

SCARBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMME PREVIEW

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

- 7:30pm -

Bendale Library

**"History of Toronto Police Service Mounted Unit"**

Guest Speaker: Bill Wardle, Staff Inspector/Unit Commander

In 1886, Toronto police bought their first four horses to form the unit to patrol the suburbs and has been continuously in operation over the past 123 years. In the 1930's, many mounted units disbanded however this one survived. Many different facilities have housed their horses over the years, including the Metro Zoo in Scarborough, Casa Loma, and at the Exhibition Grounds in Toronto.

Without horses, 100 more officers would be needed on patrol as that one mounted officer can see a great distance while atop his horse and could easily spot potential problems. Horses are also a highly visible reminder of law enforcement to crowds.

Staff Inspector Wardle has been with the mounted unit since 1981. He was so interested in the history of the mounted unit, that he wrote a book on it entitled, "The Mounted Squad: An Illustrated History of the Toronto Mounted Police 1886 – 2000".

Bill will share his experiences with the Toronto Mounted Unit and its long and proud history of service in our city.

We look forward to seeing you, please feel free to bring a guest, chat with our members and enjoy the refreshments following the programme.