

King

fall 2012

MOSAIC

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On behalf of Council, it is my pleasure to introduce you to the fall edition of Mosaic.

I encourage everyone to get involved in the various events King has to offer! On September 8th, come out to the Kettleby Fair which features a variety of interesting events and activities for the whole family hosted by many of our volunteer groups. On September 9th, I invite you to the 23rd Annual Feast of Fields event which will take place at Cold Creek Conservation Area in King for the 3rd year in a row. This event is hosted by Organic Advocates, a non-profit organization of organic producers, environmentally concerned chefs, food professionals and enlightened customers who support organic food awareness & sustainability. On September 15th, residents and visitors can tour significant sites throughout the Township at Doors Open King or perhaps experience fine art while strolling along historic Main Street during the Schomberg Village Street Gallery on September 15th and 16th. Last but not least join us on October 13th at Soupfest presented by King Township in partnership with the Town of Bradford-West Gwillimbury and the Holland Marsh Grower's Association. These community and Township events complement the implementation of our Sustainable King Plan.

We encourage you to support our local businesses and shop King in a manner that respects our environment and our planet.

Sincerely,

Mayor Steve Pellegrini

Parks Recreation & Culture Events Mark Your Calendars!

Doors Open King
Saturday September 15th
10am to 4pm
various locations

Dog Training Workshop
(preregistration required)
Saturday September 22
10am to 3pm
Cold Creek Conservation Area

Fallfest
Saturday September 22
11am to 3pm
Cold Creek Conservation Area

Community Gardening Workshop
Thursday October 11
Time and location – TBA

Holland Marsh Soupfest
Saturday October 13
9:30am to 4pm

Haunted House & Bus Tour
Friday /Saturday October 26, 27
Cold Creek Conservation Area

For more information or to register for any of these events please visit www.king.ca



SustainableKing Get Involved!

Does your community group, volunteer organization or business have a project that supports the vision, goals, strategies and actions identified in King's Sustainability Plan? If so, we would like to hear from you. Please contact sustainability@king.ca and share how your work within the community aligns with King's Sustainability Plan.

King's Sustainability Plan is focused on implementing sustainable actions and leveraging the resources of our community. We must work together to ensure the Plan's success! We encourage all community partners to work with our Sustainability Committee to assist with the Plan's implementation.

To access King Township's Community Sustainability Plan visit www.sustainableking.com. For more information contact Sara Puppi, Sustainability Coordinator at (905)833-4080.

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KING

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Upcoming Events

Tuesday September 18th
Our Mayor's Breakfast
Redcrest Golf Course
7 - 9am
Our Best Start to the Day All Year!

Wednesday September 26th
Business & Beers
At Rockford's in King City
5:30 - 7:30pm
A Casual Gathering After Work

Save the Date
Friday October 26th
KCC Masquerade Ball
Our Marquee Event!

For details please call Kim
905-717-7199

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Photo Wilson Markle

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Arts
Heritage
Nature**

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of ASK**

**For information contact
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905 939 9357**



ArtsSocietyKing.ca

Your membership supports
cultural activities in King Township

**King
MOSAiC**

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**King
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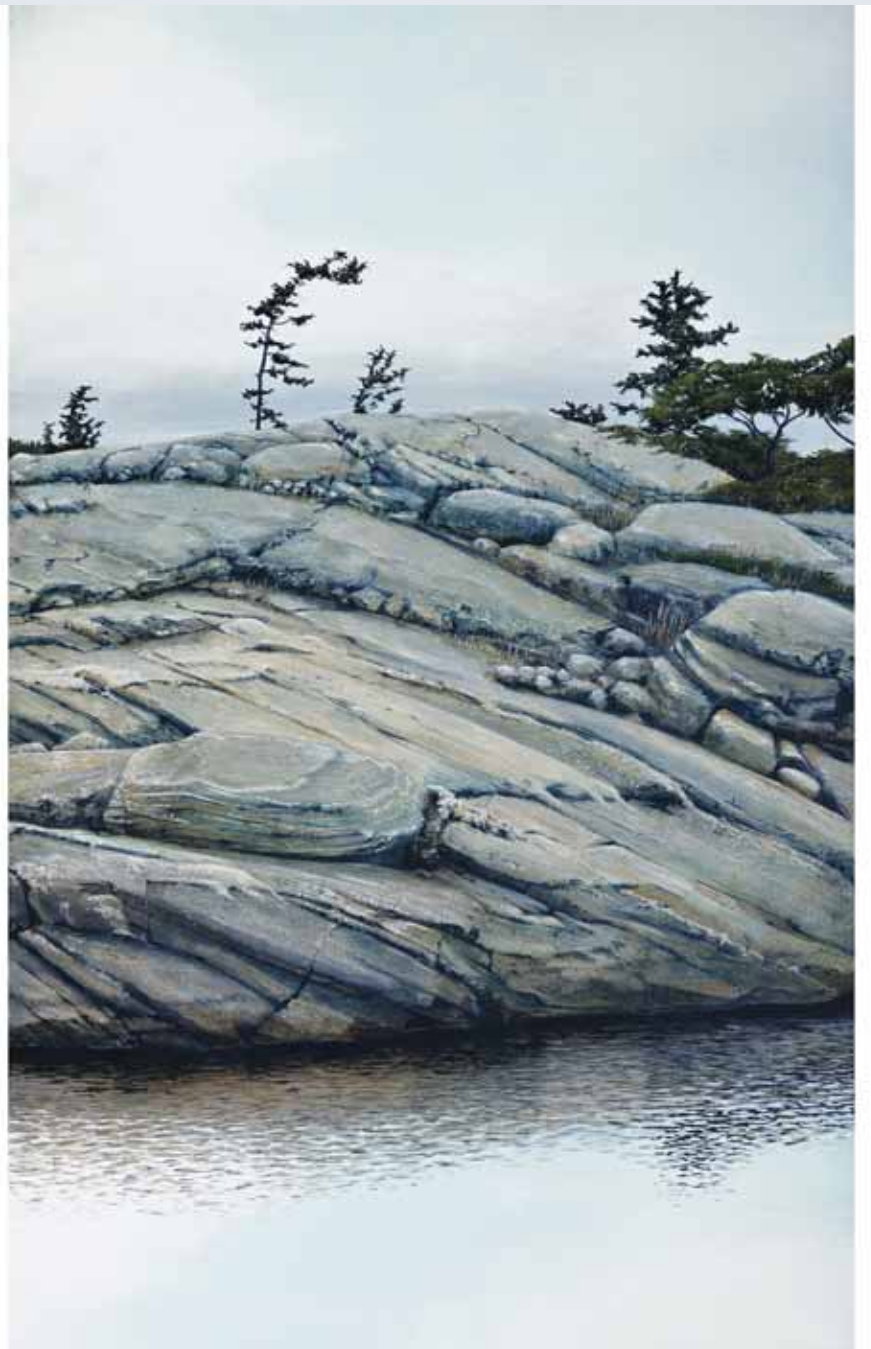
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ON-LINE VERSION AT KingMosaic.ca

M. J. Mobbs, cover artist

by Sue Iaboni



Martin Mobbs has had an eclectic life. He has lived in England, driven 18-wheelers across the US and Canada, painted movie sets, run a ranch in the BC interior, and bred sport horses. Through all these adventures, he has taken photographs, both with his camera and in his mind. And, for the last three years, he has painted them.

Recalling his childhood, Martin says he has “drawn ever since I could hold a pencil.” His school program in England offered many courses in art and he took them all. Moving to Canada in the 1960’s was tough on a young teenager and he turned to drawing as a way to retreat. He entered the Ontario College of Art and remembers spending a lot of time hanging around the cafeteria and drinking coffee. He didn’t attend many classes, but he *did* spend a lot of time thinking about the “nature of art.”

After a few years driving trucks, Mobbs got a job in the 1980’s booming motion picture industry in Toronto and then in Vancouver. He became a scenic artist where his job was to make “a piece of plywood look like something else”, for example an old tavern wall. He recalls one time when he and his crew were

sent to a reclaimed dump flattened by bulldozers and covered with sand. The crew’s job was to paint it all red to resemble the surface of Mars. He has several other memories of his life in the movie industry, where he says there were no limits, either financially or in terms of scope. He worked on: *Mission to Mars* with Tim Robbins, *Jumanji* with Robin Williams, *The Sixth Day* with Arnold Schwarzenegger, *Paycheck* with Ben Affleck, some Tim Allen movies, and several TV shows as well.

In the early 90’s, as business in the motion picture industry was dropping off, Mobbs was busy buying a ranch in the BC interior. He and his partner had a farm of about 25 horses, a mix of percherons, thoroughbreds, and quarterhorses, some of which they bred. He taught himself to ride and soon began offering trail rides at local campsites as well. He fell in love with horses. He says each horse has its own personality. They are totally honest, have bad days and good, and can convey that to an empathetic rider. He also has witnessed the birthing ritual and the sad 50% survival rate. “It just rips your heart out” he says.

In 2007 Mobbs gave up the ranch and moved to a small town in central Ontario. He bought a house and

renovated part of it as a studio. He began painting landscapes based on his memories, his photos, and the local scenery. And then one day somebody asked if he could paint a horse. He had trouble keeping the size down; after all he was used to painting movie sets, and horses were big animals. But he had lots of subjects from his ranch photos and from horses on farms near where he lived.

Not long after this, Paul Harding, a friend from high school and the movie business, opened The Orchard Gallery at Pine Farms in King, and invited Mobbs to hang some of his work. He was also invited to hang work in Quinn’s of Tweed, a local gallery in Tweed, Ontario, and he has been selected as a participating artist at the Schomberg Village Street Gallery in September and the McMichael Autumn Art Sale in October.

The big problem now is creating enough pieces to show in four places at once. Mobbs says it takes him a good month to do a painting; two weeks to think about it, and ten days to paint. He uses his photos for the basic layout; size of feet, perspective, detail. But the photo takes him only half way. The rest is enhancement with the use of colour and lighting. He

The Outdoor Classroom at Country Day School

by Ann and David Love



Simone Weinstein and Noeline Burk

When our kids enjoyed Country Day School in the 80s, it was a small school in the country. A visitor today sees a large school with a sophisticated arts centre and groomed sports fields. The “country” part of the school is no longer as visible from Dufferin St. as it was 20 years ago.

But appearances are about to change as a result of the efforts of a dedicated student, an inspired teacher and a supportive administration.

Leadership Makes the Difference

Simone Weinstein '12 has been in the environmental club at CDS since 2009. Last year, she became its president. Inspired by her dedicated teacher, Noeline Burk, Simone had a dream to create a very special environmental program at CDS.

CDS is already recognized for its environmental commitment. It is a fully accredited EcoSchool. (For more information on this excellent program,

visit ontarioecoschools.org/)

But Simone's new environmental program at CDS is unique. That's because it's not just a program, it's a place and a vision.

The Outdoor Classroom

Simone made a presentation to the senior students, the senior staff and the CDS parents' association about creating “The Outdoor Classroom.” This special classroom would be a place where all classes, especially

those in the Junior School, could learn about the outdoors while enjoying the outdoors.

Simone's presentation was a hit and the outdoor classroom is now a reality. It is situated in a quiet courtyard already used occasionally by classes at CDS. Because of its location, it connects the three schools at CDS: the Junior School, the Middle School and the Senior School: a bit like a quiet Medieval cloister.

Among the highlights in the outdoor classroom:

Three gardens: a Victory Garden to bring history alive and a butterfly garden and hummingbird garden to bring nature alive.

Limestone rocks with remarkable fossils.

Plants from local grower “Pathways to Perennials.”

To make the outdoor classroom a reality, the environmental club needed funds for a raised garden, whiteboards, benches, plants, sod and soil and outdoor mats. Simone's eloquence and persistence helped to raise \$10,000 from student fundraisers, a grant from the CDS association, and a contribution from the School's administration.

Of course, there are some future needs for the space: stone seating, a mural space and a compost area. Simone is confident the money will be found for these improvements in the near future. Meanwhile,

she will begin pursuing a degree in Environment and Business at the University of Waterloo in September.

Environmental Education at CDS

Environmental education is alive and well at CDS. After the inspiring “Outdoor Classroom”, perhaps the most exciting development is a major renovation at the School that will re-orient the buildings to take advantage of a vibrant wetland to the north, which is currently out of sight and thus, largely out of mind.

CDS is justifiably proud of its strong three-dimensional education program: academic programs, athletic programs and arts programs. But CDS adds a unique fourth dimension - environmental education. And not just in the classroom, but outside it too!

At CDS, environmental education thrives as a result of eager students, concerned teachers and supportive leadership. As one Grade 10 student remarked: “Who doesn't like being outside?” **M**

Authors' note:

While talking with Simone and Noeline in the Outdoor Classroom in early July, we were visited by cedar waxwings, starlings, chipping sparrows and barn swallows. Clearly, students and wildlife will enjoy the space!

Photo Stan Behal

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Has anybody seen Sir Henry?

by Virginia Atkins

Rising at the corner where Keele Street meets the 15th Sideroad in King Township is a turreted stone arch, a gateway designed by architect E.J. Lennox, responsible for Toronto's fabled Casa Loma, Sir Henry Pellatt's dream home. The arch led into Pellatt's country estate of woodland, pastures and the lodge overlooking Lake Marie, named for his wife. The lake is a very deep 'kettle' left by an ancient glacier retreating from the Oak Ridges Moraine. Its area is about 40 acres, and home to a variety of fish. Pellatt wanted an island in the lake and once ordered a small mountain of earth dumped onto the lake's winter ice. When the ice melted, the sinking mound did not create the intended island but ended as a thick layer of bottom mud.

Where the Pellatts' weekend house once stood, a contemporary basilica serves an Augustinian Monastery now known as Marylake. Still standing nearby is Pellatts' huge red brick barn, also by Lennox, but this unique building with its broken windows and long-neglected interior needs a lot of 'TLC.' The Pellatts spent lavishly to establish their estate in King Township where they bred thoroughbreds and cattle in the style of the greatly admired English gentry. In the active years of Lake Marie Farm, the dairy herd was renowned, the crops abundant and game - elk and deer - kept for hunting.

Henry Mill Pellatt, born in 1859 at Kingston, Ontario was a serious contender in every enterprise he tried, starting in his teens as a dedicated militia rifleman and at age 20 when he broke the amateur world record for the mile run. An ardent believer in Canada's place in the Empire, he chiseled a niche among the Canadian business elite, promoting a financial network that included North American and transatlantic interests. Early in his career he raised venture capital for the Toronto Electric Light Company to illuminate city streets; however, power generation became a political issue and was legislated into public ownership. Pellatt had such extensive and complex ties to so many speculative enterprises such as banks, land and railroads, that his shrewd dealings made him not only wealthy but also influential in military and philanthropic spheres.

He courted and won Mary Dodgson; they married in 1882. Her social skills in addition to his driving zeal for money and status gave the Pellatts access to a full spectrum of society including royalty. Henry's most grandiose dream was to build his castle. Both Casa Loma and the Lake Marie estate were renowned for elaborate galas. The latter attracted the equestrian crowd, among them the Pellatts' city friends, Sir John and Lady Flora Eaton who bought neighbouring land in King.

As Henry grew wealthier and more important in Canadian

business, his athletic figure became top-heavily rotund. He might have been a figure of fun, lampooned as Colonel Blimp or parodied as a roly-poly Santa Claus, but no one doubted Pellatt's monumental ambitions that forged his reputation and the stardom of his regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (QOR). Using his business connections and advancement within the regimental firmament, Major H.M. Pellatt achieved command of the QOR contingent parading in London for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. In 1902 Lieutenant Colonel Sir Henry Pellatt led the militia representing Canada at the coronation of King Edward VII.

For generosity and devotion to the Crown he was knighted in 1906. Mounted astride his elegant stallion at the 1908 Quebec Tercentenary, Colonel Sir Henry Pellatt is pictured with his regiment, much aware of the burdens of leadership but exulting in the glory of the Empire. Many honours came to Sir Henry, but one was a complete surprise. At a lavish historical

pageant marking the QOR's 50th anniversary in 1910, a group of Six Nations braves in full regalia war-danced for the audience, then surrounding Pellatt, gave him a new name - "Tawyunansara" (Dawn of the Morning) - and crowned him with a flamboyant headdress. In affectionate jest the regiment would tease its commander, to the tune of "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?"

"Has anybody seen Sir Henry? / H - E - N - R - Y / has anybody seen Sir Henry? / Canada is his home. / He's an Indian Chief, / And God knows what, / And we're following him to Aldershot. / Has anybody seen Sir Henry? Colonel of the old Queen's Own."

At Sir Henry's enormous expense, the 600-man QOR regiment went to England for the Aldershot manoeuvres in 1911, a scheme approved by the King who wanted a public show of imperial strength while ominous threats of war rumbled from Europe. Henry's gesture of support for Britain and the thrill of sabre-rattling obscured the facts about his diminishing

assets. The Pellatts continued supporting worthy causes including the Girl Guides with Lady Mary serving as Canada's first Chief Commissioner. Their extravagant lifestyle ultimately led to loss of Casa Loma, sale of the farm in King Township, and later for Sir Henry, a pauper's death, a formal funeral procession and burial with full military honours. Think of him with sympathy as you hike through Marylake on the ORTA trail or pass that great stone arch. H - E - N - R - Y... a tragic end for this daring visionary. **M**



Mackenzie King and the Pellatts at Lake Marie

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CANOE LAUNCH

by Erika Willaert

Winner of Write Now @ King 2012 Creative Writing Contest

The chafing wind beats relentlessly at the flimsy edges of my overcoat, as I make a futile attempt to keep it clenched between the numbed fists balled up at my wrists. I am not even aware of the breath I hold, waiting, until a sudden gust makes me gasp and I become dizzy with the burst of oxygen that sears my aching lungs. I stand there, a lone figure against the early morning light, as I often do, spending most of my life in limbo, waiting for it to begin. It does not take long for my days to turn into a series of pauses, stretching into the moments between conscious and unconscious thought, until I am unable to discern between wakefulness and dreaming.

This is why the dawn so intrigues me; it is the liminal state of mind where I am neither here nor there, I simply am. A shrill voice rings out and I am jolted from my empty reverie by the urgency of her tone. How many times has she called my name? I am never able to shake off the layers of resentment of her ignorance to my own. Instead, I smile ruefully and make my way up the craggy hillside to join her at the crest, stumbling occasionally. Arriving at her side in time to lock her gaze with mine, she rolls her eyes, escaping mine, and mutters her impatience through tight lips smeared with vaseline. I say nothing, and the silence gapes widely, broadening the distance that has increasingly separated us since last night's argument.

I will maintain the pretense of serenity until I can no longer bear the weight of it. For now, the inclement weather provides enough of a distraction for us to carry on with our day as usual.

"I've been looking all over for you! Didn't you come to bed?" Ailsa is fretting with her cuticles as she continues to avoid my glare, and her rhetorical query hangs in the balance between us. I haven't slept in the same bed as my wife all summer, so I cannot place her motivation to ask this of me in the first place. Instead, I turn my attention to the dock that needs to be pulled ashore before the winter's ice makes it impossible to do so. This year, it seems as though our season here grew shorter, but I know this is because our time together is waning.

Quickly, I head toward the shoreline, with Ailsa trailing behind me, and immerse my Blundstones into the icy shallows. The shock of the frigid lake water seeping past their protection and into my socks startles me, causing me to lose my balance. Ailsa instinctively reaches out to grab my arm, and I'm not sure who is more surprised when I, too, reach out and our fingers find each other, grasping and lacing themselves like shoestrings. I am even more shocked at my body's response to her touch; it has been so long.

Unfettered, she hurriedly withdraws and makes that annoying clicking sound with her tongue when she is impatient. I continue to wade deeper, and I can hear her complaining under her breath about my last pair of clean pants and how

there is no time to hit the laundromat before we head home. "You'd prefer I drive in my underwear?" I inquire quietly, but she isn't listening, too focused on her nails, which she cannot stop biting, no matter how disgusted I become or how encouraging I try to be to make her stop. When I make it to the dock, I can no longer feel my limbs and I fumble with the rusted chains that bind the two sections together. I release the catch and the warped boards immediately begin to float from my reach. Succumbing to the inevitable, I plow further into the murky depths and grab a hold of one end in order to drag it back to its winter berth for the coming months. I am anticipating a similar period of dormancy for myself as I close up shop on my memories and emotions of this summer.

Ailsa is scolding me for getting wet but I block out the sound of her voice because I have just noticed the canoe still tied to the ring at the end of the dock I am pulling. Its fiberglass hull carves a sleek path, leaving a short wake behind the stern as it trails after the dock. Careful not to scrape the fragile keel on the gritty sand below, I slow my pace as I near the water's edge and allow the dock to gently run aground. Ailsa is scrambling around to the dry side of the dock in order to free the canoe from its shackles and lift it in one smooth movement, expertly portaging the lightweight frame by balancing it across her broad shoulders. I cannot help but admire her lean, muscular build as she deftly manoeuvres it into the boathouse.

"Wait," I call out, and she almost falls backward with the interruption to her momentum. "I wanna take it out for one last spin, just leave it," I urge, abandoning the dock and hurrying, as best I can in knee-deep currents, to relieve her of the canoe. Grunting in annoyance, Ailsa hefts the boat back over her head and practically shoves it into my outstretched arms.

"Go ahead," she spits, "It's not like you're being any help getting ready to go anyway." Stung by her sudden chill, I try to appease her, but it is a lost cause. My justifications, reminding her that I swept the kitchen and took out the garbage already, come out as excuses and she is already headed back to the cottage. I follow her path with my eyes until she disappears over the ridge, then carry my canoe back to where it belongs. My ears are ringing with silent curses and my heart weighs heavily in my chest.

I have become used to blocking my rage when Ailsa turns on me like that, it is second nature to me now. We have grown so accustomed to relating to each other in this manner, it does not register hurtful anymore, which is why I am still surprised by my surprise that her anger now has affected me in this way. Still, she is long gone so I am free to launch my canoe at will, which I do, streamlined and steady, the paddle gliding along the gunnels in effortless strokes. I am headed home. **M**

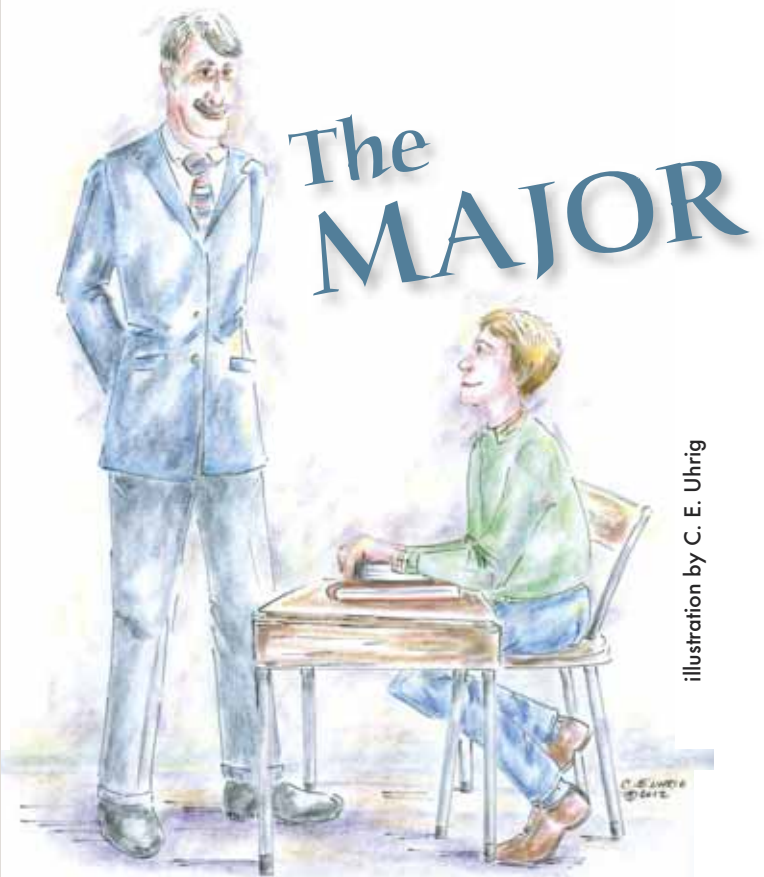


illustration by C. E. Uhrig

by Brian Gilbertson

THE BEST TEACHER I EVER HAD all the time I was in school was the Major. That was in grade nine. If there was anything that kept me interested in learning and made me think about becoming a teacher myself, it was that one year with the Major.

This was our first year in high school so we expected things to be different, but not as different as they were with him.

The first day of school, we were all assembled in the classroom, seated at our desks and in he walks. Tall, grey haired, stiff as a ramrod. He stood at the front of the room, almost as if he was standing at attention. And he smiled at us. His first words were, "Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is Major Alfred Goldsmith."

Now that was an introduction for you. First 'Ladies and Gentlemen', then his name with a title in front of it. And a teacher had said his own first name. Out loud. We suspected that this was going to be an experience. He had an accent. A little bit like the Americans who came up from Boston in the summer, but somehow, not the same. He spoke each word very precisely. When I was older, especially after I had been in England during the war, I would recognize it as an English accent, but right then, it just sounded odd. Odd and unusual.

So, after he had let it settle in for a moment about his name, the next thing he said was, "You may address me as Major, or as Mr Goldsmith or as Sir." He paused and looked around the room. "Any questions so far?"

There was a moment of silence, then Gerry Robicheau, who was always one for talking out of turn, puts up his hand. The Major looks over at him and says, "What is your name young man?"

"Gerry Robicheau."

"Yes, Mr. Robicheau, you have a question?"

"Are you in the army?"

The Major walks over to Gerry's desk and he stands there for a moment looking down on him, kind of gentle like, then he says, "Mr. Robicheau, I have just told you that you may address me as Major, or Mr Goldsmith or Sir, have I not?"

"Yes."

"Yes. So if you are asking me a question, you say, 'Are you in the army, Major?' or 'Are you in the army, Mr. Goldsmith?' or 'Are you in the army, Sir?' Do you understand Mr Robicheau?"

"Yes."

"Yes, Mr Robicheau?"

"Yes, Major Goldsmith, Sir."

The Major put on this lovely big smile and he turned around and walked back to the front to his desk. Now, here



was something to think on. He hadn't yelled or hit anyone or made any sarcastic remarks like most of the teachers we knew would do. It seemed like all he really wanted was for Gerry to understand. And he called him Mister. At fourteen, none of us had ever been called Mister unless it was when we got in trouble and someone said, 'You better smarten up there, Mister'. And it didn't sound as if he was being smart about it.

We were not sure what to think.

The Major turned around to the class again and said, "Now, we have got that straight. Are there any other questions?"

Gerry, once started, wasn't about to give up. Up goes his hand again.

"Yes, Mr. Robicheau?"

"Are you in the army, Major?"

"Ah. The army. I was in the army, Mr Robicheau. The Great War. My rank is now of an honorary nature, but it is an honour which I carry with pride. In earlier times I may perhaps have been called a 'remittance man', if that means anything to any of you."

We looked around. None of us understood what he had said, except that he was in the army before.

"Are there any other questions?"

Gerry must have been thinking he was onto a good thing because up goes his hand again.

"Yes, Mr. Robicheau. Another question."

"How come you talk funny, Major?"

The Major put his hands together and brought them up to his lips for a minute and it was clear that he was thinking, then he said, "Who knows the name of the King?"

Up went most every hand in the room. The Major picked out Glory Mullen. "And what is your name, Miss?"

"Glory Mullen, Major." Already, by some unspoken agreement, we had all decided to call him Major.

"Yes, Miss Mullen, what is the name of the King?"

"It's King George, Major."

"Yes. Very good."

To the rest of the room, "And where does King George live?"

Again, a flurry of hands.

"And what is your name, young man?"

"Trout, Major. Davy Trout."

"Mr. Trout, where does King George live?"

"He lives in a palace, Major."

"Ah, yes. Forgive me, I was not sufficiently precise. What I meant was, in what country does King George live, Mr Trout?"

"He lives in England, Major."

"Thank you, Mr. Trout. Very good. Yes. Now class, King George lives in England ... in a palace ... and that is where I used to live." He glanced over at us. "In England, not in a palace. All the people in England try to speak the way the King speaks. It is called the King's English. So the way I speak is the way the King speaks and the way that the people in England speak. It sounds different to you because it is not the way you speak. Have you heard anyone else who speaks differently from you?"

He picked Keith Raymond this time.

"Sometimes when the Americans comes up in the summer, some of them talks funny, and there's Mrs. O'Reilly who's from Ireland. Sometimes you can hardly understand her at all, Major."

"Right," said the Major. "So, there are people, all of whom speak English, but who are from different places, and they sound different. That is what is called speaking with an accent." He paused to allow this to sink in. "There are of course some people who do not speak English at all. There are some people who speak other languages. Does anybody here speak another language in addition to English?"

No hands went up even though we all knew that several of the children in the class spoke French at home. This was not the kind of thing you were prepared to admit in the classroom. You didn't know where it might lead. Seeing no hands the Major continued, "I, for instance speak English and French and German and I am able to read Latin and Greek." He looked around at us, letting this bit of information sink in. "There are some languages that are not at all like ours. I am told that in China, the meaning of a word can change depending on one's intonation ... whether the word is said in a high tone or a low tone. When he said, 'high tone', he made his voice all squeaky, and when he said, 'low tone', he made it all deep and growly. We started to look about at each other and there was some sniggering when he did this. He ignored it and continued, "I was once in southern Africa and encountered people who click with their tongue to

form certain words." And then he clicked his tongue to illustrate. The room burst out with nervous laughter and he smiled again. "And sometimes even common gestures may vary from culture to culture. I had occasion at one time to meet with a group of Eskimo people. They spoke no English and I, of course, spoke none of their language. Fortunately we had an interpreter. I wished to know if the group would accompany me to a certain place I wished to visit. My interpreter asked them and he said they agreed to go, but I had heard no reply from them. I said, 'They did not answer. They did not even nod. How do you know they are saying Yes?' He explained that they had said 'Yes' by raising their eyebrows." He looked out over the class. Every eye was on him. With a sudden twitch, he raised his eyebrows. We laughed again.

"Everyone. Do it. Say 'Yes' in Eskimo."

We all began to flip our eyebrows up and down, looking around at each other and laughing.


"Now," said the Major. "What do we learn from all this? We learn that people are not all alike. That people talk differently. They act differently. They look different. They think differently. And that, Ladies and Gentlemen, is a good thing. Just imagine if everyone was exactly the same. What if everyone was exactly the same as Mr Robicheau here," smiling at him, "what a boring world it would be. With no one going ... (and here he clicked his tongue again) and no one going ... (and here he raised his eyebrows). So next time you see or hear someone who is different, I want you to remember that that is a good and a valuable thing." He smiled out over us again. "Now, please take out your books and we will do a little arithmetic."

Needless to say, the Major was the topic of every conversation that day and for many more to come. A man who had been in the war and travelled all over the world and talked to Africans and Eskimos. And he treated us like we were grown ups.

Of course, high school was more than just interesting talks from the Major. We had a lot more work and it was harder. But with the Major, you didn't feel as though you were being pushed all the time. More like you were being challenged. And you wanted to show him how well you could do. Even the kids who were usually slow or not interested tried harder. **M**

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The Homecoming

by Katerina Atanassova

Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven

Organized by Dulwich Picture Gallery, London, UK and the National Gallery of Canada

On at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection from November 1, 2012 to January 6, 2013

For most Canadians who grew up inspired by Tom Thomson's *The Jack Pine*, seeing *Painting Canada* this fall at McMichael Canadian Art Collection is an absolute must. After a year-long tour in Europe, the exhibition opens at the McMichael this November following much fanfare in the foreign press. This new exhibition features arguably the most popular and important works by Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, selected from public and private collections in Canada. Some of those works in private collections have seldom been on public display. Even if you think you know the Group of Seven, this groundbreaking exhibition will make you think again, will challenge you to see the work of these Canadian artists with fresh eyes, and will reveal why they continue to have such iconic status in our cultural heritage.

Hailed as the largest touring exhibition of this work since the 1924 British Empire Exhibition at Wembley in London, England, *Painting Canada* was conceived by the Director of the Dulwich Picture Gallery in London, Ian Dejaridin. From its conception, it promised a unique approach. It was jointly supported by private collectors and public institutions in Canada, and is the result of a curatorial collaboration between British and Canadian curators, circulated by the National Gallery of Canada. The exhibition was received enthusiastically by British audiences, and was the second most popular exhibition during the 200-year history of the prestigious Dulwich gallery; the success was soon to be repeated in Norway at the National Museum of Art in Oslo and at the Groninger Museum in the Netherlands. The McMichael Canadian Art Collection, described by many as the spiritual home of the Group of Seven, is the only Canadian venue for *Painting Canada*.

In its content and presentation, the exhibition features a rare assembly of works, some of which—from public institutions across Canada—are familiar to our audiences; but a large number of works—never seen in public—are coming from private lenders. In choosing the works, the curators examined many public and private collections in the country. Their search resulted in some new and exciting discoveries, among them, a never-before-seen canvas by Tom Thomson, *Maple Woods, Bare Trunks, Winter*, 1915-16, once part of the collection of Dr. MacCallum (Thomson's patron). The curatorial decision to include whenever possible both sketch and canvas by each artist further helps illustrate the artistic process and the creativity of these pioneering artists to capture nature's beauty.

Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven has a supporting art catalogue with essays by Ian Dejaridin, Director of the Dulwich Picture Gallery and Exhibition Curator, and the two Canadian co-curators of the exhibition, Anna Hudson, Associate Professor of Canadian Art History at York University, Toronto and Katerina Atanassova, Chief Curator of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg. They are joined by European contributors, Nils Ohlsen,



Director of Old Masters and Modern Art at the National Museum of Norway and Mariëtta Jansen, Curator of Twentieth-Century Art at the Groninger Museum, the Netherlands. The authors examine Thomson and the members of the Group as modern artists positioned well within the context of a larger European reaction against academic painting. Avant-garde art movements such as the French Impressionism and the Post-Impressionism, Symbolism, and Expressionism developed and spread globally, thus contributing to the liberation of an entire generation of artists to experiment with new techniques, bolder colours, and new subject matter. The Group of Seven, although studied as a well-known entity in Canada, is re-examined in context of the European tendencies in Modernism. Not surprisingly, European audiences have re-affirmed what Canadians have always believed at home—these are outstanding artists.

In 1923, when Canada was invited to participate in the British Empire Exhibition, artists and art critics alike were equally anxious to mount a comprehensive display of Canadian talent. Calling themselves “adventurers in paint,” the artists of the Group came to symbolize the new aspirations for independence and identity of their young country. It was precisely that intensity of national identity and sense of “Canadianism” that the British critics were quick to recognize then as they do now.

In the vibrant sketches—from Algonquin Park in Thomson's *Moonlight*, c. 1915, to the Algoma country in Franklin Carmichael's *October Gold*, 1922, to the barren lands along the North Shore of Lake Superior by Lawren Harris in *Lake Superior Sketch XLVII*, c. 1923, to the picturesque countryside of the villages in Quebec portrayed by A.Y. Jackson in *Winter, Quebec*, 1926, to the arresting images of the Canadian Rockies by F.H. Varley's *The Cloud, Red Mountain*, 1927-28, to the far North in Harris's sublime arctic canvases such as *Icebergs, Davis Strait*, 1930—these artists painted Canada in its entirety from coast to coast to coast. Theirs was an art that defined our land in a groundbreaking way, and continues to inspire generations of young artists today. The Group's paintings, as the artists explained in 1921, “express Canadian experience, and appeal to that experience in the onlooker.”¹

A stimulus behind the growing popularity and affection for their work during their lifetime was a growing interest in the natural surroundings, and with it, a complex process of national identification and association. Harris was very much aware of that process when he wrote in 1948 that their artistic legacy comes as “...an interplay between the artists and the country. The way in which the artists explored, camped, and lived were strictly in the spirit of the country and its peoples.”²

Based on the experience with our landscape that many Canadians share, the enthusiastic reception of their work continues to resonate with our audiences. Confronting these works in an intimate setting such as the McMichael gallery with its open vistas of prime conservation land surrounding the main building is an experience not far removed from being in undisturbed communion with nature. Such an experience offers a viewer the opportunity to reflect, if not contemplate, the spirit of this school of painting which defines Canadian art, not only within our country, but increasingly so beyond our national borders.

Notes:

- 1 McMichael Canadian Art Collection Archives, *Exhibition of Paintings by the Group of Seven*, 1921, Foreword.
- 2 Lawren Harris, “The Group of Seven in Canadian History,” in *Canadian Historical Association, Annual Report*, 1948, 37-8.

The Curatorial Team

The three-person curatorial team for *Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven* includes Ian Dejaridin, with partners Dr. Anna Hudson and Katerina Atanassova.

Katerina Atanassova is Chief Curator at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. She has curated numerous exhibitions and has written various publications including the award-winning publication and exhibition entitled *F.H. Varley: Portraits into the Light*.

Anna Hudson is Associate Professor of Canadian Art History at York University, Toronto. She has curated numerous exhibitions including *The Nude in Modern*

Canadian Art, 1920-1950, which was co-curated with Michèle Grandbois and received the 2011 Canadian Museums Association Award of Outstanding Achievement in Research.

Ian Dejaridin has spent twenty-five years working in museums, spending a year with English Heritage before starting as curatorial assistant at the Royal Academy in 1987. Between 1990 and 1998 he was back with English Heritage, as Senior Curator and Head of the Historic Team (London Region) before accepting the post of Curator at Dulwich Picture Gallery. He became the Gallery's Director in April, 2005. He has organized countless exhibitions over the years.

Tom Thomson (1877-1917), *The Jack Pine*, 1916-1917, Oil on canvas, 127.9 x 139.8 cm, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Photo © NGC

Lawren Harris (1885-1970), *Icebergs, Davis Strait*, 1930, Oil on canvas, 121.9 x 152.4 cm, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. H. Spencer Clark, McMichael Canadian Art Collection

A.Y. Jackson (1882-1974), *First Snow, Algoma*, 1919/1920, Oil on canvas, 107.1 x 127.7 cm, In Memory of Gertrude Wells Hilborn, McMichael Canadian Art Collection

Arthur Lismer (1885-1969), *Evening Silhouette*, c. 1926, Oil on paperboard, 32.6 x 40.7 cm, Gift of the Founders, Robert and Signe McMichael, McMichael Canadian Art Collection

J.E.H. MacDonald (1873-1932), *Cathedral Mountain*, 1927, Oil on paperboard, 21.4 x 26.6 cm, Gift of Mr. R.A. Laidlaw, McMichael Canadian Art Collection



BIOLOGIST AT THE TABLE

by Dr. Arthur Weis

Some people want to know all about their food. Others just want to enjoy it. This divide became apparent back in grad school as my wife and I were cleaning up after what I thought to be a successful dinner party. “New rule!” she announced through clenched teeth “from now on we invite either all biologists or no biologists!” It seems her work colleagues were less than enthralled when, as the poached salmon was being served, my biology pals and I turned the conversation to fish parasitology. Appetites vanished altogether as we took up knife and fork to dissect our meals in search of lesions, cysts and the worms that cause them.

Face it. We survive by eating other living creatures so why not know more about the life they lead before they reach the table? That’s what “Biologist at the Table” will be about. And if you happen to be one of the “just want to enjoy” types, I’ll throw in recipes that will restore your appetite.

TOMATO: VEGETABLE or FRUIT?

For this first installment, consider the tomato: is it a vegetable or a fruit? As a biologist I occasionally get this type of question from the especially curious. Domesticated in Mexico, European explorers brought it back home to a mixed reception. Many there thought it poisonous; the adventurous tried it, but only when generously sprinkled with sugar. The tomato’s real entry into European cuisine came as a base for sauces. So which is it, veggie or fruit?

In kitchen-talk we use the word “fruit” to denote something sweet from a plant, suited for dessert; “vegetable” refers to a savory plant product. From the biological perspective, however, fruits are the seed bearing organs of plants. A tomato is exactly that. And to get a bit more explicit, fruits are actually inflated ovaries. Apples, oranges, kiwis,

mangoes, papayas? Inflated ovaries all! When a flower gets fertilized by pollen, the developing embryo—the seed—sends a hormonal signal that causes the flower’s core—the ovary—to grow and develop into what we recognize as a fruit.

Tomatoes are not the only savory fruit. So are their evolutionary cousins, chilies and eggplants. I don’t recall ever seeing green beans on the dessert menu, but they are fruits too. And so are cucumbers, squash, pea pods, and each and every kernel on an ear of corn.

Curiously, there is no plant structure that scientists would call a “vegetable.” The things we call vegetables in culinary parlance can be leaf, stem, root or, as you now know, fruit.

Here is a favourite recipe passed on to me by my friend Jean Mitchell. It’s an uncooked pasta sauce made with red ripe tomatoes and basil picked fresh from the garden. Try it while tomato season is still here!

PASTA WITH TOMATOES, BASIL & BRIE



Artist M. Sampogna

- 4 large ripe tomatoes, peeled
- 1 lb. Brie cheese
- 1 c. washed and dried basil leaves
- 3 cloves garlic, peeled
- 1 c. olive oil
- 2 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. pepper, freshly grated
- 1 1/2 lbs. linguine
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Dice the tomatoes into 1/2 inch chunks. Take the rind off the Brie and cut into small pieces. Coarsely chop the basil leaves and mince the garlic. Combine all of these with the olive oil, salt and pepper in large bowl. Cover and let sit for at least 2 hours, stirring several times, to let the flavours meld. Spoon over a plate of high quality linguine, cooked al dente, and sprinkle with Parmesan. Serves 6.

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McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Volunteer Committee

McMichaelVolunteers.com



Now to October 27 – Nobleton Lions 50th ANNIVERSARY Community Fundraising Draw for \$5000. There will be a maximum of 1000 tickets sold. All the money goes back into the community and its related service organizations. contactus@NobletonLions.com

Now to December – Beauty in the Beast exhibit continues at the Dufferin County Museum. DufferinMuseum.com

Sept 1, 15, 29– Schomberg Farmers' Market, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Sept 1 & 29) and 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. (Sept 15) in the Schomberg Fairgrounds. Fresh vegetables, flowers and much more. It doesn't get much better! SchombergFair.com



September 1 or 29 – Eastside Excursion. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Join Koffler Scientific Reserve's Naturalist Corps on a free exploratory hike through our public trails and learn more about the Oak Ridges Moraine ecosystem. Walks are appropriate for nature-lovers of all ages and interest levels. Dogs on leash are welcome. No pre-registration necessary. Meet at the main public access - the first turn-in on the west side of Bathurst, just north of Keith Avenue, Newmarket. More information at: KSR.utoronto.ca/EE3_2012 (Sep1) or KSR.utoronto.ca/EE4_2012 (Sept 29)



September 8 – 36th Kettleby Fair, 10 - 5 p.m. Parade at noon. Tyrwhitt Conservation Area. Family fun. Stage and Grounds Entertainment headlining 'Gin Lane'. The Biggest Little Fair in Ontario offers Great food, Crafts, Market Place (NEW), Carting Dog Skills Demos & Rides (NEW) along with the old favourites. KettlebyFair.ca



September 8 – Binder Twine Festival in Kleinburg, 9 a.m. \$7 per adult, \$5 for seniors and teenagers and \$2 for children aged 2 to 12. Parking \$2. An exciting day filled with unique crafts, great entertainment, Olde Tyme activities and great food awaits the entire family. Wheelchair accessible. Bindertwine.ca

September 8 and/or October 6 – Mushrooms on the Moraine. 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This popular hands-on workshop, hosted by expert Richard Aaron, helps you identify many of the wild mushroom species. Suitable for adults - all levels of experience. Fee: \$75 per person, lunch included. Register - KSR.utoronto.ca/Mushrooms_Early_2012 and/or KSR.utoronto.ca/Mushrooms_Late_2012. N.B. These workshops may be taken separately or combined as a way to maximize your knowledge. Species collected will vary. No dogs please.



September 9 – Organic Advocates Feast of Fields. 1 to 5 p.m. Cold Creek Conservation Area. 14125 11th Concession. 30 of Southern Ontario's top chefs! Celebrity Chef Michael Smith is returning, plus 6 top chefs from the Food Network. Sample exciting organic and local food and drinks. Tickets \$100 each or \$90 for groups of 10 or more. FeastOfFields.org or 905-859-3609.



September 14 - King Travel Diaries – "I always wanted to go there!" – Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu at 7 p.m. Schomberg Library. No charge. Join Carole & Shaheen Ahmad and enjoy the wildlife of the Galapagos and experience the history & construction of Machu Picchu. ArtsSocietyKing.ca or King-Library.ca

September 15 & 16 – Schomberg Village Street Gallery, along historic Main Street from 10 to 5 p.m. ASK presents this 4th annual juried open-air **Fine Art Show & Sale**, celebrating local and regional artists across media including oil, acrylic, glass, photography, jewellery and intaglio. Have a look at this year's artists at SVSG.ca.

September 15 & 16 -The 2012 Schomberg Scarecrow Competition on Main Street, presented by Schomberg Village Association. Join in the fun and enter a scarecrow with your Family or Business/ Organization and vote for your favourite. View the scarecrows around the village on a horse drawn wagon. Details & Registration: SchombergScarecrows.com or call Cheryl at 905 939 8494.

September 15 – Birdhouse Building at Dufferin Marsh, 10 a.m. to noon in the Dufferin Marsh. Members of the Dufferin Marsh Committee and the Schomberg Lions will be on hand with pre-cut kits for the kiddies. DufferinMarsh.ca

September 15 - Doors Open King, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Take a self guided tour and get a glimpse into some of the fascinating architectural and cultural history in our community. The Doors Open map of sites for King Township will be available to download at King.ca.

September 15 – Lloydtown Walking Tour, at 11 a.m. at the Rebel Statue in Lloydtown. In celebration of the 1837 Rebellion of Upper Canada the library will host a heritage walking tour of historic Lloydtown exploring the sites and locations that played a part in the rebellion. Visitors will be guided by local historians highlighting architecture and relating fascinating stories of this village. King-Library.on.ca

September 16 - Schomberg Village Walking Tour, at 11 a.m. Bill Foran, local historian, will highlight the architecture of, and relate fascinating stories about the village of Schomberg. Meet at the Schomberg Library, 77 Main Street to begin the tour. King-library.on.ca

September 19 to 23 – Canadian Show Jumping Tournament at the Caledon Equestrian Park in Palgrave. Featuring International Show Jumping, Champions Patron Club, "The Village" on Saturday and Sunday - a collection of unique boutiques, family entertainment, Antique car show (Sat) and Ferrari Club (Sun). Saturday - **The Children's Wish "Jumping for Dreams"** starts at noon. Admission is \$10/person or \$20/car. Tickets for Luncheon, BBQ or Champions Club, contact: csjt@equiman.com or call 905 880 5344. Equiman.com

September 20th – 9th Annual Art & Jazz Charity Garden Party, 6 - 9 p.m. at Pathways to Perennials in Pottageville. An extraordinary evening of fine wine and great food. Enjoy the sounds of a live Jazz band as you tour the fine art exhibition in the beautiful perennial gardens. Proceeds donated to Southlake Regional Cancer Centre. Tickets \$40 per person, \$75 per couple, or \$35 each for groups over 6 people, and they sell out quickly. Call Angie 905 939 8680 or Angie@PathwaysToPerennials.com.

September 22 to January 6/13 – Double Take: Portraits of Intriguing Canadians at McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Portraits of over 50 Canadians that tell compelling stories of assumed identity, Assassination, exploitation, discovery, invention, injustice, activism and achievement. Organized by Library and Archives Canada. McMichael.com

September 22 – Fallfest, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cold Creek Conservation Area. Enjoy high ropes, rock climbing, hiking, jumping castles, face painting, balloons and a family BBQ. \$10/car. King.ca

September 24 – "Lavender Lore" at 8 p.m. Nobleton King City Horticultural Society presents Kate Seaver of Kate's Garden at the Nobleton Community Hall. Members are free. Non-members \$3. allflora.com/nobleton

September 25– "The Growing and Use of Herbs" at 7:30 p.m. Schomberg Community Hall. Rob Radcliffe from Riverview Nursery will discuss the decorative, fragrant and culinary uses of herbs. Members free. Non-members \$3.

September 27 -Write Now @ King! 7 - 9 p.m. at the KT Public Library, King City Branch: Opening meeting for the 2012-2013 year. All published and aspiring writers welcome. Come and help us celebrate our fifth year of working together as writers. Find out about upcoming contests and workshops, read from your latest work and get useful feedback. Call Sue 905 833 0490.

September 28 at 7 p.m. or September 29 at 11:30 a.m. Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust at Our Lady of Grace Shrine at Marylake. Immaculee Ilibagiza, New York Times best-selling author will share her story of faith, hope, love and forgiveness. \$50 per person general admission or \$100 to attend a private reception prior to the event. luvn4gve.ca or 905 833 5368.

September 29 - Culture Days. Join in a hands-on creative community activity – more details to follow. Create and celebrate Culture in Canada! Call Kathleen 905 833 2331.

September 29 - Second Annual Schomberg Country Run at 10 a.m. Sponsor a runner and/or enjoy the 5 km Run from Schomberg to Lloydtown. Raising money for 'Clean Water for the North' and the Parish of Lloydtown. Google Schomberg Country Run for details and registration.

September 29 & 30 – Georgina Studio Tour. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Discover wonderful artisans on this self-guided tour. GeorginaStudioTour.com.

September 29 to January 13/13 – Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton: A Diamond Jubilee Celebration at McMichael Canadian Art Collection. An exhibition of important portraits from 60 years as Head of State of the Commonwealth realms and the United Kingdom. Organized by Victoria & Albert Museum, UK. McMichael.com

September 30 – 2nd Tour de King. Starting in Cold Creek and ending at Seneca College, cyclists will meander across King Township on a mix of road, rail trail, woodlot and singletrack. Leave your car at Cold Creek and after you finish your route and enjoy the barbecue, hop on one of our buses back to your car. Choose 35 km or 50 km route. ChicoRacing.com

September 30 – Did Modernism Make Folk Art Visible? at 2 p.m. Dufferin County Museum. Join John Fleming, Professor Emeritus, U of T, for this enlightening and illustrated talk on folk art and modernism. Co-author - Folk Furniture of Canada's Doukhobors, Hutterites, Mennonites and Ukrainians. Tickets \$5 for members, \$10 non members. Call 1 877 941 7787. DufferinMuseum.com

October 13 – Fire Station Open Houses. King Fire & Emergency Services invites you and your family to celebrate Fire Prevention week at Fire Stations in King City: 2045 King Rd., Nobleton: 5926 King Rd. and Schomberg: 91 Proctor Rd. For information call Jennifer Baker at 905 833 4088. See us on Facebook or find us on Twitter @K_F_E_S.

October 13 – 5th Annual Holland Marsh Soupfest, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Enjoy the harvest and bounty of the Holland Marsh though soup sampling and a fall harvest celebration. Brought to you by Holland Marsh Growers Association, Township of King, and Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury. Tickets \$20. King.ca or jbell@king.ca.

October 14 to 20 – Ontario Public Library Week in King Township. Visit your community library this week to experience the magic. King-Library.on.ca

October 19 – Fish & Chip Supper at the Schomberg Community Hall on Main Street. Back by popular demand, Schomberg Lions will be serving their awesome hand-battered fish and hand-cut fries! Two sittings, starting at 5 p.m. Get your tickets early, last time was a sell-out! 905 939 4024 or 905 939 2470

October 19 to 21 – 22nd Annual McMichael Autumn Art Sale, at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg. Opening Night Gala on Friday Oct. 19th from 6 – 10 p.m. Sale continues Sat & Sun, 10 – 5 p.m. McMichaelVolunteers.com

October 20 – King Township Historical Society's 40th Anniversary Party. All present and past members are welcome and encouraged to dress in 70's garb. Renowned Celtic Fiddler, Sandy MacIntyre & "Steeped in Tradition" will help celebrate 40 years of historical diligence that has kept King Township's past relevant and memorable. Call Elaine 905 841 4041 or Museum 905 833 2331.

October 22 – "Garden Accents" with Heinke Thiessen. 8 p.m. Nobleton Community Hall. Members free. Guests \$3. Nobleton and King City Horticultural Society. altflora.com/nobleton

October 23– "Winter Holiday Urns", 7:30 p.m. Schomberg Community Hall. Demonstration by Rita Quale and Gian Carlo from the Flower Workshop of Bolton. Some of Gian's inspiring designs have been at Canada Blooms. Schomberg Horticultural Society. Members free. Guests \$3.

October 26 & 27 - Haunted Forest, 5 to 9 p.m. Join us for a tour of the spookiest forest in King! The haunted forest tours will take place on two separate nights at Cold Creek Conservation Area. \$7.00 / person. King.ca or jbell@king.ca.

October 27 – Haunted King Bus Tour, 7 to 10 p.m. Join us for an evening of spooky fun and Halloween laughs! Visit some notoriously haunted sites throughout the township. Youth \$10. Adults \$15. Preregistration required. King.ca or jbell@king.ca

October 28 – Co-operative Games with Horses, 2 to 4 p.m. If you want to see horses that are having a lot of fun and people having fun with their horses join us at Winsong Farm, (NE corner of 8th Conc. & 15th SR.) Fundraiser for ASK by Winnie Stott and her friends. Money will go towards Kidsfest 2013. Open to all ages. Children accompanied by adults. \$10 per person. Must preregister. Space limited to 80 people. Call Jane 905 939 9357.

November 2 & 3 – York Region Arts & Culture Conference - Arts Exposed 2012 - an exciting, action-packed two days with interactive round table discussions, networking events and exceptional keynote speakers. Friday – The Spirit of Collaboration and Saturday – Developing Our Creative Resources. Early bird rate ends September 1st. Registration – ArtsExposed.ca

November 2 – Laskay Hall Concert, 8 p.m. with guitarist Tom Kovacs. \$10 per person. Call 905 833 0222.

November 3 to January 6/13 – Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven at McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Organized by the National Gallery of Canada and the Dulwich Picture Gallery in collaboration with the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo and the Groninger Museum, the Netherlands. See article page 10. McMichael.com

November 4 – Rebel Tour – Heritage Bus Tour, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Join the King Township Museum as we follow the Route of the Rebels from Lloydtown to Toronto. This program is to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the Rebellion of Upper Canada. Stops include the Lloydtown Rebel Statue, Gibson House and Mackenzie House Museums, and site of the execution of Lount and Matthews all with expert commentary. Must pre-register. \$45/ person. Transportation to and from Toronto, lunch and entrance fees included. 905 833 2331.

November 8 – The Charles Sauriol Environmental Dinner for The Living City at 5:30 p.m. at the Embassy Grand, Brampton. Keynote speaker Mark Anielski Tickets are \$200 per person. CharlesSauriol.ca

November 11 - Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Schomberg Cenotaph in front of the Trisan Centre, 25 Dilane Drive, at 10:30 a.m. Organized by the Schomberg Lions Club and the Schomberg Agricultural Society.

November 14, 16-18, 23-25, 29, 30, Dec 1 – Blackhorse Theatre – comedy "Real Estate" by Allana Harkin. Evening 8:15 p.m. Sunday Matinee 2:15 p.m. at 17272 Mount Wolfe Rd. Caledon/King border. Tickets \$17, Seniors \$13 at 905 880 5002. Blackhorse.ca

November 16 - King Travel Diaries – "I always wanted to go there!" – Florence, Italy with Dr. Andy Zajac, at 7 p.m. King City Library. No charge. Firenze, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1982 was also ranked by Forbes as one of the most beautiful cities in the world due to its artistic and architectural heritage. ArtsSocietyKing.ca or King-Library.ca

November 16-18, 24 & 25 –Kincrafts Studio Sale. On 16th 1 to 6 p.m. On 17, 18, 24 & 25th 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This 62nd annual sale of unique one-of-a-kind items includes: pottery, stained glass, silver, fine art and other fine handcrafted works including enamelled items, hooked hangings and rugs, weaving, jewellery and more. Kingcrafts.ca or 905 833 1897.

November 24 – Cookies with Santa and Christmas Craft Sale, King Township Museum, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Crafts! Treats! Face Painting! Have your picture taken with the Man in Red! Admission is \$5/person or \$10 for a family of 4. 905 833 2331.

November 25 – Tree Lighting Ceremony in Schomberg, 5 - 6 p.m. on Main Street. The Schomberg Village Association invites you to join them in some holiday music with hot drinks & cookies to start the festive season. The official tree lighting ceremony will be at 5:15 p.m. Schomberg.ca



Photo Wilson Markle

Rosie MacLennan's Olympic Gold Medal!
Watch king.ca for information about upcoming celebration.

December 1 – "A MAIN STREET CHRISTMAS". Along Schomberg's Main Street, 3 to 9 p.m. Admission \$5, children 12 and under free. At 4 p.m. a Santa Claus parade along historic Main Street kicks off the festivities at this family event. Costumed strolling carollers, a town crier and Ebenezer Scrooge evoke a bygone era and musical entertainers and jugglers will fascinate. Visit with Santa and his live reindeer! Craft Show, in the Community Hall, with 30 plus crafters from 3 to 8pm. Watch ice sculpting and sample local Christmas fare, including baked goods, roasted chestnuts and hot apple cider. At 8pm the dazzling Farmers' Parade of Lights brings the day to a close. 905 939 4024 or Schomberg.ca.

December 8 – The Good Brothers and the Voices of Joy Choir. King Township Historical Society invites you to their annual Christmas Concert. Tickets available from the Museum or Board members. Call Museum at 905 833 2331.

ArtsSocietyKing.ca

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Still only \$7. for adults, \$2 for children under 12

Seniors \$4. Teens (12-16) \$4.(NEW)

www.kettlebyfair.ca

MUST-SEE NEW EXHIBITIONS THIS FALL!

DOUBLE TAKE

Portraits of Intriguing Canadians

Organized and circulated by Library and Archives Canada
September 22, 2012 to January 6, 2013



Alfred Cheney Johnston, ca. 1920s, *Mary Pickford*, Library and Archives Canada, e010857304

Joe Fafard, 2006, *David Suzuki*, Library and Archives Canada, e010675633, © Joe Fafard, 2006.

Bryan Adams, 2004, *Irshad Manji*, Library and Archives Canada, e008406038, © Bryan Adams.

Who says Canadians are shy and retiring?

100 artworks provide visitors the opportunity to peek behind the façade of intriguing Canadians.

This exhibition showcases a wonderful diversity of individuals who have left—and are leaving—their mark on our country and our culture, from early explorers such as Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain, to contemporary icons such as David Suzuki and Joni Mitchell.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

by CECIL BEATON

A Diamond Jubilee Celebration

Organized and circulated by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

September 29, 2012 to January 13, 2013



Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton, Buckingham Palace, 1968. Copyright © Cecil Beaton / V&A Images – All rights reserved.

Queen Elizabeth II in coronation robes by Cecil Beaton, 1953. Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Princess Elizabeth by Cecil Beaton, March 1945. Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

An exhibition of important portrait photographs including vintage and new prints.

The photographs depict the Queen and the Royal Family on official occasions and 'off-duty' at home. Highly-staged and elegant settings are placed alongside charming and informal moments, capturing regal splendour as well as personal intimacy.

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ROSIE MACLENNAN



Photo Wilson Markle

ROSIE at airport welcomed by Councillor Schaefer, Mayor Pellegrini, father John, mother Jane & grandmother.

by Sue Iaboni

Rosannah MacLennan has spent many of her 23 years trying to keep up. As the youngest of four children, she hurried along to catch up to her two brothers, Matt and Michael, and sister Kate. Then as a trampolining artist, she followed in the footsteps of mentor Karen Cockburn, watching Karen pick up, first bronze, and then two silver medals, at the

Olympics. Now, as Rosie sports a gold medal around her neck, people are trying to keep up with her. And it's not easy!

Rosie's mom, Jane, says the change in their lives since the big win on August 4th has been overwhelming. While still in London, Rosie's email and twitter accounts were jammed. Then, at Pearson airport, crowds of

MAKING TRACKS TO KING TOWNSHIP

by Kathleen Fry

Do you remember the first time royalty made a visit to King Township? Well, back in 1860 Albert Edward, the eighteen-year-old Prince of Wales and son of Queen Victoria, began a two-month long tour that saw him traveling through British North America and the United States. This visit would have him passing through King City and our historic railway station on September 10 as he traveled between Toronto and Collingwood, ON. As his special train of two coaches and an open observation car passed through King Station, no doubt many were on hand to wave him on his way. The prince's trip is considered the first official royal visit.

King Station has seen many events over the years it occupied the original site in King City. Travelers, both VIP and regular folk passing through; farmers transporting goods for market; school children with the will and means for higher education in Aurora and the nearest high school, all took the train. Having a station was considered one of the keys to prosperity. Luckily for King City, formerly Springhill, the railway surveyors and engineers ran the line six kilometers (about four miles) west of Yonge Street to avoid the steep incline at Gallows Hill, Cemetery Hill, Hogg's Hollow and Richmond Hill. Not until King City did the line angle northeast towards Yonge Street and Aurora. The Railway was able to tap the rich commerce from business and farmers that used Yonge Street from Bradford for

more than 50 years previously.

In 1852, it was reported that in our current York Region, close to seventy-five people traveled on public transit every day and many more by private conveyances. One hundred wagons, loaded with merchandise such as farm produce and lumber, passed the toll-gate north of Toronto in one hour. Engineers and investors hoped the railway would quadruple the travel and traffic, resulting in profit for the railway company. (Robert M. Stamp "Early Days in Richmond Hill")

The date of construction of the original station is a bit cloudy although it is generally presumed that a station would have been necessary once the train began a regular schedule in 1853. Rural Ontario train stations were often built on a template – the size (both width and length) determined by the needs of the community it served, with labour provided by local workers.

F.W. Cumberland was an architect and engineer prominent for designing many buildings in Toronto including the Cathedral Church of St James and University College, U of T. In the mid 1850's he became involved with the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railroad Union Company, named for the three lakes and created to connect them as the Carrying Place trail had done in the past. This railway company, later the Northern Railway, then the Grand Trunk and finally the Canadian National Railway, was responsible for the track that cut through King City. Cumberland is credited with the design of

Crossing the Humber

fans erupted in applause and cheers as she emerged from the terminal. Now back at home in King City she and her family are bombarded with requests for interviews: CP 24 television, Breakfast Television, national and local newspapers, even the Blue Jays, all clamour for Rosie's presence. Probably a little like winning the lottery, with all that publicity.

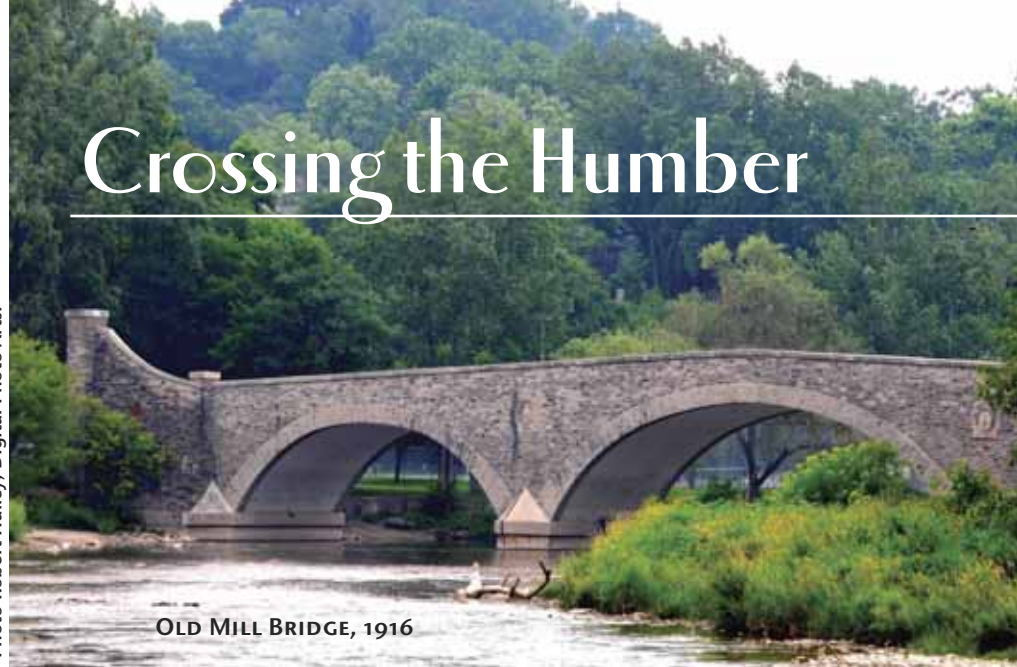
Except this was no lottery win; this was many years of hard work and perseverance. From the age of 7 Rosie saw her brothers in the gym and wanted to bounce around with them. Putting her grandmother's advice into action, she worked on "new skills every day." She practised her routines on the trampoline several hours each day, and off it she was busy building herself up as well. Over the next 15 or so years she worked on cardio and strength training at the gym, at a pilates studio, at ballet classes and in MAT (muscle activation techniques).

For relaxation she played on boards: ski boards, wake boards and snow boards.

By the age of 9, Rosie was on the Ontario team, and at age 11 she began competing internationally. She was the Canadian National Women's Champion in 2005, 2009 and 2011. She also won gold at the 2011 Pan Am Games in Mexico. Then she set her sights on those magical five rings, placing 7th at the Beijing Olympics in 2008. In 2010, probably wanting to inhale some more of that Olympic spirit, she went to Vancouver as a volunteer. She slept on an air mattress on the floor, served food and ran errands for the athletes. She dreamed big.

And now her dreams have come true. This petite, perky and self-possessed young lady who went to high school at our local King City Secondary, has returned to praise and world-wide acclaim. Welcome home Rosie! 😊

Photo Robert Hulley, Digital Photo Arts.



OLD MILL BRIDGE, 1916

The Humber River Heritage Bridge Inventory

by Susan Robertson

Humber River enthusiasts are well aware that the Humber is a nationally designated Canadian Heritage River (1999) due to its significant contribution to the development of Canada. Few people however associate the important role that the Humber's heritage bridges have played in this Canadian storyline, which *Crossing The Humber – The Humber River Heritage Bridge Inventory* (2011) sheds light on.

As a national award winning report from the Heritage Canada Foundation (2011), *Crossing The Humber* inventoried the remaining water-based heritage bridges across all 903 square kilometres of the watershed with the following objectives:

1. To promote the Humber's Canadian Heritage River designation with its associated human heritage and recreational values;
2. To guide the listing or designation of heritage bridges by local municipalities under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and
3. To educate and raise public awareness of these unique features through heritage tourism planning.

After a rigorous exercise of site assessment and review, 33 heritage bridges and associated bridge vestiges were found across the watershed (Brampton, 3; Caledon, 12; Toronto, 11; Vaughan, 7). This number underscores the challenges to promote and protect our remaining heritage bridges. With extensive urbanization occurring in the Humber watershed, all too often heritage bridges are sacrificed as they compete with changing transportation needs. Extreme weather also plays a role, as was the case with Hurricane Hazel in 1954, which necessitated the destruction or replacement of many bridges.

The good news is that with an increasing focus on promoting sustainable and healthy communities, our heritage landmarks are being recognized as valuable tourism assets that contribute to social capital and a community's sense of place.

Some success stories in the Humber include the recent protection and rehabilitation of the Sneath Bridge in Caledon, which is the last remaining unaltered steel truss bridge in the Humber River watershed. Now beautifully restored, it is a pedestrian bridge that crosses over the Main Humber River in the heart of the Village of Bolton. Further, the municipalities of Brampton and Vaughan are exploring the creation of heritage tourism trails, building upon heritage bridges and their connections to trail networks, heritage conservation districts and TRCA conservation areas.

Ultimately, *Crossing The Humber – The Humber River Heritage Bridge Inventory* underscores how heritage bridges, indicative of Canadian feats of engineering ingenuity as well as the growth and advancement of our nation, are essential infrastructure in our communities. As remnants of our cultural heritage, the Humber's heritage bridges serve to remind us of the historical significance of waterways to the development of the country - a nation defined by its natural wonders.

For more information, please feel free to browse through our wide array of heritage bridges or review the inventory report at: <http://www.trca.on.ca/the-living-city/watersheds/humber-river/humber-heritagebridges.dot>. To learn more about the Humber generally, please feel free to contact Susan Robertson, Humber River Project Manager at 416.661.6600 extension 5325.

Susan Robertson is the Project Manager of the Humber River Watershed at Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA). Serving in this capacity since 2007, Susan works alongside the nationally award winning Humber Watershed Alliance on activities that restore, protect and celebrate the Humber River watershed. With experience in environmental planning and development, watershed management, heritage and tourism planning, as well as community engagement, Susan enjoys exploring new way to bring people together to promote the Humber River watershed.

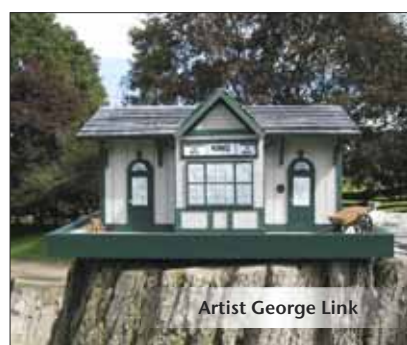


King Station.

This station has become an iconic building in King Township, characterized by original, restored and replicated features that include the platform, vertical board and batten siding and decorative bargeboard on the exterior. Gracefully arched windows and doors brighten its interior layout of ticket office, passenger room and baggage room. One of the more prominent features is the square bay window, glassed in on all 3 sides and added in the early 20th century to provide a view up and down the track for the telegraph operator. (Charles Cooper 2010 www.railwaypages.com)

King Station was de-commissioned in the 1960's and was considered for Black Creek Pioneer Village as part of the new village museum developed in Vaughan. Temporarily, the station was moved to the Kortright Centre for storage. The move to Black Creek was delayed because of funding and

eventually abandoned all together. It would seem the station too, was abandoned and it spent 20 lonely years moldering away until a group of King residents claimed it and returned it to its home at the King Township Museum. The King Township Historical Society should be commended for their fundraising efforts that financed the restoration and renovation. Considered the oldest station in Ontario still standing, this building is a fine representation of that early era of train travel in rural Ontario. **M**



Artist George Link

King City's Music Man Comes Home

by Sue Iaboni



Ten-year-old Tommy Walker put down his plastic recorder, looked at the shiny new alto sax nestled in its velvet case, and said pointedly, "I want to play that instead!" And he did.

Tom Walker, Head of Music at King City Secondary School for the past 9 years, began his music education at school in the US where music studies were introduced to children in the fourth grade. When his family moved back to Oak Ridges, he continued to follow his

dream. He took saxophone lessons from one Don Kaple in Nobleton, and guitar lessons from another teacher in Maple. He took piano lessons too.

Tom's musical journey in his teens was influenced by his love of the Beatles. He remembers saving up his allowance so he could buy his first album, a Beatles compilation of hits. Once enrolled at King City Secondary School, he played his alto sax in the school band and learned to play the school song, written by his former teacher Don Kaple. It seemed like a lucky sign.

But the Beatles kept pulling Tom back to his guitar. He studied from guitarist Red Shea in Aurora. Red is well-known to music followers as the lead guitar in Gordon Lightfoot's band, and as a creator of the Tommy Hunter Show on television. From Red, he learned both classical and rock music. From there it was a natural step to enrol in York University's Classical Guitar and Composition program.

Upon graduation, Mr. Walker was offered a teaching position at Thornhill Secondary School. He was one of few qualified teachers who could teach in both their newly



created guitar program and their band. His knowledge of three major instruments made him a perfect fit. Soon his former teacher, Jim McGugan, who was by then principal of KCSS, offered Walker a job in King. It was like coming home.

At King City SS the classroom credit program is expanding by four sections this year, a second music teacher has been hired, and a music appreciation trip to Spain has been planned. Walker also runs 5 after-school programs. There are two grade nine bands, concert and jazz, training grounds for kids who are just being introduced to the music program. Students in grades 10-12 can be part of the senior concert band, or the senior jazz band. This band plays at local

events such as the Schomberg Fair and the King City Bash. Finally there is the rock band, Pieces of Eight, which recently was awarded second place in the Battle of the Bands hosted by radio station Q107. This group performs at local restaurants and events.

Supervising all these programs means Walker is in his classroom during lunch when students come in to practise, and after school every night when rehearsals are held. On the weekends he practises what he preaches: he plays the piano at Hockley Valley Resort and he plays the sax in a Barrie big band. He has recently released his own CD, *Del Tin Walker*, a classic rock album which is available on i-tunes.

With all this emphasis on music for both himself and his students, what is the value of music in the classroom? Well, says Walker, students are required to use several skills at one time: reading, listening, and interpreting. Both the left and the right brain are engaged at once and group co-operation is a must. It is the ultimate multi-tasking activity.

As for how the students feel about their teacher, one student summed it up publicly at the school's recent music night: "Mr. Walker you have taught us a great deal about ourselves. We all really love you." Judging by the students' involvement in their music, it certainly seemed to the audience that this is true. **M**



FALL TRAVEL NEEDS @ YOUR LIBRARY

Looking to get away?

Are you thinking about your next travel adventure? The King Township Public Library (KTPL) offers a wide range of materials, both print and electronic, to meet your travel needs.

Whether your destinations are Patagonia, found on the farthest tip of South America, a little-known country in central Europe, or the exotic island of Bali, the library has travel guides in print and electronic, helping to enhance your next travel adventure. Some of KTPL's guides include; Frommer's, Fodors, Lonely Planet, and many more. Also available are the ebook equivalents that can be downloaded free to your eReaders, iPads, iPhones and iPod touch. All you need is a valid KTPL library card. The ebook's are accessible through "Find Resources Online" page on the library's website, www.king-library.on.ca.

Are you looking to travel light, but not sacrifice your pleasure reading and informational needs?

KTPL offers compact and travel friendly devices that you can take right

along with you! In addition to the free ebooks above, you will find eReaders, and eAudiobooks. The eAudiobooks can be downloaded directly to your iPod, MP3 player or streamed to your laptop. They can also be accessed through the "Find Resources Online" page on the library's website. Another format for audiobooks is Playaway. These are battery powered digital audio-players, pre-loaded with one book. All you need to do is plug in earphones and enjoy! The device is small and weightless and able to fit into your pocket while you travel.

Are you looking to communicate with the locals of the country you are traveling to?

Try the library's database, *Mango Languages*. You could learn another language quickly and efficiently. *Mango* is an online language learning system that can help you learn languages like Spanish, French, Japanese, Brazilian, Portuguese, German, Mandarin, Chinese, Greek, Italian, Russian and more. You can access the database by clicking "Teach Yourself Skills" from the KTPL

by Kelley England, B.A.(Hons), M.L.I.S.
Manager - King Township Public Library
www.king-library.on.ca

homepage. You can even take the database with you by adding to your smartphone the *Mango App* for both Android and iPhone users. Step by step instructions are available by clicking on the "Read and Relax" page on the library's website, www.king-library.on.ca.

Would you like to travel without leaving King Township?

Check out KING TRAVEL DIARIES! KTPL partners with Arts Society King to present King Travel Diaries. These sessions are offered frequently throughout the year at the various branches of KTPL. The evening is composed of personal accounts of local travelers who share their travel experiences from a past trip. **M**

Come on our next adventure with the Ahmads,
King residents who have recently traveled to the Galapagos Islands and will share their travel experience. It is a free program and will be presented at the Schomberg Library, September 14th @ 7 p.m.



Photo P. Gilbertson

A little closer to the holiday season, Dr. Andy Zajac shares his travel journey to Italy, in particular Florence!

Presented at the King City Library on November 16th @ 7 p.m.

Fall is for Fungus

by Gordon Craig



The forest floor rustles each fall night with buttons of emerging Agarics, Boetes and Morels; mushrooms and toadstools to most of us. Polypores grow out of the trunks of trees like white, brown or orange hooded steps that when dried have been used for centuries as fire tinder by native Americans and the early settlers. They all are fungi, not plants; they have no chlorophyll therefore are not green. Fungi might be saprophytic, living on decaying organic matter of the forest floor, or parasitic, attacking live plants (rust, smut, rots), or mycorrhizal, growing around the roots of developing trees providing nutrients and protection to young shoots.

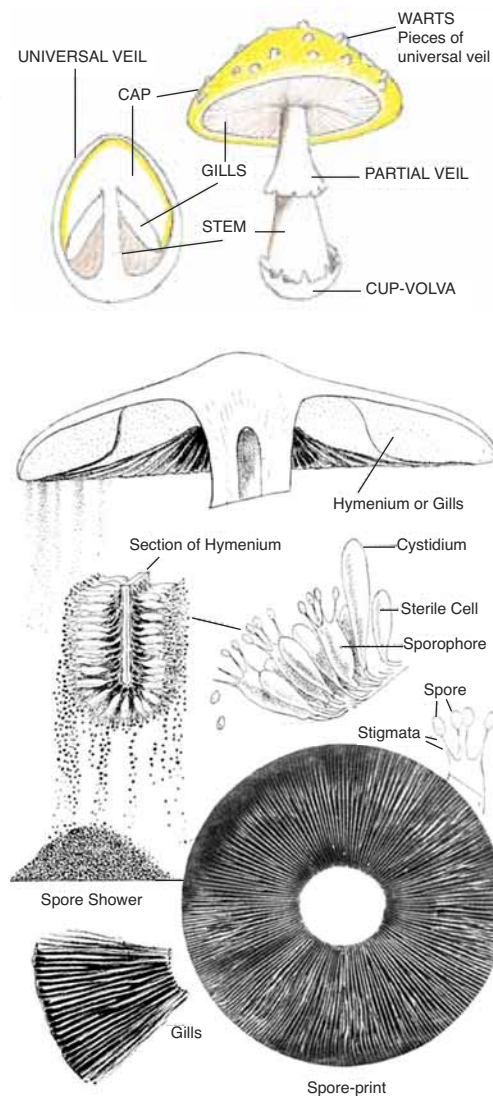
There are over 400 species of mushroom in North America that appear in many different shapes, sizes and colours and can be identified by their characteristic caps, gills, stems, veils and the cup or volva base. Spore prints are another key feature created by separating the cap from the stem and placing the cap on a sheet of white and dark striped paper for several hours. The spores drop from the gills and show the outline of the gills and may be blue, gray, brown, black, pink or white in colour.

Mushrooms are often included in recipes to add flavour and texture but also provide vitamins B6, C and D, folate, zinc, magnesium, copper, selenium, phosphorus, potassium and fibre; they are also low sodium and cholesterol free. Unfortunately some wild mushrooms contain toxins which will cause severe illness and some can be fatal. Identifying edible from toxic mushrooms requires careful examination as some edible mushrooms mimic the appearance of poisonous mushrooms.

There are six groups of mushroom toxins. The phallotoxins and amatoxins are complex polypeptide proteins that are heat stable and provide an agreeable taste but when metabolized in the liver 4- 6 hours after ingestion cause subcellular damage and kill the cell. Intestinal lining, liver and kidney cells are injured first and can be permanently damaged. Muscarine affects the parasympathetic nervous system slowing the heart and respiration and dilating blood vessels. Muscimol is a hallucinogenic acting on the central nervous system. Psilocybin and psilocin are also hallucinogenic causing LSD-like symptoms in minutes. Gyromitra toxins affect the nervous system, intestinal function and destroy blood cells. Effects can linger and be fatal. A final group of gastrointestinal toxins produce nausea and dizziness and general discomfort.

The consequences of not knowing the species you plan to eat can be dire. Browsing your grocer's shelf is your best bet so you don't have to separate the mushrooms from the toadstools, the early name given the poisonous forms. The association between the poison glands on the backs of toads and the warts on the caps of poisonous mushrooms led to the name "toadstool" and is a most unreliable indicator of toxicity.

Plan a walk through the Cold Creek forest this fall to search out the many different shapes and colours of the fungus among us but do not pick in the Conservation Area. Visit our website (www.ColdCreek.ca/coolstuff) to watch videos of how to identify mushrooms, make spore prints, grow mushrooms at home and watch them rising up through the forest floor in their natural setting.



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KING goes to The ROYAL!

by Sue Iaboni

It's fall and all around King Township there is a bustle of activity. Vegetables are lovingly watered and weeded as gardeners hope for that one last growth spurt. Cows are fed an extra forkful of hay, sheep are brushed and patted lovingly, chickens and pigs fattened up. Horses are ridden around the schooling ring a few more times as the jumps are raised. Horse trailers are hauled out of storage and oiled up. Everywhere in King, hundreds of folks are preparing for their November journey to The Royal.

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is one of the largest annual fairs of its kind in the world, and it is one of the longest-running, celebrating its 90th birthday this year. For 90 years this fair has been a gathering place for fresh foods, four-legged creatures, farmers and friends. The Royal has been "bringing the country to the city" and King Township has gone along for the ride, for almost a century.

Way back in the early 1900's every province in Canada had well-established local agricultural fairs. But there were pleas from both farmers and politicians for a national event, somewhere where the best cows, horses and produce could be exhibited and some national judging standards could be established. After World War I ended, a champion emerged, William Arthur Dryden, Whitby farmer and executive member of several local agricultural associations. Over the next few years he piloted the movement through rivalries,

opposition, and red tape, and in 1919 he was elected president of the newly incorporated Agricultural Winter Fair Association of Canada. It took three more years to find sponsors, win grants, choose a site, and deal with construction delays. But finally, on November 22, 1922, over 22,000 people from all across the country streamed into the very first Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

The Royal is actually two fairs in one: the Agricultural Show and the Horse Show. The Agricultural Show was initiated to provide an opportunity for displaying and marketing produce and cattle. And in 1922 "it was hard to find a man or a woman who wasn't interested in horses." The two shows depend on one another; they share resources, staff, facilities and marketing costs. Over the last 90 years they have taken advantage of the political clout the fair gives them. There have been some changes and upgrades, but the 2012 show is very much the same as the original, and supporters declare the fostering of traditions to be one of its great strengths. Every year, for 10 days or so, Royal supporters have a chance to "go home again."

AGRICULTURAL SHOW

King Township residents contribute to the Agricultural Show in many different ways. Anne Welch, King City dressage enthusiast, remembers her sister, Sally Andrews, dropping by one day seven years ago and convincing her to become

involved. Deciding to pass on horses and help with the other side of the show, she is on staff in the agricultural show office, where she has managed the sheep and goat show and the recently added wine show. For six weeks every year her life is given over to the fair and for 15 days she even eats and sleeps on-site.

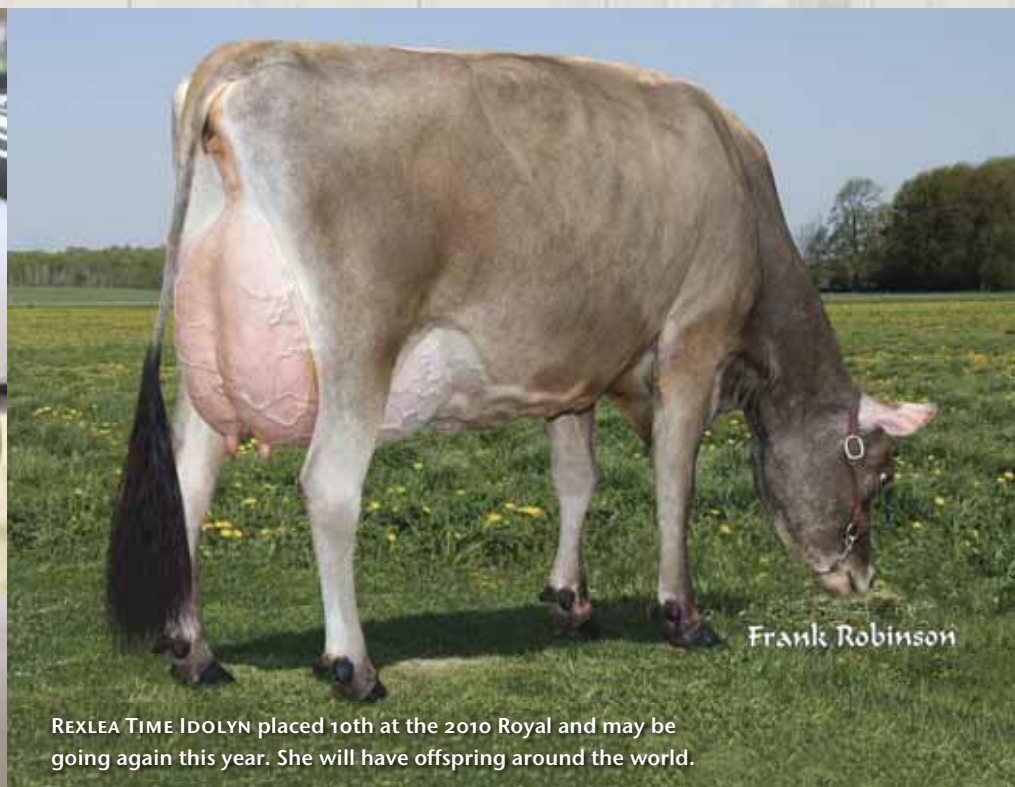
Other paid staff members in The Royal office manage other exhibits: pigs, poultry and rabbits, grains, vegetables, dairy, honey, and maple products. One of the crowd-pleasing exhibits is the famous butter sculpture event which Anne's sister has managed. This display was started in 1952 and a different theme each year, from nursery rhyme characters to famous people, all sculpted in butter by students from the region's artists and art students.

Many King residents participate in these agricultural competitions and there are often winners from our township. In 2011, Bob Suriwka from Ridgeview Farms in King City won a first place award in the maple butter category. Two other locals, William Gardhouse and Ann Moffat, both from Schomberg, won a number of awards in the Breeding Sheep show for their superb long wool Lincoln sheep. Artists flock to the fair to sketch these unique animals. And from Kettleby, Joanne Borcsok has won so many awards in the vegetable category, 29 ribbons in 2011 alone, that she has been nicknamed the "Queen of The Royal."

Joanne has lived with her family on

the edge of the Holland Marsh for all of her 53 years. She notes the signs standing proudly in the marsh during the summer: "Growing for the Royal." Indeed the lush organic black soil, which soaks up and retains water, makes an ideal growing medium for vegetables. Joanne's are proof. Wandering through her irrigated rows, covered with plastic to reduce weeds, we come upon a beet that weighs over 50 pounds. The cabbages, her favourite, are growing so fast that she fears they will be at their peak long before the show. Her carrots grow along tubes to encourage length. There are several varieties of squash and pumpkins. But her pride and joy this year is a kale, growing so tall that she has had to add an upward extension to the greenhouse. She hopes the kale will make the Guinness Book of World Records.

Joanne cares lovingly for her vegetables, monitoring regularly for bugs, covering them with blankets in the event of frost and watering them often in dry summers such as this past one. Although she has been going to The Royal for ten years, she says that it is a lot of work – packing the vegetables into crates, hauling them down to the fair in a truck from a friend's moving company, and then setting up the elaborate displays. But she looks forward to the chance to "get away" and meet with friends. Farming can be a lonely existence for a great part of the year and The Royal is a social highlight for those with similar interests.



Frank Robinson

REXLEA TIME IDOLYN placed 10th at the 2010 Royal and may be going again this year. She will have offspring around the world.



Joanne Borcsok's cabbages.

Photo Christopher Borcsok

Another award-winning category for King is cattle. The varieties of cows astound a visitor: beef cattle such as the limousin are Ray Stanton's Hillside Farm specialty. Charles Burns exhibits award-winning Simmental beef cattle. Glenn Murray from Kettleby won in the 2011 shorthorn category in the junior beef heifer show.

The Royal Dairy Show is the biggest in Canada. Long-time presenter and award-winner in the Jersey cow section is Larry Sheardown of Rexlea Jerseys in Nobleton. One hundred years ago, in 1912, James Sheardown bought his first cow. Son Hugh and his wife Mabel purchased a farm on the Eighth Concession in 1935 and moved to their current location next door in 1945. Fourth generation son Larry now runs the operation with his mom Helen, and dad, John who, at age 76, still does all the milking.

The bulk of the Rexlea operation is milk production and distribution. Rexlea is known as the fourth highest in Canada and first in Ontario in terms of per-cow milk production for Jersey herds. Jersey cattle, originally imported from the Isle of Jersey, produce milk with a higher butterfat and protein content, but are smaller animals. They are also known for "breeding true" that is, holding their genetic type over the generations.

This is another side of The Royal Dairy Show; marketing and promoting genetics, nowadays a big part of the dairy industry. Rexlea Jersey's business includes selling and exporting embryos and semen to countries such as Germany, Japan, South America, and their biggest market, Australia. As Larry explains, sending embryos in liquid nitrogen containers is a lot cheaper and easier than mailing a cow!

Larry too talks about the hard work - transporting his cows downtown, and the long days at The Royal, waking up at 4:00 am to do chores before the gates open, and milking the cows and clean-

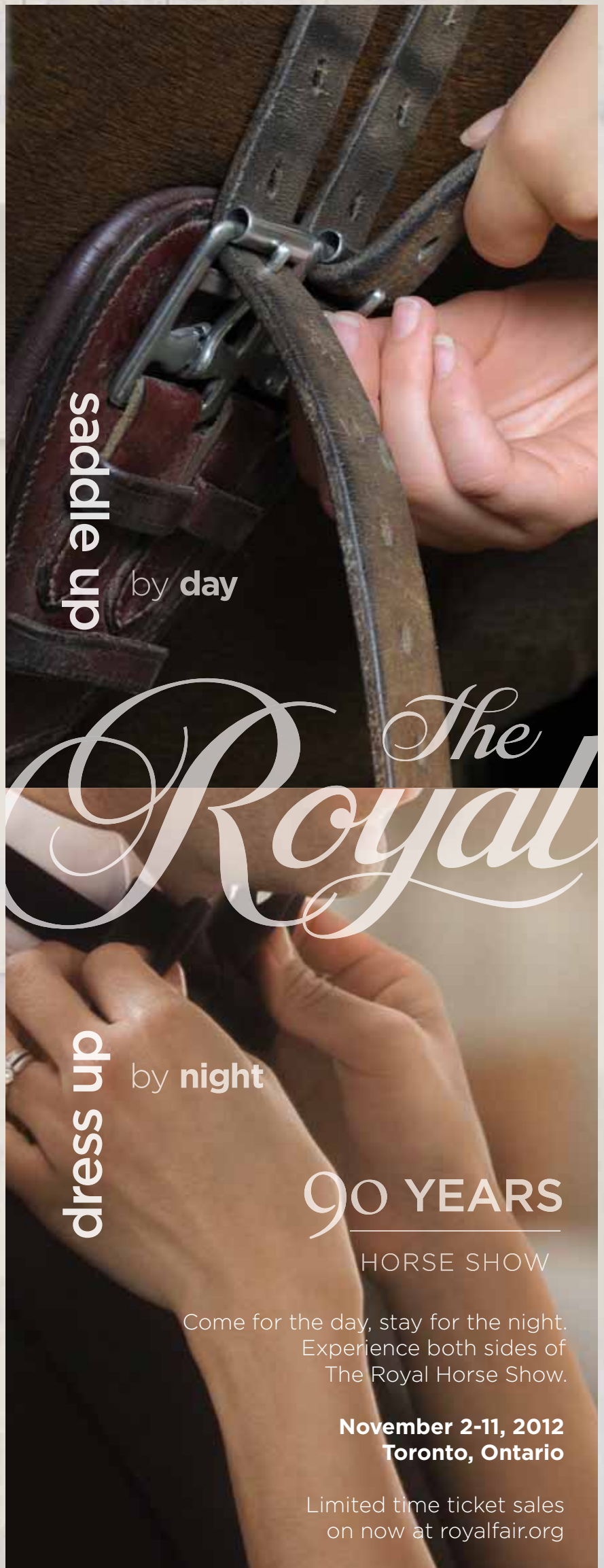
ing up long after the gates close. But he loves the social connections, and insists that The Royal is the Must place to be for marketing cattle and embryos. And the passion: "it kind of gets in your blood."

HORSE SHOW

The Agricultural Show at the Royal honours a lot of our local residents, but for many people living north of the city, the Horse Show is King. Our friends and neighbours are winners in show jumpers, hunters, dressage, breeders, heavy horses, hackney ponies and polo. John Dunlap, current President and Chairman of the Board of The Royal, was born in King. His dad, Moffat Dunlap, was a regular winner of the International jumping classes in the 1960's and was president of the Royal in 1988-89. Son John never remembers a time when he couldn't "open a door (of their March Winds farmhouse) and see a horse or cattle."

John's Kettleby neighbour, Brian O'Leary, is this year's Chair of the Royal Horse Show and speaks warmly of his equestrian family, many of whom come down from King for ten days to perform, exhibit and socialize at the famous Tanbark Club. When not running the Horse Show, Brian looks after his King polo farm, the only year-round training establishment for the sport with a full-sized arena, in Eastern Canada. Members learn how to ride and play the game, and eventually gain membership into the Toronto Polo Club. Polo, affectionately described as hockey for horses, is highlighted at the Royal with its popular Celebrity Polo where hockey greats such as Curtis Joseph, and Darryl Sittler perform for the public.

In the horse ring, King riders are often Olympic medalists as well as Royal performers. Mac Cone and his team were Olympic silver medal winners in 2008. Tiffany Foster of Schomberg also went to the Olympics ►



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this year, although she did not compete. Eric Lamaze, who won gold at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, lost his beloved Hickstead as a result of a heart attack recently, but looks forward to another Royal this year with one of his fabulous new mounts, probably Derly Chin de Muze. The Royal's 2012 Dressage Invitational will have several King connections: Jacqueline Brooks whose Olympic mount, D'Niro, is part owned by Anne and John Welch, and team member David Marcus' horse, Chrevi's Capital, is owned by Deborah Miculinic; both are from King City and are expected to dance under the lights.

Beth Underhill, also from Schomberg, talks about the partnership between rider and horse and the need for empathy between them. Her Olympic horse, Monopoly, was retired for 10 years until he died in 2011. Another favourite, Viggo, recently sustained an injury, leaving her without a Grand Prix four-legged partner to join her at The Royal this fall. The chemistry between horse and rider must be right, she says, or the horse may not perform to its full potential. But finding backers to financially support a seven-figure animal is not easy.

Beth recalls her first appearance at The Royal when she was 16. She and a friend skipped school and travelled from Uxbridge all the way downtown, some-

how navigating the transit system, until they reached the coliseum. There she saw Moffat Dunlap riding and jumping, and her dream began. One day she too would jump with her horse at The Royal. She has never missed a Royal Fair since that day.

Beth and her horses travel "the circuit" during the year, entering events across North America and Europe, meeting up with friends and helping each other out. The Royal is for her, the star event on the circuit. She doesn't mind the packing up and transporting - she has it down to a science. She gets caught up in the excitement of being in downtown Toronto, the pageantry of the black-tie Royal cup, and the Jump Canada Gala, a kind of academy award ceremony for horses. Beth seems to sum up the collective King feeling when she states that "everyone is touched by horses."

Other winners from King often include Cal Lipsett showing his heavy horses, and Ella Stables, one of the finest North American hackney pony exhibitors. Last year's King winners were: Bayview in the Amateur Hunter Stakes, ridden by Nobleton's Corie Bannister, and Kingridge Stables, which won top ribbons in the National Open Jumper Division. King's Darcy Hayes, Ryan Roy, and Corie Bannister were all top finishers in the Knightwood Hunter Derby as well.

All this excitement and achievement happening over and over again every year since 1922 - how is that possible? What is it that The Royal is doing right to make itself so sustainable?

Anne, from her position in the Agricultural Show office, says it's about the focus on education. Over 5,000 city kids, who grow up thinking milk comes from a carton, are astonished each year as they watch cows being milked. Their teachers take back curriculum materials to follow up in their classrooms. Youth from 4H Clubs all across Canada come to compete with their livestock and attend educational forums and public speaking competitions. Ashley O'Hara, of Dandyland Farms in Schomberg, won a National 4H championship with her calf in 2010. Jenna Kippen, from Schomberg, sends one of her prize Milking Shorthorns for the milking demonstrations.

And it's about the food. There are several restaurants onsite that serve local ingredients. Folks stop by Joanne's giant pumpkins and talk to her about her horticultural practices, hoping to take home some hints for their own gardens. Farmers ask Larry from Rexlea and his neighbours about the world-wide food shortages and how we can best address them. The recently added wine show is a big draw. Other products available for purchase in the market area include

low-cholesterol eggs, organic vegetables, and bread made with whole grains.

John Dunlap, President and Chairman, talks about sustainability in terms of number of volunteers: over 900 each year. They support the small paid staff by contributing hours of their time and hay wagons full of enthusiasm. And the visitors: over 300,000 annually, newcomers and old timers, come to experience The Royal's "deep roots in Canada's, and King Township's, agricultural and social history." **M**



Beth Underhill on KT banners.

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The War According to Earl

by LCol (ret'd)
Susan Beharriell

Through letters preserved by the King Township Public Library, a past resident describes his WW1 experiences.

Many folks in King have recently been thrilled by the critically acclaimed production of “WAR HORSE” in Toronto. Did it make you wonder what role King Township played in WWI?

King was too small to form its own military unit, so most of the 25 young men who signed up “to fight the Hun” ended up in units from nearby towns. Earl Campbell, Shirley Crossley’s father, joined the 127th Battalion of the York Rangers in the spring of 1916 when he was 21 years old. He wrote home to his sister or mother about once a week and his letters provide a soldier’s eye view of the war.

Earl expected to serve as an infantry soldier but, while training in Borden, found out that he would be part of the Engineers. Suddenly 20 teams of heavy horses, a whole train load full of harness, saddles spurs and ammunition arrived. About that time Earl decided to “play up sick” because the soles of his boots were worn clean through. Determined to get new boots before shipping overseas, he and about 100 others kept the infirmary busy. Soon enough a carload of new boots arrived in camp and everyone went back to work.

Shipped first to England for yet more training, Earl was “somewhere in France” by the spring of 1917. The Germans had left the area a few weeks earlier, tearing up the rail lines and hiding the tracks as they went. Earl’s unit began to construct the narrow gauge railway system that eventually was used to transport supplies and men forward to the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Fighting at Vimy, Earl describes in his letters the noise of the guns, the shrapnel, the huge rats in the trenches and a colleague suffering from “shell shock”. He calmly writes “I was scared out of my wits by a shell too but am over it now...ha...ha!” So many

Canadians would not get over it so easily...In another letter he describes being gassed many nights. The first time, he and his fellow soldiers left their gas masks some 60 rods away (about 350 yards) and had to dash back to them. Their helmets did not fit very well over the masks and they could hardly see anything through the glass of the masks. He writes “I can’t describe what it smells like but it is worse than the skunks we used to catch”.

One day a shell burst close to Earl and “A bit of it cut clean through my tunic just beside my hip pocket. It tore the skin off the leather belt underneath. Only for it I would be in Blithey, I guess.” Another day his father received a formal letter informing him that Earl had been admitted to hospital in Belgium. Several pieces of shrapnel had pierced his steel helmet and lodged in his head. Luckily the doctors were able to remove them; he recovered and did not seem to suffer any permanent damage.

Sent to the frontline yet again, Earl and his unit continued fighting and being gassed until the end of the war. Finally in July 1919 he was shipped home to his waiting family. Some 25 young men from King had fought in WWI – 3 made the supreme sacrifice. Earl continued farming on his return. After the Depression he was a successful silver fox fur rancher.

Having discovered all these original letters, I shared them with the King Library and Archives. While it is a slow process, these priceless documents are being digitized so that future generations will be able to read and learn from them. We are very grateful to the Crossley family for their generosity in this process.

For further information and a list of King Township veterans, go to: www.kingmosaic.ca or www.king-library.on.ca. Click on Heritage and then Remembrance Day.



JOHN DEERE

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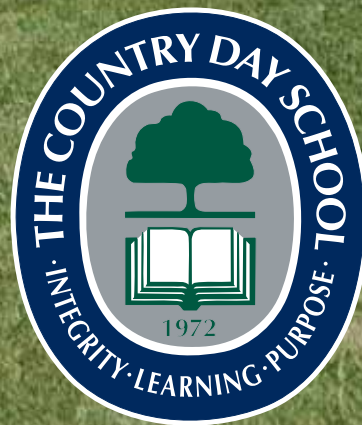
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