



# NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

## 1798 Home and War of 1812 Battle Site

August 2023

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2023, Number 7

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### Contact Us

[www.nellesmanor.ca](http://www.nellesmanor.ca)  
[info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca)

126 Main St. W.  
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Phone: 289-235-7755

2023

### August 20 - Kindred Spirits: An Afternoon with Jane Austen and Friends

On Sunday August 20 the Georgian parlour life of Jane Austen came to life at Nelles Manor Museum. Kindred Spirits gave a wonderful performance encompassing music, song, poetry, and history. Everyone was delighted and through their donations contributed to the preservation of the Manor.



### August 26 - Vintage Car Show

Bright and shiny cars in a rainbow of colours. Cookies, pies, and more treats that brought a smile to all! A bit of rain sent some of the cars scurrying for home, but it was a lovely day overall.

Thank you to the proud owners of some great cars

Also, a major **Thank You** to **Grimsby Hyundai** our event Sponsor





Thank you to our sponsor Grimsby Hyundai who presented their latest electric powered car on display.

## ★ Coming Events:

**Grimsby Arts Walk Saturday September 23** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Nelles Manor Museum is happy to be part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Grimsby Arts Walk.

- The Grimsby Lakeside Pumphouse Artists Association will be on the lawn of the Manor for their annual art show and sale.
- Plein air painters
- Quilt demonstrations
- Open hearth cooking demonstrations in the museum's hearth kitchen
- Tours of the Manor by donation

The arts walk will take you from Nelles Manor Museum to the Grimsby Museum, through Coronation Park across the downtown to the Grimsby Public Art Gallery. For more information.

<https://www.grimsby.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/grimsby-arts-walk.aspx>

All donations to Nelles Manor are tax deductible and a donation receipt for tax purposes will be issued for amounts over \$20

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## Tickets now on sale

### Harvest Tea - Saturday October 14 @ 1:00 - \$45 per person

Enjoy a relaxing autumn afternoon tea in an Upper Canada Georgian manor. Sandwiches, scones, sweets and of course tea! There will also be a "Fashion Through the Ages" display.

Seating is limited so get yours soon.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/678548465727?aff=oddtcreator>

At Nelles Manor  
Museum we bring  
History to Life

## Murder at the Manor

**Friday, Saturday, and Sunday      October 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29**

It is 1820 and you are visiting a beautiful Georgian Manor in Upper Canada. Suddenly there is a scream! Constables are hours away - you are the detective and must catch the murderer. With the Radcliffe family and staff all having motives – good luck! Come and discover who done it!

A One Act Murder Mystery. Script by Jennifer Toews based on an Original Concept by Emily Byrne; Director Jennifer Toews.

**Multiple shows times to choose from - \$25 per person**

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/678553962167?aff=oddtcreator>



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We have a limited supply of great looking baseball caps embroidered with our name. They are available for \$25 each. Thank you to Calhoun Sportswear for their contribution and support of Nelles Manor Museum.



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During August we welcomed visitors not only from Grimsby but also from Brampton, Stoney Creek, London England, New Orleans U.S.A, Trenton Ont., Niagara Falls, Toronto, Mississauga, Hamilton, St Catharines, South Africa, Pennsylvania and Burlington.

All donations to Nelles Manor are tax deductible and a donation receipt for tax purposes will be issued for amounts over \$20

## DID YOU KNOW?

### **Robert Nelles was a Magistrate and Justice of the Peace.**

When there wasn't a minister in the district, Robert would perform local marriages. Documents show that he married **200** couples during his tenure. Many of those would have been in the Manor House. The marriages were performed from September 1796 to September 1823. There was a gap between 1817 and 1822 when the **Reverend William Sampson** (married to Maria Eliza Nelles) performed the marriages, however Reverend Sampson was killed in an accident in 1822. A full list of marriages performed by Robert Nelles is available but some interesting and familiar local names were:

- Samuel Corwin and Anna Beam – 1796
- Alexander Jackson and Elizabeth Pettit - 1803
- Jacob Beam and Mary Boughner - 1803
- Joseph Adair and Charity Conkle - 1803
- Pearce Moore and Orpha Woolverton - 1803
- Isaac Smith and Elizabeth Pettit - 1804
- Simeon Cline and Julia Culp - 1805
- Jonathan Pettit and Catherine Beamer - 1806
- Charles Biggar and Sarah Pettit - 1810
- Amos Strafford and Mary Nelles - 1810
- Dennis Woolverton and Catherine Nixon -1810
- Christopher Beamer and Margaret Conkle



It is worthy of note that **Reverend Sampson** married several members of the Nelles families during his brief tenure. These included Reverend Brook-Bridges, Chaplain to His Majesty's forces to **Elizabeth Nelles**, Grimsby and also **William H. Nelles**, Grand River to Margaret Sophia Clement, Grimsby.

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## Estate Planning

Nelles Manor is one of the few historical properties of original Loyalist built heritage left in Ontario. One of the ways to support the Manor is to include Nelles Manor Heritage House in your estate plans.

A donation from your estate or life insurance policy to the Manor could be supportive in a number of ways:

- To our annual operations
- or to an endowment fund where the income supports our annual preservation, maintenance and operations costs, or
- To a capital fund for major capital needs such as roof, equipment or other major purchases.

Consult your lawyer or accountant as to how to provide this type of support that will help ensure the continuing preservation of this important property.

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## Volunteers -

### Volunteers Needed

### Retired? / Bored?

Is your spouse not used to you home all day?

**We have plenty for you to do!**

**We have plenty of Dust and Repair for everyone.**

**We need Painters, Carpenters, Paint Scrapers, Archivists, Gardeners, Tour Guides, Dust Removers, Graphic Artists, Weed pullers, Bakers, Cooks, Greeters .....YOU**

**JOIN US**

If you are interested, please contact [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca) or 289-235-7755.

The Garden group continues to work on the property and some of the flowers and plants are showing great seasonal colour. Bushes and shrubs are being relocated to enhance their growth and appearance. The butterfly garden continues to develop.

If you own a home. you know how much work it is to maintain and keep in good order. At Nelles Manor Museum we have a 225-year-old home that was built using 1700 year techniques. In some ways that is very good and in other ways it means there has been 225 years of wear and tear. The Coutts family have over the years put a great deal of

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work into maintaining and ensuring the home is in good condition. They continue to do so.

However, time and weather are not always helpful in a home. Just as an example of the work done in August by our volunteers, not including our faithful gardeners who attend weekly as mentioned above.

- Maintaining walkways to ensure safety for everyone.
- Painting windows
- Power washing all areas as needed
- Erection of cedar rail fences and new signage
- Back access for stairs and landing were painted
- Hedges trimmed

Recently, a volunteer did some tree work on lower branches. That combined with other work previously done to remove ivy and other growth on a couple of trees left a large pile of brush. It has been cleaned up and organized this weekend. Below are a couple of our garden crew resting after the cleanup. Notice the large pile of bigger brush items and the 11 garden bags of leaves and smaller branches.



## Become a Friend of Nelles Manor Museum

Some of the benefits of becoming a Friend of Nelles Manor includes receiving first notification and early registration for ticket sales on all events and programs. As a Friend you also tour the Museum for free during our regular season. As well, we have participated in The **Museums of Niagara** reciprocal agreement so that with your support through Friends of Nelles Manor you also have free admission to several of the Niagara Region Museums.

The cost is only \$25 for single and \$40 for family and the contribution helps support our operations. **This contribution helps us financially as we do not receive annual operational funding from any government level.** Your contribution shows us the community support and interest in our mandate of protecting Grimsby heritage.

If you would like to become a Friend of Nelles Manor, please contact us at [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca).

## New and Renewing Friends

Gord Edgar  
Josey Melick  
Daniel Perry  
Sandra Yemm

### ✦ End of Season

**Labour Day will be the end of our season for walk in tours.**

As noted above there are many special events still happening after Labour Day for you to participate in and enjoy the history of the 1798 Manor House.

Groups of five or larger can still apply for tours during the fall season by appointment.

Please contact [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca) or 289-235-7755 for more information.

Two of our volunteers at the Bake Sale table during the Car show. Several of our volunteers contributed the treats displayed on the table. We are greatly appreciative of their efforts to support the Museum.



Nelles Manor is **not** a government owned, operated or funded Museum. We depend on your support of our tours, events and donations to protect and preserve this important aspect of our History.

We couldn't do it without you!

Newsletter Editor  
B. Thompson

For more information on our events and activities refer to our website  
[www.nellesmanor.ca](http://www.nellesmanor.ca)