwards, and that happy land is situated where the sun sets (Hilger 1951: 78). Additionally, Grey Owl differentiates between this "Sunset Trail" that the souls of the adults take and "Silver Trail", the moonbeam path of white on a lake, which the little children and animals take.

The importance of the role of shamans, conjurors, or medicine men in Indian society is strongly emphasized. "The Altar of Mammon" contains a fine description what these men were capable of. On one of the expeditions of fire rangers there was a conjuror named Little Child who did not work as the others fighting the fire. Asked for the reason, he replied, "I am not here to fight that fire; I am here to put it out" (1931: 184). Then he withdrew from the camp of fire rangers who for two successive evenings and nights heard the persistent beating of his drum. In the middle of the third day the conjuror came back, put away his instrument and broke his fast with the words: "Tonight it will rain; tomorrow there will be no fire." And indeed, during the night the fire rangers were woken up by a heavy downpour which completely put out the fire. Grey Owl wonders whether Little Child was "a magician of satanic abilities, or the best weather-prophet in Eastern North America" (Ibid:185).

McClintock reports a similar incident, although deprived of the dramatic beats of the drum, when one of the Blackfeet, Spotted Eagle, predicted accurately a great storm although that particular day began with a cloudless morning. The author concludes: "My own experience and observation have convinced me that the remarkable success of medicine men in predicting weather is the natural result of long training and their habit of constant and expert observation of weather signs" (1968: 351).⁴

In "The Trail of Two Sunsets" Grey Owl brings the reader's attention to the frequent practice of black magic. According to him, most of its performers are mere quacks or charlatans who "[work] on the credulity of their less well-informed tribesmen" (1931: 237). They are, on the whole, tolerated in the Indian community just in case there is something in their arts. Grey Owl relates some "startling performances" which were the result of sleight-of-hand, hypnotism, or telepathy, proving such Indians' characteristics like imaginativeness and "psychic" tendencies.

During one such séance, an old medicine man made a stranger find a handkerchief which had been carefully hidden, by simply gazing steadily into his eyes with both his hands on the man's shoulders (1931: 238).

It is true that in almost every single tribe there existed a group of shamans whose services included treating the ill ones, discovering the enemy's whereabouts, or recovering lost property. They organized, from time to time, large meetings at which people could see them perform different tricks and convince themselves as to their status of wonder-workers. Such séances were quite popular amongst many different tribes. The technique of sleight-of-hand was the most common one to impress the gathered. The type of tricks, of course, varied from one tribe to another. The Pawnee shamans, for example, held burning corn husks, put their bare hands into boiling soup, or walked on red-hot rocks. Amongst Dakota, Arapaho, or Cheyenne, fire-walking was a common feat.⁵

Endnotes

- ¹ The quotation comes from Grey Owl, "A Mess of Pottage" in *Canadian Forest and Outdoors* (May 1931).
- ² No reference has been found on *Pukwajees*, but Cath Oberholtzer in "The Northeast" of *Native American Myths and Legends* mentions *May-may-gway-shi*, probably referring to the same kind of spirits that Grey Owl talks about. Those hairy-faced little people were believed by the Woodland Indians to reside in caves or crevices in the rock and accused of stealing fish from their nets. They were also seen as responsible for making pictographs: see Oberholtzer 1994: 131.
- ³ It was a very popular belief not limited to the Woodland tribes but extending to the Plains and to the Pacific ocean coast. Different tribes only endowed different birds with the status of thunderbirds. Amongst the Ojibways the preferable one was the hawk; Winnibago chose an eagle as the thunder symbol, and the inhabitants of British Columbia likened it to a grouse; see Oberholtzer 1994: 130 and Hodge 1910: Vol.II, 746-747.
- ⁴ Further in the book we can find the explanation. The Indian says: "My father taught me to read the signs in the heavens: 'When the ...Rainbow appears in the sky I know the Thunder Chief is roping the rain and the storm will slow up. When the fires of the Northmen (Aurora) flash in the winter sky, it is a sign that a violent wind will arise...' (McClintock 1968: 487). Hilger also points to the Indians' wonderful ability to predict weather on the basis of what signs they can "read" in the natural world. She mentions, for example, that a large circle about the moon indicates warm weather and a small circle gives warning of a storm. The observation of animals' behaviour is also crucial: rain can be predicted when the toads are "singing" or lizards "whistling", and the change of weather is to be expected when large animals wander around in the bush aimlessly (1951: 106).
- ⁵ See Lowie 1954: 161-2.

Bibliography

- Godsell, Philip H. *Red Hunters of the Snows*. London: Robert Hale Limited, 1938.
- Grey Owl, *The Men of the Last Frontier*, 1931. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1989.
- Hilger, Sister M. Inez. *Chippewa Child Life and its Cultural Background*. Bulletin 146. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1951.
- Hodge, Frederick Webb, ed. *Handbook of American Indians*. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1910.
- Hoffman, W.J. "The Mide'wiwin or 'Grand Medicine Society'" in *Seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution 1885-'86* by J.W. Powell. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1891.
- Lowie, Robert H. *Indians of the Plains*. New York, Toronto and London: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1954.
- McClintock, Walter. *The Old North Trail. Life, Legends, and Religion of the Blackfeet Indians*. Lincoln and London: University of Nebraska Press, 1968.
- Oberholtzer, Cath. "The Northeast," in *Native American Myths and Legends*. London: Salamander Books Limited, 1994.
- Wood, Marion. "The Subarctic," in *Ibid*.

W.K.P. Kennedy Gallery, North Bay, Ontario

Guest Curator/Artist, Arlington Hoffman, held his exhibition at the Kennedy Gallery during June-July 2006 (see Bulletins 23:20 and 24:31). Entitled 'The Angele Egwuna Project : Grey Owl and his Descendants' it was one of two events in the area this summer – the Anahareo celebrations were held at Mattawa (see pp. 8-10) and The Angele Egwuna Project at North Bay, Ontario.

The Media Advisory Release sent in by Ralfe Whistler writes that 'the combination of these events makes for an outstanding opportunity for people to learn of the important role these two fascinating women played in shaping the Grey Owl that the world came to honour, and to celebrate their significant contributions'. As the press report states, Grey Owl was 'the best known Canadian author and lecturer in his day', adding that he was 'nurtured by two powerful native women'.

When Arlington Hoffman wrote to the Society in June 2005, he was hoping that his exhibition would transfer to other Canadian museums – if we get any further details, we will include them in next year's Bulletin.

Arlie (as he is popularly known) also sent us the photo below, of Albert Lalonde's family, taken at Chimo Island, Lake Temagami, in the summer of 2004. Albert, standing in the centre, is an Honorary Member of the Grey Owl Society.*

Details of the exhibition (from The North Bay Nugget) are shown on the following page (kindly sent to us by John Gregg of York, Maine).



* Albert Lalonde is the grandson of 'Grey Owl' and Angele Egwuna

Grey Owl artist invites kids to paint

Art workshops
at gallery
run until August

BY MARIA CALABRESE
The Nugget

Behind the legend of Grey Owl is a lesser-known tale, intriguing enough to charm a local artist into overhauling what he knows about his craft.

"It's taking a medium and exploring its possibilities. I paint traditionally and conservatively, and this lets me explore beyond normal painting techniques," says Arlie Hoffman, a veteran watercolour artist who's dipping his brush in different pots these days.

"I tended to always put something down so traditionally. I felt like I wanted to do something different. And it's a lot of fun."

It's called experimental image transfers, and it's one of a series of workshops open to budding artists aged 11 to 15 at the WKP Kennedy Gallery this summer.

Image transfers are easier done than said. In a studio below the gallery where Hoffman has been working, he demonstrates how a layer of acrylic is brushed over a photocopied image. Once it's dried, the photocopy paper is rubbed off, leaving the image behind.

And whether it's paper, deer hide, birch bark or glass, Hoffman is limited only by his imagination where to place the images.

He produced about 15 image transfers for his exhibition, *The Angele Egwuna Project: Grey Owl and His Descendants*, running until Tuesday at the Kennedy Gallery.

It looks at Englishman Archie Belaney before he became known as Grey Owl, his marriage to Angele Egwuna from the Bear Island reserve on Lake Temagami, and his initiation into the native culture.

It's like the prequel to the Grey Owl movie released in 1999, Hoffman explains; of a love story between Grey Owl and Anahareo after the marriage to the influential Angele.

"I think this is a moment for her descendants to see her get some attention," Hoffman says.

It's something Hoffman says he's wanted to do for the past decade, and finally leapt into the project after watching the Nipissing Stage Company's production of *Indian Heart*, an original musical about Grey Owl.

"This exhibition will help bring attention to my grandmother, the life she lived and how she and her family contributed to the early years of Archie Belaney's development and in becoming the well known conservationist and lecturer, Grey Owl," Angele Egwuna's grandson Albert Lalonde writes in a catalogue for the show.

The two-day experimental image transfer workshop runs Aug. 8 and 9.



Watercolour artist Arlie Hoffman demonstrates experimental image transfer as he rubs off paper with his hands to expose a photocopy image on a layer of dried acrylic, in a studio below the WKP Kennedy Gallery, Wednesday.

MARIA CALABRESE, THE NUGGET

The WKP Kennedy Gallery
is offering an
open studio education series
continuing through August
for students aged 11 to 15.

All workshops run
from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To register call Michelle Marko
at 474-1944 ext. 231.

Intro to Linocut Printmaking July 13
Multimedia artist Christine Charette teaches students how to plan an image, cut a lino plate and print designs and images.
Cost: \$25

Sequencing Music July 18
Singer/songwriter Perry Triner uses music production software to explore rhythm and syncopation, harmony and phrasing in music.
Cost: \$25

Watercolour Painting July 25 to 26
Karen Cooper will share tricks of the trade at this two-day workshop to teach students washes, bleeds and colour mixing and the basics of colour and design. Cost: \$45

Garden Stone Creation July 27 to 28
Judith Thorne will lead a two-day workshop using coloured glass, mirror and glass dollpops for students to design their own mosaic garden stone. Cost: \$45

Lumps, Bumps & Layers Aug. 1 to 3
Students use acrylic, tapes, string, papers and found objects in this three-day workshop, with contemporary artist Carole Davidson teaching how mixed media adds texture and depth to their work. Cost: \$60

Experimental Image Transfers Aug. 8 to 9
This two-day workshop is led by watercolour artist Arlie Hoffman and multimedia

artist Dermot Wilson who apply acrylic gel on a photocopied image to transfer the image onto another surface. Cost: \$45

Tortured Forks Aug. 10 to 11
Sculptor Lori-Grace Johnson takes a twist on flatware by teaching students how to create jewelry or designs by twisting the tines of antique silverware forks in this two-day workshop. Students will be provided with one fork, but additional forks have to be bought for \$5 to \$10 each.
Cost: \$45

Plastic Props Molding Aug. 15
Eric Boyer demonstrates how plastics are molded and cast into realistic props used for movies and television. Cost: \$25

Gesture Drawing Aug. 16 to 17
Eric Boyer gives basic instruction in still life and gesture drawing in this two-day workshop. Cost: \$45

CULTURAL GATHERING

Celebrating Anahareo's Life



SATURDAY JUNE 17TH, 2006

Mattawa Museum – Explorer's Point

Anahareo Celebration – 11am - 12pm

Cultural Gathering – 12pm - 5pm

Evening Entertainment – 6pm - 7:30 pm

With Loads of Fun and Education for all ages, including:
Elder: Richard Assinewai • Drums featuring North Bay &
Pikwakanagan • Dance Demonstrations • Intertribals •
Displays & Information Tables • Tobacco Teaching •
Feast • Honorariums • Native Arts & Crafts • Vendors...

www.culturalgathering.com

A Non-Alcoholic and Drug-Free Event

The Year 2006, saw celebrations in the town of Mattawa, Ontario, to mark the centenary of the birth of **Anahareo** (See Bulletin 24:31). Having received further details and a 'Media Advisory Release' from members Ralfe Whistler and Gabriel Fritzen, we contacted Mr. René Lamarche of the Mattawa Historical Society & Museum and asked if he could send copies of media coverage etc. Mr. Lamarche replied enthusiastically to say 'that the event was an outstanding success in every way...' (6 July 2006). The above poster and the newspaper cuttings on the following pages were kindly sent by Mr. Lamarche for the Society's Archives (in return we are sending a copy of this Bulletin and copies of Obituaries on Anahareo from Bulletin No. 5 (1986) to the Mattawa Historical Society).

Special gathering - a celebration of Anahareo's Life

Gerry Therrien
The Mattawa Recorder

Last weekend, Anahareo's role as the woman who challenged Grey Owl to become Canada's best known writer, lecturer and conservationist was celebrated at Explorer's Point. It was a day of dancing, drumming and fun.

"Momma loved a good party. She would have been pleased," said Anne Gaskell, overwhelmed at the work that had gone into celebrating the hundredth anniversary of Anahareo's birth.

Anahareo was born Gertrude Bernard, June 18, 1906. She attended Ste. Anne School and grew up in Mattawa. When she was 18, she took a job as a waitress at the Temagami Inn on

Lake Temagami. There she met a rugged woodsman and trapper Archie Belaney. Although, there may have been seventeen years difference between their ages, the attraction between Archie and Gertrude proved mutual. After a visit in Mattawa by Archie and many letters, Gertrude went for a short visit to his trapping grounds in Quebec. The short visit lasted five years and changed Archie's life. It was during this time that Archie Belaney, the trapper and woodsman, started his transformation to Grey Owl, the writer and conservationist. "It was her affection for animals and her love of the wild that infected Grey Owl and later infected the world. "She was an incredible person, a woman ahead of her

time," said Edward Sapiano, a Toronto lawyer and passionate Anahareo historian.

Sapiano, saddened by the fact that Canadians did not recognize her contributions to conservation, suggested that something be done to acknowledge her hundredth anniversary. His idea was met with open arms by local, provincial and federal officials.

"It was Edward Sapiano that set the project in motion," said Jennifer Jocko, the coordinator of this event.

"Edward Sapiano made us realize we needed to acknowledge Anahareo. Thank you for reminding us of our history," said Mayor Dean Backer.

To always remind us of this history, Mayor Backer unveiled a new

Elder Richard Assiniwe, Edward Sapiano, Monique Smith MPP, Anthony Rota, actress Annie Galipeau and Elder William Commanda were but some of the dignitaries to attend the unveiling of the Anahareo display at the Mattawa and District Museum on June 17th, 2006.



Anne Gaskell, daughter of Anahareo, and her son Daniel Tobin, admire the Anahareo painting by Clermont Duval which was commissioned for the occasion.

street sign. "As of today, Fifth Street will also be known as Anahareo Way," he said.

Clermont Duval unveiled a painting of Anahareo. The painting depicts Anahareo sitting in a canoe holding two beaver kits. The canoe is floating away from the cabin she and Grey Owl built on Lake Ajawaan in 1931.

"I tried to capture a special moment of Anahareo's heritage," said Duval.

Duval took his inspiration from photographs, stories, the movies, commentaries from the 1930's and from the beavers in the Bell advertisements. Duval also broke one of his own artistic rules in creating the painting. Duval who has always paints red canoes painted

Anahareo's canoe green for the benefit of realism.

Limited-edition prints of the Clermont Duval painting were presented to Anahareo's daughter, Anne Gaskell, Edward Shapiro and Annie Galipeau, the actress who portrayed Anahareo in the 1999 Grey Owl movie.

Receiving the print, Galipeau was moved to tears. "For three years during the shooting of the movie I was in the skin of Anahareo. I am living nostalgia today," she said.

"Clermont's painting is magnificent. It's all there. He has definitely captured her spirit," said Gaskell.

Earlier in the day's program, The Mattawa and District Museum unveiled a permanent display assembled by Jayne Lenard and René Lamarche. It features

a mannequin dressed like Anahareo and displays numerous artifacts donated by Anne Gaskell and her family. Other family members attending the event included: William Gaskell, Daniel Tobin, Ron and Dolly Bernard, Ron and Louise Montreuil, the Montreuil children and grandchildren.

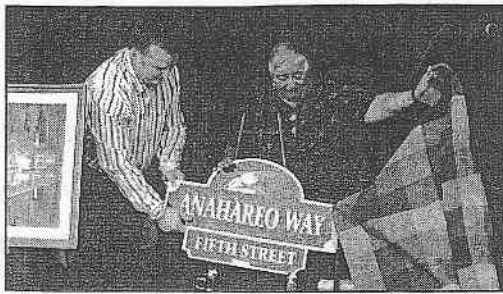
Albert Lalonde, the grandson of Grey Owl and Angele Egwuna also participated in the day's event.

Mayor Dean Backer said, "I am truly honored to celebrate the life of Anahareo with her family. Mattawa is proud to have a great historic figure as part of our heritage."

He also congratulated the people of the community who stepped forward and worked hard to make the event a success.

The original copy of the **Mattawa Recorder** is in the Society's archives.
Sent to us by Mr René B. Lamarche of the Mattawa Historical Society & Museum,
Mattawa, Ontario, Canada

Anahareo's life celebrated



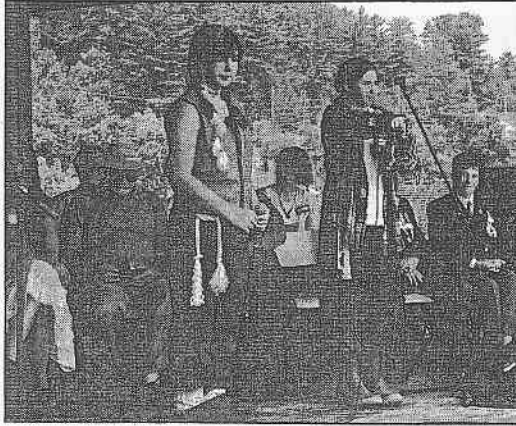
Mayor Dean Backer unveils a new street sign to Gertrude Bernard's daughter, Anne Gaskell. As of Saturday June 17, 2006 Fifth Street will also be known as Anahareo Way in honour of Gertrude Bernard. Her descendants have lived on that street for many years.



Brittany Whalley leads the group of dignitaries in O Canada.



Gaetan and Clermont Duval unveil the Anahareo painting to the public.



The students from F.J. McElligott High School performed a skit about Gertrude (Anahareo) Bernard's life.



The life size Mannequin display of Gertrude Bernard (Anahareo) is unveiled.



Above: Annie Galipeau, actress who portrayed Anahareo in the 1999 Grey Owl movie, shares a moment with Anne Gaskell, daughter of Anahareo.

Right: Whitney Whalley sings an original composition for the crowd.



Louise Montreuil Gertrude Bernard's grand niece, her daughter Tammy Cross and her children Jennifer and Shelby.



Acting Curator, Jayne Lenard, Grey Owl's grandson, Albert Lalonde and Museum Board Member Rene Lamarche pose in front of the Grey Owl exhibit.



Spectators were fascinated by the beautiful native dance ceremony put on by local dancers at the 100th anniversary celebration of Anahareo on June 17th, 2006.



The dance group, left, consisted of Morgan Perreault, Selena Lefebvre, Kaela Bastien, Haley Bastien, Logan Lefebvre, Matthew Perreault, Jacob Perreault, Courtney Lepage, and Austin Bastien.



Austin Bastien of Mattawa



Right: The drum group "Little Rock", consisted of Austin Bastien, Mason Ranger, Jacob Perreault, Matthew Perreault, Logan Lefebvre, Jesse Novack, and Dustin Novack.



(See previous page)

GREY OWL DISCOVERED IN NORFOLK

By Sheila French

We have not found Grey Owl's missing manuscripts (although I suspect some one will come up with something one day!), nor have we had the good fortune to visit Ajawaan or Halifax or even Hastings yet! But we do have a few thoughts about how Grey Owl has become a positive influence on us as new members, almost 70 years after his death.

I have always dreamed of visiting Canada ... we will one day get there somehow, but in the meantime, I've 'experienced' Canada in various ways that have presented themselves unexpectedly ... this was after I discovered Grey Owl books last year! For instance, like the time I met two nice people from Alberta in a café in Norwich, shortly after receiving my prize for a painting I entered in a local competition. Had I not decided to enter, I would never have known the moment when I was talking to two complete strangers about Maligne Lake, the subject of a large painting I had begun a couple of weeks earlier, which is very close to their home! I had never dreamed of painting subjects other than my Norfolk landscapes, but Grey Owl opened my eyes to Canada, the alpine wilderness I had always admired...'. Sheila then goes on to explain that her husband 'had enjoyed his formative years on the edge of a wood in Surrey' and that he 'had read Grey Owl books in his younger days'. They then went on what can only be described as a 'pilgrimage' to find copies of G.O.'s books. They first found 'Pilgrims of the Wild' in a charity shop, soon followed by 'Sajo...' (printed in Holland). 'Tales of an Empty Cabin' and 'The Green Leaf' (Lovat Dickson) were then found during a holiday in North Norfolk. On reading about McGinnis' and McGinty's sudden departure in 'Pilgrims...', Sheila wrote 'I never knew beavers were so 'human' '. Then her twin sister found her Armand Garnet Ruffo's 'The Mystery of Grey Owl' and so their library expanded! Sheila went on to write (March 2006) 'Our home is knee-deep in pine cones now, and we're forever noticing 'beaver trees' (birch) amongst our native firs, oaks and elms... . If we cannot visit Canada's beautiful wildernesses, then we can at least have snippets of them in our garden! We have planted some little pines and developed our garden, hoping to emulate to a minute degree, the purity and stillness of a pine wood... . I am so thankful for Grey Owl's books. He did suggest that if his writing made an impression on just one person, it would have been all worth while, but seventy years on? What a gift! ' .

(For details on Sheila's paintings/research etc., see also pp.12 & 17).



Painting by our new member, Sheila French, of Great Yarmouth, who writes 'I used the black and white photo of Grey Owl feeding rice to Rawhide, which is from Harper Cory's biography 'Grey Owl and The Beaver'. I loved the scene so much as it depicts Grey Owl's real rapport with his Little People (emphasized more by my removal of Rawhide's rice dish from the picture!).

(See also pp.11 & 17).

Society's Summer Visit : Pett Level
Sunday, 11th June

In contrast to last year, we were a sizeable group of twenty-eight for our visit to Pett Level, East Sussex. Perhaps the weather had something to do with the good turnout – a beautiful, very warm sunny day with a pleasant sea breeze!

One of our committee members, John Goodman, is also on the committee of the Pett Level Preservation Trust which controls and manages approximately twenty-five acres of pasture with hills and rocky outcrops, giving spectacular views over the Sussex countryside towards Rye. As John explained on his guided walk, the preservation of this peaceful and lovely area is particularly important as holiday and permanent homes have mushroomed over the last fifty years or so (in common with most areas alongside the English Channel that are not protected under a Preservation Order)!

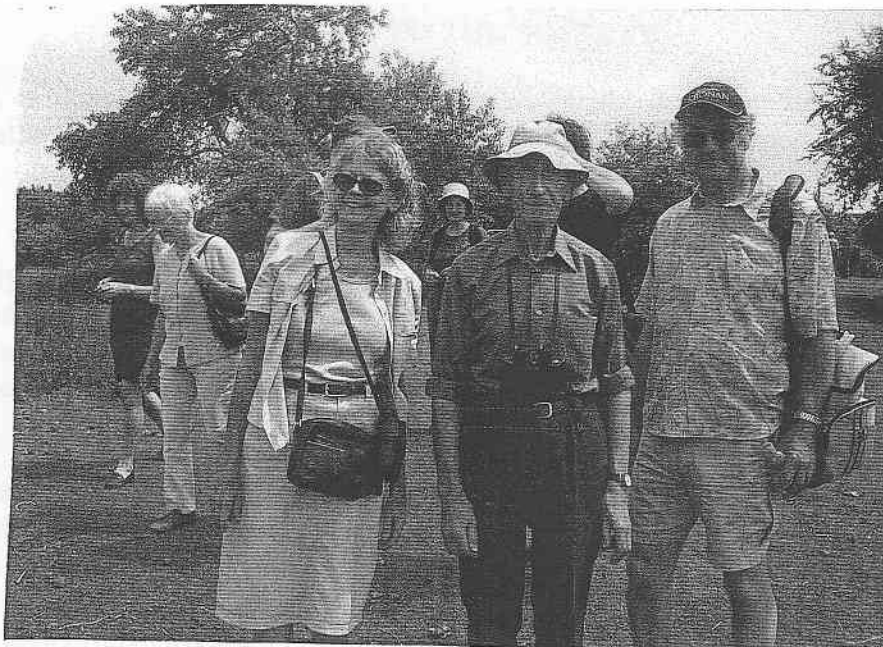
Having walked along the sea wall for ten minutes or so (and witnessed the return of the new Pett Level lifeboat's first 'call out'), we turned off the road, past the Royal Military Canal, to enter the tranquility of the Trust meadows with plenty of grazing sheep and lambs for company. Trees seemed to be mostly hawthorns, holm oaks and white poplars, though not a lot of bird life probably due to the heat of mid-day. Wild flowers were everywhere, particularly ox eye daisies, vetches and viper's bugloss with clumps of yellow irises along the canal. The contrast with the enlarged and busy Smugglers Inn where we started and ended our visit, to the green hills and meadows of the Trust's land, could not have been more apparent.

We thanked John for his enthusiastic and very informative guided tour! It is planned to make the **Society's annual donation** to the Pett Preservation Trust, in the form of a bench and the Trust will decide on the best positioning in order to sit and admire the view.

G.O.S. members, Peter and Jenny Marsden, then generously invited us all back for tea in their beautiful garden, a mile or so away in Pett Village. More peaceful scenery was enjoyed from the end of their garden (where we watched a mistle thrush in a nearby field) and so, thanks to them, the day ended in a lazy and leisurely way!

P.S. Bill Van Draat was working with Derek Norcross on obtaining the best and most appropriate style of bench, and this had not been completed at the time of Derek's untimely death. This project is ongoing and details of the donation will be included in next year's Bulletin.

Betty Taylor



Above (foreground) : Betty Taylor, John Goodman & Adrain Barak

Right :

Margaret and
Bill Van Draat,
Derek Norcross
and Betty Taylor



Right :

John Goodman
(the Guide for
the Pett Visit)
and Betty Taylor

PHOTOS KINDLY SENT
IN BY MEMBER,
JENNY MCDONALD,
HASTINGS.



DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY

We are, as usual, extremely grateful to those members who make donations towards the Society's expenses, especially Jennifer Phiri. Our genuine thanks also to Cathy Carpenter, Paul Goble and Tom Watrous.

The Museum of the Fur Trade, in Chadron, Nebraska, have kindly donated two copies of their journal **Quarterly** (Summer 2002.Vol.38.No.2). On pp.2-10, there is a re-print of Hampton Swain's **How The Indians Tanned Buckskin** which was originally published in 1954. Under the Preface, there is acknowledgement to two informants, one of whom is **Anahareo**. There is also a photo of **Anahareo** taken aged 17, at 'Bear Island, Lake Temagami, Ontario, July 1924'. (See also p.19).

Ralfe Whistler has sent in an interesting article from **The Independent** (14 July 2006) entitled 'The Fabulous Attenborough Boys' by Paul Vallely. The first four paragraphs refer to their interest in **Grey Owl** and their 'conflicting' accounts of their visit to De Montfort Hall, Leicester, when as school boys they attended one of Grey Owl's lectures. There is friendly rivalry between the two because David Attenborough ended up with a signed copy of one of G.O.'s books and Richard didn't! Paul Vallely described G.O. as 'an out-of-work merchant seaman from Hastings' who 'became one of the world's first conservation pioneers...'!

Ralfe has also given an article from **The Globe and Mail** (Toronto) dated 5 June, 2006, entitled 'Following in the wake of Grey Owl's paddle' by D. Grant Black. It gives details on canoe rental, PANP info, etc., for a trip to 'the native impersonator and environmentalist's cabin ... [which] offers many rewards'. In this article, Grey Owl is described as 'Canada's Thoreau' and it states that the cabin on **Ajawaan Lake** is '**now a National Heritage Site**'. Grant Black concludes that if you want to travel in the path of Grey Owl 'a canoe trip is still the best way to celebrate his eccentric legacy'. There is a large photo of the cabin and a list including some of Grey Owl's books and some about him. **Ralfe** also tracked down a copy of **Our Canada** (January/February 2005) because of a mention on p.42 of Grey Owl. Unfortunately, this turned out to be the Great Grey Owl (*Strix nebulosa*)! Anyway, all good for the archives!

Pat Anstey has donated her late husband Rob's copy of **The Tree**. In very good condition, we are pleased to add another copy to the archives as this is one of Grey Owl's most popular stories – perhaps **the** most popular story. (See Bulletins 9:17-18 and 24:27 re Rob Anstey, who was one of our Hon. Members).

Peter Ingram has donated a good copy of an impressive programme of HIAWATHA performed at The Dome, Brighton, in **November 1935**. Chief Oskenonton played the role of the Medicine Man, as he did at all the performances at The Royal Albert Hall, London, in the 1930s. 'Oske' (as he was known to his friends), a Mohawk singer, was a good friend of Edward H. 'Ted' Blackmore (our first President) and the two of them, with Ted's wife Curly, made the eagle feather warbonnet that **Grey Owl** wore on his lecture tours. (For more details, see Bull.1:7-8). This is an interesting item for the archives and has been put in the Oskenonton/Blackmore file, which will eventually be transferred to Hastings Museum. Our thanks to Peter.

Margaret Wolley has sent an interesting article/debate on the re-introduction of the beaver to Scotland. This appeared in SAGA magazine for October 2005 and was written by Alexander Chancellor (p.40). What amused me, was the sub-title 'Baloney on the back of a bottle'. At first, I thought this was a quip on 'Belaney', seeing that half the page was on the beaver. However, the first half of the article was about the ludicrous verbosity on the back of wine bottles from Southern Tuscany (where the author was staying)! Perhaps a *double entendre*! The author, incidentally, came down on the side of the Argyll farmers, that the beaver could become a 'nuisance' like the wild boar in Sussex and Kent! (I looked up the word 'baloney' (see 'boloney') in the Concise Oxford Dictionary which gave 'Humbug, nonsense: 20th c., orig. uncert.'. Is it possible that the word derives from 'Belaney' when G.O.'s story was revealed in the late 1930s)?

Ian West has donated (i) a paperback copy of **Pilgrims of the Wild**, published by Penguin in 1983. This is an abridged version by Olive Jones with a Foreword by **Lovat Dickson** (Toronto 1972) 'It is the great charm of Grey Owl's books that in them he leads us back to that primitive world which our far-off ancestors knew, but from which the generations of men deafened by the din of technology have been exiled' (L.D.). (ii) a copy of **Smoke over Sikanaska: The Story of a Forest Ranger** by J.S.Gowland. This book is interesting because it is illustrated by our first Vice-President, **Spencer Roberts**. Published by Werner Laurie, London, in 1955. 'Dedicated to the Forest Rangers and Wardens of Canada's Forest Reserves and National Parks...'.

Betty Taylor has donated (i) a copy of **Pictorial Education**, Vol.VIII.No.3, **March 1934** (note the early date). Published by Evans Brothers Ltd., Montague House, Russell Sq., London, W.C.1., this large format magazine with sepia photos, has Grey Owl on the front cover with the caption, 'Grey Owl, the Red Indian Ranger, With a Young Beaver' and below, (Jasper National Park, Alberta)'. This photo is illustrated in **The Green Leaf** (Lovat Dickson) and caption should read 'Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba' not 'Jasper...'. I can find no mention of Grey Owl inside the magazine which is a hotchpotch of photos on diverse subjects from the Taj Mahal to the Beachyhead Lighthouse! (Our thanks to **Ralfe Whistler** for finding this for the archives – a first!). (ii) a copy of **The Workers in the Wilds** by Major A. Radclyffe Dugmore. Published by Herbert Jenkins Limited, London, **1934**. First edition. This book is 'an account of the Life and Work of the Beaver' and is illustrated by the author. It is set in the wilds of Canada and the last paragraph on p.26 is interesting: 'In the years to come, when the colony had passed into the land of shadows, the pond would disappear, and with it all evidence of the beavers' toil...'. The 'land of shadows'! Did the author know of Grey Owl's writings? The first time these words appear by G.O., is in **1929** in the opening lines of his first published article 'The Passing of the Last Frontier', Country Life, March 2, 1929:p.302... 'Side by side with modern Canada lies the last battleground in the long drawn out bitter contest between civilisation and the forces of nature. It is a land of shadows and hidden trails, lost rivers and unknown lakes...'. (Used, of course, by Don Smith in the title of his definitive biography 'From the Land of Shadows: The Making of Grey Owl'). (Major Radclyffe Dugmore also wrote 'The Romance of the Beaver').

Richard and Wendy Johnston from Orillia, have sent in a copy of an article on Grey Owl's last lecture. Entitled 'Grey Owl comes to Town' it appears in a book about the history of the city of Peterborough, Ontario, **The Golden Days of Yesteryear** by Murray Paterson, (pp.80-84). The author was taken in mid-March, 1938, by his 'dad' to hear Grey Owl talk at the Trinity Church Hall... 'one thing that impressed me as a pre-teenage boy was the slides showing Grey Owl carrying a canoe'. Those scenes, apparently, inspired the author's avocation of 'paddling lakes and rivers' in eastern Canada. After the lecture, Mr. Paterson Snr., asked Grey Owl (through an official) what he had planned to say on the B.B.C. Grey Owl 'scribbled dad a short reply' and copies of these notes are included in the article. (Just before 'going to press' the Johnstons airmailed us a copy of the book itself. Published by F.P.Comrie Publications in 1998. We are very pleased to have this book for the archives.

Mr. René Lamarche of the Mattawa Historical Society & Museum, Ontario, has sent some small posters and two newspaper articles, covering the town's celebrations of the centenary of the birth of **Anahareo** in June.

(i) 'Special gathering – a celebration of Anahareo's Life' by Gerry Therrien from *The Mattawa Recorder*, Vol.34, Issue 45, June 25, 2006 and

(ii) 'Angele and Anahareo events great success' by Doug Mackey from *Community Voices*, June 30, 2006.

John Gregg of York, Maine has also sent us press cuttings of the **Anahareo** event and the **Arlington Hoffman** exhibition entitled '**The Angele Egwuna Project: Grey Owl and his Descendants**' which was held at the Kennedy Gallery, North Bay, Ontario during June-July (for further details, see *Bulletins* 23:20 and 24:31). (i) 'Powwow honours Anahareo' by Dave Dale from the *North Bay Nugget*, June 19, 2006 and (ii) 'Grey Owl artist invites kids to paint: Art workshops at gallery run until August' by Maria Calabrese from the *North Bay Nugget*, July 6, 2006. (See this Bulletin, p.7).

Betty Taylor has added a copy of Barry Johnson's Memoir on Colin (see p.1a) to the archives. There are references to Grey Owl and/or the Society on pp. (i), 9, 26, 32-36, 43-44, 51, 67, 76, 82-86.

Sheila French, one of our newer members from Great Yarmouth, sent a xerox cutting from the **Eastern Daily Press** (a local paper) for **December 18th, 1937**. Entitled '**Grey Owl in Norwich: A 'Savage' Looks at Civilization. 'Medieval Brutality' of Blood Sports Condemned**'. This was the 'last lecture but one in England' before his return to North America. The lecture at the Stuart Hall, Norwich, 'held crowded audiences enthralled for nearly two hours'. It was organized by Messrs. Jarrold, one of Norwich's oldest and largest department store and publisher. Sheila contacted them but wrote 'unfortunately, they no longer hold any archives relating to this visit'!

In addition to the above, **Sheila**, an artist, has sent us a print of each of the two paintings she has made of Grey Owl. We have included the one of G.O. feeding Rawhide (see p.12) as the print was slightly lighter and will probably reproduce better. The other painting, equally good, shows G.O. with 'the cold blue eyes of a man hiding a big secret!'. Sheila was influenced by a paragraph in 'Men of the last Frontier', in 'The Still-Hunt' chapter where G.O. describes his '...elfin guide...under the bronze dome of a giant birch tree'. It's a good painting of G.O. 'standing in the moonlight, beneath the large birch tree...' bearing in mind, she said, Donald Smith's description (From *The Land of Shadows*): '...with the cold eyes of a man who hated anyone asking questions about his history'. (We hope to include this painting in a future Bulletin).

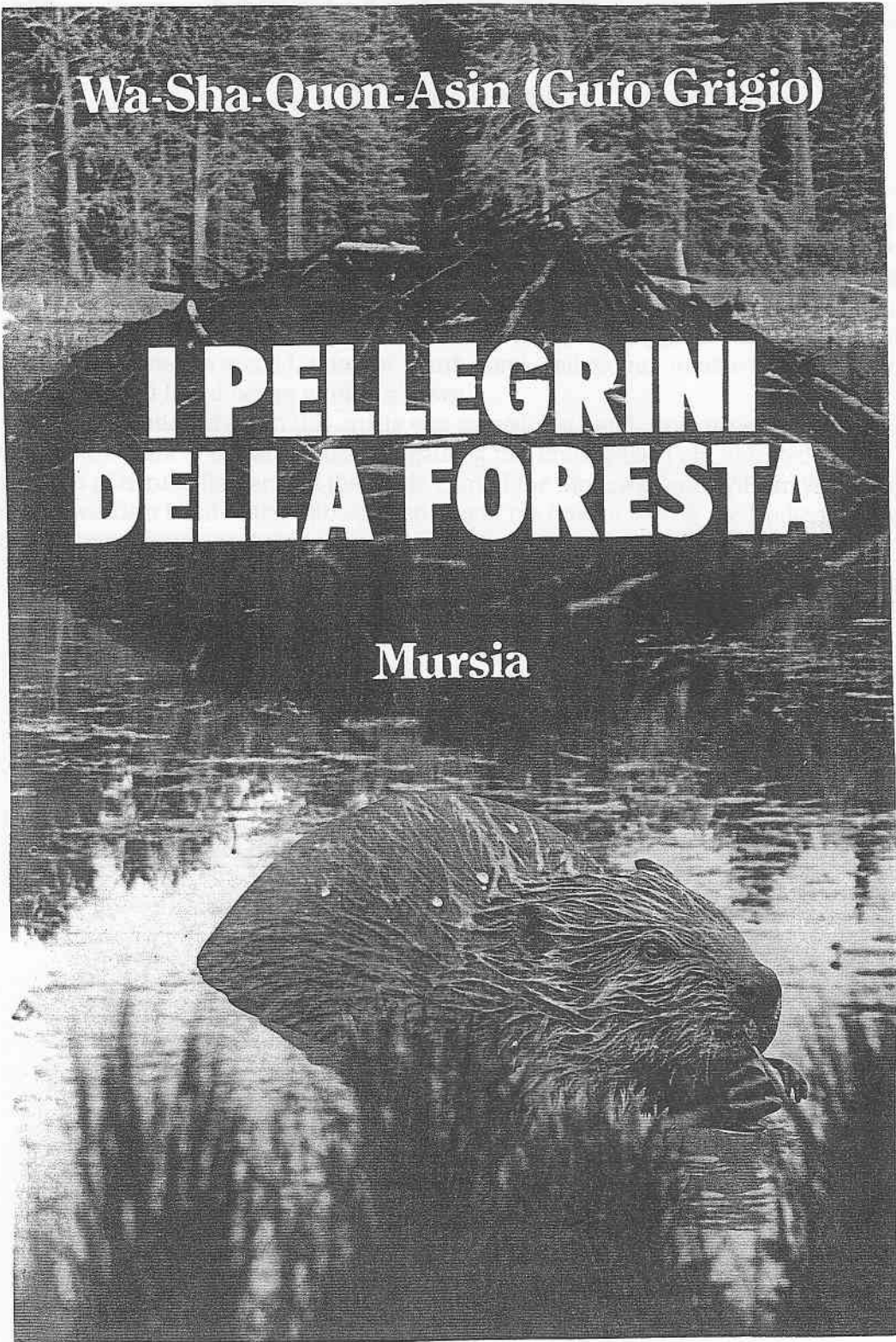
Cathy Carpenter, member from Little Clacton, has sent an original copy of the article on the G.O. film from **SAGA Magazine** for November 2000. The cover photo is of Pierce Brosnan 'The Love Story That Swept Me Off My Feet'. pp.22-24 cover the story of the making of the film (an interview with Garth Pearce), including illustrations. (There is a black and white xerox copy also in the archives). Cathy also sent two cuttings – (i) a review of the film (from the *Sun*(?)) 'Owl is heap big turkey' (giving it the lowest rating possible!!) and (ii) 'Indian Tale's a Real Owler', describing the film as 'Slushy' but giving it 2 stars!

Roberta Grandi of Bologna, has sent the Society an Italian copy of *Pilgrims of the Wild, I Pellegrini Della Foresta*. We are very pleased to add this to the Society's collection (see p.18). (We now have twelve foreign editions in eight languages – we still have plenty more to find!).

Wa-Sha-Quon-Asin (Gufo Grigio)

I PELLEGRINI DELLA FORESTA

Mursia



Cover of the Italian edition of **Pilgrims of the Wild**, published by Mursia,
Via Tadino, Milan. 1978(?). Translated by Mario Ghisalberti.

We are very pleased to add this Italian translation to the archives which was sent as a
gift to the Grey Owl Society from our first Italian member, Roberta Grandi of Bologna.

HOW THE INDIANS TANNED BUCKSKIN

By Hampton W. Swain

Preface

While much has been said and written about Indian war shirts of buckskin, and "buckskin clad pioneers," actually very little is known about the preparation of this very valuable article.

A lot that has been written is very wide of the mark and suggests that the writer got his or her information second, third, or fourth hand, and did not trouble to actually try out what he had heard before writing it down.

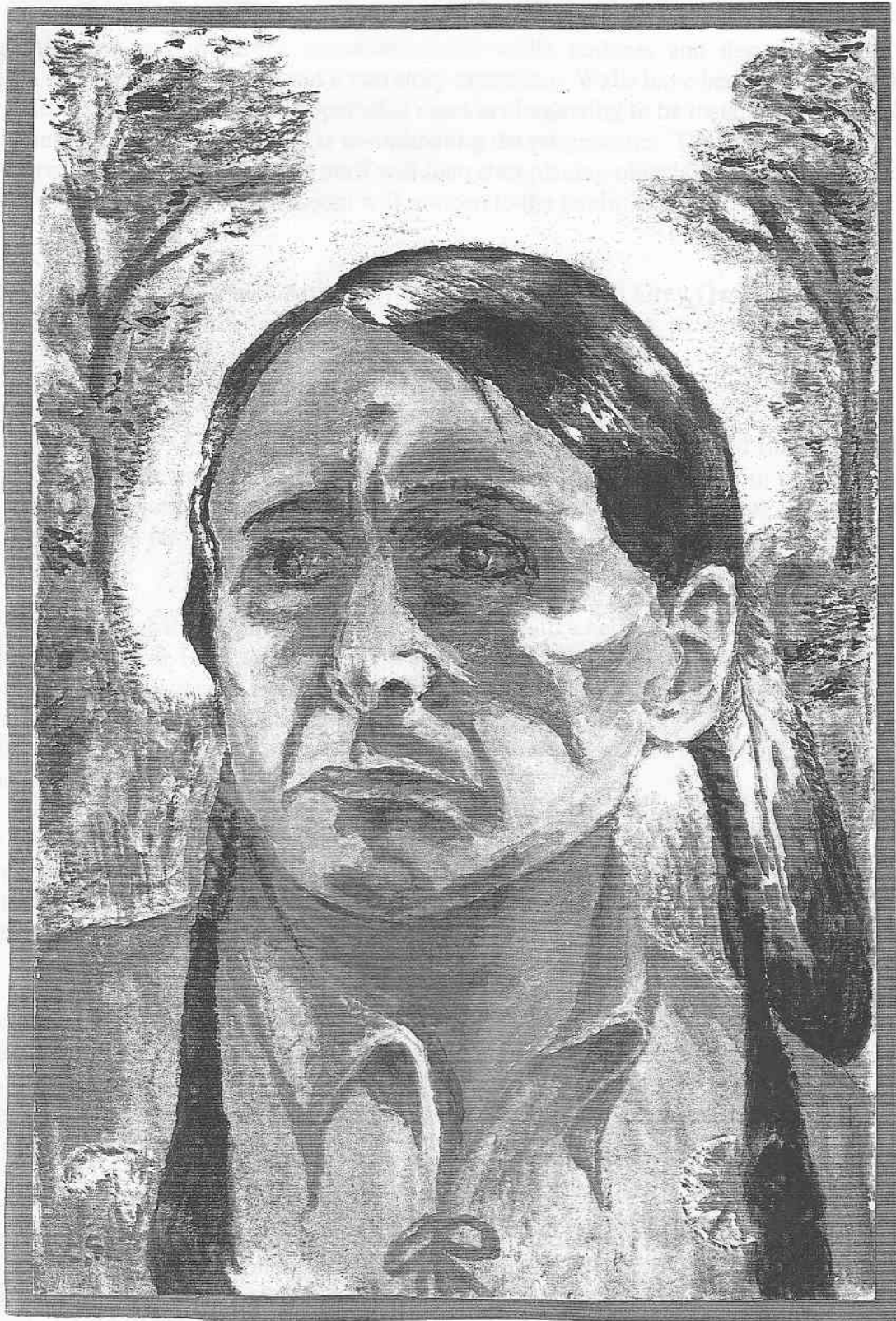
The information given in this article was gained first hand, from experts, and followed up by years of actual practice. In gaining this knowledge, I am indebted to Anahareo (Gertrude Bernard) of the Turtle Clan of the Mohawks and William Petrant of the Makwandsin band of the Ojibwa, who taught me how to live off the land and make every resource count, as their ancestors had done before them.

February, 1954
Port Credit, Ontario, Canada



Anahareo (Gertrude Bernard), aged 17, taken at Bear Island, Lake Temagami, Ontario, July 1924. The heroine of Grey Owls' story, Pilgrims of the Wilderness.

I have at last been able to track down a re-print of **How The Indians Tanned Buckskin** by Hampton Swain (first published in 1954). Anahareo was one of the informants for this small but detailed book. This is re-printed in the **Museum of the Fur Trade Quarterly** (Summer 2002. Vol.38. No.2 pp.2-10), Chadron, Nebraska. (I am grateful to **Don Smith** who suggested I write to the Mississauga Library System who in turn tracked down the Museum of the Fur Trade's re-print. The Director of that Museum, Gail DeBuse Potter, kindly donated two copies for the Society's archives). (see also p.15)



'Grey Owl'. Painted by Clive Stone as a Christmas Card for the Society 2005. Clive, a local member from Iden, near Hastings, has been a member since 1994. (We are pleased to add this to our collection of drawings/paintings of G.O. by our talented members).

Hastings Museum due to re-open in 2007 with new Grey Owl displays

Hastings Museum is currently a construction site while builders and designers work on new galleries, a shop, coffee area, lifts and a two story extension. Walls have been demolished in the old building, new spaces opened up and specialist cases are beginning to be installed. Beatrice Cole has been appointed display manager and is co-ordinating the programme. The builders are due to finish around Christmas 2006 and Museum staff will then start placing objects and preparing text material and graphics. The re-furbished Museum will re-open to the public at the end of July 2007.

Two new display areas will be devoted to Native Americans and Grey Owl and the existing Grey Owl and Plains Indian galleries will be updated to take account of material from the Taylor collection acquired in 2004.

For the first time there will be features on the Belaney family in Hastings and Buffalo Bill's visit to the town in 1903. The magnificent headdress worn by Iron Tail as lead rider in Buffalo Bill's Wild West will be the centerpiece and there will be photographs, family miniatures and Ada Belaney's sewing box acquired from Ivy Holmes' son in law, Graham Calver in 1995.

Archie's genteel English upbringing will be contrasted with a selection of exhibits from tribes with whom he was associated in Canada, in particular the vivid floral embroidery, beadwork, quillwork and birchbark of the Iroquois, Ojibwa and Chippewa. Key pieces include a brilliant red sash and cuffs from Caughnawaga, Plains Ojibwa beaded leggings similar to those seen by Grey Owl at the Great Plains Indian convention at Fort Carlton in 1936 and a large birchbark model canoe bearing the Canadian flag and dating from around 1890.

The Grey Owl film of 2000 will be represented with set models, stills, designs and a poster thanks to a donation from Lord Attenborough. Fans of Pierce Brosnan will be pleased to hear that the costume he wore in the title role will also be on show!

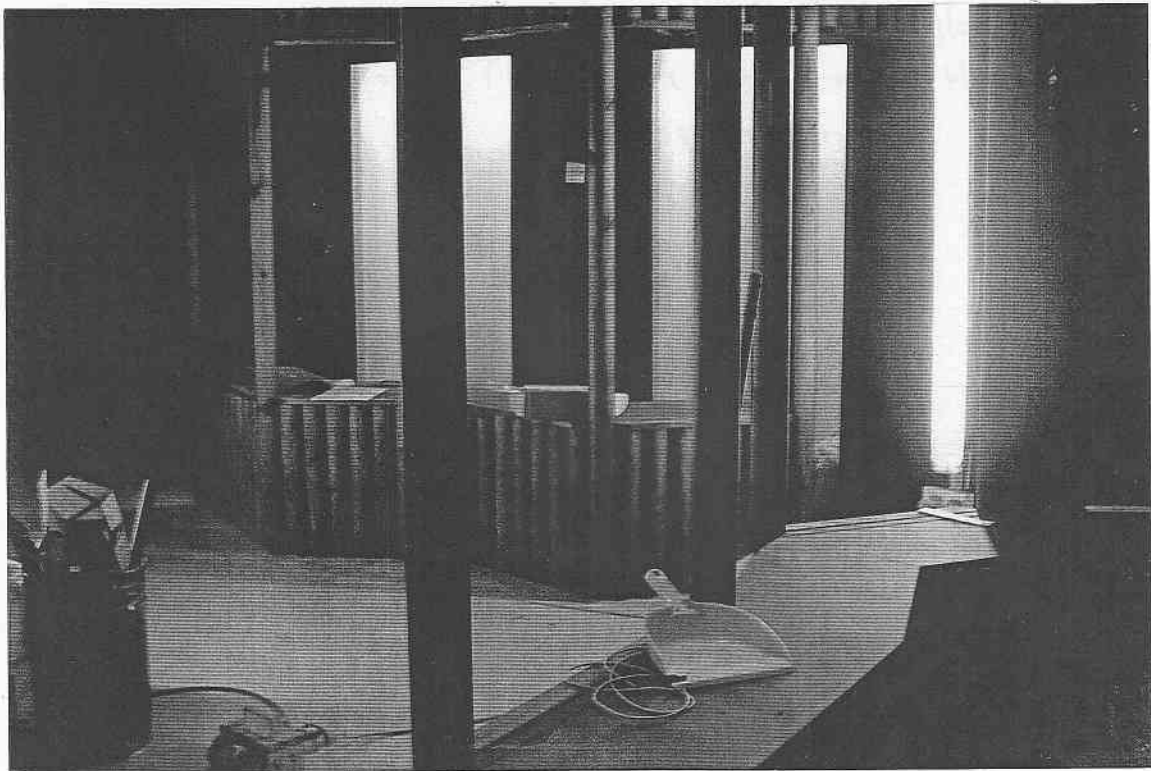
There will be a new gallery devoted to the peoples of the Arctic and Subarctic, much of it based on material acquired by Colin and Betty Taylor from the Callender family who were missionaries in Makkovik, Labrador just after the First World War. The exhibits are evocative of the harsh conditions in these frozen lands: sealskin coats and boots, gut snowshoes and delicately carved figures of animals, polar bears, seals and foxes.

The Museum will also be displaying Arctic exhibits from the Aleutian Islands on the far western edge of Alaska. These were collected by Lord and Lady Brassey in the 1870s and include a walrus gut parka, fishing harpoons and objects associated with shaman's medicine such as a Tsimshian spirit catcher and carved teeth.

The gallery devoted to the Plains Indian collection of first Grey Owl Society president, Edward Blackmore, will be updated.

The new displays mean that the Museum's Native American galleries will be more closely linked to the life and work of Grey Owl. With the acquisition of material from the Taylor collection, the display has been widened from a predominantly Plains Indian exhibition to include a much wider area of Canada. It is hoped that by placing Grey Owl more closely in the context of his English and Native American backgrounds, his contribution as a conservationist will be enhanced and re-inforced.

Victoria Williams
Curator
October 2006



Work in progress on the new galleries at Hastings Museum (2006)
(Photo, courtesy Beatrice Cole).

Solitude

Written by our member
Cathy Carpenter (nee
Boulter), when she was
14 years old.

(Cathy is now in her 80s!)
In addition Cathy wrote:
'I think I told you how I
borrowed 'Pilgrims of the
Wild' so often from our local
Library that my fingers alone
wore out the pages. So I
decided to write it all out for
myself'. It was June 4th,
1938, when Cathy started her
hand-written copy, and she
has sent some original pages
- which have been put safely
in the archives!

This shining lake,
This sheen of water, sweeping far away,
Gentle and calm, and silently does lay
While everything around reflected clear
Down there below, And at this
point it does appear
To meditate, and sleep,
This sombre deep.

These aged trees,
That seem to only brood upon the past
These shadowed depths, where mystery is cast
Mighty in their silence, immovable and tall,
Where mans significance is valued not at all.
This dark and serried throng
Of birds in song.

This silent World
Where everything about seems still
and dead
Here in the lake, and branches
overhead —
A spirit dwells, in solitude divine,
And this is mine, this everything that
God can give
For me to live, alone,
This Heaven — my own.



Boulter

Kingemore Lake

A 'Grey Owl' Discovery in Eastern and Southern Africa

Berry White, daughter of Society members Margaret and Bill Van Draat (our Treasurer), recently returned from a rhino research trip through Eastern and Southern Africa and has sent us this most interesting, (and surprising), story (I have not heard of any other Grey Owl connection in Africa)! In 2004, the Grey Owl Society supported the 'Save the Rhino' campaign and Berry gave an illustrated talk at the fund-raising event held at (see Bulletin 23:16). Berry has sent us the following account of her African journey :

Dr. Ian Player Saviour of the Southern White Rhino. Founder of the Wilderness Leadership School and the inspiration for its symbol – Grey Owl's 'The Green Leaf'.

Last month, I returned from a year long trip in Eastern and Southern Africa, the focus of which was to research rhinos. Having spent eighteen years of my life working with rhinos at Port Lympne*, I feel passionately about them.

My trip started on 4th October, 2005, in Nairobi, Kenya. I journeyed by land and air to the African countries where rhino still exist today, to discover for myself their current status, by talking with the experts who have had a significant impact on conserving them over the past few decades. From Kenya, I travelled south to Tanzania before cutting across to Zambia, Botswana, Namibia, then down to South Africa before travelling north again to Zimbabwe, Malawi and Uganda before finally flying home from Nairobi on 4th October.

Rhinos, who have no natural predators, have been pushed to virtual extinction by man, poached for their horns which command vast sums of money. In the East they are believed through age old traditions, to have medicinal properties and in the Yemen it is considered a status symbol if the dagger of the traditional costume is made out of rhino horn. Habitat loss through deforestation, especially in Asia, has also contributed heavily to the rhinos' demise.

Of the five species of rhino that exist in the world today, all but one are critically endangered. Black rhino numbers have dropped dramatically, from approximately 80,000 in the 1960s to just 3,000 today. In Asia, there are thought to be only 250 Sumatran rhino left and only a mere 60 Javan rhinos. The Greater One-Horned rhino number around 2,000, living in Nepal and Assam. The situation for these species is desperate. However, the other African species, the Southern White rhino, gives hope if granted the adequate protection. About 100 years ago, there were thought to be only about 50 white rhinos left on the planet. Then the Mfolozi Game Reserve was established and with protection their numbers had increased by 1960 to 450. However, being located in just one area of Africa they were still in danger should disease break out or poaching increase. Thanks to the dedication and determination of mainly one man, they have been saved.

Dr Ian Player is surely one of the greatest conservationists today. Working as a senior ranger for the Natal Parks, he initiated Operation Rhino – capturing and translocating the White Rhino of Mfolozi to other protected reserves in Africa and later to zoos and wildlife parks throughout the world. An endeavour which has made him internationally famous. The Southern White rhino today, number over 11,000 – a remarkable achievement by a remarkable man!

Dr. Player's love of the wild, pushed him next to initiate the first Wilderness Trails in Southern Africa, working alongside his lifelong Zulu companion, Magqubu Ntombela, bringing people in

cont...

direct contact with the wilderness of Africa. He founded the Wilderness Leadership School; the Wilderness Trust U.K.; the International Wilderness Leadership Foundation (U.S.A.); The World Wilderness Congress; and the Magqubu Ntombela Foundation. He was also honoured as a knight in the Order of The Golden Ark by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. Inevitably, he has received many awards for his great achievements in conservation.

Dr. Player was a great friend of the Founder of Howletts and Port Lympne, John Aspinall – my boss for the many years that I worked there – and I met him on numerous occasions, down at the rhino house, when he came to visit. I was very excited to catch up with Dr. Player and his wife Anne, in their home in Howik on the South African stretch of my rhino tour and was keen to hear all about his rhino adventures.

On entering his living room, the first thing that caught my eye was a table on which sat three portrait bronze busts and photographs of the men he had admired most in his life. One of the photos was of his dear friend, John Aspinall, with one of the gorillas at Howletts (Port Lympne). One bust was of his great friend, Sir Laurence Van der Post, another of Magqubu Ntombela. The other bust was of a 'North American Indian', none other than **GREY OWL** – holding a green leaf! Such a coincidence! I told Dr. Player of my family's involvement with Grey Owl and the Grey Owl Society and of my Hastings roots. He told me of his admiration for Grey Owl's philosophies and his love of the wilderness which had so inspired him that he had chosen as the **symbol** for the Worldwide Wilderness Leadership Schools, a leaf! Inspired by the famous Grey Owl quotation:

'You are tired with years of civilization. I come and offer you what? – a single green leaf'

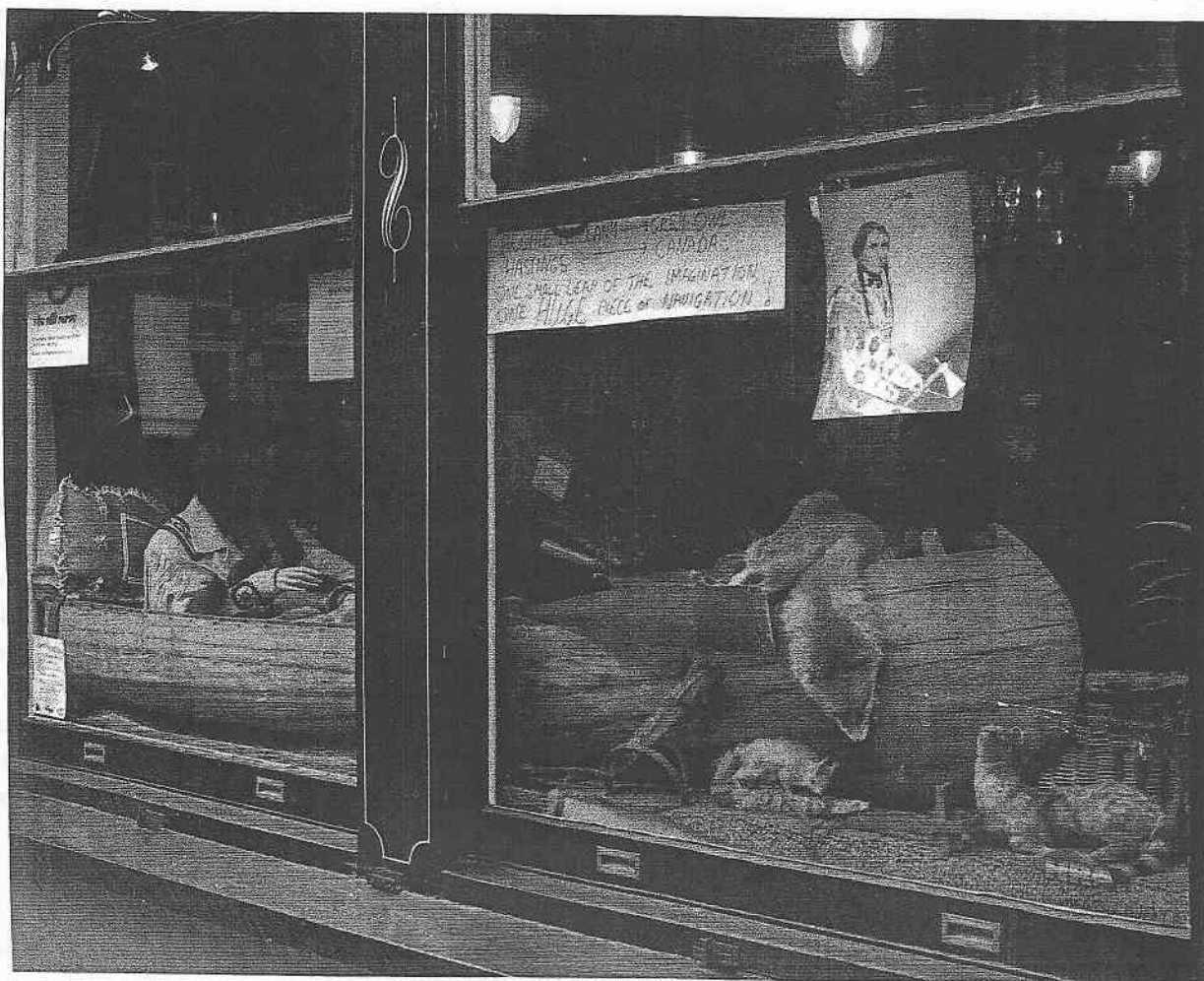


Dr. Ian Player at his home in Howik, South Africa, with the bronze bust of GREY OWL who was such an inspiration for his wilderness work in Africa and who was one of the men he most admired in his life. (Photo, courtesy Berry White).

* For further details on Port Lympne and the Society's visit there in 1989, see Bulletin 8:6

P.S. Berry writes that Dr. Player is 'a great speaker' and it is hoped that he may give a talk to members at some time in the future on one of his trips to England. If anyone would like to hear more about Berry's adventures in Africa, and the people she met along the way, she would be pleased to arrange a talk. I will be pleased to pass on any requests.

(Ed.)



Hastings Week 2006 (9-15 October) : The above photo shows the winner of the 'Best Dressed Shop Window' (Nelson House Antiques). Described in the Parish News (November 2006) by Ian Porter as a 'fantastic display of Grey Owl paddling his canoe, surrounded with authentic artefacts of his time'.

The Hastings & St Leonards Observer (Nov 3rd) had a photo with the caption 'Grey Owl helps window competition'. 'It was one of the best dressed windows I have seen for many years' said Ian, the event organiser. Some of the items shown were loaned by G.O.S. member, Robert Mucci. (Photo, courtesy Ian Porter).

Members' and Friends' Correspondence

Paul Goble, our Hon. Member from Rapid City, South Dakota, is a loyal member of the Society and wrote last February that he was to be presented with the 2006 Regina Medal by the Catholic Library Association (in April, in Atlanta). Although Paul says that he 'dreads giving speeches', he adds that 'I just wanted to let you know that I will be mentioning the fact that my mother read me all the books of Grey Owl'. Apparently, when he talked to the American Library Association in 1978 when he received the Caldecott Medal, he also mentioned Grey Owl's books... These speeches are recorded and so Grey Owl's name must be put before a lot of people. When I ask groups, who has read Grey Owl? Nobody ever has! I hope they rush out and search for copies?!'. (The first person to receive the Regina Medal was Eleanor Farjeon in 1959). (see Bulletin 18:26 for a short biog. On Paul).

David Lazell from East Leake, Loughborough, wrote during a very cold March from his 'East Leake Igloo'... He had introduced his friend, **Roberta Grandi**, to the writings of Grey Owl and Roberta is now our first Italian member! David wrote 'It seems many moons since [I] first found Grey Owl books in a secondhand bookstore in Bath, it must have been in the late 1960s, when I worked in a local advertising agency'. In another note, he added 'I'm so glad you are keeping the [G.O.] work going... a person can be judged by those he admires. As far as Grey Owl is concerned, his example seems to shine more as the years pass...'. We mentioned to Roberta that the only one of G.O.'s books translated into Italian, was **Pilgrims of the Wild** and she replied in March, 'I already searched the Italian translation of 'Pilgrims of the Wild'. It exists but it's not easy to find'.

(In the event, Roberta did track down an Italian copy and has kindly donated it to the Society's archives – see pp. 17-18).

David's other 'main interest' is Flora Klickmann of the Girls Own Paper (who died in her nineties in 1957). '...a pioneer ecologist to the last. Flora and Archie certainly had a lot in common', he wrote.

(For details of David Lazell's writings on Grey Owl, see Bulletins 19:21 and 22:14).

Sheila French from Great Yarmouth (who painted 'Grey Owl feeding Rawhide') (see p.12) obtained the video of THE film 'Grey Owl' from her local library 'and watched it umpteen times...I agree with one of the contributors to the Bulletin, that whilst much significant detail was not [could not] be included in the film, it did convey the spirit of Grey Owl's life and work, and that of his wife's but I was hard pressed to decide who were the real two stars of the film! The beavers are so cute'. She also referred to Spencer Roberts' (Arthur's) drawing of G.O. (in last year's Bulletin 24:18), adding 'I loved the pride and sentimentality' in it, '...it's easy to imagine Grey Owl thinking about his life's work'.

We are pleased to welcome the following **new members** :

Roberta Grandi of Bologna, Italy
Mrs Jo. Taylor, Bexhill-on-Sea
Beverley White of Grange over Sands, Cumbria

AGM/CHRISTMAS DINNER, 2005

The 24th AGM/Christmas Dinner was held as usual at the Beauport Hotel, Hastings, on 1st December. Thirty-six members attended. Betty Taylor read out the **Apologies**, then mentioned that five new members had joined during the year but, unfortunately, none were able to attend the AGM. Betty Taylor then gave the Society's congratulations and best wishes to Barry Johnson on his engagement to another of the Society's members, Dagmara Ginter although Dagmara was not able to be present, due to a prior arrangement. **Bill Van Draat** then gave the **Treasurer's Report**, stating that the funds were still very healthy (around £1,800), even though the Society had made two very generous donations during the year totaling almost £1,000 (full details were outlined in the Bulletin (No.24)). He thanked those whose generous donations helped the Society's work, especially Jennifer Phiri and Margaret Charko. Bill then entertained us with one of his 'stories' – as much a tradition of the evening as the flamed Christmas pudding! **Ralfe Whistler** told the members of the forth-coming **Anahareo** commemoration, to be held in the summer of 2006 to celebrate the centenary of her birth (in Mattawa, Ontario). (See this Bulletin, pp. 8-10 for full details of the event). **Victoria Williams** then brought the members up to date on the plans for the extension/refurbishment of Hastings Museum. The Museum had just closed until 2007 when it is hoped the new Native American/Grey Owl galleries will open to the public with enlarged displays including the recently acquired Taylor collection. The **raffle**, organized by **Jenny Logan**, wound up the evening and a net profit of £60 was added to the Society's funds. The Bulletins were distributed as usual and there was plenty of interesting new material on the 'archive table'. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves with animated conversation both in the bar before dinner and later around the table! It was a fairly mild and dampish evening when we left (after a recent very cold snap!).

AGM/CHRISTMAS DINNER, 2007 Thursday, 6th December. Please make a note in your diary now!



Derek Norcross, Irene West and Ian West at the AGM/Christmas Dinner. 2005

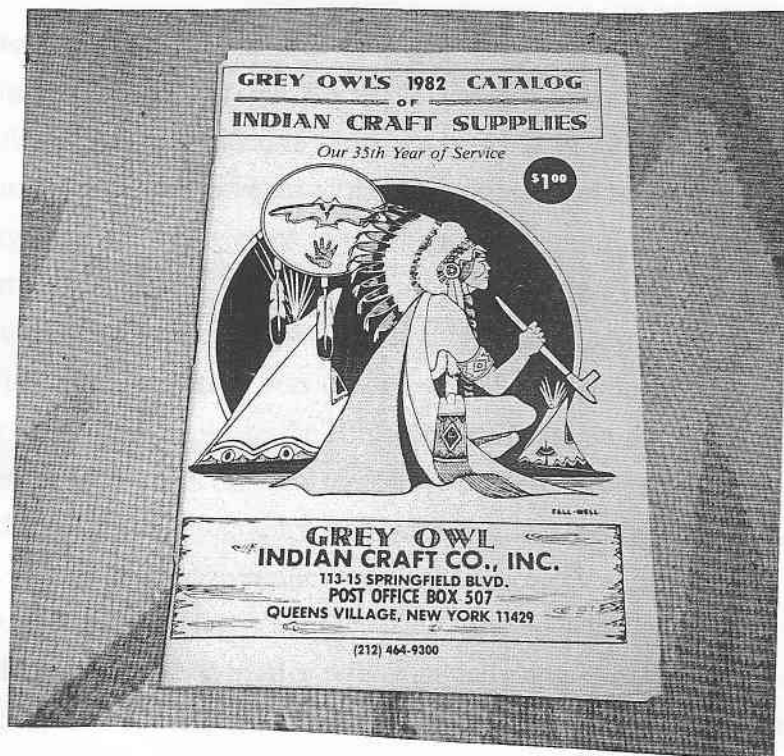
E-Bay : The Men of the Last Frontier. Published in 1931 by Country Life, this First Edition was offered by E-Bay in January and a bid of £99 had been made. Member, Arthur Andrews, sent us the following interesting details accompanying the sale: '...First and foremost this book is signed on the title page...Glued to this page is a cut out photo of Grey Owl on crutches this is an actual photograph... Secondly and most importantly there is a handwritten manuscript glued on the inside first page on lined note-book paper which is written in what I presume to be Ojibwe. There is a site or two on the internet for translation. This is written by Grey Owl; I believe this book to be unique due to above....'. The book was being sold from Malvern, U.K. Unfortunately, Arthur was too late to bid. It would be interesting to know if one of our members was the buyer and if so, to see a copy of the photo and the manuscript.

Timothy Treadwell – 'Grizzly People' project. Members may remember that the Society gave a donation in 2002 towards this project (see Bulletin 21:12). Sadly, in 2004 (Bulletin 23:24), we reported on Tim's tragic death in Katmai National Park, Alaska, having been fatally mauled by one of 'his' bears. Now a film has been made about Tim's work based on video footage shot by him. **Grizzly Man** has been described as 'one of the most arresting nature documentaries you will ever see' (Film Review, March 2006). Directed by Werner Herzog, the Film Review gave it 4 stars! The film was also included under 'Critic's choice, Top Ten Films' by Derek Malcolm in the **Evening Standard** (7 February 2006) and advertised in **The Times 2** (26 January) as 'Hypnotic' with 5 stars. It came out on DVD in May with more acclaim, 'Excellent' 5 stars (Time Out); 'Superb' 4 stars (The Guardian) and 'Extraordinary' 4 stars (The Independent).

Hastings and St. Leonards Observer. 16 June 2006. An 'Update' on the Museum's refurbishment programme was included under the heading 'Museum searches for Indian artifacts'. It is hoped that the Museum will re-open in 2007 and mention was made of the Taylor collection (which will be displayed in the new galleries)... 'including a full-size, eagle-feather war bonnet worn by the Sioux Indian Iron Tail...' . The article adds that Buffalo Bill's Wild West came to Hastings in 1903 which was seen 'by a 14-year old Archie Beaney (sic), who later transformed himself into the legendary conservationist Grey Owl...'.
Grey Owl

'about' magazine (Hastings Borough Council, Winter 2005). 'Building Work Starts at Hastings Museum & Art Gallery' (p.14). '...The magnificent Taylor collection of native American exhibits will illustrate the life of tribes associated with Grey Owl and the visit of Buffalo Bill's Wild West to the town in 1903'. (See Curator Victoria Williams' up-date on the refurbishment, pp.21-22).

Archives. The archives have been used again this year by a few members (which is pleasing), including our Polish member, Dagmara Ginter, who has chosen 'Canadian literature' as one project for her M.A. in Information Studies (Librarianship).



The above is a photo of the 1982 catalogue of **Grey Owl's Indian Craft Supplies**. This company, based in Queens Village, New York, was founded in 1947 to offer 'the finest Indian Crafts and supplies...' to Indian Hobbyists, scouts, guides etc. It seems almost certain that this company named itself after Archie Belaney!

American Indian Workshop NEWSLETTER. December 1983, Number 15. Published and Edited by Christian F. Feest, Museum für Volkerkunde, Vienna. On p.6, there is an outline of the founding of the Grey Owl Society in April 1982 and on p.13 under the general title 'Current European Bibliography of North American Indian Studies', there is mention of E.H. Blackmore's 'Some Personal Reminiscences of Grey Owl' in Bulletin No.1:6-8. This is listed under the sub-title 'Language and Literature'. We mention this now (rather belated!), as this was omitted from previous Bulletins.

Don Smith (Vice-President of the Society) has just had another book published '**Calgary's Grand Story**'. This had an excellent Review in the Calgary Herald (September 18, 2005). As most members know, Don is Professor of History at Calgary University. Needless to say, Don is already near to publishing his next book on Honoré Jaxon who was 'self-appointed archivist of the Northwest Rebellion'. I can pass on Don's address to anyone interested in these topics. (Ed.).

Archibald Belaney's Attestation Paper. A copy of this was donated to the archives last year (see Bulletin 24:21). Colin Crocker has written to say that his friend, **Andrew Hadden** located this 'on the computer' so credit should have gone to Andrew (who also sent a copy to Hastings Museum).

Woodland Trust. We understand that the Woodland Trust have now bought the southern half of **Guestling Wood**, near Hastings and near the Fairlight Country Park. They already own most of the northern half of the wood, so this is good news for local members!

Committee Meeting. This was held at , Hastings, on Monday 10th April. The main topics discussed were (i) the Society's annual donation. Bentley Wildfowl Trust was considered but finally it was decided to finance a bench at the **Pett Level Preservation Trust** land. **John Goodman**, a committee member of the Trust, described its background and told us that it was a fairly small organisation; being close to Hastings, we thought it would be appropriate especially as we have supported much larger conservation projects over the past few years. We also decided to make Pett, the venue for the summer visit (see this Bulletin, pp.13-14). (ii) **A reprint of the 21st Anniversary Special Publication** was discussed and agreed upon. The first edition has virtually sold out. **Betty Taylor** will up-date the Bibliography listed on pp.34-42 (as there are 17 additions) and will also get the printers, Cerberus, to correct the few errors, i.e. 'Lake Ajawaan 1936' on p.7, to 'Ajawaan Lake'! The Bibliography will remain in chronological order, which shows how the interest in G.O. has developed over the years. This project is in progress and the second edition should be ready, early in the New Year (see p.2). (iii) **Society lapel badge.** It was finally decided to order 100 badges and **Ralfe Whistler** will eventually advise delivery and cost (still ongoing). (iv) **A Memorial Lecture** to commemorate the founding of the Grey Owl Society by **Colin Taylor** was again discussed. It is hoped that this can be held at the Durbar Hall, Hastings Museum, after the Museum refurbishment is completed - Summer 2007. Details to be circulated nearer the time.

Hastings & St. Leonards Observer. June 23, 2006. Under 'A town very proud of its famous and infamous residents'. '...Hastings is proud of its famous and infamous residents from passionate conservationist and sometime native American Archie Grey Owl to television pioneer John Logie Baird...'. (Under the general heading **Hastings A Dynamic Town Today and Tomorrow...**).

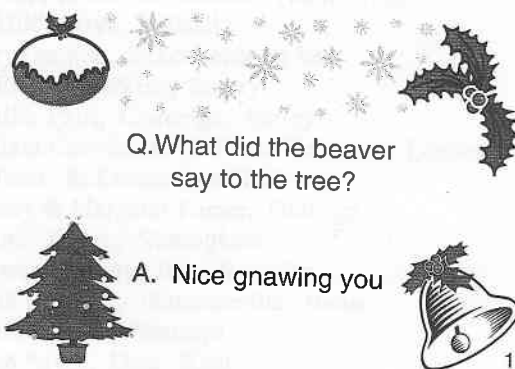
Additions to Archives. The Society has bought for the Archives, two copies of **Canadian Forest and Outdoors**, with articles by Grey Owl. We are especially pleased to have these because they are rare and are now the earliest **originals** in the archives. Vol.26, No.10 is dated **October 1930** and on pp.573-574 is G.O.'s article **Little Brethren of the Wilderness** (Part Two). The other copy is Vol.27, No.1 and is dated **January 1931**. The article on pp.13-15 is entitled **King of the Beaver People: A True Narrative of Beaver Folk – Their almost Human Response to a little Interest and Kindly Consideration by Man**. At the end of this article is an Editor's Note : 'So much interest has been stirred up by Grey Owl's articles, and his original contributions to nature lore, that the Editor of Forest And Outdoors invites readers to submit brief questions for the consideration of Grey Owl. Only questions calling for short answers can be considered'. **We are extremely grateful to Ralfe Whistler** for his hard work in tracking down these interesting journals. We are now anxious to add to the archives, the **Canadian Forest and Outdoors** edition which carries **Part One of Little Brethren of the Wilderness** (September 1930). If any member tracks down a copy, the Society will purchase it for the archives.

GREY OWL : The Attenborough film. The film was shown again on ITV1 on 29 December, 2005. Described as a 'Biographical drama... In 1930s Canada, trapper Grey Owl becomes a spokesman for native Americans. Soon, however, he has to face up to questions about his credibility' (*Radio Times*, 17 – 30 December, 2005:195). Then in the *Review* (ibid.88), it is given a 3-star rating : 'Pierce Brosnan stars as the eponymous hero of this worthy biography about one of the first eco-warriors, who became a celebrated conservationist in the 1930s. He...finds employment as a guide and naturalist before his memoirs make him famous. Brosnan works hard at the role, but the revelation of Grey Owl's unexpected background somehow fails to impress'. The film also had a mention in the *Hastings and St. Leonards Observer* (April 28, 2006) with photos of Pierce Brosnan and Richard Attenborough. This was included in an article by John Hill, outlining various films that had been shot in the town. '...many Milward Road residents fondly remember the day James Bond came to town. Former Bond actor Pierce Brosnan dropped into Hastings as part of a three-day shoot for Hollywood movie **Grey Owl** in June 1998. The 100-strong cast and crew of the movie – based on the life of Hastings-raised 'Indian' conservationist Archie Belaney – trained a lens on Milward Road, Milward Crescent, the West Hill and St. Mary-in-the-Castle...'. During the shoot, Brosnan remarked '...I have had the most enchanting time making it. I have had the time of my life'!

Selected Poems of Frank Prewett. Edited by Bruce Meyer and Barry Callaghan. (Toronto: Exile Editions Ltd., 1987). Frank 'Toronto' Prewett was a Canadian 1st World War (and later) poet, who claimed to be of 'Iroquois blood'...although the 'Indian lineage' was denied by his sister. In the Introduction (p.8), Bruce Meyer writes: 'Philosophically, the Indian background gave him a claim to the natural existence for which he longed all his life. At the very time that Archie Belaney – who also had fought in the trenches – was hood-winking the world as Grey Owl, Prewett was declaring his Iroquois lineage at Garsington...'.** (Prewett's work was admired by 'the literati of England', including Virginia Woolf, Robert Graves, Siegfried Sassoon, Wilfred Owen' and many others).

Garsington – then the home of Lady Ottoline Morrell. **We will try and track down a copy for the archives!

Edward H. Blackmore. As members know, 'Ted' Blackmore was the Society's first President (see Bulletins 1:6-8 and 2:2-10). In 1988, E.H.B's reminiscences were eventually published under the title 'Hunkeshnee. The Memoirs of Ted Blackmore'. Published for Subscribers by The Friends of Ted Blackmore, Darkhorse Press, Brighton. May 1988. Only Volume I appeared and in a 'limited edition' of 99 copies. Pages 33-34 refer to Ted's connections with **Grey Owl**. It is hoped that a new and extended edition will be published in 2007-8 by Bartletts Press/Hastings Museum including new archival material from the Taylor collection.



Sorry!