

THE GREY OWL SOCIETY

Bulletin No. 30



Compiled by Betty Tayler

HASTINGS : December 2011

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THE GREY OWL SOCIETY



Hon. Secretary:
Betty Taylor

Dear Member,

As you know, this is the last Bulletin and I am sorry that it is a year late!

The Committee want to thank all our very supportive members for their loyalty and enthusiasm. I, of course, want to thank our President, Ian West, and all our Committee Members and especially our very efficient Treasurer, Bill Van Draat.

The Grey Owl Society was founded by the late Colin Taylor and the first meeting was held in April 1982 in the Sussex village of Framfield.

Our first President, 'Ted' Blackmore, had been a long time friend of Ian West and Colin Taylor and in 1935 had made the warbonnet for Grey Owl's U.K. Tour (Bull 1:6-8). After Ted's death in 1983, Ian West took over as President and his recollections of Grey Owl's visit to his school in Bexhill-on-Sea (where, at the age of 13, he was "the first one to sit in the chair after Grey Owl's departure with the Headmaster"), are also included in Bull 1:9).

The Society was extremely fortunate to have contacts and visits from several people who were close to Grey Owl:

Dawn Richardson : Daughter of Grey Owl and Anahareo. Dawn's visit to Hastings with her husband, Bob Richardson (and Dawn's untimely death), are outlined in Bull 3:1a-4).

Margaret Charko : Margaret made her first visit to Hastings with her daughter, Marlene, in 1998 (see Bull 17:29). Margaret and her brother, Stan, spent the summer of 1936 with Grey Owl at Beaver Lodge and Margaret typed the text of Grey Owl's last book - Tales of an Empty Cabin.

Ken Conibear : Visited Hastings in 1988 (Centenary Year). Ken was a Rhodes Scholar and was Grey Owl's Tour Manager for the 2nd Tour in 1937. (see Bull 21:4).

Don Smith : Vice-President of the Society and Professor of History at Calgary University. Don did not, of course, meet Grey Owl but met many who did. Author of the definitive Biography From the LAND OF SHADOWS: The Making of Grey Owl (1990).

Please keep the message of GREY OWL alive! My interest in Grey Owl will continue, of course, and I will always be interested to hear any "Grey Owl news"!

Very best wishes to all,

Betty Taylor

P.S. Members may also like to know that the Society's Archives are slowly being transferred to Hastings Museum (70 books, journals, magazines were transferred in August)!

President: Ian West

Treasurer: Bill Van Draat

GREY OWL SOCIETY'S DONATIONS FOR 2011

The following donations for 2011 were actually sent in 2012 but are listed here in the final Bulletin No. 30. All the following charities have previously been supported by the Society and at the final Committee Meeting, the decision was made to choose ten (from our list of twenty-nine):

1. The Woodland Trust (Jubilee Woods Project) £800

In their letter of 27 March, 2012, the Project had already planted 2.3 million trees. The Trust wrote that they 'really appreciated' our donation, adding "Please pass on our thanks to all those who have contributed at The Grey Owl Society". (See Bull.24:16).

2. Suffolk Owl Sanctuary £300

In their letter of 26 March, 2012, they write to thank the Society for their "generous and unexpected donation", adding that "you can be sure it will be put to good use... for the care & conservation of Britain's wild owl population" adding "thank you for the good work you have done". (See Bull.29:9).

3. People's Trust for Endangered Species £500

In support of the 'Water Vole Project' they thank the Society "very much indeed... we are very grateful for your further support and will put the funds to immediate good use" (their letter 23 March, 2012) (See Bull.26:19).

4. Pett Level Preservation Trust £200

In his letter of 25 March, 2012, the Hon. Treasurer writes "It is a most generous donation to the Trust which will go towards providing better information of what there is to see on the marsh", adding that the Society "must be very proud of all that it has accomplished...". (See Bull.25:13 & 26:19).

5. St Helen's Park Preservation Society £100

In their letter of 27 April, 2012, the Hon. Treasurer writes that the Society "wish to say an enormous 'Thank You'... for your kind donation in support of our work... in maintaining the magnificent facilities of St. Helen's Woods". (See Bull.6:12-14).

6. Wildwood Trust £200

In the Chief Executive's letter of 19 March, 2012, thanking the Society for its "generous donation", Mr. Smith adds "... the Ham Fen beaver project in Kent is still going strong and our beavers have continued to do an excellent job managing the reserve...". (See Bull. 24:17).

cont...

GREY OWL SOCIETY'S DONATIONS FOR 2011 cont...

7. Friends of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve £400

In their letter of 28 March, 2012, they write to thank the Society “for the very generous donation... towards the work of our reserve”. A lot of work and improvements have been made to the Reserve and they add that “we are looking forward to the arrival of the migrants for hopefully another successful season”. (See Bull.4:7 & 14).

8. Powdermill Trust for Nature Conservation £100

In their letter of 20 March, 2012, the Trust thanked the Society for their “very generous donation”, adding that “Our Board of Trustees is due to meet on the 5th April... and will discuss with them ways in which we might dedicate a specific event in 2012 to your Society”. (See Bull. 22:10).

9. International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) £400

The IFAW wrote on 21 March, 2012, and thanked the Society for its “extremely generous donation” adding that they “could not have become one of the most effective animal welfare groups in the world without the generous support of people like you”. They listed some of their recent projects, adding that they were “in the process of training more rangers to protect wildlife from merciless poachers”. (See Bull. 17:13).

10. Woodland Enterprise Centre, Flimwell, E. Sussex £100

In thanking the society for their donation in their letter of 27th March, 2012, they wrote “thank you so much for thinking of us and the generous donation...”. (See Bull. 21:9-10).

These donations, therefore, add up to £3,100. (The total over the years amounts to just under £10,000!) It is only due to the support and generosity of some of our members that the Society has been able to help these organizations and to all, the committee say ‘THANK YOU’!

DONATIONS TO THE GREY OWL SOCIETY

We are very grateful to the following members for their generous donations - Pat Evans, Gabe Fritzen, John Gregg, Jenny Phiri and Tom Watrous. Many thanks also to the members who kindly add extra to their sub. Cheques!

John Gregg from Maine has again sent an interesting book for the archives GREY OWL AND ME : STORIES FROM THE TRAIL AND BEYOND by Hap Wilson. (Published by Natural Heritage Books, Toronto. 2010). "This book is dedicated to those who are unafraid to paddle their canoe against the current, and who have found humour in all adversity". The book opens with a short Biography of G.O. "Grey Owl : Scoundrel or Champion?" and then is divided into three sections. Part One : Stories from the Edge of the World including '007 Grey Owl - The Movie'. Part Two : Landscapes. Part Three : Natura. There is no sentimentality in the book but the Publisher describes G.O. as 'one of Canada's most revered outdoor icons'. Another very interesting addition to the Society's library. (see p.10).

John also sent a copy of 'Canada's National Magazine' MACLEANS (November 14, 2011) with a heading on the cover 'Beaver vs. Polar Bear : A maverick senator is messing with Canada's identity'! The article on pp.26-27 is entitled 'Symbols: BEAVER BE DAMMED: A proposal to replace the beaver with the polar bear as our national emblem causes fur to fly'. Senator Nicole Eaton caused mayhem when she proposed the idea and 'shocked and appalled letters to the editor' were soon flowing in. John referred to 'some of the absurdities and follies in the news' and there is reference to G.O. on p.27 by Professor William Shotyk of the University of Alberta : "You give nature a chance and it will come back, provided you don't destroy it". In this regard, Grey Owl, the First Nation identity taken on by British author and wilderness authority Archibald Belaney, who wrote passionately about the beaver, is a must-read for every Canadian, he says".

Heroes, Villains and Others from HASTINGS. This booklet by Mary Haskell Porter has been added to the archives (an oversight that it wasn't included earlier). This is a reprint of the 1999 edition, published in 2007. The chapter covering Archibald Stansfeld Belaney (pp. 21-26) refers to Don Smith's 'extensive and painstaking research' and there are two pages of illustrations.

Boy of the Wealden Shore : A Hastings Boyhood 1940-1960. This interesting autobiography by Derek Booth includes a reference to Grey Owl and we are pleased to add this signed copy to the archives. (Published 2011). Booth was also a Hastings Grammar School boy and he refers to Archie 'Grey Owl' on pp. 81-82 adding that he 'became a world pioneer in the promotion of the conservation of wildlife'. Reference is also made to the plaque dedicated to Grey Owl, in the Hastings Country Park.



16/6/2011

The above drawing of Grey Owl was sent to us by member, Teresa King. Teresa drew this "whilst doing a drawing course". She adds "I submitted it as my final piece. It is drawn from the photograph by Karsh which appears in Lovat Dickson's Wilderness Man". I think it is a remarkably good copy. Pleased to add this to the archives!

Donations cont...

Chris Wilson, the son of late members Michael and Jane Wilson of Leeds, has donated to the Society all his parents' detailed archives on G.O. Michael met G.O. in 1935 and 1937 during the Tours to the U.K., and Michael and Jane made an extensive tour of Canada and met Anahareo. The archives include correspondence, journals of their travels as well as some G.O. books. Jane Wilson's book of poems To Find Ourselves (published in 1983) was already in the archives. The title is the first poem in the book and relates to G.O. 'Wa-Sha-Quon-Asin'. These archives could be of interest to any student researching G.O. in the future. (For further references, see Bull. 7:28 and Bull. 9:11-14).

Brad Ryder from Ontario has sent an interesting book Canadian Mysteries of the Unexplained : Investigations into the Fantastic, the Bizarre and the Disturbing by John Marlowe*. Chapter 2 is headed Historical Unknowns and is divided into 5 parts, "He Who Flies By Night" pp.51-59 and includes a number of photos. Marlowe rightly says that G.O. "recognized early on that his message would receive more attention if it appeared to come from a 'native' viewpoint" adding "he was not exposed as a fraud... because so very few viewed the Englishman as an imposter. After all, Wa-sha-quon-asin... had been adopted into the Ojibway..." (* Arcturus Publishing Limited, London. 2009. ISBN 978-1-84837-194-1).

Brad has also sent a copy of Maclean's (Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine) for October 4, 1999. Cover photo of Pierce Brosnan and Annie Galipeau "Rediscovering GREY OWL : A great Canadian legend comes to the silver screen". Article by Brian D. Johnson (pp. 53-59 'Archie Belaney's life of deception brought his case to the world").

Richard and Wendy Johnston of Orillia, Ontario, have sent over an article from The Globe And Mail (August 4, 2011). In the TRAVEL section there is an illustrated article on Prince Albert National Park "Saskatchewan's Playground", adding "Waskesiu is one of the busiest towns in a Canadian national park". The article is by Catherine Dawson March and includes an attractive up-to-date photo of G.O's cabin which you can visit on "an overnight trek... or halve the time via water taxi". The cabin is described as "one of the most popular destinations in the Park". I can certainly agree that it is well worth visiting! (Richard adds in his letter "Great to see acknowledgement of Anahareo in the article" and in the article one of the parks employees, Marcia Klein, says "that almost all the beavers in the park are related to Jellyroll and Rawhide...").

Mike Johnson from Walsall (long-standing member) has sent a most interesting and in-depth article on the Mohican and also Ojibwa country (G.O's stomping ground). The article runs to five foolscap pages plus two maps. Mike is a highly recognized Historian on North American Indians - especially the Eastern Woodland Indians - and has published many articles on the subject. His book "The Native Tribes of North America: A Concise Encyclopedia" has been described as 'Scholarly and thoroughly grounded'. The article is too long and 'technical' for the Bulletin but a copy can be sent to anyone interested. Contact me or e-mail . The article will be kept in the archives.

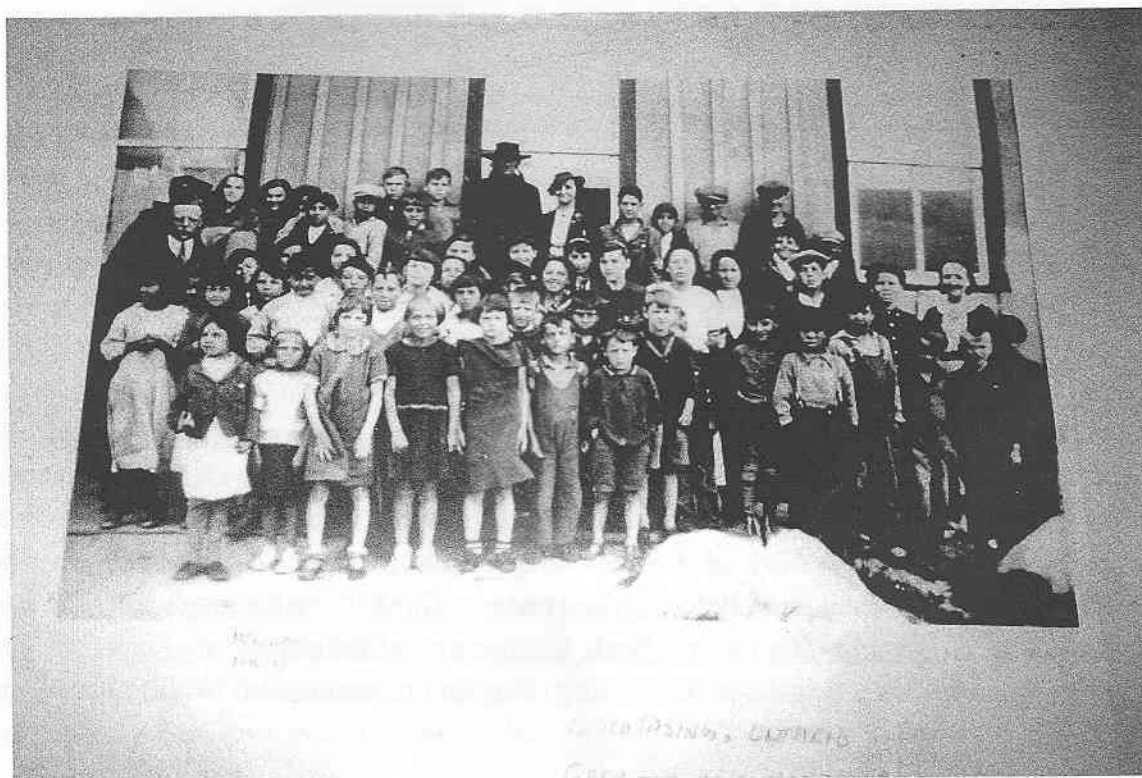
Donations cont...

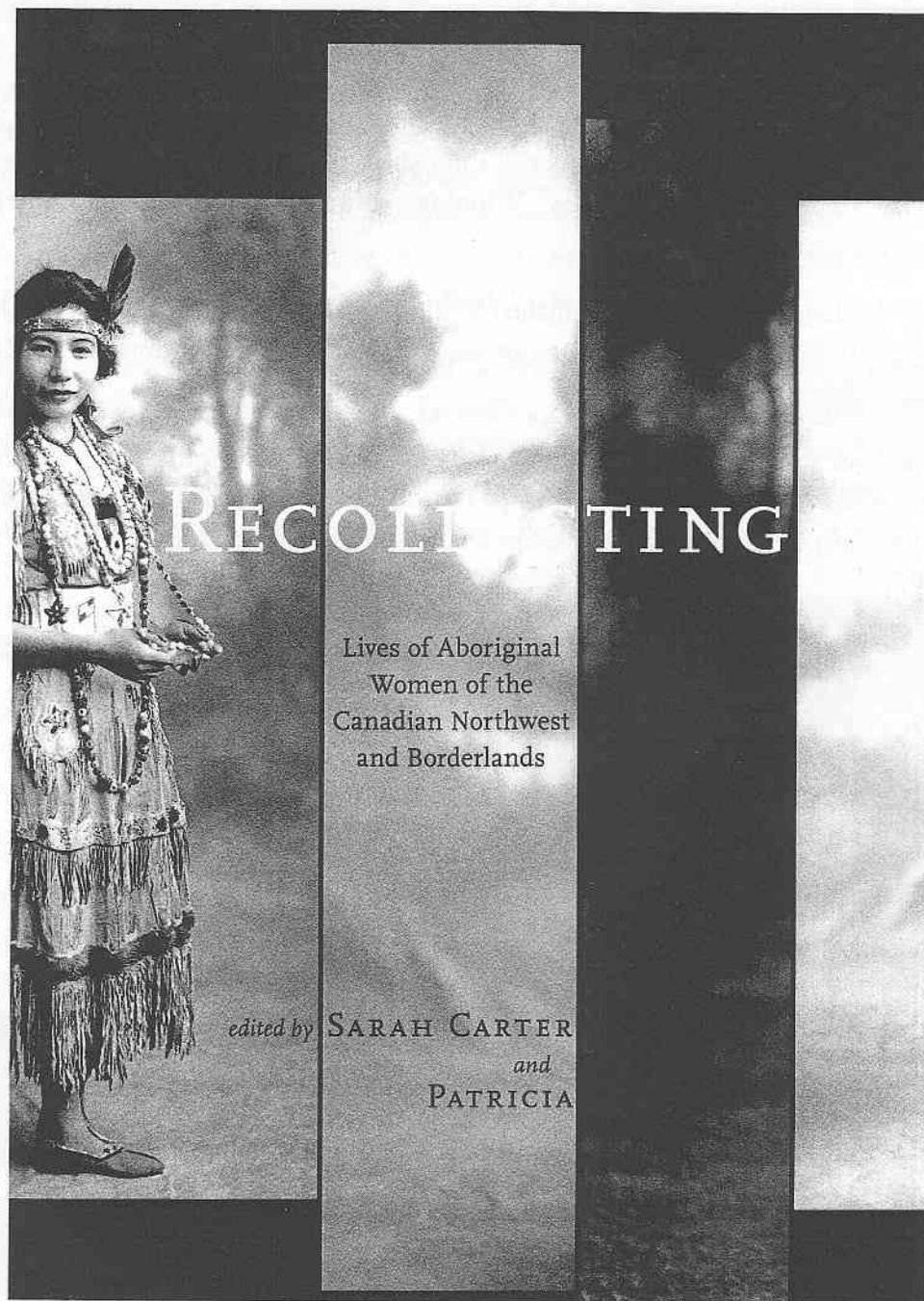
Don Smith sent the following interesting articles a few years ago and I think they were omitted (in error) from the Bulletin:

(a) The Belaneys of Brandon Hills: Grey Owl's Canadian Cousins by Donald B. Smith (Department of History, University of Calgary). Published in The Beaver (a quarterly journal published by the Hudson's Bay Company, Winnipeg, Manitoba). Winter 1975:46-50. (In depth and illustrated - of course!).

(b) "Grey Owl" by Donald B. Smith. Published by the Ontario Historical Society in Ontario History, Vol. LXIII for September 1971, with nearly 100 footnotes, ending "Grey Owl is Canada's greatest Northern writer"!

Carol Smith, former member of the Society from Ontario, sent a photo of Grey Owl with Yvonne Perrier when they visited a school in 1937 in Biscotasing. Carol's mother, Margaret Miron, is the little girl in the front (second from left)! (See Bull.19:16 and Bull.20:25).

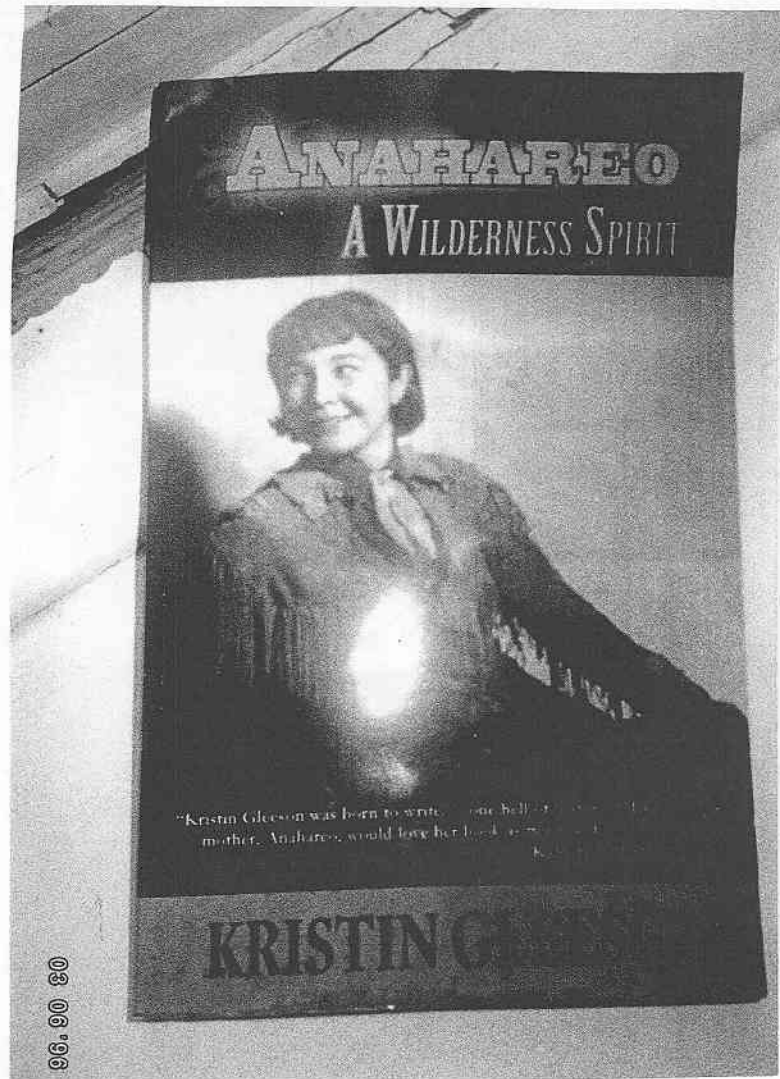




Recollecting: Lives of Aboriginal Women of the Canadian Northwest and Borderlands. (Edited by Sarah Carter and Patricia McCormack). Published by AU PRESS, Athabasca University, Edmonton, AB T5J 3S8, Canada. 2011. ISBN 978-1-897425-82-4). We were very pleased to receive a copy of this book from our member, Kristin Gleeson who contributed Chapter 12 under Part 5, the section titled "Challenging and Crafting Representations". Blazing Her Own Trail : Anahareo's Rejection of Euro-Canadian Stereotypes (pp.287-311). It is a very interesting essay and recommended reading for anyone with a specific interest in Anahareo.

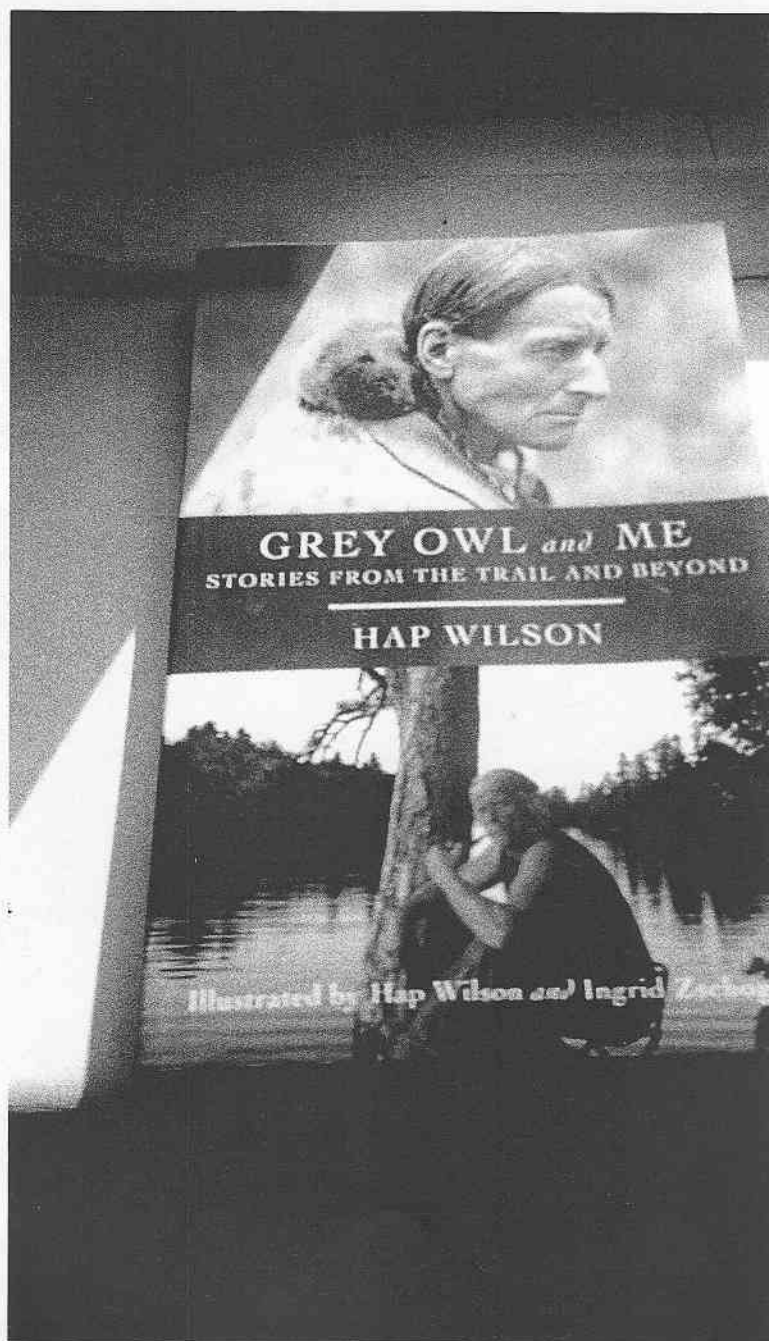
(SEE ALSO NEXT PAGE)

Donations cont...



A copy of the above book Anahareo - A Wilderness Spirit, was sent to us by DON SMITH and arrived in time to be included in this belated Bulletin No. 30! We are so pleased to have this copy which is being transferred with the archives to Hastings Museum. Katherine Moltke writes "Kristin Gleeson was born to write... one hell of a story... I know my mother, Anahareo, would love her book as much as I do". Member Kristin Gleeson had written to us referring to her forthcoming Biography earlier in the year. Member Arthur Andrews was able to get to the Book Launch in Cleethorpes Library in June and Kristin was "pleasantly surprised" to see Arthur after his 400 mile round trip, having previously met at the G.O. Dinner in Hastings in 2008. Arthur wrote "The book launch was well attended... Her presentation on Anahareo was well received and was informative and interesting... a short film of Anahareo and Grey Owl was shown to illustrate the talk". Several people afterwards said they "had not been aware of the story of Anahareo and Grey Owl. They were fascinated to hear that he was an English man from Hastings...". Arthur adds "Don Smith wrote the forward and described the book as 'a full and most interesting biography of Anahareo' and I have to say that I whole-heartedly agree!". (Many thanks to Arthur for this information and our thanks to Don for sending us this copy.

Published by Fireship Press www.fireshippress.com available on www.amazon.co.uk £13.95.



Grey Owl and Me by Hap Wilson (published 2010)
Kindly donated by John Gregg (see p.4).

ADDENDUM to the Bibliographies on Books about, or including a reference to GREY OWL published in The Grey Owl Society 21st Anniversary Special 2002 Edition and Bulletin 27:25-27. As before, these are listed in Chronological order and compiled by Betty Taylor.

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|------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1947 | Susan Tweedsmuir & Friends | <u>John Buchan by his Wife and Friends</u> . London : Hodder and Stoughton Limited. On p. 261, there is reference to their visit to Grey Owl's cabin on Ajawaan Lake which was then "empty and deserted...". |
| 1977 | Frank Holley | <u>Just Passing Through: The People and the Places North of Matachewan</u> . Privately published and updated 1982. References to Grey Owl and Anahareo on p.39. Anahareo (Pony) is described as "Grey Owl's beautiful Indian wife" who had "itchy feet", adding that she "brought a ray of sunshine to this area for a few months in 1931". |
| 1984 | Warden Swinfen & David Arscott | <u>Hidden Sussex</u> . Brighton: BBC Radio Sussex. This BBC Radio Sussex Guide includes a reference to Grey Owl under <u>Fairlight</u> (and not Hastings)! There is reference to the Memorial Plaque in the country Park (not far from Hastings) and a concise but appreciative outline of Grey Owl's life on p.63. |
| 1984 | Jean Goodwill & Norma Sluman | <u>John Tootoosis</u> . Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications Inc. This <u>Biography of a Cree Leader</u> has several references to Grey Owl in Chapter 13, including how they met each other in a Chinese restaurant in Ottawa (though John had known of this "legendary character")! (First published in 1982 by Golden Dog Press, Ottawa). (Colin Taylor, Founder of the G.O.S. met the son of John Tootoosis in London in 1979 at the Houses of Parliament). |
| 1988 | Colin F. Taylor | <u>Handbook of North American Indians: History of Indian-White Relations</u> . Vol.4. Wilcomb E. Washburn (Ed.). Smithsonian Institution, Washington. "The Indian Hobbyist Movement in Europe", pp.562-569. Ballantyne, Ernest Thompson Seton, are included in this essay, as is Archibald Belaney "Grey Owl", with reference to Lovat Dickson. |

ADDENDUM cont...

- 2000 Bruce Meyer and Barry Callaghan (Eds.) Selected Poems of Frank Prewett. Toronto: Exile Editions Limited. Published with the help of the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. Frank "Toronto" Prewett was a Canadian poet who fought and was wounded in the 1st World War. Prewett became the "toast of British literati" and through Siegfried Sassoon was introduced to many writers of the day, including Thomas Hardy, T.S. Elliot, Robert Graves, Aldous Huxley "to name but a few". Prewett was 'probably of part-Iroquois stock' and was five years younger than Grey Owl. In the Introduction (pp.7-8), Meyer writes "... 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...". (First published in 1987 by Exile Editions Limited).
- 2006 Joanne Stanbridge Famous Dead Canadians 2. Toronto: Scholastic Canada Ltd. Section 4 is titled Archie Belaney (Grey Owl): A Cautionary Tale (pp. 39-51), with amusing cartoon sketches. "Eight Canadian newspapers published editorials (after his death) but not one of them criticized him...". Good to have G.O. on the cover!
- 2008 Arni Brownstone & Hugh Dempsey (eds.) Generous Man : Ahxsi-tapina. Essays in Memory of Colin Taylor, Plains Indian Ethnologist. Tatanka Press, Wyk auf Foehr, Germany. Many of the essays in this formidable Festschrift, consider serious ethnographic "debates" but two are in a lighter vein and refer to travels and visits with Colin. Ian West's chapter Out West with Colin, makes reference (p.129) to Colin meeting Don Smith in the mid-1970s when Don was researching his biography From the Land of Shadows : The Making of Grey Owl. There is also mention of Colin founding the Grey Owl Society in 1982. In the chapter written by Fraser Pakes (who was involved with the Nakoda Institute in Morley, Alberta for some years) on the history of Hobbyism, "Stealing the Culture - With Sensitivity? : The Indian Hobbyist at the Powwow", Fraser compares Sylvester Long, aka Long Lance with Archie Belaney, aka Grey Owl (p.179). Don Smith also contributed to the Fest (but not on the subject of Grey Owl). Don's essay is entitled Honore Jaxon, Louis Riel's Secretary. Toronto February 24th 1912 (pp.182-190).

ADDENDUM cont...

2009 John Marlowe Canadian Mysteries of the Unexplained : Investigations into the Fantastic, The Bizarre and the Disturbing. Arcturus Publishing Limited, Bermondsey Street, London. "He Who Flies By Night" (pp.51-59).

2009 Kenneth Overend Sam Going Home. St. Leonards (Hastings) : The Sutcliffe Press. A book of Poems with a Kent and East Sussex Background. "Grey Owl and Mrs. Champness" (pp.74-78) is an interesting and sensitive poem and very well researched. Mrs. Champness is, of course, Mary McCormick, a friend from school days. (See Don Smith's "From the Land of Shadows"). Available from the author,

2009 Melissa Katsoulis Telling Tales : A History of Literary Hoaxes

Constable, U. K.

ISBN, 978-1-84901-080-1

2009 Oliver Tookey Hastings Beautiful Town. Derby: Breedon Books. Tookey is a freelance photographer who has lived in the Hastings area for most of his life. Under the section Famous Hastonians, Grey Owl is included on pp.210-213 with four photographs, including one of the Native American cabinets in Hastings Museum.

Members' Correspondence

Christine and Christopher Stovell from Durham wrote after receiving the last Bulletin "...Grey Owl was certainly a child of his time - a true romantic, much like Lawrence of Arabia who was likewise inspired by a colourful race - the desert arab. He too was born the same year as Grey Owl, 1888...". Interesting they were born in the same year (Ed.).

Barry Johnson, long-standing member wrote in November 2011 about his sadness that the Society was "to be closed down", adding "The Bulletin has all along been a most valuable and distinctive publication" adding that perhaps in the future a "final publication", called perhaps "the Best of the Grey Owl Bulletin" could be published. That's an interesting suggestion for the future!

Cathy Carpenter from Little Clacton, Essex also wrote that she was "a little sad" about the winding up of the Society but that she could understand it after 30 years. Cathy added that she "did not know there was a Society for Grey Owl until the publicity for the film disclosed it. I was delighted to become a member. My interest began when I was only 10 years old and I borrowed the book 'Pilgrims of the Wild' from the local library. I borrowed it so often that I was able to write it all out in my own scrap book so I could read it whenever I wanted." Cathy added that she was so pleased that we "have kept Grey Owl's name alive".

Henrietta Smyth from the Isle of Wight and a loyal committee member (who was unable to attend the last Committee Meeting), also wrote reiterating Barry's suggestion that perhaps in the future a 'Best' of past Bulletins may be published. Henrietta also wrote concerned about the Archives hoping that eventually "a new, permanent home can be obtained for them e.g. a museum?" I wrote back to Henrietta saying that was one of my major concerns and a first large batch has already been transferred to Hastings Museum. Henrietta went on to say "I myself will, of course, keep a keen interest in Grey Owl and will do my best to help promote his message to future generations". That is good news and I hope all members will do the same!

Lyubomir Kyumyurdjiev, our Bulgarian member, wrote in the summer of 2011, that "A good friend of mine by the name of Nickolay Yankov... who takes a keen interest mainly in Woodland Indians is now in England... plans to visit Hastings... to see some places there, connected to Archibald Grey Owl's life, and especially the display on Grey Owl (and the Native American galleries) in Hastings Museum. Nickolay would also like to meet with you and/or some other Grey Owl Society members there... it's a kind of pilgrimage for him to visit some "Grey Owl places" in Hastings". Lyubomir went on to say that he and his "Eagle Circle friends here feel somehow connected to Grey Owl life and heritage, to the great specialist on the North American Indians, your husband Dr. Colin Taylor's work and deeds, to some other reverent veterans of the "Indian movement" in England like Edward 'Ted' Blackmore, also Mr. Ian West, etc. Thank you for all!!". It was with genuine sadness that I was in France when this letter arrived and I had to write to Lyubomir and explain how sorry I was otherwise I would have got some local members together to meet Nickolay. (Most members will know that Ted Blackmore was the first President of the G.O.S., and his Obituary is in Bulletin 2 pp.2-10 and written by Colin).

Members' Correspondence cont...

Peter Ingram from Selborne wrote in September 2011 (!) about his visit to Canda where he "did a fair bit of canoeing". Peter adds "One bit of Grey Owl interest. Went to the Canoe Museum in Peterborough - a most wonderful Museum - and was told of a canoe maker in Buckhorn (north of P'borough) Dick Presson (Swedish) ...and there in his little shop were Grey Owl books for sale... I think he said that he had supplied a canoe for the G.O. film. He had met Attenborough and Brosnan and some of the film money had gone to the foundation of the G.O. 'fellowship'? "Foundation"?... I asked him what build of canoe G.O. would have used, and he replied either a 'Peterborough' or a "Chestnut". A real nice man with a great regard for Archie". Peter wrote much more about his interesting visit, adding that the Totem Pole Trading Post at Niagra Falls had "some nice old Ojibway artifacts on show". Peter added "Tom Watrous very kindly sent me the old G.O. films on video (years ago). I no longer have a video player - do you have them on D.V.D.? If so, could I possibly borrow them? I'll take great care of them! I want to study his canoemanship". (If any member has these films on D.V.D., perhaps they would like to contact Peter at

). The Society made a fascinating visit to Peter's 'Romany Folklore Museum' in 1993 - see Bulletin 12:6). Peter added in his last letter that he "was saddened to hear that the Society will be no more, but understand the situation only too well... I really will miss the Bulletin very much. Glad I've got a full set that I can delve in from time to time". These comments have been very much appreciated by the Committee.

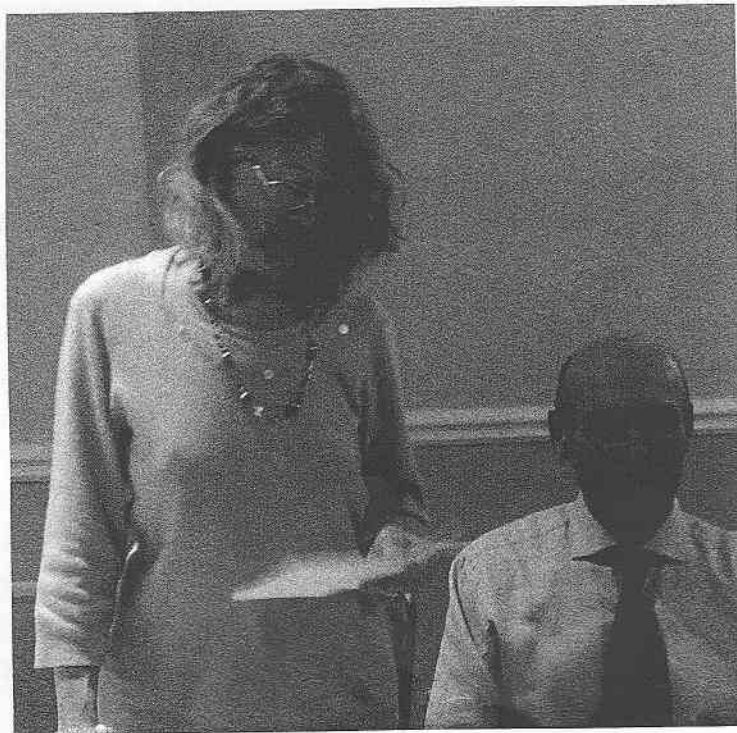
Kristin Bonney wrote in October thanking the Society for caring for her mother's collection for several years. The Betty Somervell special artefacts (G.O.'s pipebag and gauntlets and Anahareo's jacket) have now been loaned to Hastings Museum for three years and the other items (all of which have been on display in the past) have been returned to Kristin. Kristin's letter adds "...Apparently the intention is to re-vamp the Grey Owl room for the 75th anniversary...". Interested members can check with Hastings Museum's Curator, Cathy Walling, about these proposals for next year. I will keep in contact with Cathy too!

STOP PRESS

We are saddened to announce the loss of member David Brown, who died in December 2011.

AGM/CHRISTMAS DINNER (2010)!! The traditional G.O.S. Informal AGM/Christmas dinner planned for 2nd December 2010 at the usual Bannatyne Spa Hotel, Hastings (Beauport Park Hotel) had to be cancelled because of the 'Arctic' weather that swept through the South of England on that day! This was the first time in 29 years that the Dinner date had to be moved from December and it was finally held at the same venue on Thursday, 3rd March, 2011!! In the event, thirty members sat down to a 'non Xmas menu' in the Quebec Room as usual. Whilst coffee was being served, Betty Taylor read out the 'Apologies' and then explained why (for the first time) the Bulletins had not been circulated! (A big and complicated 'house move' from down into the

; was the reason). She mentioned that she would have considered buying Archie Belamy's old home - that had just come on the market (see Bull.29:1-2) - but the hill up to St. Mary's Terrace was as steep as the hill up to ! Some interesting items on the Archive Table were then referred to including a Polish translation of Geoff Hutchinson's booklet, sent to the Society by Janusz Wencel (Bull. 29:20) and a copy of The Old Farmer's Almanac for 2010 sent in by John Gregg (Bull. 29:17). Bill Van Draat then read out the Treasurer's Report and Jenny Logan ran the raffle which made £53 for the Society's funds. Michael Plumbe kindly documented the evening again with a selection of photos and then there was time to circulate and catch up with members' news!



A.G.M. Betty Taylor reading the 'Apologies' and late member, David Brown.

cont...

STOP PRESS cont...

AGM/belated Christmas Dinner (see previous page) :



Members Wilfred Pickard, Margaret Van Draat,
Tony and Anne Wharton (3rd March 2011) . See p. 16

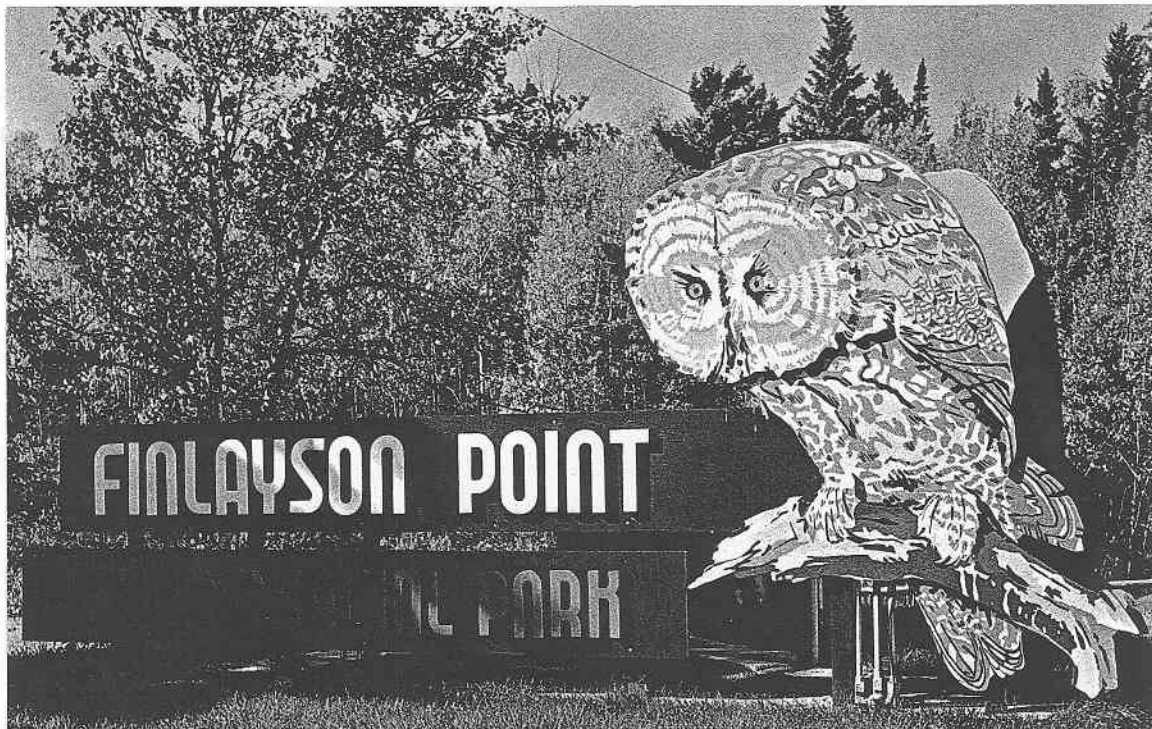
AGM/CHRISTMAS DINNER - 1st December, 2011

The informal AGM and Christmas Dinner was held as usual at Bannatyne Spa Hotel and we had the Quebec Room as usual. There was a good attendance for this final Dinner and thirty-four members sat down to a traditional Christmas menu, including the very-popular plum pudding and brandy sauce! Betty Taylor welcomed everyone - the usual role of the President, Ian West, but Ian was not able to attend this final Dinner - he and Irene having been unwell. I think this was the only AGM/Dinner that Ian had missed in thirty years! The 'Apologies' were then read out from seven other members. The Treasurer, Bill Van Draat, then gave his Report and listed the generous 'final Donations' that the Society were to make (see pp.2-3 in this Bulletin. Bill ended with an amusing anecdote - as usual! Jenny Logan ran the raffle as usual and Jenny and Margaret Van Draat thanked Betty warmly on behalf of the members and presented her with a lovely bouquet of white flowers together with a most attractive porcelain platter hand-painted by Margaret - a very talented and energetic member, as we all know! A very kind thought. Betty referred to the fact that the administration and the Bulletin work had become 'too much' but suggested that the occasional walk/tea could still take place. The Archive Table had been set up as usual with new books and recent additions. Finally, long-standing member, Barry Johnson stood and gave a Toast to the founder of the Society, the late Colin Taylor.



The above prints of Grey Owl were sent to our late member, Rich Gralewski, in 2000, by Dick Tracy from Australia. The paintings were by the latter's great aunt, Violet Teague. In an e-mail to Rich in 2000, Dick adds "another point of interest is that my aunt used Grey owl as a model for an altarpiece for a Cathedral of the Arctic in Aklavik, Canada. Sadly the Cathedral was destroyed by fire and the painting has been lost". (An article on "The Arctic Christ" was published in The Globe and Mail, Toronto, on 26th April, 1939. Copy in archives).

(Our thanks to Mrs. Victoria Seymour of Hastings for sending the images to The Grey Owl Society.



Entrance to Finlayson Point Provincial Park, Temagami, Ontario, Canada

This postcard sent to us by members Richard and Wendy Johnston of Orillia, Canada. The caption on the reverse reads 'The big grey owl welcomes you to Finlayson Point Provincial Park, situated one mile south of Temagami on Lake Temagami. Grey Owl was the Indian name of Archie Belaney, famed naturalist and lecturer, who spent a good part of his life in the Temagami area.' (See Bull.23:10).

Breezy's Collings will need barn to store collection of Grey Owls

CLEAR LAKE — Breezy Bend's Garth Collings collected a ninth Grey Owl trophy on Sunday with a two-stroke victory in the annual championship at Clear Lake Golf Club.

Collings carded a Sunday round of two-over 74 to go with his opening 69 to post a two-stroke victory over Winnipeg's Andrew Wilkinson (70-75).

Transcona's Mike Berney, the reigning Manitoba senior champion, and Breezy Bend's Michael MacKay tied for third at 148 totals.

First-round co-leader Darren Ritchie of Brandon followed his 69 with a Sunday 80 to finish in a share of fifth.

Doug Piper of Saskatoon, captured his second Greyer Owl title by winning the senior division with a total of 148, one better than former champ Jim Scissons of Saskatoon.

St. Charles' Ken Mould was third at 151.

State Farm is there, so Tseng takes it

...Not books! Golf Trophies! As one fan of G.O. said to me - "can't see Grey Owl playing golf, can you? !"

Thanks to member Audrey Brooke for sending this amusing cutting!

STOP PRESS cont...

G.O. Books. Member Leslie Horton has a number of Grey Owl books for sale since he has recently moved and now does not have as many book shelves as previously (I can sympathize!). Any member interested can write to Leslie Horton,



Grey Owl Society's 2nd A.G.M. and Christmas Dinner held at
(Standing left to right : Barry Johnson, Roland Green, Spencer Roberts (late Vice-President),
Ian West (President) Mavis Roberts, Maxine Baldry, Victoria Williams (then Curator of
Hastings Museum), Nick Mills, Will Kelleher, (Seated left to right : Jill Green,
Colin Taylor (late Founder of G.O.S.), Betty Taylor and Angela Kelleher).