



**PORTSMOUTH**  
*Historical Society*

## December 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the December 2017 Newsletter of the Portsmouth Historical Society. It has been a very active year for our society and our Officers, our Board of Directors and a substantial number of wonderful volunteers have worked very hard to make the people of Portsmouth much more aware of the rich tradition of history in our town. We are very grateful for all of the support, both moral and financial, from our members.

**Final Big Event for the Year: On Friday 8 December at 7:30 at St. Barnabas Church** we will be having a Christmas concert **“Christmas in Song”** to benefit our Historical Society. It will be a performance by the well-known **Newport Navy Choristers**. The concert is a part of the **“Christmas in Newport”** program and it will be a great opportunity to get all of us into the Christmas spirit. Tickets are now on sale at the Clements Market Customer Service desk and from all members of the Historical Society Board. They are available online at [www.portsmouthhistorical.org](http://www.portsmouthhistorical.org) and they will be available at the door of the concert as well. We hope everyone will take this opportunity to bring friends and family to enjoy this community event, which is guaranteed to instill the Christmas spirit for the weeks ahead.

We are very grateful for the corporations and individual members who have contributed to this program by

purchasing ads for the concert program. We could not do it without you!

**Museum Painting:** We are in the final stages of the painting of the exterior and the interior of our Museum building. We have received very positive feedback from people in town about the looks of the outside of the building. In addition, after volunteer members of the Board moved our archives into a POD, the inside first floor and foyer of the building are nearly finished being painted. We are very grateful for grants from the RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission and the 1772 Foundation. This work is a much-needed project for us. In the winter we intend to rearrange the display space in our museum. Our determination to make the building ADA-handicap-accessible is an ongoing additional project.

We wish to thank everyone for their support over the course of this very active year. We had 18 different activities. During this Christmas season many of us create our Annual Giving List for the coming year and we would ask you to consider a donation to the Portsmouth Historical Society (PO Box 834, Portsmouth RI 02871) Your donations and your membership dues provide a large portion of our annual funds. We list our Patron and Corporate memberships on our website. Don't forget you can renew your membership (if needed) for 2017-18 on the website also. ([portsmouthhistorical.org](http://portsmouthhistorical.org)).

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We'll see you at the Navy Choristers' Concert on 8 Dec.

Jim Garman  
President

*Taking Pride in Portsmouth's History*