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MARCH 2020 VOL. 27 NO.6

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**March 2020**
**Vol. 27 No. 6**

## MOSAIC

*A composition created by inlaying various pieces to form one picture.*

Established in 1993, MOSAIC is the only publication in Grey-Bruce dedicated 100% to encouraging and supporting all the local arts and entertainment.

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 Tamming Law ~ Theatre Collingwood  
 Walkerton Branch Library  
 Welbeck Sawmill

MOSAIC is available in the places where people gather from Tobermory to Kincardine to Collingwood and everywhere in between. Current and back issues are also available at [www.greybrucemosaic.ca](http://www.greybrucemosaic.ca).

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The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of MOSAIC

# From My Desk

*by Maryann Thomas*

Welcome to 2020! For me, the year begins with the first issue of MOSAIC (we publish monthly from March to November). It's always great to get back in the groove again – so much going on, so much to tell you about! And this is going to be a great year in our neighbourhood. The Ginger Press (my other hat) has already released our first book. *Leith* is a collection of historic stories by Andrew Armitage and contemporary photographs by John Fearnall. We launched it last week alongside celebrating Andrew's 81st birthday. That was a party! There was even a splendid cake from our favourite cake maker Karin van der Heyden, who captured the cover photograph (a drone photo of Leith) in grand and glorious (and delicious) icing. And there's lots more books to come this year from The Ginger Press. Stay tuned.

As always, getting news about your next event, class, project, product or whatever into MOSAIC is just a click or a call away. Look to the left for my phone number and email address; let's talk. The deadline for the April issue is March 10.

*Maryann*

## GEORGIAN BAY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

*Morag Budgeon*

Georgian Bay Centre for the Arts (GBCA) is a remarkable addition to the creative culture of downtown Owen Sound. Located in the former Bingo Hall at 938 2nd Avenue East, GBCA hosts educational programming, open studios and studio rentals, artist residencies and so much more. Classes in pottery, jewellery, printmaking, stained glass and numerous other mediums have already begun. Upcoming workshops include: Making Lidded Pottery Vessels with Marcelina Salazar (Friday March 6); Step by Step Acrylic Painting with Peter John Reid (Sunday March 8); Composite Clay Forms with Marcelina Salazar (Friday March 13); Introduction to Encaustic Painting with Kim Kool (March 14-15); Read and Write Bookmarks with Kari Bronaugh (Sunday March 22); and Glassblowing with Kate Civiero (Wednesday March 25). Check out [gbarts.ca](http://gbarts.ca) for details and to register.

GBCA even has a cafe – the Palette Cafe – serving specialty coffee and tea, craft beer and cider, and a rotating menu of baked goods and light lunches. Surrounded by art and craft studios, with floor-to-ceiling windows facing the main street, this urban café never lacks a view. Cafe hours are 10:00 to 4:00 daily and noon to 4:00 Sundays.

If you're 9 to 14 (or you know someone who is), you can spend five days (March 16 to March 20) working in pottery, jewellery and metalwork, glass or mark making at the **March Break Idle Hands** experience. This fun-filled week exploring art and craft encourages young artists to unleash their creativity and express themselves while learning skills and developing new interests. Classes are taught by professional artists; class sizes are small. Sign up now for morning or afternoon classes or all day (students can remain at the Centre and bring their own lunch and snacks). Sessions are \$200 each; details and registration at [gbarts.ca](http://gbarts.ca).

## EAT, DRINK, AND SAVOUR OWEN SOUND

*Melissa Crannie*

Savour Owen Sound is back and it's bigger than ever! This highly anticipated culinary event is all about savouring what our Scenic City has to offer in the depths of winter, from delicious food to a full roster of cultural events, home-grown hockey and outdoor adventures.

Twenty-one locally owned restaurants are participating in this year's Savour Owen Sound, featuring a variety of Savour Menus at special, fixed prices beginning March 1st and continuing all month long until the 30th.

Check out the menus at [www.owensound.ca/savour](http://www.owensound.ca/savour). You'll notice some very tempting choices, with a couple of unique, new spins introduced this year. Whether you're looking for a date night with fine dining, dinner and drinks with friends, lunch on-the-go downtown, or a savoury treat during break, we've got you covered! Also, be sure to pick up your Savour Passport. Enjoy 2+ Savour Owen Sound Menus, and return by March 31 for your chance to win the Grand Prize SAVOUR FOODIE BASKET! Passports can be picked up and returned to any of the participating restaurants or City Hall. The draw date is April 2, 2020.

Daily social media giveaways are to be had; simply follow the Owen Sound Tourism Events and Attractions Facebook page or @CityOwenSound on Instagram for updates, photos and features all month long! Be sure to VOTE for your FAVOURITE Savour Owen Sound Eatery. The winning Eatery will be awarded the coveted People's Choice Savour Skillet. **¶**



# THE ROXY REPORT

Robert More

## COMING HOME!

**M**y roots with Owen Sound and The Roxy Theatre are deep. My father, Arthur More, was born here, and I had the good fortune of going to high school at OSCVI, with that unique circular structure. Did I race somebody around those halls when teachers weren't looking? Absolutely! Every chance I got. They were glorious years – summers swimming at Sauble Beach and The Tub, winters skiing and skating in Harrison Park, arguably one of the very best parks in the country.

After Owen Sound, it was off to the University of Western Ontario to study English Literature and become a teacher. I followed this plan steadfastly until fourth year when I got a part in a production of *Caligula* at The Talbot Theatre on campus. Then, during the next three years, my plans began to change. I finished my Honours BA, then the MA, and taught for a year. I loved every minute of the teaching, but I started doing more theatre, and one night – in the middle of a scene in *The Tempest* playing Ferdinand about to meet Miranda – I heard this voice in my head saying, "you're going to be an actor." Sounds crazy, but I knew it was the truth; at the end of that year, I did not apply to go on to the PhD, but instead packed it in, applied for a student loan (not much in those days) and with \$400 in my pocket went to London, England, got a part time job, and found a theatre school. The rest, as they say, is history.

I returned to Canada two years later, did the audition circuit, and landed an amazing job in an acting, mask, and clown show – my specialty was the tightrope – with the Hexagon School Touring Company of the National Arts Centre (NAC) in Ottawa. After three years of school tours and main stage shows at the NAC, it was off to the Stratford Festival where I had the privilege of working with the likes of Bill Hutt, Martha Henry, Maggie Smith, and wunderkind director Robin Phillips.

After that, another 15 years of playing theatres across the country, and then new possibilities emerged on the horizon. By the late '80s, I had moved from acting to writing and directing. *Dads! The Musical*, a light-hearted take about three stay-at-home dads struggling to take care of their infant kids, went across the country and launched a playwriting career which resulted in 70 professional productions of more than ten scripts during the next two decades. During this time, my Arts Manager phase also began with ten years as the Artistic Director of the Lighthouse Festival Theatre in Port Dover, Managing and Artistic Director for eight years at Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, three years as Artistic Director of Bluewater Summer Playhouse in Kincardine, followed by a year as General Manager of Presentation House Theatre in Vancouver, and most recently three years as

Executive Director of Parrsboro Creative in Nova Scotia.

While working in Parrsboro was a wonderful experience – my office looked out right on to the Bay of Fundy – I knew that it was time to get back to the Ontario theatre scene. My plan was to write for about nine months, and then I saw the posting for the job at The Roxy, and I couldn't resist. I had to apply. There are so many great connections to The Roxy and to OSLT, Owen Sound Little Theatre. My father and mother, Eileen, had moved back to Owen Sound in the mid-'80s, and had immediately got involved with the OSLT gang, and what a gang that was! Passionate, dedicated, brimming with life – Ruth Gorbet, Vince and Pat Matheson, Velma Mitges, Bill Murphy and Isabel Draper, to name a few.

And OSLT had a vision! A great big, bold, beautiful vision. Not only would they restore The Roxy, they would raise the money and buy it. And they did! In 2011, OSLT paid off its \$1,000,000 mortgage to own The Roxy outright, and look at it now! New marquees, new seats, new dressing areas and green room, their own shop for set construction, and the installation of new lighting and sound systems so effective that The Roxy is known to artists and agents in Canada and the USA as one of the best performance houses in Ontario.

And OSLT now has an established reputation for producing shows of the highest quality, from small cast comedies to dramas with complex characters, to big Broadway Musicals. Witness last season's smash hits, *Spamalot* and *Sister Act*, both playing to sold out houses; and just recently, *West Moon*, a slice of Newfoundland life by playwright Al Pittman which offered both laughter and deep emotion conveyed by one of the best ensemble casts I have seen in a long time.

So, there it is. After hanging out with the bursting-with-enthusiasm OSLT gang at Western Ontario Drama League Festivals, after having my plays *Dads! The Musical* and *Dads 2: The Toddlers' Revenge* produced by OSLT; and previous to that, seeing *Steel Hearts and Rocky Shores* at The Roxy, a play commissioned by OSLT about pioneer life in Owen Sound from 1831 to 1900, and now seeing the amazing venue that The Roxy has become, there was really no choice. I put my name in the Search Committee hat, got the interview, and here I am. Back home where it all started.

I've been on the job five days, and it's already very clear. The current OSLT gang is just as passionate, just as dedicated, as talented and as friendly as their predecessors. Under their leadership, Owen Sound Little Theatre is now on the verge of a new era which is going to see The Roxy, and Owen Sound itself, become known as one of the premier arts and culture hubs in Ontario. And I'm here to be part of it. How lucky can a guy get? **¶**

## Jason Wilson Concert

Cliff Bilyea

**T**wo-time Juno-award nominee, Canadian Reggae Music Award Winner and best-selling Scottish Canadian author Jason Wilson will perform at the Sauble Beach United Church at 7:00pm on Friday April 24. His music combines

reggae with the improvisational sensibility of jazz and then layers it with the storytelling quality of the Scottish folk tradition. Tickets (\$25) are available from Roberta Brignell at (519) 244-1195. **¶**

# JOIN THE THEATRE COLLINGWOOD CARAVAN

Theatre Collingwood (TC) is celebrating its 36th Anniversary this year. No small feat for any business, let alone one that is run mostly by volunteers with financial support from local businesses and individuals. The company has two full time employees and one part time employee, and this year will present 11 productions and five weeks of youth drama camp! So how do they do it? It's an interesting process. Eight years ago, Executive Director Erica Angus was hired to change their format of how things get done. "I've been very lucky in my career to meet and work with many talented performers and directors. I see a ton of live theatre and I am never afraid to ask a company or individual if they would consider coming to Collingwood to perform," said Angus. "We now work with many theatre companies and artists, to share the expenses and to give a good show a longer life."

Last year Theatre Collingwood found itself without a permanent home due to rising rent charges, so they spent the year travelling. The 2020 productions are being performed in and around the town at First

Presbyterian Church, The Simcoe Street Theatre, The Marsh Street Centre and the Great Northern Exhibition Fairgrounds. This use of different venues has made for interesting and new experiences for audience members, most of whom have really enjoyed the outings.

Moving around does not come without its challenges but the team embraces them. The venues do not have reserved seating but the TC staff will always reserve a seat for anyone with mobility issues, and this year all members and subscription holders will be seated in the first rows. They also plan to offer shuttle buses at a nominal fee for their shows at The March Street Centre and the GNE Fairgrounds. Every venue other than the church will also have a bar for the customers' intermission enjoyment.

The 2020 performers have incredible resumes which include The Shaw Festival, The Stratford Festival, Broadway and more. We encourage you to join the caravan and get out to see a great Theatre Collingwood production. For show information visit [www.theatrecollingwood.ca](http://www.theatrecollingwood.ca) or call (705) 445-2200, and *put more play in your life!* **ℳ**

## Drag U

Femmes Fêtes-Als, in partnership with Make It Wright and M'Wikwedong are bringing back the glamorous queens from London's Haus of Drag for Drag University. Whether you're looking to be a Drag Queen, Drag King or you're into Gender Bending Drag, Nicki Mastasia – Sephora make-up artist by day and drag queen by night – will teach workshops on how to work that mug! Gypsy Violet is one talented queen who makes all her own costumes and will teach Drag U students how to create gender illusions using padding, duct tape and create your perfect look(s). Registration is open to all ages, gender identities and sexual orientations. Drag U registration fee is \$125. Limited "scholarships" are available for low-income folks (please inquire). Registration includes swag and participation in Drag U Showcase on April 10 at Heartwood (for those interested in performing). Participants are asked to register by emailing [femmes.fetes.als@gmail.com](mailto:femmes.fetes.als@gmail.com).

Drag U starts on Friday March 6 from 6:00 to 9:00 at the Owen Sound Library with a community discussion on gender expression, sexual orientation and the history of drag. This event is open to everyone; admission is by donation to Drag U. The event continues on Saturday March 7 and Sunday March 8 from 10:00 to 4:00 with sessions open to registrants only on choreography, make-up, stage presence and more. Drag U will culminate in an all-ages showcase at 7:30pm on April 10 at Heartwood Hall in Owen Sound (tickets \$25 from [eventbrite.ca](https://eventbrite.ca)). Drag U participants are welcome to debut; Nicki and Gypsy will also perform. **ℳ**

## Divination Class

Kate O'Neill will lead a two-session course on Divination at The Ginger Press starting at 7:00pm on Thursdays March 19 and 26. This class will teach you to use some tools of the trade used to see the future, including books (bibliomancy), tea leaves, cards and dice. The first night will focus on the Tarot, a set of 78 cards used in spreads to further a person's understanding of their situation. You will learn some choice spreads, the meaning of the cards, and how to give a reading. The second night will focus on using bibliomancy, dice and tea leaves to give you insight on the future and let you know what to expect from a situation. Learn more on these tools in this class. Register (\$35) at (519) 376-4233. **ℳ**

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# INTERSECTIONS

## MULTIFARIOUSNESS 2020

Stephen Hogbin

### PAST

One year ago Bjarne Jesperson came from Denmark and made his new mathematical form "Knotted Tetrahedron". He stayed for one month in the Library Apartment as Artist in Residence. He gave a workshop at Intersections and visited a University in the USA.

### PRESENT

Our demonstration-presentations on Saturdays over three months worked well. The focus is on techniques for furniture makers and boat builders. Fundamental techniques of sharpening hand tools, laminating, steam bending wood, different ways of constructing canoes and kayaks. We will look at lapstrake rowing boats and the finest finishes for marine craft that also have broader applications.

### FUTURE

Intersections needs a maker to demonstrate for ARTWALK. June 27, 2020. A day in front of the passing public to show how you make your ideas. A great opportunity to present and sell your work. Previously there have been 500 to 1000 people walking through. This will be our 3rd year for the Owen Sound ARTWALK.

I keep some ties with Australia and one of them is with a gallery not far from Canberra, Australia. David MacLaren OMA owner of Bungendore Wood Works Gallery in Australia sends emails about the program. His recent emails are about the devastating fires where makers and their clients are losing everything to fire. The title of his latest email is "Reflections on loss and moving on." This is a

paragraph from one of David's stories:

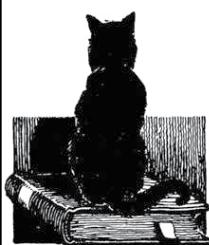
"Our best client over the years lost her house in a fire two years after the Canberra fires in 2003. She works in hospital administration mostly the night shifts. She loves art, and fine making. Her house is a mini gallery. You don't have to be rich to own good objects. You just have to choose to own fine things."

How quickly things can change. A number of years ago David also lost his workshop to fire and he tells the story of rebuilding. He still has the impressive Bungendore Wood Works Gallery near Canberra where he showcases the skill and art of Australia's wood workers in the varied richness and beauty of the Australian timbers. The resilience of Australians is impressive. [www.bwoodworks.com.au](http://www.bwoodworks.com.au).

The Intersections Wood Gallery and Studio program is on the website. There is a full spring and summer program for different levels of woodworking, a forest walk identifying trees with a forester, our usual bonsai collecting for the Toronto Bonsai Society and people from the region; details and registration at [www.intersectionsstudio.com](http://www.intersectionsstudio.com). Along with other galleries ARTWALK and the Downtown Academy will open up events for people to see and learn about the arts and in particular at Intersections, trees and woodworking.

Planting trees is really smart and good, using wood appropriately at the end of the tree's life is sustainable, living with finely made and beautifully design things is respectful of nature. **¶**

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## GREY GALLERY: OUT OF THE ORDINARY

### Jean Francis: As I See It

large scale abstract paintings of Owen Sound  
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**A selection of bird prints also on view in March**

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# A SONG WITH NO WORDS

**BY ROB RITCHIE**

reviewed by Christopher Thomas

I've seen the old footage a few times now and I always feel sorry for the kid. Star struck and a bit spaced out, he'd made it to John Lennon's doorstep only to have his hero tell him the songs were definitely NOT personal messages to him. "I'm just a guy, I take words and stick 'em together to see if they have any meaning, some do some don't." said the ex Beatle. Eventually they had some soup and the kid moved on. All the same, Yoko said John felt responsible for people like that because he wrote the words. Pete Townshend thought he just wrote rock songs, until a fan thanked him for "understanding what we feel but can't explain." For Bruce Springsteen it was about "catching something fundamental and true about the human character."

For Christopher Lucan and his fans in *A Song with No Words*, it was all the above. His lyrics "bred reality with poetry, they allowed him into people's hearts and let them trust he understood their particular way of life." Until they didn't, and no one understood why.

I've spent a few decades on the road and interviewed scores of musicians but I've never met anyone like Christopher Lucan. The leader of the band called Mill Run could debate dystopian literature, or Hegel while fixing a flat. He once analyzed Transpersonal Psychotherapy and kept tabs on an argument about curling while surrounded by "heavily varnished walls adorned with racks

of antlers and well polished fish" in a motel bar off highway 12 in Sprague, Manitoba. Those tiny towns and conversations are where he found his material. Audiences left Mill Run shows convinced Lucan had been born at sea with a prairie plow in his hand. He could evoke the soul of a dying soldier at Vimy Ridge.

But there was one heart could not reach. His estranged daughter. The story of that pain and how Lucan tries to deal with it is at the core of Wiarton author Rob Ritchie's third novel *A Song With No Words*. A veteran of over 25 years as a musician (Tanglefoot, RPR, Harp & Holly, Midnight Blue), Ritchie has produced an astounding work that takes you behind the scenes of what he laments is a receding industry where CDs have given way to free music streaming and "folk clubs rely on a rapidly aging demographic."

Like Tanglefoot, the fictional Mill Run was founded by a couple of teachers and developed a "Stan Rogers meets Van Halen" sound. But after a show in Rainy River it all starts to go south. Lucan can no longer perform or write like before. Each member of the band speculates as to why, and shares his anger, love and perception of Chris and that final tour. As they trace the road map of their memories, the reader is given (often humorous) glimpses of the rush, the selfish escapism, the zen and the toll touring can take if you let it. Along the way, light, vibrant brush strokes paint the pages with insight into the creative process, journalism, friendship, family, and our relationship with Canada's First Nations. I'm still shattered by the rage in one particular scene. There is also, I think, an honest reflection on and ode to, the Tanglefoot years and folk music today. All of it weaves through a riveting thriller that not only deals with the central character's personal pain but also the organized pain inflicted on the innocent while the rest of us turn away. At one point a member of Mill Run contemplates writing a novel, "something with intrigue and misdirection." That's what Rob Ritchie has done. It's a damn fine read. **¶**

## LIVE AT MASSIE HALL 2020

Renee Fedun

Wouldn't you just love an outing in the country in a picturesque hamlet? Especially if it offers memorable concerts? Where else but Massie? Talented musicians from near and far will once again take the stage at the Live at Massie Hall coffeehouses starting in May and extending through to November. This year's performers – most of them back by popular demand – include eclectic singer-songwriter Matthew Barber; the electrifying Victoria Yeh Fusion Trio; dynamic pianist and singer Jenie Thai; the Drew Jureka jazz trio; Higher Funktion; Raven Meets Lion featuring the powerful vocals and exceptional performances of Tara and Trevor Mackenzie, Tyler Wagler and Summer Martin; and the popular duo of Morgan Barrie and Tyler Beckett. Visit [massiehall.com](http://massiehall.com) for dates and ticket reservations.

Massie Hall, an 1871 stone building which served for decades as the community's one-room schoolhouse, now hosts all manner of events – our locally famous fish fry (with vegetarian options), a vintage car show and September mum sale. The revitalized building and lovely treed grounds, complete with outdoor stage, are available for rent. Whether you are celebrating a wedding, shower, birthday, anniversary or family reunion, or you're saying goodbye to a loved one, Massie Hall is close by and affordable. Contact Glen Martin at [lauraglenmartin@gmail.com](mailto:lauraglenmartin@gmail.com) or call (519) 794-3841. If you wish you be placed on our email list, contact [info@massiehall.com](mailto:info@massiehall.com). Hope to see you this concert season! **¶**

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# Write @ Your Library 2020

Nadia Danyluk

Now in its 17th year, Write @ Your Library is the biggest and longest running local creative writing contest for youth, partnering public libraries across Grey and Bruce Counties, MOSAIC, and the United Way of Bruce Grey to provide young writers from our region with the opportunity to be recognized for their creative achievements. We are grateful for the support of MOSAIC magazine and their commitment to local culture. Through them we are able to share the creative talents of our young writers with people from across the region.

This year's judges – author and Owen Sound councillor Richard Thomas, author and minister Cathy Hird and Owen Sound Poet Laureate Richard-Yves Sitoski – had the serious task of making the selections from

multiple stories and poems submitted by over 50 young writers from across Grey and Bruce counties.

I hope you enjoy this year's winning stories and poems. If you would like to read more, you can pick up a copy of the *Write for 2019* anthology at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library or visit the library's website: [www.owensound.library.on.ca](http://www.owensound.library.on.ca) to read the stories and poems online.

If you would like to find out more about the Write @ Your Library contest please contact Nadia Danyluk, Deputy Chief Librarian at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library at [ndanyluk@owensound.library.on.ca](mailto:ndanyluk@owensound.library.on.ca) or (519) 376-6623 ext. 210.

## Junior Poetry - First Place

AWKWARD  
by Aniah Ruthven

I have a yellow tooth.  
I have a crooked smile.  
My ears are WAY too big.  
My hair just don't got style!

I've crazy-glued my glasses,  
I wouldn't wear them but...  
I have this funky lazy eye.  
The other's swollen shut!

My head sits on my shoulders,  
I think I've lost my neck.  
My nose looks like a bullhorn.  
I'm afraid I'm quite a wreck!

My long, thin arms are stretching,  
They've nearly reached the floor.  
I guess my legs didn't get the note,  
They need to grow some more!

I hide my feet inside my socks,  
'Cuz I'd hate for them to know,  
That on my foot there's somethin' strange,  
My little bobble toe!  
My father says "you're quite the sight!"

My grandpa says "you're cute!"  
My uncle says I'm growin' up...  
But my sisters, they stay mute.

"Rest assured," they tell me,  
"This phase, it won't last long."  
Well I'm TIRED of this awkward stage,  
So they'd better not be wrong!

## Florence Murphy Dabbs Memorial Award Senior Poetry - First Place

THE SEASONS OF GROWTH AND CHANGE  
by Heaven Noella Silver

My childhood is summer,  
Memories of sunshine, bright like my smiles unbeknownst and free of the weight of burden.  
The fields of rich green grass blowing in the wind like when I sprinted effortlessly for miles.  
Colourful flowers beaming under the blue sky like the bright and innocent look in my eyes.  
The bay shimmering, flowing, and serene like the many thoughts and perceptions I had.

My teenagehood is autumn,  
The feeling of wind turning bitter and sour, biting like the pains of growing and learning.  
The trees changing colour and transforming like the many transitions I've undergone.  
The leaves crunching under feet and falling from trees like old habits and actions shed.  
The maroon and amber autumnal hues like the new mindset and perspective gained.

My adulthood is spring,  
The frost and snow of the old season melting like the young skin and point of view I once had.  
The flowers blooming from the dirt like the new responsibilities and struggles I acquire.  
The rain washing the muck away like the new slate and many opportunities I've been given.  
The chilly temperatures rising to milder ones like the sudden fears and worries I have.

My old age is winter,  
The cold white frost, ice, and snow forming on the ground like aches spreading across my body.  
The dark night air surrounding the little light there is like the clear memories I had deteriorating.  
The cold chills up your spine while sleeping like the sudden and looming fear of death.  
The light of day growing shorter like the rejuvenate and vigorous feeling of my youth receding.

## Junior Short Story - First Place

PACE

by Emma Radstake

Erin stepped out of the change room. Immediately, she could hear the other girls snickering. She looked down. Her shirt wasn't tucked in. Embarrassed, she ran back to the change room to tuck it back in. She then quickly exited the change room.

"What's wrong?" asked her friend, Delly.

"Nothing. Let's go to the track."

"Okay."

Mr. Dinks, the gym teacher was shooting them dirty looks once he saw them. "You are late. Why is that?" he asked. A girl named Jemma whispered something. The girls around her erupted in laughter. "Never mind," he grumbled. "Alright, no one leaves this track until I have three laps. Is that clear?"

"Yes," they grumbled.

Erin took three deep breaths and stepped onto the track. She smoothed back her hair and got into a lane. Before Mr. Dinks could say "go" everyone took off. She ran as fast as she could. At first, she felt good. But then it went downhill. Fast. It was a bad cramp. She clutched her side and moaned. But she couldn't stop. She had to keep going. But then it hurt even more. She couldn't take it. She slowed to a walk. When she finished her three laps, everyone had been done for a while. Erin didn't really run much. She blamed the cramp.

"And snail gets... last place!" snickered Jemma.

Coach Dinks wasn't very happy. "You need to find a pace, Erin," he said and walked away. He stood in front of the class. "Alright! Gym is over!"

Erin slowly made her way to the change room. Delly ran from behind and began to talk. "It's okay. I come last a lot too. There was this one time..."

Erin wasn't really listening to her. What did he mean by "pace" she thought. Is it a type of shoe?

She shook her head. I don't have any pace.

"So, Erin. How was your day?" Erin's mother asked, after school.

"It was fine," she replied.

"Are you sure?" her mother asked again. "I thought you would be excited. Quinn's coming home for the summer."

That made her smile. Quinn, her older brother, was coming home for the summer from university. "Yeah, I am, it's just..." She couldn't bear to tell her mom about her day. She sighed. "I just want school to be done.";

Her mom smiled sympathetically. "I know, kiddo. Do you think you can last another week?" Erin nodded. "Good."

The last week of school went by slow. Erin didn't participate much. She didn't have to. But the girls were mean. Teasing her about everything. She longed for the last day of school. When it finally came, she felt happy. She collapsed on the couch and thought of what she would fill her time with during the summer.

She was thinking about summer, when there was a knock on the door. She ran to the door. She opened it to see Quinn. "Hey Erin," he grinned. She went to embrace him. "Was school okay?"

"No."

...continued at [www.owensound.library.on.ca](http://www.owensound.library.on.ca)

## Barbara Hehner Memorial Award Senior Short Story - First Place

THE SPIRIT CAME KNOCKING

by Piper Sicard

He had begun to hear it the very night he had received terrible news he never wished to speak of. At first, he had put it off as the windowpane rattling in a storm, but his mind continued to wander without the sounds of rain and thunder. He didn't dare open his eyes the first night and didn't even have the thought to look out the window to see what was knocking.

"It's just the wind. Nothing and no one are out there," he thought to himself as the knocking began to grow more frantic. "Nothing but the wind." He couldn't tell when the knocking ended, as he had been tired from the move and fallen asleep partway through the night. He soon realized as the weeks and months wore on that the knocking occurred every night without fail. Eventually, it became white noise to him, like the wind rattling the pane before he had moved here. At least it was white noise until he heard the voice.

"Let me in," it said bluntly. "I want to say hello."

He didn't respond to it, fear gripping his heart as he felt like he did the very first night. "It's just a dream," he whispered to himself as he closed his eyes tightly.

"I can hear you whispering in there," the voice hissed. "There is nothing to be afraid of. I am The Erlking, and I am Peter Pan. I am The Pied Piper and the whippoorwill. I know all and none who can say so knows me. I am here to say hello if you would just let me inside."

The voice felt like it was growing louder inside his own head, but his mind seemed to be deceiving him as he realized the creature was speaking just loudly enough to be heard over the wind. "Leave me be," he replied much louder than he intended to. "I am not very interested in letting you in."

"Everyone lets me in eventually, the spirit replied. "Or I slip through the crack under their doorway and take them in the dark."

"I'm not ready to let you in," he replied, his voice shaking as his hands grew clammy.

"No one ever is." The spirit's voice grew soft. "No one ever truly chooses when I come to be their guest. That does not change the fact that I must be let in eventually."

"Could you give me more time?" He began to beg as his body trembled in bed.

"Everyone always asks for more time."

"Do you grant it to them?" The spirit grew quiet at this question, and at first, he thought it had paused to reflect on what he had asked. He soon realized it had let him be for now.

When he woke in the morning, he tried to be kinder and more charitable. He said hello to those he typically ignored, he gave large sums away to charity, and he visited his mother in her retirement home

all the while the spirit hung just out of view in such a way that if he turned his head quick enough he could catch it out of the corner of his eye.

When the night returned, he steeled himself for another confrontation, this time sitting beside the window of the room. He stared at his reflection in the glass absentmindedly until a crack of thunder and flash of lightning revealed the spirit's indescribably grotesque form staring at him. "By god! You are hideous!" he exclaimed without meaning to. ...continued at [www.owensound.library.on.ca](http://www.owensound.library.on.ca)



## Owen Sound Farmers' Market **VENDOR PROFILE**

### **VINCE BOWEN OF ROCKROSE POTTERY**

A market vendor since 1984, Vince specializes in porcelain dinnerware or place settings and teapots. Both are difficult to complete: with dinnerware it's a challenge to match all the pieces as closely as possible; and teapots are made of several different parts that must be assembled to make something that pours without dripping and has a lid that fits well. Vince works on new colours every year; his glazes are fired in an electric kiln (oxidation firing) which gives them a different quality than in a gas-fired kiln. He says, "Making pottery is what I know best. I've been totally addicted to the medium since my first encounter with it in 1968." Visit Vince year-round at the Owen Sound Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 8:00 to 12:30. **M**



### **AT GREY GALLERY.... AS I SEE IT: A PAINTERLY VIEW OF URBAN LIFE**

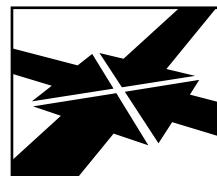
Born in England, where art was an important part of her life growing up, Jean Francis has been an Owen Sound based artist for the past two decades. She is known for her large scale paintings which explore the beauty and conflict of urban life. Her work could be described as abstract expressionist – the paintings are vibrant, an active and expression of the artist's reaction to the ever-changing world around her using gesture, line and colour.

Living with views of the grain elevators and lakers in the Owen Sound harbour, she is inspired by the grittier aspects of urban life – the street view of the backs of the main street buildings where life is not tame and predictable. Throughout her career, Jean has been consistently drawn to these urban landscapes, with their derelict buildings, and their evocative and powerful links to the past. Her work expresses her passion for these places, documenting and reflecting on the renovation and demolition of old warehouses and foundries and her internal conflict with their all too frequent destruction.

A not-to-be-missed exhibition of these very large oil-on-canvas paintings depicting Owen Sound, entitled "As I See It" will be on view at Grey Gallery from March 18 to May 2, with the opening reception to be held Saturday March 28, from 5-7pm. **M**



*As I See It* by Jean Francis



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# Talking About Eddie

Paul Thomas

Eddies are a feature found in whitewater rivers where the water is either calm or moving in the opposite direction to the flow. Eddies are a whitewater paddler's best friend, providing them with a safe haven when they need a break. It's no coincidence that this is a perfect metaphor for the life of a dear friend of ours, Eddie Ing. He loved his time on the water. He was an avid paddler. His personal "eddie" was a refuge for everyone who knew him, for all those needing a safe place to share some time, a story, or a struggle. Our Eddie died last week and I need to share this story with you.

Each of us has an Eddie Ing in our life. You all know this kind of person: Enigmatic. A beacon of optimism and all that is possible. The McIver of fixing whatever life hurls their way. Selfless. Completely and utterly humble, always preferring to let the light shine on the other person. Calm, systematic and full of confidence on the outside.

Eddie was a parent's dream. He taught public school in Toronto. His passion was infectious. If a student needed help, Eddie rolled up his sleeves and figured out how to do it. He'd involve the whole family if he thought it would make a difference and it usually did. He was a teacher with a capital "T". He was loved by everyone who knew him. Even students who were never in his class loved Mr. Ing.

Eddie was a mentor to both of our sons. Our eldest is in the Canadian Coast Guard because of him. He was the Range Light to help us find our way home.

Eddie went for a walk last Wednesday evening and was found deceased Thursday afternoon. Though strong on the outside, this Captain Marvel of a man needed help. Was he hurt? Was he was in pain? So many unanswered questions.

His passing is a wake-up call for all of us. Each of us has an Eddie Ing in our life. Pay attention to these dear souls. Do not judge them.

They might be family members or close friends or just acquaintances. Look for the signs. They all need emotional support...even, or maybe especially, if they seem not to need it. Eddie was the "stand by me" kind of guy. He was 48. He leaves a wife. He leaves a legacy. He leaves broken hearts.

He's the crazy guy who jumped off the Colpoys dock on a dare. In May. So cold. Came up laughing. Anything was possible with our Eddie. No roadblocks. Only opportunities. Each of us has an Eddie in our life. Make sure to heed the signs of your Eddie. Take the time to listen, to care. Offer a hug. Lots of hugs. Laugh. Eddie's laugh was absolutely wet-your-pants contagious. Sing a song, play a tune. Take a hike. Go for a drive. Fish. Share a bowl of soup.

Each of us has an Eddie in our life. Say "hello in there" and let them know you're there for them. They matter. It's hard for them to ask for help. They're the ones who are supposed to be the helpers. Walk a mile in their shoes if you can. Could be just a wink or a smile. Let them know the porch light is always on. The door is unlocked. The kettle is ready. The fire is burning. Don't put it off. Do it now. You never know. Each of us has an Eddie in our life.

In our area there is professional help for folks who are struggling with mental health challenges. No more sweeping this stuff under the carpet. Pull back the curtains and show it the light of day. Call 1-877-470-5200 if you or a friend needs to talk. You will find caring, non-judgmental support and assistance with seeking solutions to the challenges you face. There is also a free "no questions asked" clinic every Thursday from 1 to 3pm in Owen Sound at 1024 2nd Avenue East.

Each of us has an Eddie in our life. How is your Eddie doing today? Keep in touch. **¶**

# Just My Type

Andrea Wilson

The Craigeleith Heritage Depot is celebrating International Women's Day early with a Tea and Talk called *Just My Type*, on Sunday March 8 at 3:00pm, at the Craigeleith Community Centre. Learn about the historic female writers from the Blue Mountains and treat yourself to delicious sweets with your tea. Join us for this afternoon event and discover the remarkable women writers from the 19th and 20th centuries. This talk will feature women from our small rural community who blazed their own trail as writers in every genre. Although these women are not well known today, they made their mark in their time. They were leaders in their community, and were involved as artists, suffragettes, educators, business partners, farm women and community builders. Their work was acknowledged by other writers and publishers across genres.

In the foreword for Louise Richardson Rorke's book *Lefty*, Marshall Saunders wrote: "*Lefty* is a fascinating story about a boy and his dog – one of the best animal stories that I have ever read."

High praise from an author who was a best seller herself with her book *Beautiful Joe*.

In Mary Buchanan's poem *The Summer Girl*, we understand her female ideal:

She was not just the general sort  
Of summer girl you know,  
And did not see in every man  
A sort of summer beau.  
Her head was screwed the proper way  
And tightly fixed in place,  
Her brain was where it ought to be  
And comely was her face.

Mary was a poet, farm woman, suffragette, social reformer, humourist and is just one of the featured writers in this talk. Join Andrea Wilson, Curator of the Craigeleith Heritage Depot as she shines a light on women who made their mark. Tickets are on sale now at LE Shore Library in Thornbury for \$15. **¶**

# From the Community Foundation Grey Bruce

## Investment Readiness Program

Stuart Reid



In communities across Canada, social purpose organizations are operating at many different stages of development. Some organizations are doing incredibly innovative work in pursuit of social, cultural or environmental goals but may not consider themselves social enterprises and/or may not be aware they can access financial support for their work. Some are in an early design stage and are workshopping innovative ideas. Others still are more developed and might be looking for resources to scale their work. In short, social purpose organizations across Canada are at widely differing stages of readiness to receive investment.

One thing is certain: social purpose organizations are key levers in creating more resilient, equitable and sustainable communities of the future. The Investment Readiness Program (IRP) aims to support them, regardless of where they may be on the investment readiness continuum. The IRP was initially launched by the Government of Canada to help social purpose organizations build their capacity to participate in Canada's growing social finance market. It is also designed to help social purpose organizations prepare for the Government of Canada's broader investment in social finance via the Social Finance Fund, a historic new \$755M commitment which was announced in November 2018 and is expected to roll out over ten years. Alongside a suite of other organizations, Community Foundations of Canada are playing a key role in delivering the IRP.

The Investment Readiness Program will help social enterprises across Canada grow and build their capacity to accept investment, and participate in Canada's growing social finance market. "Business

isn't just about the bottom line. It can be a source for good and a catalyst for social and environmental change in communities across Canada. We are honoured to support social enterprises across Canada in building a better world," says Andrew Chunilall, CEO of Community Foundations of Canada, a national partner in the Investment Readiness Program.

Community Foundation Grey Bruce in partnership with Georgian College and their Social Enterprise Network of Central Ontario (SENCO) is a regional partner on the IRP, offering eligible organizations working to do good across Central Ontario the opportunity to access up to \$100,000 in non-repayable capital. Through this partnership, funding will be allocated in the form of non-repayable capital to charities, non-profits, co-operatives, social enterprises, and mission-focused for-profits across Central Ontario including the counties of Grey and Bruce, as well as Muskoka, Huntsville, Orillia-Huronia, Simcoe County, Barrie, Dufferin County, Owen Sound, Collingwood, Kincardine, Manitoulin Island, Tobermory, Orangeville, Saugeen First Nation and Neyaashiinigmiing. The first application intake happened in February 2020; the second application period is planned for later this year.

The IRP is open to a diverse range of organizations and businesses including charities, non-profits, co-ops and for-profit social enterprises who are helping achieve positive social, cultural or environmental results in the community. You can learn more about the program at [irp-ppi.ca](http://irp-ppi.ca) or by visiting [communityfoundationgrey-bruce.com](http://communityfoundationgrey-bruce.com). **■**

## LEANING TOWARDS WATER: ART, ACTIVISM AND RESILIENCE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE

On Friday March 20 at 6:30pm (doors open at 6:00pm) at the Owen Sound Library, Liz Zetlin will give an encore presentation of her Bluewater Association of Lifelong Learning talk, part of the BALL series: Building Resilience in Our Changing World. With personal stories, art, poetry, music and film, Liz shares her journey of becoming an artist and activist. She will speak on water protection and the roles of art, poetry and activism in creating resilience.

Liz is director/co-producer of the *Resilience: Transforming Our Community* documentary and chair of the Climate Action Team's Communications Group. She also spearheaded the movement to make Owen Sound a 'Blue Community' – one that prioritizes access to clean, safe, public water sources. Liz was Owen Sound's first poet laureate, inaugural recipient of Owen Sound's Outstanding Individual in the Arts award, and is the proud grandmother of two teenagers and a seven year old. **■**

## MEET THE TAROT

Emily E. Auger

Come and get acquainted with the 78-cards of the classic Rider-Waite-Smith Tarot in this practical discussion-oriented introductory class. The emphasis will be on the physical aspects of the deck and its images: pips and trumps, suit signs, numbers, figures, animals, symbols, colours, etc. Basic how-tos of card interpretation will be integral to all activities. Suitable for all age groups from senior teens to teen-at-heart seniors. Please bring pencil crayons, pen, notepad, a fine black marker, and a notebook (something you won't mind messing up) for your Tarot journal. The course, led by Emily Auger, will take place from Sundays April 18, 25 and May 2 from noon to 3:00pm at the West Grey Library in Durham. Registration of \$78 payable to the instructor includes a black-and-white practice Tarot deck. **■**

# Take Back the Night

Miranda Miller

A series of upcoming Take Back the Night events will raise funds to benefit The Women's Centre Grey & Bruce, a safe place free of suffering from abuse, harassment and assault, for local women and their children.

On Thursday March 26, local mural artist Billy Goodkat will host a fun, creative night out with a philanthropic twist in which participants will create a "Points of Light" themed painting. They will also have the opportunity to win raffle prizes donated by Sauble Golf & Country Club, Walter's Falls Inn, Kokoro, Jazzmyn's, The Curry House, Pro Fan Shop, The Ginger Press, The Bleeding Carrot, Crowns and Fades Barber Shop & Salon, Sail Restaurant, and Sizzlin' Restaurant. Tickets (\$75/\$65 early bird) are available at [billygoodkat.com](http://billygoodkat.com) or by emailing [info@billygoodkat.ca](mailto:info@billygoodkat.ca). All proceeds will go to The Women's Centre. Each ticket includes instruction and painting supplies, as well as food and beverage, and three Points of Light raffle tickets.

From April 8 to 30, all the Points of Light paintings produced during the Art Night will be available for sale by silent auction at Grey Gallery, 883 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue East in downtown Owen Sound. Again, all proceeds will go to The Women's Centre. Grey Gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday each week from 12pm to 5pm; visitors will also see the works of talented artist/gallery co-owner John Laughlin and can browse books and artworks curated by co-owner Anne

Dondertman, formerly the Director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto.

A reception at Grey Gallery from 6:00 to 8:00pm on Thursday, April 30 will mark the end of the auction and all works will be taken home by successful bidders. All supporters and allies are welcome to attend the reception; there is no cost for entry.

Take Back the Night is a global movement and series of events that seeks to end sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual abuse and all forms of sexual violence. Events are typically held twice annually, in April and October. April events are themed "Points of Light" worldwide and are designed to bring communities together to demonstrate their support for survivors of sexual violence.

The Women's Centre Grey & Bruce has provided a safe place free of suffering from abuse, harassment and assault, for local women and their children since 1982. Between April 2018 and March 2019, 1,527 women and children sought help from The Women's Centre to escape abuse. Other services include a 24/7 crisis line used by hundreds monthly for safety planning for community members experiencing abuse, Second Stage Housing and counselling support, Family Court Support, and more. A non-profit charitable organization governed by a Board of Directors, it receives funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Grey County Housing, through various donations and fundraising efforts. **¶**

## DESIGNING A MARINE AND RAIL HERITAGE TRAIL

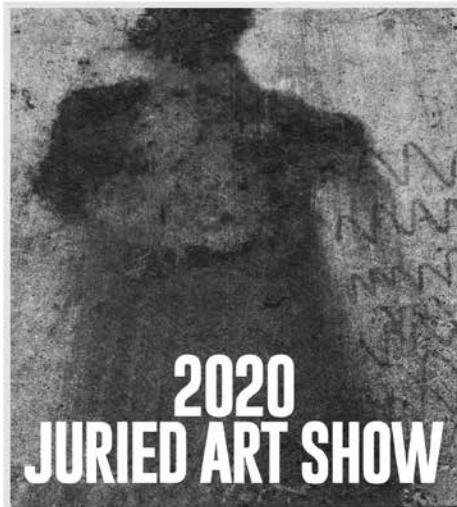
Sandra J. Howe

Grey-Bruce is full to brimming with stories, sights, sounds, and experiences of our marine and rail heritage. Long before Settler peoples arrived here, Indigenous peoples were paddling the rivers, inland and Great Lakes to explore and trade. Before there were roads, waterways first, and later railroads, served all local transportation needs. They carried the people, materials, and products which made Grey-Bruce prosperous. Ships and trains are vital links to our past and future, and we would do well to learn and celebrate this fine heritage.

Have you walked the beautiful rail trestle bridge at Chesley? Have you paddled the Saugeen River route of the steam-driven *Waterwitch*? Have you taken a boat tour to Chantry Island Lighthouse or the Fishing Islands? Have you visited the Sheffield Park Black History Museum? Are you ready to help design and share adventures with locals and visitors to our area?

Let's design and promote a passport-style Marine and Rail Heritage Trail. The Explore the Bruce Adventure Passport engaged thousands of people annually in a great scavenger hunt. It has been discontinued. Maybe this is an ideal time to create and implement a similar idea. I will host a planning meeting to discuss this idea at Ginger Press, Owen Sound on Thursday March 19, 2-4pm. You can also email me at [howesandraj@gmail.com](mailto:howesandraj@gmail.com) with your ideas. Here's to celebrating heritage! **¶**

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519-881-3240



# Remembering Peter Lemon

Bonita Johnson de Matteis

In August, 2004, a reverent memorial to Owen Sound's first Black settlers was unveiled in Harrison Park. Since 1862, descendants of former slaves who settled in Grey County have come here to celebrate Emancipation Day. Peter Lemon was a friend to the Emancipation Festival.

The Cairn project was born at the right time. Negro Creek Road's sign had surreptitiously been taken down in a switch-er-roo under the veil of ignorance by the then reeve of the township and replaced by another name of the more recent settlement of Moggie. Was it historic? Yes. Was it Black history? No.

We fought to have the original sign reinstated, which it was. But before that happened, local administrators suggested that a pile of rocks be built on the side of Highway #6 so, travellers "...would know where you people use to live."

Peter Lemon was also confronted by someone who was convinced that Owen Sound had no Black history, stories or descendants. Peter knew differently; his childhood in Owen Sound was laced and dovetailed by members, schoolmates and working families of the Black community. His father, William Lemon, was an early subscriber to a magazine called *Africa Speaks*, a periodical normally seen in the households of "Coloured folk".

My involvement and subsequent education with Peter Lemon started one spring afternoon when he knocked on my door. I greeted him and was met with a huge sigh of relief! "Aaaaaaaaah," he said. "I'm not sure how relieved I am to see you...I have been told that you don't exist!"

This statement set the stage. After a pause, Peter started to snicker and, with his trademark sardonic humour, he told me about the pronouncement that there was no notable Black history or persons in this area. Peter said that "We" would have to set this right. "There is clearly something missing in our local history." With that statement and, after his third cigarette, he shuffled down the sidewalk with that smirky smile of his. A plan was hatching.

The following year, Cultural Capitals and the Trillium Foundation offered grants for artistic and cultural enhancements. Peter believed this was the perfect moment to bring Black history forward and make sure it was acknowledged in his beloved Owen Sound forever.

A Black History Cairn committee was struck. Peter gathered volunteers, council members, and staff from tourism along with artisans of clay, film and design. Grey Roots, the Billy Bishop and the Marine Rail museums all had Black history stories to tell which Peter intended to draw out and present as the crowning jewel of Owen Sound's capacity for quiet inclusivity. People living and respecting people. Owen Sound, truly, "where you want to live."

Peter worked hard to weave elements of this project together; he navigated his dream and historic adventure much like the Abolitionists and Freedom Fighters of old. Peter conveyed his "cargo" of Black history recognition through the tricky trails of bureaucracy.

He asked me to meet him down at Harrison Park, a gifted sanctuary of hundreds of acres of trees and trails that hugs the northbound Sydenham River. He handed off to me a crumpled piece of paper with a pencil sketch of what looked like a ladder of sorts, with boxes stacked on top of each other. The bottom box said, "Africa". The second box was labeled "slave islands". The third and forth boxes said "slave states" and "free states" respectively. The box on top was labeled, "Owen Sound Canada".

I asked, "What's this?"

"It's a Cairn...sort of," he said. "I can't draw, but you can."

Peter took me to the place in the park where he had already received approval for the Cairn site. His smirk said, "It doesn't get better than this!" The only sounds that could be heard outside of the crackle of Peter's cigarette as he drew heavily on it, (I'm sure he received inspiration every time he inhaled) were the Sydenham River waters rushing by, the wind and the geese murmuring softly and calmly as they waddled up the river bed. Safety. Sanctuary. Reflection.

The direction of the north star will never be obscured by buildings or commercial signage here because Harrison Park itself is an impressive backdrop whose northern horizon line will be never altered. As it is today, it has been and will remain. The glory of the safe lands that offered some rest and a chance to grow a new life can be imagined as the winds played on the leaves and pine needles.

Peter's smirk and smile were broad. He knew I could see and imagine what he allowed the space to tell me. As I put my thoughts into words, he nodded softly. We agreed there were many signs that seemed to be telling us that this spot claimed the Cairn.

The months that followed were tedious. Our first challenge was the acquisition of the rocks from the shores of Africa, West Indies, slave and freed states. Who was going to find the monies and ability to Fed-Ex rocks to us from all around the world? What about building permits and designation of the structure?

The final design was approved by City Council after a presentation of how I imagined the cairn should look. Neither Peter nor committee members had seen it. I remembered to bring forth my points about the non-negotiable influence of house and church to early Black settlers, the concept of the structural strength, and the important poetic dialogue which included quilt patterns as directional mediums, geese, northbound waters and blossoming apple trees. I was met with silence. Loud was the blood rushing through to my ears. I felt faint. A trickle of applause started, followed by a welcome cascade. Mayor Beaney asked council to approve the concept on the spot. It was accepted unanimously. My true sense of accomplishment was when I heard a can of Coke being opened at the end of the councillors' bench with its spurt of effervescence...equally matched by Peter's smiling eyes and quiet nod towards me as he took a celebratory glug.

I believe the Cairn to be one of the best accomplishments of my life. Peter had an ability to recruit and fire up my imagination. He made it safe – almost necessary – to nurture and allow me imagination time to sit with the project and present its possibilities. Without that time for process and creativity, most projects fail as atrophy and malnourishment set in.

So, if you think you know someone, attend their funeral or celebration of life. (Only as the occasion arises and opportunity permit!) I was pleasantly amazed, but not totally surprised, at the stories families, friends and city officials offered at Peter's "Home Going" on February 4, 2020.

I wasn't the only one to experience the "Lemon-net" being cast over them to get involved in historically romantic and viable projects; almost everyone Peter came in contact with recalled his familiar request: "I have an idea, can I run something by you?"

A few of us have promised to dust off Peter's undone projects for which we had been recruited. Hopefully, some may still come to pass posthumously. I cannot begin to list what Peter Lemon has done for his beloved city of Owen Sound. His legacy speaks for him. He was our friend. He was a friend to local history and to humankind.

Thank you Peter,

Your friend, Bonita Johnson deMatteis 

# Wandering Grey-Bruce LABYRINTHS

Neil Baldwin

Did reading "The Joy of No Choices" (MOSAIC, Nov/Dec 2019) pique your interest about labyrinths?

Labyrinths date back about 4000 years. Last prominent in Medieval times, a modern resurgence began in the 1990s and, in the years since, the applications and audience of labyrinth users have continued to broaden. Many new labyrinths have been created – now numbering over 6,000 in 80 countries.

Would you have guessed that Grey-Bruce has a diverse assortment of public and private labyrinths? In each issue of MOSAIC this year, you will be introduced to a unique and delightful labyrinth – ten in total – ranging from Tobermory to Kincardine to Thornbury and points in between.

Before we begin our journey, this month's dispatch is a brief guide to what lies ahead. Labyrinths have been found across many cultures and societies, and in some form in most religions and spiritual traditions. Early labyrinths (e.g. Cretan pattern, c. 2000 BCE) were methodical and linear paths, while Medieval versions (e.g. "Chartes" pattern, c. 1200 CE) tended toward a non-linear and more ponderous path.

Labyrinths are often described by their pattern and their number of circuits, meaning how many side-by-side paths are counted between the centre and the perimeter. The Cretan, or "classical" pattern,

most commonly has 7 circuits which are sometimes thought to represent the main chakras.

In contrast to the predictable back-and-forth experience of a classical labyrinth, the Medieval pattern moves the walker around from one side or quarter to another, toward and away from the centre, and back again. Turns sometimes come in rapid succession and, in other parts of the pattern, they may be some distance apart. It can feel disorienting, but the beauty of all labyrinths is that there is only one route to follow and it will always take you to centre. This is what distinguishes them from mazes.

So even if you sometimes feel disoriented or lost, moving along the path will always take you to where you need to be in the end. Which is perhaps a bit like life, and perhaps why these clever introspective devices have endured for so long and been used in so many ways.

Often described as a "walking meditation", if you haven't had much progress sitting on a cushion, this more active and somatic approach may be a great alternative to quiet the mind, find some clarity, and experience a lovely dose of peace.

You can visit and walk variations of both styles of labyrinth, in addition to other interesting contemporary adaptations, all around Grey-Bruce. Watch for a profile,



along with some tips and suggestions for how to use them, in each issue of MOSAIC. And in case you just can't wait, the Ontario Labyrinth Community Network has a labyrinth locator at <http://labyrinthnetwork.ca>.

## Do You Have a Story?

Tim Nicholls Harrison

Do you have an idea for a novel? Is there a book inside of you waiting to be released? Would you like to have fun with other writers and support a great cause? The Annual Grey Bruce Writing Marathon will be held from Thursday April 23 at 6 pm to Sunday, April 26 at 6 pm throughout the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library. Participants will have seventy-two hours to create their masterpieces, which are usually about one hundred pages in length.

Some writing spots have already been reserved by keen enthusiasts who are committed to writing their weekend away. There are a few writing spots available. There's even a place for you.

In 1991, Richard Thomas, a broadcast journalist, and Tim Nicholls Harrison, a literacy worker accepted a challenge from teacher and author Martin Avery. With the support and encouragement of Maryann Thomas, the proprietor of the Ginger Press Bookshop, they entered the Ginger Press with their writing instruments and, over a

marvelous weekend, they struggled and endured and wrote their first three day novels.

They described the experience as similar to an Outward Bound Adventure except that they didn't have to camp or climb rocks or canoe and the only beautiful vistas were in travel books they happened across in the Ginger Press while wrestling with writer's block.

From those first words on paper, the weekend has become a well-known fundraiser for the Adult Learning Centres of Grey, Bruce & Georgian. Over \$50,000 has been raised since 1991 to support on-site and online programs teaching literacy and numeracy throughout the region.

If you are interested in reserving one of the writing spots or would like more information about the Writing Marathon please contact Tim Nicholls Harrison, Chief Librarian of the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library at (519) 376-6623 ex. 201.

$\begin{array}{l} 2x^2 - 5x - 3 = 0 \\ x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\ x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 + 24}}{4} \\ x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{49}}{4} \\ x = \frac{5 \pm 7}{4} \end{array}$

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# Spring Lecture Series

Tuesdays at 1 & 2:30 p.m. in the Grey Roots Theatre

March 24: *How Green is Green Energy?*

Dr. David Holah

March 31: *Life and Fashion Between the World Wars*, Wendy Tomlinson

April 7: *Delving Beyond the Date Stone: Uncovering the Rich History of Your Old House*, Elysia DeLaurentis

April 14: *The Rise and Fall of Fritz Haber*  
Dr. David Holah

General admission applies. Members free as always.  
Complimentary refreshments following.

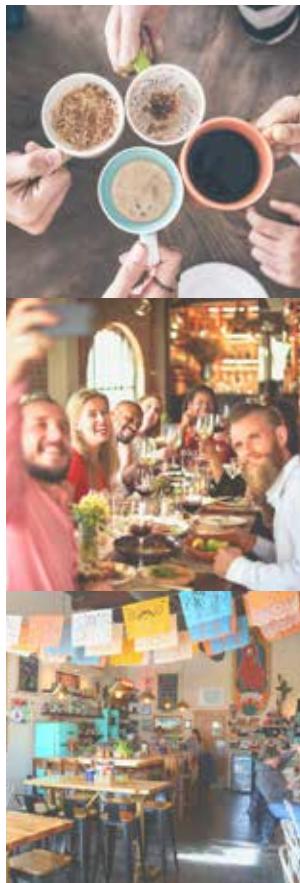


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