

# RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM



Fall is here and we are winding down the season, but in October the museum is still open every Saturday from 10am to 12pm. By appointment ANY TIME if you'd like to look around or do some research

## Come see the lovely Ladies at the Town Museum



RHS President Debbi Toohey and volunteer extraordinaire Linda Lemelin have been hard at work organizing the RHS' extensive textile collection.

In their work over the last few months, they've uncovered beautiful, near



perfect ladies' gowns from the late 1800-2 and early 1900's.

Stop by and take a look at these beautiful ladies!

Town Museum OPEN  
SATURDAYS 10-12  
through October.



**"Songs and Stories from World War I, One  
Hundred Years Later"**

**Wednesday, November 14**

**6:30 pm**

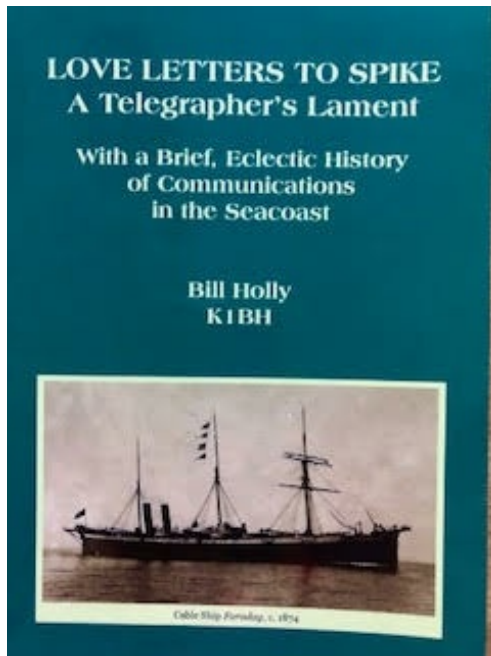
**Rye Public Library**

**FREE event**

Ramblin' Richard entertains in this commemoration of the centennial of the end of the war, and we remember the Rye residents who took part.

# Look What's In the GIFT SHOP!

## \*Members receive a 10% discount



### Review of *Love Letters to Spike* by Bill Holly \$20

All of the social networks, including telephone, television, email and radio, are laid upon the backbone of the electro magnetic telegraph systems. What is revealed in the 85 page *Love Letters to Spike – A Telegrapher's Lament – With a Brief, Eclectic History of Communications in the Seacoast*, written by Bill Holly, is a daily account of a young telegrapher at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. He left Hartford, CT to ply his trade and make his fortune in the 1914 Portsmouth springtime. He's in love, away from his Hartford betrothed and miserable much of the time. This we know from a packet of letters found by the author during his research at the Portsmouth Athenaeum.

We are presented with a day-to-day window into the work and play of an average, lower middle class pre WWI worker in Portsmouth, NH. We also learn something about a profession that no longer exists, but upon which our entire form of communications exist today.

Through our telegrapher, Herbert Waldron, we learn about the seacoast area communications history, including Samuel Morse-father of American telegraph- who spent his first career here in NH as a portrait artist, marrying a Concord woman. Herbert also visited the Rye cable station, which was the last of the great trans-Atlantic cables laid, connecting Europe to America. He was friendly too with wireless operators in the Yard's first network of transmissions between Navy ships at sea and Naval Headquarters in Washington, DC.

"Love Letters" is a fun account showing the difficulties of long distance young love, the importance of a letter received by the workingman, the constant threat of layoffs or closure of the Shipyard facility to his livelihood and life in the Seacoast area in 1914. Through rare engravings and photographs, newspaper accounts, historical background and the love letters, the reader gets a glimpse of life in our seacoast region over a century ago.

This is a great read for the historian in your life, avid social media fan or someone with a background or interest in radio, telegraphy or the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Highly recommended. **Debbi Toohey**

### Our new "Rye Est. 1623" mugs

Handmade in York  
Maine, are available  
for purchase OR  
special order this  
Monday before and

after the 10:30-noon trolley tour at the Town Museum.

**\$30 EACH**

Available in three different colors

10 oz size is perfect for your morning coffee!

Quantities limited, available for order if you'd like a whole set by emailing Debbi at [dktoohy@me.com](mailto:dktoohy@me.com)



## Volunteer Opportunities Abound! We Need You at the RHS

The RHS is looking for volunteers NOW to help with various tasks and events on a one time or ongoing basis.

Interested in helping with fall cleanup, bringing refreshments to events, helping with mailings or other activities? We are happy to have you on board!

We are also still looking for volunteers to help with the exciting celebration of 400 years of European settlement in Rye in 2023..planning is happening NOW.

Please contact Janet Davis if you are interested.

214-794-4942

[Janet@clarksondavis.com](mailto:Janet@clarksondavis.com)

**How to install the audio guide?**  
A step-by-step instruction on how to download the izi.TRAVEL app and enjoy our audio guide

- 1 Search and download the app
- 2 Install the app on your smartphone
- 3 Open the app and agree with the location and notification settings
- 4 Click on the compass icon and select the search bar
- 5 Search for the tour by using tour title, institutions name or location
- 6 Select the tour and/or collection of your choice and enjoy!

## Looking for a Great Fall Walk?

### Download the Rye Beach History Walking Tour App

The free Rye Beach neighborhood walking tour app, developed through the Rye Historical Society, is now available, easy to download and a great way to entertain your household guests. Send them off for a historic stroll, stories of the early experience of summering on the shore and grab yourself some idle moments.

\*Download [IZI.TRAVEL](#) onto your smart device (or your lap top for arm chair travel) from the App Store. Type Rye

into the search bar and open Rye Beach Block.

One can either listen to the narration which starts up at each stop in the tour, or manage it manually by reading the tour as stops are approached. And- you'll enjoy photos of "then and now" for each house stop.

The Rye Beach tour includes 24 stops, encompassing Sea, South, Central Roads and Red Mill Lane. Choose any of the stops in which to begin/end. Enjoy a delightful step back in time for an hour or two.

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## Is Your House Special? Tell Us Why!

Be a part of an exciting program at RHS - the Rye "House of the Month". Each month a different house or road will be **featured on our newsletter as well as in Rye Magazine.**

Is your house or road historic and of special interest to the community?

If so, please contact us to enter this month's competition. Don't know much about your house but you know it's significant? **We can help you do the research!**

**Email us TODAY at [info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org)**

## Share The History of Your Home with a Historic House Plaque



Many Rye homes, business and public buildings are adorned with these handsome plaques. The cost of a plaque is \$85.

If you would like one for your home to add to the heritage of the town, house plaque applications may be picked up at the Rye library on the coffee table (behind the RHS brochures).

Check and application may be mailed to PO Box 583, Rye, NH 03870 or left in our mailbox by the front door of the museum.



## Summer Hours in Effect for May - October

The Rye Historical Society's Museum is open Saturdays 10-12

Always by request - please call for an appointment 603-997-6742 or email us at [info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org)

Rye Historical Society | 603-997-6742 | [info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org)

10 Olde Parish Road, Rye, NH 03870

[Click here to be added to our email list](#)

