

SCENES FROM PIPPY PARK



January 14, 1997: Sliding Rock at Rennie's River, looking south toward Elizabeth Avenue
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo

ACTIVITIES IN PIPPY PARK

Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism The Pantry

The Pantry (phone 722-8200) at the Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism (Shamrock Farm) just across from the Janeway Hospital is a perfect location to enjoy tasty food in an exceptional quiet, rural setting. Much of the fresh salads and vegetables are now "home grown" right outside the "Pantry" windows! It is open on weekdays 10 am - 4 pm and has become very busy so go early or phone ahead!

www.fluvarium.ca

The Fluvarium

The Fluvarium 5, Nagles Place www.fluvarium.ca phone (709) 754-3474 provides a unique underwater experience where freshwater wildlife can be watched in their natural habitat. There are lots of exhibits and activities for children. The Fluvarium is open daily.

College of the North Atlantic

College Day

The College of the North Atlantic will be hosting College Day on Thursday March 11, 2010 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. The purpose of College Day is to bring high school students and the public in to the College to showcase our programs and services. There will be program displays in the gym Prince Philip Drive Campus and tours of the campus.



Memorial University Botanical Garden

FROM GARDEN TO CLASSROOM

The Botanical Garden is offering a new outreach service to schools this winter to take their education programmes out to the classrooms. These outreach programmes, supplemented by web-based resources and teacher training workshops, will meet current needs of educators and community organizations.

The staff at the Botanical Garden will share their expertise and bring their resources into the classroom, providing local knowledge and background information. The programme can be customized to suit specific needs.

Programmes started Dec. 1st for Kindergarden to Grade 12/ mornings and afternoons. Half, full time and multi-day bookings are available. Contact Anne Madden (737-8590 amadden@mun.ca) or Joy Carter-Barfoot (737-7916 jbarfoot@mun.ca)

IN PIPPY PARK

IN PIPPY PARK is published six times a year by the Pippy Park Promotions Committee. Material published within reflects the events and happenings in Pippy Park and the organizations associated with it.

Contributions are welcome, and all contributions are presumed to be submitted for the mutual enjoyment of readers, thus no payment will be made for contributions.

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IN PIPPY PARK

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Botanical Garden 'Plant Atlantic' Initiative Growing

'Fair Maids of France' re-introduced.

By: Mike Manning

Did you know that the Botanical Garden has a programme for breeding and commercializing new and little used plants for the Atlantic Provinces?

Working in cooperation with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and with local nurseries, many new or little known plants suitable for growing in this part of Canada are being multiplied and offered for sale at local nurseries under the label of "Plant Atlantic Recommended Plants".

One of the more interesting plants that they have re-introduced to the trade is the "Fair Maids of France" This double white flowered relative of the Buttercup was found in an outport garden a few years ago.



Photo: *Ranunculus aconitifolius* "flore pleno".
Source: www.flickr.com/photos/taylorhood/17812035/

The cultivar dates back to the 16th century in the U.K. It has proved very successful in the Botanical Garden. As far as is known it had been almost completely unknown in the nursery trade for generations!

Other Plant Atlantic plants include a new cultivar of Mock Orange named "Starbright" bred by the Garden's Director Wilf Nicholls, a new cultivar of Shrubby Cinquefoil named "Helene" bred by the late Ken Proudfoot and a Creeping Phlox named

"Pinkie" which was a chance seedling found on the Botanical Garden's Rock Garden.

More kinds of plants are being multiplied so that enough individuals will be available to the nurseries when released. The Botanical Garden has even started exporting some of the Plant Atlantic plants to the mainland and beyond!

More information about Plant Atlantic and its cultivars is available on the internet at:

www.mun.ca/botgarden/plant_atlantic/

Inside

Tree Planting, 2009



Husky Energy Easter Seals House



Pippy Park Winterfest 2010: Sunday, March 14th



As in previous years, the event will be completely free of charge and will include;

- free hot chocolate and Timbits,
- free Ski & Snowshoe rentals,
- visits from mascots,

- the RNC Mounted Unit
- a variety of interactive outdoor games & activities offered by the College of the North Atlantic Community Recreation Leadership class.

All activities will have an alternate outdoor no-snow

contingency plan so that the event can take place even if there is no snow.

Parking will be available at Confederation Building.

Snowman photo: www.laurenmaghini.com/?p=1008

Published by the **FRIENDS OF PIPPY PARK** and the **PIPPY PARK PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE.**

Sponsored by the **PIPPY PARK COMMISSION**
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The Friends of Pippy Park at 25: Accomplishments

Some of the Highlights from the Past 25 Years

By Mike Manning

After the first very successful two years the Friends continued with the Newfoundland Herald Family Days in the Park, one in the winter and another in the summer in 1986. They have continued the clean-ups and the Christmas Event right up to the present.

Petting Room

The highlight for 1986 however was the opening of the "Petting Room" at the Mercer Animal Farm. This was a special room for the smaller children especially those who might have been intimidated by the larger animals. Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Mice, Doves and similar small animals were there to make friends.

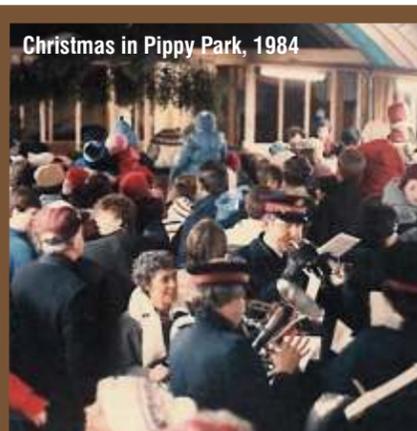
Fundraising was done for the purchase of more animals and displays of animals were set up at "Fantasy '86" and other shows.

Water Ski Competition

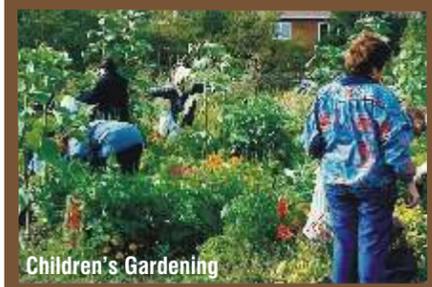
Also in 1986 permission was given to hold the Eastern Canada Water Ski Championship on Long Pond. Many groups, including the Friends were publicly opposed to this. The Pippy Park Commission however took every precaution to make sure there was no pollution and no significant disturbance to the wildlife during the two day event. Consultants



Tree Planting, 2009



Christmas in Pippy Park, 1984



Children's Gardening



Water Skiing Championship

construction of the Outer Ring Road to its completion in 2002.

Children's Gardening

One of the best programmes we conducted was the Children's Gardening Programme 1994-2008 where about 20 small garden plots on Mount Scio Road were assigned each year to children between the ages of 7 and 13.

Two students were hired under a Federal student employment programme to supervise and the sessions continued from soil preparation to seed sowing up to harvest

were hired to monitor and report.

As it turned out thousands of people enjoyed the event from the grassy slope at Queen's College and it didn't even interrupt an Osprey that was busy fishing at the time!

In consideration of the environmental risks involved it was agreed that this would be a "one off" event, not to be repeated.

Hiatus

Because of the major controversy surrounding the proposed construction of the Outer Ring Road through the park and the success of the Pippy Park Conservation Society in keeping resistance to the project a public issue right up to the time it was actually started in 1994, the Friends became overshadowed and suffered a four

year hiatus 1989-93.

Re-organization

In 1993 the Friends of Pippy Park was re-organized under the leadership of Dr. Allan Stein with a new constitution. At the AGM that year Dr. Mike Collins became President for two years, followed by Donna Jeffrey for eight years, then Ed Versteeg for two years, and now Dr. Don Steele who has been President since 2005.

Outer Ring Road Environmental Advisory Committee

The Friends were very actively represented on the Outer Ring Road Environmental Advisory Committee which was established by the Minister of Works, Services and Transportation in 1994 and continued monitoring the design and

time.

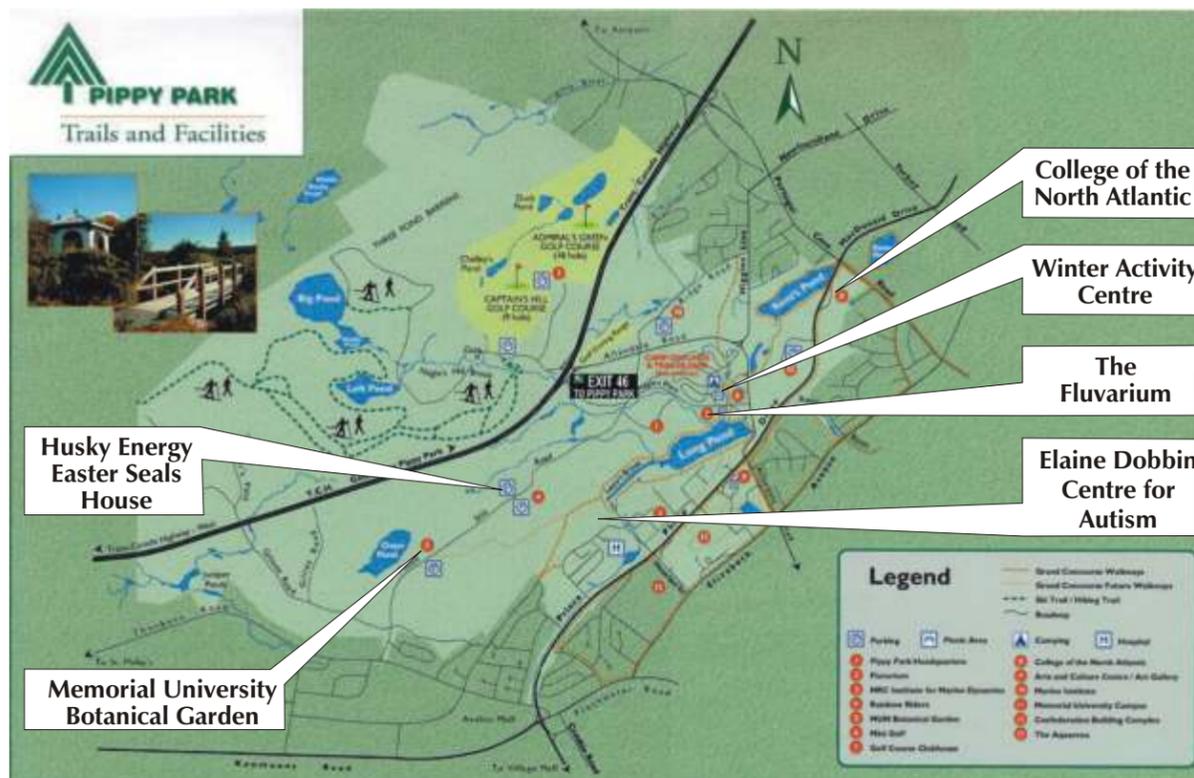
Many hundreds of children got their first taste for gardening with us! We hope to resurrect the children's gardening in a different format soon.

Christmas in Pippy Park

The Christmas in Pippy Park was resumed in partnership with the Rainbow Riders in 1995 and has become an important Christmas tradition ever since.

Tree Planting by MUN Students

More recently we have partnered with Memorial University in having student volunteers plant small tree seedlings along Prince Philip Drive and behind the Health Sciences Centre each autumn since 2003. It is estimated that up to 10,000 trees have been planted to date!



Skiing and Snowshoeing Winter Activity Centre Open

The Winter Activity Centre at North Bank Lodge is open now until April 11th, (weather permitting) Friday nights 6-10 pm, Saturdays and Sundays 10 am-5 pm. For more information phone 737-3651 or 576-8499.

A new loop has been added to the groomed Cross-Country Ski Trails in the Pippy Park Campground area making a total of 6 loops in all. These are the 4 loops in the campground proper, the additional loop round the "overflow" area to the north of loop 2 and the new loop which crosses the part of the old Nagles Hill road now closed and circles round a field behind the old Park Headquarters building and rejoining the "overflow" loop close to loop 2.

Husky Energy Easter Seals House

Following a long construction period, the new Husky Energy Easter Seals House is about to open. This LEED certification-eligible environmentally friendly building has been constructed on Mount Scio Road.

College of the North Atlantic Snow Sculptures

Students at the College of the North Atlantic has good amounts of snow this year for their annual Snow Sculpture Competition on the Prince Philip Drive Campus in Pippy Park. The sculptures were very impressive indeed.



Husky Energy Easter Seals House
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo



Snow Sculptures, CNA
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo



Snow Sculptures, CNA
Mike Manning/FOPP Photo