



**Mummers  
Festival**  
Celebrating  
**11** Years  
2019 FESTIVAL REPORT

## About Us

**The Mummers Festival** is a participant-led, community-based festival that encourages the celebration of mummering traditions. Each year, the Mummers Festival hosts events over the first few weeks of December leading up to its crowning event, the Mummers Parade. Workshops, public forums, lectures and school programming act as educational and momentum-building events for Parade Day. Like many other Christmas traditions, mummering brings together families, friends and strangers alike to create a sense of community. The Mummers Festival and Parade is the biggest celebration of this 300 year old tradition.



### Our Mandate

To produce festivals for the purpose of education, charity, cultural promotion, community engagement and advancement of the public's understanding and appreciation of Newfoundland and Labrador folk traditions related to mummering and Christmastime practices; and to assist in the transmission of these folk traditions through participation by the public and tradition-bearers in such festivals and related forums, lectures, workshops, performances and public events.

### Our Goal

The Mummers Festival aims to promote the continuance and evolution of traditional culture, art and performance by encouraging active participation in mummering activities. All events are designed to equip the public with skills and knowledge about mummering so that they can better participate in our Parade day events and, it is hoped, their own mummering practices over the twelve days of Christmas.

### Our History

The Mummers Festival was initially a joint initiative with the Intangible Cultural Heritage division of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador and Memorial University's Folklore Department. The initiative began in 2009 with the intention of passing along a well-researched model to a community group who would continue organizing the Mummers Festival. That year, the Festival included 16 free community events throughout the month of December. In 2010 a Mummers Festival community group was established and run entirely by volunteers. In 2011, the Mummers Festival incorporated as a nonprofit entity. The Festival is going into its 12th year.

**Awards &  
Recognition**



**2015 EVENT OF THE YEAR  
(City of St. John's)**

**2012 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD  
(NL Historic Sites Association)**

**2011 CULTURAL TOURISM AWARD  
(Hospitality NL)**

**45**  
Artists  
& Performers

**50**  
Volunteers

**11**  
Year  
History

**90**  
Ugly  
Sticks

**11**  
School  
Visits

**1000+**  
Volunteer  
Hours

Lots of  
**42"**  
Bras!

**25** Free  
Events

**35**  
Community  
Supporters  
& Sponsors

**2.5**  
Weeks of  
Events

**5000**  
Estimated  
Attendance

**5663**  
Facebook  
Follows

**2019**  
By The  
Numbers

**100s** of  
mummers &  
jannies

**7**  
Venues





**2019  
Programming  
Highlights**

### **Mini Mummers School Touring Program**

This program is 10 years strong and aimed at elementary grade students who get to engage in an interactive demonstration of the many aspects of Newfoundland mummering. The 45 minute presentation involves question & answer, photo and video components, a hobby horse demonstration, an interactive disguise component with a teacher, and a mock-mummer guessing game with students. The Mini Mummers School tour reached 11 schools this year in the greater St. John's area.

Ryan Davis brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to every presentation as this year's facilitator. Ryan started this program in 2009 and has run it for several years. School staff have written to express how "students (and teachers) absolutely loved it!", telling us that "[students are] still talking about it", and sharing stories of how students want to go out and try mummering for themselves.

[www.mummersfestival.ca](http://www.mummersfestival.ca)

**Ugly Stick Workshops**

Victoria Park Poolhouse  
November 30 1:00-4:00pm  
December 1 1:00-4:00pm

**Mummer Mask Workshops**

A.C. Hunter Public Library  
December 6 3:30-4:30pm  
St. John's Farmers' Market  
December 7 9:00am-4:00pm

**Hobby Horse Workshop**

Victoria Park Poolhouse  
December 9 6:00-9:00pm

**Mummer Memory Mug Up**

Marjorie Mews Public Library  
December 12 10:00-11:00am

**Rig Up**

The Lantern  
December 14\* 1:00-2:00pm

**Scuff 'n' Scoff**

The Lantern  
December 14\* 2:45-4:00pm

**Music and Mumming**

The Rooms  
December 5 2:30-3:30pm

**Box and Bucket Workshop**

Victoria Park Poolhouse  
December 8 1:00-4:00pm

**Any Mummers 'Lowed In?**

The Rooms  
December 11 7:00-8:00pm

**The Moon Shines Bright:  
Heart's Delight-Islington  
Christmas Carols**

The Rooms  
December 12 2:30-3:30pm

**Mummers Parade**

The Lantern  
December 14\* 2:00-2:45pm

**Janneys on the Big Screen**

The Rooms  
December 18 7:00-8:00pm

**\*If weather is REALLY bad, Parade Day Events will be held on Sunday, Dec 9. Same time & place.**



**Paint Nite Fundraisers**

The Mummers Festival teamed up this year with Paint Nite to offer a fundraising event where participants were guided step-by-step to create a work of mummer art! Instruction, paints, and canvasses were all provided so that each participant went home with their own handmade mummer painting. Participants raved about the event, and it was a great way to raise money for the festival.

**Old Christmas Day Volunteer Party**

January 6th is Old Christmas Day and officially the last day of mumming. This year, however, we celebrated the end of the Mummers Festival with our fellow volunteers, mummers, artists, and supporters on Saturday, January 4th. A big thanks goes out to Mill Street Brew Pub for providing a great space, a generous beer tab, and delicious finger foods! And of course we had to finish it off with a parade of mummer costumes! The best mummer costume and strut won a Purity Gift box although everyone went home with some kisses in their pockets!

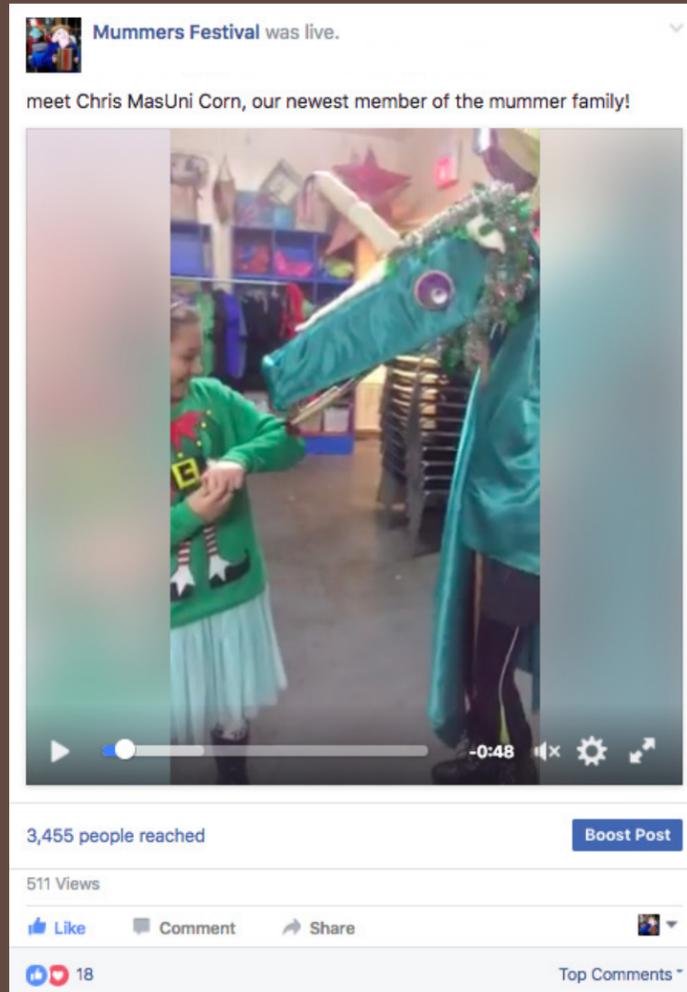


**Janneys on the Big Screen**

Rap videos, horror films, and horror parodies were just a few of the genres showcased in this curated evening of mummers in the media. More than ever mummers are making their way off the streets and onto the big screen (or a YouTube channel). Indeed, mumming has found itself in the realm of popular culture. We screened 5 pieces as well as a trailer for a new mumming film. Some of the filmmakers were also on hand to answer audience questions about the films

## Hobby Horse & Christmas Bull Workshops

A long-time program of the Mummings Festival, the Hobby Horse Workshop invited its creepy cousin, the Christmas Bull, into the stable. Hobby horses were originally made of horse skulls but research shows that they were also made from the skulls of moose, pigs, and cows. This year we a workshop in St. John's. Largely a family affair, parents and children constructed personalized hobby horses and then brought them to the Mummings Parade.



## History of the Hobby Horse Workshops

The Mummings Festival has been running Hobby Horse Workshops since 2009. We turned to archival materials and conducted interviews to learn more about this tradition. Our template, designed by puppeteers Kathleen Parewick and Ryan Davis, is modelled after mid-1900s hobby horses located in the Memorial University Folklore Archives. These horses now turn up at the Mummings Parade and are used during the traditional Christmas-time, house-visiting tradition of mumming. The Festival has successfully repopulated the province with this nearly-extinct and most peculiar breed.



## Meet Wayne Cave

Wayne Cave has been making and playing ugly sticks for decades. We met him in 2011 in our search for a expert tradition-bearer to lead our workshops. Wayne designed this program and all the ugly sticks made are based on his specific design. Over 9 years we have helped over 850 participants make their very own ugly stick.

In the final stage, Wayne attaches a boot at the bottom of the stick and gives everyone a lesson on how to play the ugliest of percussion instruments. Since we met him, Wayne has done workshops for other communities and was featured in Downhome magazine for his skills.



## Ugly Stick Workshops

The ugly stick has played a role in Newfoundland party times throughout the years. It's about four feet long, on which bottle caps, tin cans, small bells and other noisemakers are attached. Add a boot at the bottom and you're good to go! It is played by thumping the stick, and striking its attachments with a "saw"--a notched stick that really gets those bottle-caps rattling! By far our most popular workshop, participants have transformed hundreds of boots and thousands of bottlecaps into some of the finest and ugliest of musical instruments.



## Fun Facts!

- \* We wash about 2000 beer bottle caps for this workshop
- \* All these bottle caps come from one local bar
- \* Evergreen Recycling collects 120 tin cans for us
- \* Participants have made over 800 ugly sticks in 9 years

## Rig Up



The Rig Up gives people a chance to create a mummings disguise on the spot! For an hour before the Mummings Parade, people can sort through endless costume choices to fashion their best mummings rig. This year we were hosted by the kind folks at The Lantern. And where does all that clothing come from? This year we were given donations by the Salvation Army Thrift Store and Choices For Youth's Neighbourhood Clothing Store. We love the community support!

# Mummers Parade



## Drumline

What's a Parade without some noise?! For 7 years, a group of mummer drummers have been bringing beats to the streets! This group--Drumline --began as a percussion ensemble in 2004.

Initially, the drumline practiced and performed on drum set snare drums and tom-toms, but now has a full compliment of modern marching drums including high-tension snare drums, multiple tenor drums and tonal bass drums. The drumline's repertoire is made up of different marching patterns or 'cadences'. Each cadence is a unique piece of music and can be influenced by several different styles of music including rock, latin and jazz.

The twenty current members of the Music Collection Drumline range in age from 13 to 19 years old and some have been playing with the group for over 9 years.

## Scuff 'n' Scoff



### The Mummers and the Paupers

A long-time favorite with the Mummers Festival, the Mummers and the Paupers took to the stage for our annual Scuff 'n' Scoff. This is our post-Parade concert with live music, Purity sweets and syrup. The Mummers and the Paupers is a 10 member mummers troupe with a repertoire of music, dance, skits, stories and recitations. The troupe performs as both a roaming group and as a stage act. When circulating through a crowd, the musicians typically play guitar, accordion, fiddle, banjo and bodhran while being accompanied by a hobby horse and dancers. For on-stage performances, the troupe reconfigures with the addition of harp, upright bass, harmonica and jig dolls. The troupe is one of the few local groups to use the old jig doll percussion instrument in its performances. The performance repertoire includes stories, recitations, skits, dance and music - traditional Newfoundland songs, Christmas carols, traditional Irish tunes, English Morris dances, folk and country favourites and kitchen party waltzes. Costumes continue to evolve, but are very much in the classic Newfoundland and Labrador tradition. The troupe has performed for a variety of clients ranging from local charities to international conferences. The Mummers and the Paupers performed at this year's Old Christmas Day Volunteer Party.

## Promoting Volunteerism



Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Mummers Festival and we would never succeed without their support. Our volunteers range in age from high-school students to retirees. They collect materials for workshops, serve Purity syrup and cookies to hungry mummers, and work as workshop assistants, guiding the public through various activities. They help set up events, produce signage, and provide labour for event clean-up and break down. Volunteers act as Parade marshals and carry our Parade banner.

The Mummers Festival's Board of Directors is made up of 10 dedicated volunteers. This group ensures the Festival is achieving its goals. They volunteer their time to montly meetings and additional tasks throughout the year.



**Cultivating  
Art**

**traditional drama, the art of disguise, mask-making, costuming, folk theatre, music, singing and recitation, jokes and pranks, instrument crafting, storytelling, dance, puppetry and performance**

Mummering is an artful tradition. As a type of theatre, it involves both performance and craft. Mummering is the art of disguise, the art of costuming, and a form of traditional drama. It includes the art of mask-making; music, singing, storytelling and recitation; dance, jokes, pranks, and puppetry as both craft and performance.

The primary goal of the Mummers Festival is to promote the continuance and evolution of traditional arts and performance. Our hope is that informal, community-based folk drama and associated material arts will flourish both during the festival and afterward as a living, 300 year old house-visiting tradition in Newfoundland and Labrador.

# In The Press

Mummers made quite the racket this year and the media noticed. We were featured in international, national, and local publications.

- CBC Crosstalk
- CBC ICI Terre-Neuve et Labrador
- CBC Life
- CBC News
- CBC WAM
- NTV News
- The Globe and Mail
- The Muse
- The Telegram
- VOCM Lunch Bunch

A Tale of Two Cities — Le conte de deux villes — St. John's, Halifax

Festive Newfoundlanders go mummering, and Nova Scotians go Betsnickeling. Get the lowdown on two age-old traditions



## 'TIS THE SEASON

### ST. JOHN'S

In Newfoundland, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas when locals roam from house to house disguised in ragtag costumes, goofy glasses and masks. Chances are they're participating in the centuries-old custom of mummering, which originated in England and Ireland in the Middle Ages. Outlawed in Newfoundland for much of the 20th century, due to rowdiness, the now family-friendly tradition takes place during the 12 days of Christmas. Participants deliver raucous performances at neighbours' homes until the hosts guess the identity of each mummer.

On the Ground  
From Nov. 18 to Dec. 15, St. John's plays host to the annual Mummer's Festival and Parade. The Betsnickels of Nova Scotia here are far-cial, rather giving guesses. At least they give treats. Du 18 nov. au 15 déc., se tiennent à St. John's le festival et le défilé annuel des mumeurs. En Nouvelle-Écosse, les Betsnickels est un genre de jeu où les visiteurs se déguisent et tentent de deviner les visiteurs. Au moins ils donnent des bonbons.

### HALIFAX

When it comes to sharing Christmas treats, most Nova Scotians will gladly brave the frigid temperatures, Betsnickeling around the icy streets of their hometowns. The tradition, introduced by German immigrants in the 1750s, sees folks donning Santa costumes to visit their neighbours, jangling chains and bells. Revelers challenge onlookers to guess the identity of each Betsnickel. Get it right, and you'll be rewarded with a piece of Christmas cake and a hot drink — preferably a toddy — to wash it down.

L'habitude de partager des friandises plaît tant à la plupart des Néo-Écossais qu'ils bravent le froid pour « faire le Betsnickel » dans les rues glacées de leur patrie. Cette tradition, introduite par les Allemands dans les années 1750, veut que les gens, costumés en père Noël et secouant chaînes et clochettes, rendent visite à leurs voisins. Les passants oisifs par ces Betsnickels sont mis au défi de deviner leur identité. Un petit gâteau est remis à ceux qui devinent juste, ainsi qu'une boisson chaude — de préférence un grog — pour faire descendre la friandise.

## The dark side of mummering: What you may not know about a beloved tradition

It's not all songs, dancing and costumes, and it never was

Terri Coles - CBC News - Posted Dec 26, 2018 4:00 PM NT | Last updated: December 26, 2018



This mummer, seen in the Grind Mind short film The Mummering, is not the kind you want to invite inside your home for a drop of Purin's umm.

35 comments

"Any mummers 'lowed in?"

For most Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, that's a friendly question. Maybe you've heard it from holiday visitors wearing disguises. If not, you probably know it from the popular Simons Christmas song. But what if the question provoked terror instead of holiday cheer?

"I mean, it's a home invasion right?" says Shane Mills, one of the members of Grind Mind Productions, a St. John's collective that releases one short horror film monthly.

"People visiting your house in masks. That's like Hollywood stuff."

The grimmer implications of a group of masked people showing up at your home, in the dark, inspired Grind Mind's recent The Mummering.



Mummering's dark side is not new. The holiday tradition's history is one of festive celebration — but also of suspicion, crimes carried out under the cover of winter darkness, and even murder.

### The history of mummering

Nobody is quite sure when mummering — called mummung or jannying in some areas — began in Newfoundland and Labrador.

There is documentation of the practice dating back to the early 1800s, though, says Larry Dahey, director of programming and public engagement at The Rooms in St. John's.



A mummer at the Mummer's Parade in St. John's, part of the modern-day revival of mummering in the province (Shirley Weir)

"It's just like many of the customs that we had," Dahey said, explaining the tradition was brought by British and Irish settlers and then morphed and became part of the community over time.

Mummering traditionally runs from the Feast of St. Stephen on Dec. 26 to the Old Twelfth Day on Jan. 6. In the best-known variation of the tradition, people hide their identities by disguising their faces and bodies and mostly their speech and behaviour while visiting neighbours' homes.



This archival illustration depicts mummering in St. John's. (The Rooms Provincial Archives)

## Dollies, beer cases and Nan's bras disguise mummers at St. John's parade

The Christmas tradition lives on as residents plaster selves in lace and underwear

CBC News - Posted Dec 08, 2018 6:11 PM NT | Last updated: December 8, 2018



A few hundred mummers took their antics to the streets for the annual Mummer's Festival parade on Saturday. (Malone Mullin/CBC)

Bev Skehans came out to Saturday's annual Mummer's Parade in St. John's to make new friends. But she never imagined she'd meet another Bev Skanes.

The two women with the same name — at least, in pronunciation — bumped into each other over their matching ugly sticks, and erupted in laughter when they realized they had more in common than their costumes.

"What are the chances?" Skanes chuckled from behind a dolly and glowing sunglasses.



Bev Skanes met another Bev Skehans — different spelling, but same pronunciation — when the two met over similar ugly stick designs. (Malone Mullin/CBC)

It was Skehans' inaugural parade. After 35 years in the military, she's finally retired and able to enjoy hometown traditions, she said.

It's whimsical encounters like these that fuel the festivities, said organizer Ryan Davis.



From the wacky to slightly horrifying, everyone made sure to cover their faces and get a bit silly at Saturday's parade. (Malone Mullin/CBC)

"It's about bringing community together. It's about social bonding. It's about taking time out of your day to connect with people in your neighbourhood," Davis said amid hundreds clamouring for costumes at the pre-parade rig-up in Bishop Abraham Elementary's gym.

Donated clothes, masks and pillows for traditional bum-stuffing were laid out for the taking.

"There's a bit of magic that happens... On this one day everyone is just a maggoty old mummer, and we can all come together and have a great time," Davis said.



Michael Pinksen, right, is a pro at mummering, and can show first timer Reiko Maruyama how to play her ugly stick. (Malone Mullin/CBC)

Nobody seems to personally the Mummer's Parade spirit more than Bobby Bessy, who hasn't missed a parade since its first iteration nine years ago.

Today her friend from Japan, Reiko Maruyama, is getting a taste of Newfoundland with her Christmas tree-themed outfit.

Bessy has brought Michael Pinksen since he was just a baby — this year, he's old enough to make his own ugly stick, a deadstocked tribute to American rapper Lil Pump.



## Ugly stick workshop helps outfit next generation of mummers

Nearly 20 ugly sticks made at event, mostly by young families

CBC News - Posted Dec 02, 2018 5:34 PM NT | Last updated: December 2, 2018



Helen and Josie Pretty and their dad Michael look on as Ryan Davis of the Mummer's Festival helps attach their grandfather's boot to an ugly stick. (Fred Hutson/CBC)

It wasn't a kitchen party, but there were plenty of ugly sticks in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's on Thursday.

The town, in partnership with the annual Mummer's Festival, held a workshop to help people build their own sticks for the holidays.

- "I stuffed my butt so I can shake it": Mummering dance in the streets of St. John's
- What's a hobby horse? Mummer's Festival hopes to bring back old Newfoundland tradition

Ryan Davis, executive director of the Mummer's Festival, was on hand to help out at the workshop, and says while not a lot is known about the history of the ugly stick, it's a great instrument for mummers.

"What I do know, it's just an instrument that's made with whatever you have around, which is very fitting for mummering," he said.

All you need to make a stick of your own, Davis said, is a broomstick or a strong branch and something to attach to the bottom of the stick, using a screw and a washer.

"Usually it's a boot or a sneaker or something that's not going to bang up the kitchen floor too bad," he said.



There were nearly 20 ugly sticks made at the workshop. (Fred Hutson/CBC)

Finally, put a tin can on top, and you've got an ugly stick. The whole thing is struck with a second stick, which Davis calls a "saw."

"The second stick has got little notches in it so you can run it along the main stick," he said. "It makes a nice sound with all the bottle caps that are attached as well for that nice rattle."

And the more bottle caps the better.

"It's definitely a percussion instrument, and people can play the ugly stick so well because you've got that lovely rattle when the saw goes across, the sound that it makes when you hit the can," said Davis.

"And then of course when you smack the boot on the floor, that's a different sound altogether, so combined, you can really make very interesting sounds."



The ugly sticks were topped with well-decorated tin cans. (Fred Hutson/CBC)

Helen and Josie Pretty attended with their dad, Michael. Josie, 8, said it wasn't her idea to go to the workshop, but she was having a good time.

"Dad just got us into this, but I like it."

Michael said the girls each used one of their grandfather's boots to make their ugly sticks.

"He passed before they were born and they have a connection with him somehow and we're using his boot," he said.

"So I'm thinking he's smiling down from heaven tonight looking at us doing this."



Josie Pretty says she had fun making her ugly stick. (Fred Hutson/CBC)

## Day 6

with Brent Bambury

Home About Contact Podcast Automate This Impeach-O-Meter

## Hold on to your pillow-stuffed arse: It's mummering season

3 comments

A Day 6 guide to the weird and wonderful tradition of mummering

CBC Radio - December 1, 2018



People gather dressed in costume during the annual Mummer's Parade in downtown St. John's, N.L., on Feb. 19, 2015. Mummering is a traditional Newfoundland Christmas tradition. (Jonathan Hayward/Canadian Press)

3 comments

Listen 5:17

Most Canadians probably know mummering as a tradition unique, in this country, to Newfoundland and Labrador, and also parts of Nova Scotia. But at least one city south of the border has a similarly odd and somewhat frightening custom.

Philadelphia's history of mummering came to Day 6's attention when we did a story about the equally frightening Gerty.

Mummering also popped up in November after the long-forgotten Nova Scotia tradition of "Betsnickeling" appeared in a travel magazine — and left locals dumbfounded.

- Nova Scotia Betsnickeling is real — and here's a photo to prove it
- Horror movie based on mummering to be filmed in Twillingate

So, as the holiday season approaches, we thought we'd take the opportunity to answer some of your burning questions about the unique tradition — both in Canada and beyond.

### What exactly is mummering?

We're glad you asked.

Mummering is a tradition in Newfoundland and Labrador where, over the 12 days of Christmas, you visit the homes of your friends and neighbours, and they try to guess who you are. It's kind of like a house crawl with costumes involved.

"Typically, you move on to another house and another house in another house," said Ryan Davis, the head of the St. John's Mummer's Parade.

"That would entail a full night of mummering."

Often, mummers partake in libations.



People gather dressed in costume during the annual Mummer's Parade in downtown St. John's, N.L., on Dec. 19, 2015. (Jonathan Hayward/Canadian Press)

### What does one wear on a night of mummering?

Just about anything you can find.

"It's typically a patchwork of random clothing or objects that you would find around the house," Davis said.

First off, you should change the shape of your body.

Lamp shades and curtains are common attire on a night of mummering. Your face, obviously, must be covered.

Undergarments — bras and knickers — worn over clothing is fairly typical, and cross-dressing is also common.



Here, a mummer wears a sheer curtain or table cloth beneath a shower cap with cat-eye sunglasses. (Jonathan Hayward/Canadian Press)

### And what about these mummers in Philadelphia?

The major difference is that they come out on New Year's Eve.

Back in the day, they would roam the streets on Dec. 31 and, much like their Atlantic

## Social Media

**Marilyn Coish** · 21:42 Hello from Newfie in England..will be back next summer

**Linda Sullivan** · 14:02 Hello from Washington state, me mother was a Newfoundlander from Cape Broyle

**Sheila Savory** · 50:00 Hi from fort mcmurray

**Cathy Ferg** · 1:11:51 Great fun! Watching from Saskatchewan, grew up around da corner on Pennywell Rd.

**Sinead Ni M** · 11:46 Hello from Ireland

**Maude Pittman** · 39:28 Merry Xmas from sops arm

**Jenn Welshman** · 7:57 Nice to see the Fortune Mummies!!! Hello from Marystown on the Burin Peninsula

**Jennifer Walsh** · 13:37 Hi from Alberta !!

**Doris Randell** · 10:39 Merry Christmas from British Columbia.

**Ed Harris** · 39:00 Auckland New Zealand

**Sandra Moore** · 9:04 Hello from Wasaga Beach Ontario

**Sammy O'Keefe** · 11:52 Loving watching !! Hoping to join the parade next year 🤩

**Eric Wakeham** · 12:47 Hi from New York , USA

**Darrell Dye** · 29:19 Hello from Kelowna BC! Wish I was there, am in spirit and I guess live in Facebook. Merry Mummer Christmas to all my friends there. Love to you all this holiday season.

**Sabrina Kranenburg** · 39:18 Watching from Dartmouth, NS. Looking forward to coming home soon!

**Maude White** · 41:07 Hi from Da Birds eye Restaurant in St Bride's NL

**Live from the Mummies Festival**, our Facebook Live broadcast reached over 10,000 users. For a second year, the talented Elling Lien took to the streets in a very peculiar costume and walked the entire Mummies Parade from start to finish, engaging with his fellow mummies along the way. People tuned in from all over the world to watch the mummies strut their stuff. In this live stream we get to see people rigging up in disguises, we hear families talk about their favorite annual tradition, and there's even an interview with an old grandma mummer who loves Harley Davidsons!

 **5663 Followers**

 **2803 Followers**

 **1465 Followers**

**Mummers Festival** added an event.  
November 5, 2018 · 🌐

The Mummers Festival is celebrating its 10 year anniversary this year. Join us for a retrospective. We'll look back at how and why the Festival was conceived and take you on a virtual tour of stories and programming highlights over the years.



**THU, DEC 13, 2018**  
**10 Years of Mummers Festival**  
The Rooms · St. John's

**Mummers Festival**  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · December 7, 2018 · 🌐

Hot mummer tips for tomorrow's 10th Annual Mummers Parade!

## THE ART OF DISGUISE

Mumming is the art of disguise. The origin of the word is rooted in the notion of wearing a mask. Maybe that's why mummers are also called Guisers (as in...disguisers). So when dressing as a mummer you must hide your identity. Here are a few tips:

1. **CHANGE YOUR BODY SHAPE.** Stuff a pillow in your pants, make a humpback, wear a travel pillow under your shirt around your neck
2. **COVER YOUR FACE!** Don't let people see your eyes or your teeth! That's a giveaway! Lace curtains and pillowcases with eye- and mouth-holes are classic covers. Halloween masks work well too.
3. **CHANGE YOUR HEIGHT.** If you're short, wear a high hat. If you're tall, crouch down when you walk
4. **WEAR CLOTHING YOU WOULDN'T NORMALLY WEAR.** Crossdressing is a classic look for mummers. Guys, throw on a dress or a bra outside your clothing. Gals, throw on a huntsman jacket. Or maybe a mix of both? Let's smash those old stereotypes!
5. **CHANGE THE WAY YOU WALK AND TALK.** The classic mummer speak is to inhale while talking. And the way you walk and dance should change.

[mummersfestival.ca](http://mummersfestival.ca)

**Mummers Festival** is at Quidi Vidi Brewing Co.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · November 2, 2018 · St. John's · 🌐

Cheers to Quidi Vidi Brewing Co. for supporting the Mummers Festival once again! QV's Mummer's Brew Amber Ale is out in stores today. We dies for a drop!



**Mummers Festival** shared a post.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · November 23, 2018 · 🌐

Whatta time we had making mummer art! Luckily, we have another Mummers Paint Nite this coming Monday. Info and tickets here: <https://www.paintnite.com/.../nl-christmas-tradition-at-glend...>



**Mummers Festival** shared an event.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · November 23, 2018 · 🌐

Saddle up and head over to our first event for the 10th Annual Mummers Festival tomorrow! At this free workshop you will take a piece of lifeless cardboard and turn it into a jaw-snapping beast!



**SAT, NOV 24, 2018**  
**Hobby Horse Workshop**  
Victoria Park Poolhouse (the only building in...)

**Mummers Festival** shared an event.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · December 17, 2018 · 🌐

Mummer horror films, rap videos and more! From house visits to YouTube, mumming has moved its way to the big screen. Presenting an evening of mummers in the media. This event is FREE!



**FRI, DEC 28, 2018**  
**Janneys On The Big Screen**  
The Rooms · St. John's

**Mummers Festival** shared a post.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · November 15, 2018 · 🌐

Thanks Refugee and Immigrant Advisory Council Inc. (RIAC) and Radio RIAC for inviting Mummers Festival to speak about mumming in NL. Hope to see you at some of our events!



708 Views  
**Radio RIAC**  
November 10, 2018 · 🌐

**Mummers Festival** was live.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · November 25, 2018 · 🌐

Things are getting ugly here at our first ugly stick workshop!



**Mummers Festival** shared an event.  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · December 1, 2018 · 🌐

Make a mask today at 1pm. Get your rig ready for the Mummers Parade next week!



**SAT, DEC 1, 2018**  
**Box and Bucket Mask Workshop**  
The Boys and Girls Clubs of St. John's · St. John's

**Mummers Festival**  
Published by RyRy Davis [?] · December 2, 2018 · 🌐

Check out the mummer artwork on the cover of this month's Downhome Magazine! Sending a big shoutout to Downhome for sponsoring the Mummers Festival once again! #localnl #newfoundlandlabrador



**The Mummers Festival** could not exist without the generous support of a proud, local community. A big thanks goes out to supporters who unite with us to help keep our time-honoured and colourful traditions alive!

**2019 Sponsors & Supporters**



+G J Shortall, Buckmaster's Circle Community Centre, Town of Cape Broyle, Bishop Abraham Elementary, Boys and Girls Club, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, Municipalities NL, Town of PCSP, Grind Mind, St. John Ambulance, Justin Hawco, Tara Fleming

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MUMMERIES  
FOREVER

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