

the owen sounder

vol 7 no 1 spring 2025



combining two great
community magazines
in one great issue!

FEATURING:

- WordShop 2025!
- Home and Cottage Expo!
- Philosophy of Volume book launch!
- Bluewater Quilters' Guild!
- And so much more!



Summerfolk

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MUSIC & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Kelso Beach at Nawash Park, Owen Sound

August 15-17, 2025

MacMaster Leahy Family

Danny Michel • Trout Fishing in America • Delhi 2 Dublin

Catherine MacLellan • Emm Gryner • Shakura S'Aida

The Pairs • Treasa Levasseur • Big Little Lions • John Wort Hannam

Amber May • JD Crosstown • Sechile Sedare • Boreal • Mia Kelly

Josh Ritchie • Ryan Young • Luke Wallace • And More!

Music On 6 Stages • Artisan Village • Food Village • Community Village • Family Village

Kids Crafts • GB Art Classes • Owen Sound Astronomy • Big Canoe Project



summerfolk.org



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the owen sounder and MOSAIC

vol 7 no 1 spring 2025

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Established in 1994 and revived in 2020, The Owen Sounder is an independent community magazine which is written, designed, published and distributed right here in Owen Sound. Established in 1993, MOSAIC continues to encourage and support all the local arts and entertainment. Current and back issues also available at www.thewensounder.ca

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about the front cover:

Photographer John Fearnall says this about his drone photograph: "Canada Flag mowed into Harrison Park Ski Hill by Master Zero Turn Operator for the City of Owen Sound, Kelly Biggar."

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FROM MY DESK

Did you notice? This issue of the OwenSounder/MOSAIC is the biggest yet! We've added another eight pages highlighting our remarkable community. And we've moved the printing home, right here to Owen Sound: our friends and neighbours at Transcontinental RBW Owen Sound put these stories and images onto paper.

Established around 1907, Richardson, Bond & Wright (RBW), developed into one of the most important printing establishments in Canada. In 1918 they began selling printed forms that were made using a new development known as "Fleming's Standardized Process," a method of lithographing forms on a patented roll-fed press. This development was a forerunner of web-press technology, and made RBW the largest manufacturer of single blank forms in Canada. They also had the first offset press in the world to be web fed.

During the Second World War, the plant was used to print Canadian ration booklets, as well as secret Allied Code books. They also printed *Chinlifters* to help morale.

Later, the company was acquired by Transcontinental Printing. Today they employ about 450 people and primarily print retail sales flyers and magazines. And now they print the publication you are holding!

- maryann

PHILOSOPHY OF VOLUME BY ALLAN WALKER

We're delighted to host our latest book launch — *Philosophy of Volume* by Allan Walker — at The Rumpus Room (235 9th Street East) in downtown Owen Sound at 7:00pm on Wednesday March 26.

And we're trying something new and different: buy a book (\$30) and you get a free ticket to the live concert featuring Allan and the Brooke Trio. Or buy a ticket (\$30) and you get a free copy of Allan's book *Philosophy of Volume*. Either way you end up with a great deal! Tickets and books are available now instore and online at The Ginger Press (848 2nd Avenue East).

WORDSHOP 2025

Once again, the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library and The Ginger Press are collaborating to produce WordShop 2025 — a one-day opportunity for beginning and experienced writers to learn new skills from local experts, and network with other local writers. On Sunday April 13, from 9:30 to 4:00, the Library will be closed to the public and open to a remarkable variety of sessions on everything from writing song lyrics to writing plays, to creating believable fantasy worlds, and writing cookbooks. Registrants can learn about grants for writers, and writing for money. There will even be a session on making your own book!

For more information and to register, go to www.thegingerpress.com.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) IN GEORGIAN BLUFFS

SUE CARLETON

Excerpted from an IWD talk Sue gave at Cobble Beach in 2023

International Women's Day is an opportunity to shine a light on all women, current and past, whose contributions and leadership have propelled us forward. The mothers and daughters, the sisters and wives, the grandmothers and great-grandmothers who toiled and nurtured, loved and led, and built the communities we call home.

The Indigenous people of this land, the Anishinaabek, known as the People of the Three Fires — the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi Nations — have a word for elder women: *mindimooyenh*, which means “the ones who hold things together.” It is a term of respect that reflects the perspective of women as central to our unity, as the twine that binds us together, as the collectors of wisdom, and the fabric of our communities.

Nahnebahwequay was a local woman whose legacy resonates profoundly, especially here, so close to her historic home and resting place. Also known as Catherine Sutton, she lived during the mid-19th century. She was a member of the Mississauga Ojibwe Nation and a fierce advocate for land rights and the preservation of Indigenous culture. Twice, she was forcibly removed from her land, facing the devastating loss of her ancestral territory: first from the Credit Indian Reserve in what is now Oakville; and then from the land gifted to her by the Nawash in what became the Township of Sarawak — the land we are on right now. In the face of this injustice, she dedicated her life to fighting for land rights, challenging discriminatory policies, and advocating for Indigenous Peoples. Her courageous journey led her to reach extraordinary mile-stones, including an audience with Queen Victoria, where she fearlessly made her case. Sadly, these policies were not resolved in her lifetime, and her family was only able to repurchase her land in the name of her white husband.

Nahnebahwequay was a political activist when women didn't even have the right to vote, let alone run for office, and Indigenous women had even fewer rights. She fought for her land rights for herself, her daughters, and her people. Her courage, resilience and unyielding spirit are an inspiration to us today.

In the early days of European settlement in Georgian Bluffs, the land was worked by the hands of pioneers. From the rugged, rocky farmland to the shores of Georgian Bay,

early settler women worked in the fields, raised children, and cared for their homes...without any of the conveniences we now enjoy. They were farmers, mothers, healers, and artisans, crafting the bedrock of our community with unwavering strength and grace.

In 1897, in the village of Kemble just down the road from here, Mrs. James Gardiner went door to door, inviting women to attend a meeting at the library to form a local branch of the newly conceived Women's Institute. The topic of her speech was "Man Works from Sun to Sun, but Woman's Work is Never Done." From that meeting, the third Women's Institute in Canada was established, with a focus on family health and welfare. As their meetings progressed and membership expanded, their purview soon came to include employment rights, health care, poverty relief, and education. The Kemble Women's Institute still stands today as a testament to their commitment to creating women's spaces for community action and fellowship.

There were other women's groups in Georgian Bluffs. On January 15, 1941, 18 ladies of the Cruickshank community met to organize for the war effort, to do what they could for the comfort of those serving their country. They started as the Red Shield Auxiliary and were affiliated with the Owen Sound Corps of the Salvation Army. By the end of 1945, they had 39 members. They made quilts, knit socks and other items, and sent boxes to the servicemen regularly. After the war they changed their name to become the Cruickshank Willing Workers and have continued to support their local community and others in many ways. I am proud to be a member of this amazing group.

When I decided to run for Council, it was driven by a deep-seated belief that I could make a difference in Georgian Bluffs. My vision for leadership is one that embraces inclusivity and values every voice. I see the role of Mayor not just as a position of leadership but also as an opportunity to foster a collaborative environment where all opinions are respected and encouraged.

Being one of the few women in local government, I am acutely aware of the unique perspectives and contributions we bring to the table, or the horseshoe as we refer to it in Council Chambers. In Grey County Council, even today, I am one of only five out of 18 members who are women. I

am the first female Mayor of the amalgamated townships of Derby, Keppel, and Sarawak that form Georgian Bluffs, but I humbly follow Lois Urstadt who was Reeve of Sarawak Township and served as the first female Warden of Grey County when she was the only woman with 37 men on County Council. Carol Barfoot served for 27 years on Council, starting on the former Keppel Township as the only woman; she was joined by Judy Gay on the amalgamated Georgian Bluffs Council. These women created an amazing legacy for myself, and Councilors Coburn and Day to follow; they enabled us to make this path smoother and easier for others to follow.

I am reminded every time I need to wear my chain of office that it was designed for someone taller, more broad-shouldered than I am — a constant reminder that the past is not that long ago, and we still have work to do. In Ontario, women hold just 22% of mayoral positions, and 33% of council positions.

IWD is a reminder of the strides we have made, and of the journey ahead. It's a call to action for us to engage, participate, and lead. As we reflect on the achievements of women here at home and globally, let's also look forward to fostering an environment where the next generation of women leaders feels empowered to contribute, innovate, and lead us toward a brighter, more inclusive future.



Our impact extends beyond our homes, our businesses, or even the Council Chambers. It's about inspiring more women to step into roles of leadership and governance, ensuring our voices are heard, and our ideas are valued. Our communities are richer for it.

Let's not just celebrate International Women's Day today — let's live it every day, in every action we take, and in every word we speak. Let's build a legacy that generations to come will look back on with pride, knowing we were the ones who dared to dream, who dared to act, who dared to make equality a reality. Happy International Women's Day!

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POTTAWATOMI SPINNERS AND WEAVERS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

TRICIA WEATHERSTON •

Looking back on 50 years of the Pottawatomi Spinners and Weavers guild there is, of course, a lot of history. The guild started innocently enough with one weaver, Elinor Bartlett, wanting to chat with other weavers. Elinor placed an ad in the local paper and the start of the guild we know today was born. Fifty years ago, we communicated via landlines and the mail. Today we use cell phones and email to let group members know about guild news and other fibre related events.

When the guild first started, we met in each others' homes, but eventually the membership outgrew the homes. The guild has met at the Owen Sound Library, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery and the Grey Roots Museum; we currently meet at the New Life Centre.

Sharing our skills and knowledge

has remained constant throughout the years of the guild. In 1977, Guild members sold their crafted items at the Tom Thomson Art Fest and, in that same year, they had a display in the windows of the McKay store downtown. In 1980, the Guild hosted a month-long show entitled Hands and Fibres, Heirlooms for Tomorrow. 1982 was the first year of a stand-alone guild show and sale at the Owen Sound Library, an event which still happens every November.

Education is another constant throughout the many years of the guild. Early programmes consisted of show and share, and that remains a key feature of our monthly meetings. An education endowment fund in memory of Elinor Bartlett made by her family in 2009, insures the support of outside speakers and workshops for guild members.



Another aspect of education is demonstrating our crafts at the museum, local fall fairs, and schools.

In April, we will hold an anniversary tea for current and past members, honouring and celebrating our history, including our founding members and the events the PSWG have been involved with over the past 50 years.

Join us for the next 50 years. Meetings occur on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. For further details contact Harriet Boon at 519-934-3273. Follow us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PottawatomiSpinnersandWeavers-Guild> and pottsguild on Instagram.

BECOMING PRACTITIONERS OF PEACE

SANDRA J. HOWE •

Peace is on many peoples' minds all around the world. But peace is far more than an end to war. Peace begins in our own hearts, and spreads to our families, communities, schools, and workplaces. Peaceful, unified communities contribute to regional, national, and eventually, global peace. It is more than just what elected officials and governments do; it is about the individual choices we make each day. As we give up the love of power for the power of love, we come to recognize that regardless of differences, most of the human family hold similar hopes. "When a thought of war comes, oppose it by a stronger thought of peace." -Abdu'l-Baha

One of the greatest obstacles to peace is a faulty understanding of human nature: are we basically selfish and aggressive, or are we inherently kindhearted and loving? The Bahai Writings assert that human beings are created noble, and through spiritual education can gain understanding

of harmony, cooperation, and consultation. Overcoming prejudices of all kinds, strengthening the equality of women and men, and sharing wealth and resources more equitably, are other major factors in establishing lasting peace. Peace must be built on a foundation of justice.

On a practical, daily basis, Baha'i's and their friends, around the world and next door, are reaching out to engage neighbours, children, youth, and adults in community-building processes. Experience has shown that gathering regularly to share prayers, to study and consult, to read and respond to local realities, and to support, encourage, and empower each other, builds community resiliency and connection. This is what becoming a practitioner of peace looks like. We invite you to join the conversation: (519) 371-4608, bahaisofsaugeenshores@gmail.com, or www.bahai.ca.

THE ROXY OWEN SOUND LITTLE THEATRE

EMMA MCCONACHIE-ANDERSON

With spring finally here, Owen Sound Little Theatre/The Roxy is thrilled to bid farewell to the gloomy winter and welcome the season with some fantastic shows!

Up next for OSLT is the hilarious farce **The Play That Goes Wrong**, directed by John Flynn. This show follows the misadventures of an amateur theatre group that is attempting to stage the mystery play *Murder at Haversham Manor*. As the play progresses things go from bad to worse — from forgotten lines to fires and collapsing sets — as the cast desperately tries to salvage the performance. Don't miss this uproariously funny night out at the theatre!

The Roxy Young Company is getting ready to fall down the rabbit hole as their production of Disney's



Alice in Wonderland JR gets ready to open late April. This talented group of youngsters will take audiences on a magical journey through Wonderland, complete with all of the iconic characters you've come to love.

It may seem far away but summer will be here before you know it! Sign

up now for RYC's Musical Theatre Summer Camps, four one-week camps starting June 30 and a two-week camp beginning July 28. Campers will learn to sing, act and dance while preparing a show to perform for family and friends on the final day. Ages and prices are available online.

Tickets are available for these great upcoming events on the Roxy website, www.roxytheatre.ca, or by calling (519) 371-2833.



ANNE MARIE WATSON
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Federal Liberal Association



Working on the family farm and in the not-for-profit sector taught me about hard work, determination and how to be frugal. I learned to fight for what I believe in and I'm ready to fight for you and for all Canadians, in Ottawa and at home.

The Liberal Party needs to change to reflect what Canadians want today. I want to help rebuild the party and connect with Canadians. I'm ready to fight for you. Will you fight with me?

Approved by the Financial Agent for Anne Marie Watson

To reach out: bgosfedlib@gmail.com

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NEW BOOK: CHERRI BAR, DESPAIR AND HOPE IN THAILAND

BY JON RADOJKOVIC • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Local author Jon Radojkovic has written his first book of fiction called *Cherri Bar, Despair and Hope in Thailand*, available only on Amazon, Kindle Edition (\$5.40). Radojkovic is also the author of two books of non-fiction, *Barns of the Queen's Bush* and *Barn Building: The Golden Age of Barn Construction*.

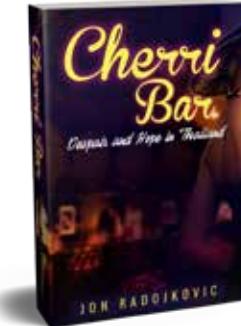
Cherri Bar centres on Timothy, a small time journalist who has a nice house with his wife in Mastic, Quebec with a circle of friends. Even though he has stumbled through most of his life, he now feels that he has missed something important which he tries to search out while travelling as a

freelancer in Thailand.

With his photographer friend Petre, from Holland, they encounter the politics of the country, food, and women. Timothy writes stories of this complex country for his newspaper back home about life in Thailand but when politics begin to explode, he is sent to Bangkok to cover the huge protests there.

The sex workers he meets at the Cherri Bar begin to be real people — daughters, mothers with children, and family back in the farm villages which they support financially from their work.

Set mostly in Chiang Mai, Bangkok



and Pai, Jon tells a story of a man struggling with why western society is so bland to him, why life should be lived fully, but how? Could it be in Thailand with his wife, a social worker, with their fragile marriage or is there another way?

MY GREAT BIG GREEK VIDEO AND BOOKS!

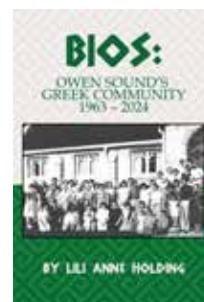
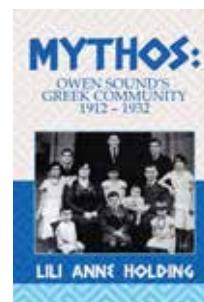
• •

Local author Lili Anne Holding has completed her trilogy of the history of the Greek community in Owen Sound, as well as a half hour video which offers a fascinating glimpse into the contributions of local Greek emigrants and their descendants. The three books were published by The Ginger Press, and the video received funding from the Grey County Community Cultural Initiatives Fund.

Mythos (1912-1932), *Oykos* (1933-1962), and *Bios* (1964-2024) combine to provide a comprehensive three-volume history of the remarkable Georgas family and their significant impact on Owen Sound during the last century. From their arrival in 1912, they have built a legacy which survives to this day in their chosen home town.

The video, *Alpha to Omega*, offers a fascinating glimpse into the history, challenges, and contributions of local Greek emigrants and their descendants. Several second- and third-generation Greek-Owen Sounders were interviewed to give their perspectives on their lives here.

Lili Anne Holding will host a Greek Evening at 7:00pm



on Thursday April 17 at The Ginger Press in downtown Owen Sound. There will be a showing of *Alpha to Omega*, as well as a book talk featuring the research and development of the books and movie. And there will be baklava!

Tickets (\$10) are available now at The Ginger Press store, as well as online at www.gingerpress.com. All ticket proceeds will go to support Grey Roots. Copies of *Mythos*, *Oykos*, and *Bios* (\$30 each) are available now instore and online.

2025 HOME AND COTTAGE EXPO

JENN WRIGHT •

The 2025 Home and Cottage Expo will be held at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre and JD McArthur Arena in Owen Sound on Saturday, May 3, and Sunday, May 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Hosted by the City of Owen Sound, in partnership with the Knights of Columbus and the Grey Bruce Home Builders Association, the event will showcase 140 indoor exhibitors, including popular businesses from across Ontario, interactive displays, local municipal building officials, a dedicated green energy section, and 30 outdoor exhibitors, such as small home-based businesses, and a kids' zone.

Eventgoers can meet contractors, interior designers, landscapers, home improvement specialists, interior designers, landscapers, outdoor recreation dealers, consumer electronics suppliers, and much more—all in one convenient location. It's the perfect place to pair residents and visitors with services for their upcoming renovation, plus a chance to speak with professional planners.

Tickets are available at the front entrance in the outdoor exhibitor area for \$5 (cash only). Kids 12 and

under are free. Please call or email for information on the show, registration as an exhibitor, or to volunteer. (519) 376-4440 Ext. 1237 or events@owensound.ca

Exhibitor information, including vendor packages, is available at www.owensound.ca/homeandcottageexpo.



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MAY 17, 2025

Dinosaur Discoveries: Ancient Fossils, New Ideas is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org), in collaboration with the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; The Field Museum, Chicago; the Houston Museum of Natural Science; and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh.



DISCOVER ENCAUSTIC ART IN OWEN SOUND!

AMELIA KRAEMER • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

The Canadian Encaustic Conference is coming to Owen Sound in September 2025, bringing together artists, enthusiasts, and curious minds for an unforgettable celebration of this ancient yet dynamic art form. Encaustic painting, also known as hot wax painting, dates back to ancient Greece. Using a blend of beeswax, damar resin, and pigments, artists create luminous, layered, and textured works of art.

The Canadian Encaustic Conference will provide an opportunity to witness the versatility of this medium firsthand, whether you are an artist, an art lover, or simply looking for a unique cultural experience in Owen Sound.

Engaging presentations from renowned encaustic artists from Canada and around the world will provide live demonstrations and thought-provoking discussions. Hands-on workshops are available for both seasoned artists and complete beginners at various locations, including Upwards Art Studio, Grey Bruce Makerspace, Georgian Bay School of the Arts, and more, offering a chance to explore encaustic painting techniques firsthand. Keynote speaker, Dr. David Gauntlett, will inspire attendees with insights into creativity and the creative process. Stunning encaustic art exhibitions will take place throughout Owen Sound, including juried exhibitions at Grey Gallery and the Gathering Table, with select works displayed along the Owen Sound harbour as part of the Urban Easel project.

A dedicated vendor marketplace will showcase high-quality encaustic tools, paints, and supplies, making it a perfect space for artists looking to expand their practice. A banquet and networking event at the Best Western Inn



on the Bay will provide an evening of fine dining, inspiring conversations, and celebration.

Owen Sound has long been a hub for artistic expression, and the conference is a testament to the city's thriving creative community. Local artists, galleries, and cultural spaces have played a key role in making this event possible, highlighting the deep-rooted passion for the arts that defines our region. Mark your calendar for September 5-7, 2025, and take this opportunity to explore encaustic art in a way you have never imagined. Workshops begin as early as September 1 and continue through September 14, allowing ample time to dive into creativity.

Join in celebrating the art of wax, fire, and creativity. Registration is now open! Visit encausticconference.ca for details. Discover, create, and connect at the Canadian Encaustic Conference 2025.

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SPRING INTO CREATIVITY AT UPWARDS ART STUDIO

AMELIA KRAEMER •

As the days grow longer and the world wakes up from its winter slumber, Upwards Art Studio is buzzing with fresh energy and new opportunities to create. We're thrilled to offer a diverse lineup of workshops, classes, and our product demonstrations, designed to inspire artists of all ages and skill levels.

Whether you're a seasoned artist looking to refine your technique or a beginner eager to dive into something new, our workshops have something for everyone. From encaustic painting and mixed media explorations to the ever-popular gelli-plate printing sessions, there are endless ways to experiment and grow as an artist.

We are excited to welcome **Susan McDonald**, who will be leading a specialized class focused on intuitive painting and mark-making, encouraging participants to embrace spontaneity and creativity in their work. Additionally, **Heather Martin** will be offering a pyrography workshop, introducing students to the art of woodburning and guiding them through techniques for creating intricate designs using controlled heat.

Our **Art After School** program continues to be a favourite among young artists. Designed for kiddos aged 5-7, 8-10, and 11-14, these sessions encourage artistic expression through a variety of mediums. With guided projects that explore painting, printmaking, collage, and more, participants will develop confidence in their creativity while having fun in a supportive environment.

For those seeking a more immersive creative experience, we're offering two unique workshops with registered Early Childhood Educator, **Ashly Tye-Robin**. **Beautiful Mess** is a playful, hands-on class designed specifically for toddlers aged 2-4, introducing them to sensory-rich creative play through textures, colours, and movement. **Fostering Development** is geared towards parents, EAs, and ECEs, providing hands-on strategies for incorporating art into children's development to foster creativity and self-expression from an early age.

We're also excited to expand our **Art Supply Showcase**, offering hands-on sessions showcasing the latest materials and techniques. These free demonstrations provide a chance to explore new products and receive expert advice on how to incorporate them into your artistic practice. If you miss the live demonstrations, recordings are available on our YouTube channel @upwardsartstudio, allowing you to watch and learn at your own pace.

Upwards Art Studio is more than just a place to take classes — it's a creative hub where artists connect, learn, and find the materials they need to bring their visions to life. Whether you're registering for a workshop, stocking up on supplies, or simply looking for a burst of artistic inspiration, we invite you to visit us in the Owen Sound River District. Browse our full lineup of classes and showcases at upwardartstudio.com/events/ and join us in making this spring a season of creativity and artistic growth.

INTERSECTIONS Wood Collaborative



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Funeral floral arrangement

GOING OUT IN STYLE: FUNERAL CUSTOMS AT GREY ROOTS

Grey Roots Museum & Archives is excited to announce the opening of **Going Out in Style**, an original exhibit exploring funerary customs across diverse cultures, with a special focus on the Victorian era.

Featuring over 130 artefacts paired with engaging text panels and archival images, the exhibit highlights historical funeral rituals and traditions, from Egyptian mummification and Viking funerals to sky burials, *Dia de los Muertos*, and an in-depth study of Victorian era customs. Visitors will discover how death rituals throughout history reflect societal values, beliefs, and traditions.

"Death is an inevitable part of life, yet the ways we respond to it vary widely across time and cultures," says Sim Salata, Curator at Grey Roots Museum & Archives. "After the death of her beloved husband Albert, Queen Victoria elevated mourning to an elaborate art form, with strict rules, fashion, and ceremonies. This exhibit not only examines this Victorian obsession with funerary traditions but also explores customs from other periods and cultures, offering a broader perspective on how humanity commemorates life and loss."

In *Going Out in Style*, death and grief are approached

with thoughtful respect and sensitivity. The exhibit, like the funeral customs it explores, is a commemoration of life, affirming the shared sense of community that unites these traditions, regardless of era or culture.

Going Out in Style is on now through Wednesday, May 7, 2025. For more information, visit greyroots.com/going-out-in-style.



*Grey Roots Curator Sim Salata
with 1930s horse-drawn hearse*



SPRUCE THE BRUCE GRANTS

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THE MILK MAID

SARAH MILLER

• • • • • • • • • • • • •

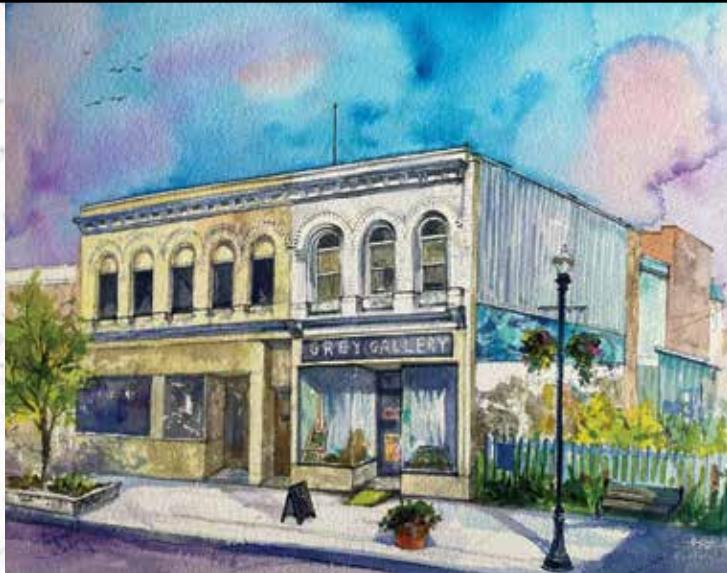
We invite you to join us for some cozy and indulgent fondue at The Milk Maid, 947 2nd Avenue East in downtown Owen Sound. We are now taking reservations for Fridays, March 7, 14, 21, and 28. Enjoy a delicious mix of our favourite alpine cheeses, perfectly melted and served with an assortment of fresh bread, roasted vegetables, and savoury meats. Sip on fine wines, craft beers, ciders, and non-alcoholic options as you dip, savour, and unwind in our warm, welcoming atmosphere. The deets: \$29 per person; drinks not included; vegetarian and gluten-free options available. To reserve (2 people minimum), call (519) 372 1130, or email info@themilkmaidcheese.ca.



We invite you to visit
Grey Gallery when you
are next downtown.

This spring begins with a solo exhibition of paintings and ceramics by Raquell Yang, followed by a dual exhibition featuring photographers Eric Busch and Andrew Mielzynski curated by Nicholas XBent.

Our exhibitions change frequently so stop by often.



Watercolour painting by Raquell Yang

Open 10am-5pm Thurs-Fri, 10am-4pm Sat;
and closed Sunday to Wednesday

883 2ND AVE E., OWEN SOUND 226-664-2776

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RAPTURE AND RESISTANCE WITH DR. ANNE BELL

JOHN DICKSON •

The Owen Sound Field Naturalists (OSFN) invites you to hear Dr. Anne Bell for its 10th annual Celebrating Earth Day Keynote Speaker event, sponsored by Caframo. Anne will recount special stories and a few of the lessons she learned while serving as Ontario Nature's Director of Conservation and Education from 2007 to 2024. She will highlight the people and places that provided meaning and motivation for her work. In addition to the surprises, challenges, and frustrations, along the way, Anne will also share wondrous moments of joy, as well as reasons for optimism in trying times.

Known for her passion, tenacity, and creativity in the service of Ontario's biodiversity, Dr. Bell's conservation of wild species and wild spaces in Ontario will be felt for generations. She holds

a PhD in Environmental Studies from York University and oversaw conservation policy and numerous campaigns while enhancing youth programmes with Nature Guardians, a Youth Council, and an annual Youth Summit of high school students (including many from Grey and Bruce, who were sponsored by OSFN and other local nature clubs) to energize, inspire and motivate environmental leaders of tomorrow. She also mentored many interns who have developed into solid professionals in many nature organizations.

OSFN initiated this special event on Earth Day 2016, and has featured such iconic champions for nature as John Riley, Doug Larson, Jarmo Jalava, Beth Gilhespy, Hap Wilson, and Lenore Keeshig. Celebrating Earth Day 2025 will take place at the Harmony Centre



Dr. Anne Bell

in Owen Sound, at 2pm, Sunday April 27. Tickets (\$10) are available from Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library, The Ginger Press, Sheila Gunby's Paper Cut Designs at Owen Sound Farmers' Market, Suntrail Source for Adventure in Hepworth, and at OSFN Indoor Meetings. For more information please visit www.osfn.ca

NEMESIS GROUP

BONITA JOHNSON DEMATTEIS • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Everyone has a story worth telling, and holding, and eventually letting go. By sharing it, or manifesting it into a tangible piece of art or story, it is possible to find perspective on what your challenges are. Writing, drawing, and narrative therapies are a safe and confident way to approach recent or long time issues.

I am a Psychotherapist registered with the College of Psychotherapists of Ontario since 2015. I can introduce you to Narrative and Expressive Art Therapies that focus on the treatment of trauma, stress, and other challenges, including Traumatic Incident Reduction (TIR) and Life Stress Reduction (LSR). With over 20 years experience in the field of exploring trauma, I use the power of creative modalities to decrease stress and anxiety.

As a nationally recognized children's book illustrator and writer, I can encourage you to create for yourself your story,

or to illustrate how your life experience has impacted you.

Is it past abuse, family crisis, or just a need to be heard and validated regarding your challenges to date? Once you are able to articulate and identify what adjustments you would like to try, I can be there to guide and witness your decisions and choices.

I have found that a client-based approach is most powerful and satisfying; even if you are only able to deal with a short term goal, that is absolutely sufficient. Just like an athlete setting a goal, you too can create new successes. Building the base can help prepare you for longer term goals.

Our sessions are held in a charming old building in a small, comfortable office with large windows! I can offer in-person or virtual sessions. For more information, visit www.nemesisgroup.ca or phone (226) 668-8001. Let's art and heal!

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Harmony Centre is a charitable organization run and maintained by volunteers.



The Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library
and The Ginger Press
present

WORDSHOP 2025

A remarkable one-day experience for beginning and experienced writers

9:30 TO 4:00 SUNDAY APRIL 13 AT THE OWEN SOUND LIBRARY

featuring sessions with these local experts:

- ⇒ **MATT BORS:** Creating & Collaborating on Comic Books
- ⇒ **KARI BRONAUGH:** Make a Book
- ⇒ **SAMANTHA COLWELL-CASTLES:** Writing a Play
- ⇒ **REBECCA DIEM:** Writing Poetry
- ⇒ **LARRY JENSEN & TIM HARRISON:** Writing Song Lyrics
- ⇒ **KATE RUSSELL:** Grants for Writers & How to Get Them
- ⇒ **KATIE LALIBERTE:** Writing a Cookbook & Getting It Published
- ⇒ **MIRANDA MILLER:** Writing for Money
- ⇒ **COLTRANE SEESEQUASIS:** Creating Believable Fantasy Worlds

- Learn new writing skills!
- Network with local writers!
- Connect with existing literary groups and create new ones!
- Open mic!
- Book table!
- Delicious box lunch!

Registration (\$125) now open at www.gingerpress.com
Participants can sign up for three sessions.

The Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library.
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Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library



THE GINGER PRESS

IN BRUCE COUNTY, KIDS SAY THE DARNEST THINGS

ROBIN HILBORN, BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You wouldn't usually turn to a history book for some funny one-liners. Yet here they are, in Norman Robertson's *History of the County of Bruce*, published by the Bruce County Historical Society.

While writing the book in 1906, Robertson called on a schoolteacher friend for help with the section "Humour in the School-Room." The teacher, with "a deep appreciation of humour, who has taught many years in the county," recalled many of the amusing answers given by the school boys and girls of Bruce, some of them culled from examination papers, others given orally.

Time for a glimpse at what pupils learned from their lessons in the 19th century classroom. (Idea: try some of these questions on your own kids, or grandkids.) "From what animal do we get beef?" asked the teacher of a primary class. "The butcher," was the ready answer from one of the little ones.

"Into how many parts is the day divided?" "Three: breakfast, dinner, and supper." A teacher giving a lesson on the proper use of the words "bring" and "fetch" asked this question: "If the cows were in a field and I wanted the dog to go after them, what would I be likely to say to the dog?" "Sic 'em!" said the boy.

Here are some answers to the question: "How do you know that the earth is round?" "The earth is round, because if it wasn't you'd fall off when you came to the end." Another one, still more original was, "The earth rolls round the sun; a square thing can't roll, therefore the earth must be round." Another answer about the shape of the earth: "The earth is round like an orange, flat at both ends. When it was first made, it was round like a ball, but it has been spinning so fast for such a long time that it has wore flat at the two ends."

"What is the capital of a country?" "Where the jail is." "What is a republic?" "A place where they all elect themselves."

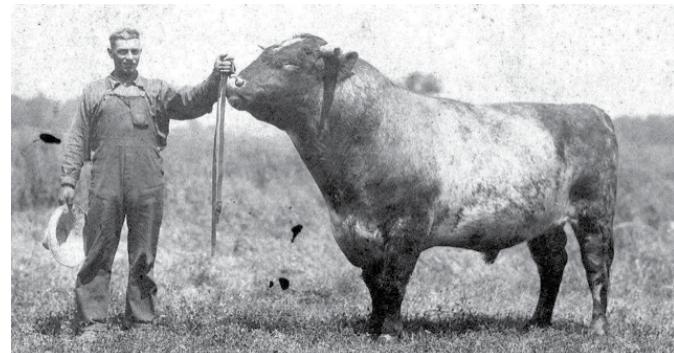
Turning to history, perhaps you didn't know these rather astonishing facts:

"Mary Queen of Scots married the Dolphin of France before she was beheaded."

"John did not want to sign the Charta, but the barns said he had to, all the same."

"Charles I met his doom without a flinch."

"Who appoints the Governor of Canada?" "The Pope," said one. "Mr. Cargill," said another.



"This is not where beef comes from," suggested one student.

"It was very difficult for William Lyon MacKenzie to escape to the United States, because 1,000 lbs. was put on his head." "The British searched American ships for deserters. The Americans looked so like themselves that they could not tell which to arrest." "The foe was sullenly firing." "Why sullenly?" "Because they'd just been licked," said a boy, who doubtless could easily imagine their feelings.

"What is a mummy?" asked the teacher. "A cured man," replied a boy. "Cured of what?" queried the teacher. "Not that kind of cured, cured so he'd keep," was the answer. Another answer: "A stuffed man."

The request, "Give in your own words this quotation from "The Brook"; "I linger by my shingly bars," elicited the following from one of the girls, "I stay about the old frame hotel."

"What is the difference between "discover" and "invent?" "Discover is to find something that was there all the time. Invent is to find something that never was there before."

"What is the masculine gender of witch?" "Bachelor." "What is the feminine gender of bachelor?" "Widow." "The masculine of duchess?" "Dutchman." "The feminine of monk?" "Monkey."

"For what do these letters stand: "B.A.?" "Before Adam," "Begin Again," "Bachelor of Adversity."

In a school in Kinloss was a little boy who would persist in saying "have went." The teacher kept him in one night and said, "Now, while I am out of the room you may write "have gone" fifty times." When the teacher came back he looked at the boy's paper, and there was, "Have gone fifty times." On the other side was written, "I have went home."

COMMUNITY WATERFRONT HERITAGE CENTRE

NICOLE EGAN •

Grassroots community organizations are the backbone of vibrant, resilient communities. They foster a sense of belonging, empower individuals, and drive positive change from the ground up. At the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre (CWHC) in Owen Sound, we embody these principles by preserving and celebrating our rich marine, rail, and industrial heritage. That's the starting point anyway. The work we do is all about cultivating community, and we're fuelled by volunteers in this work, by their passions and in our shared vision for connection.

Recently I became Chairperson of our Board, allowing Jan Chamberlain to step back (only very slightly!) while remaining a Director, along with Stephen Crane, Janet Iles, Treasurer, and Lynda Chiotti, Secretary, who recently joined us and will be formally welcomed at our next Annual General Meeting. Our Board typically consists of seven, but as is true with many volunteer-led organizations, we sometimes find ourselves struggling to get the volunteer numbers we need, thus not overburdening the dedicated volunteers we do have. 2024 saw many challenges for our Board and the many volunteers who support events and daily operations at the museum, lots of hours in planning and strategizing, spirited discussions on what next, and where we go from here, and ultimately lots of change with even more to come.

So, here's the ask...in 2025 we invite you to become an active member of the CWHC and join us in our mission. Membership not only supports our work but also grants you access to a variety of engaging programs and events. From guided tours and interactive exhibits to workshops and special events such as Folk for Heritage concerts, there's something for everyone to enjoy. We are looking forward to welcoming new volunteers and encourage everyone with a passion for community to reach out.

Our programs are designed to educate, inspire, and connect people of all ages. The Social Prescriptions Engage Cultural Seniors (SPECS) project, funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program, is just one example of how we are making a difference in the lives of our seniors. By participating in our programs, you'll be part of a community that values history, culture, and sustainability. And from a volunteer perspective, there's such variety in the work of our volunteers we're sure to be able to meet your passion with much needed tasks!

We rely on the dedication of our volunteers and board



members to keep our doors open and our mission alive. If you're passionate about preserving local history and want to make a tangible impact, consider joining our team. Your skills and enthusiasm can help shape the future of the CWHC and ensure that our heritage is preserved for generations to come.

Together we can continue to build a strong, connected community. Become a member, volunteer, or join our board today, and be a part of something truly special at the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre. For more information, call (519) 371-3333 or email info@waterfrontheritage.ca.

Celebrating
Earth Day with ANNE BELL
Rapture and Resistance
- the Heart of Nature Advocacy



SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 AT 2PM

at the Harmony Centre - 490 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound

Tickets: \$10 Available at: Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library, The Ginger Press, Sheila Gunby's Paper Cut Designs at Owen Sound Farmers' Market, Suntrail Source for Adventure in Hepworth

All proceeds for OSFN Youth Projects

www.osfn.ca

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the library

WRITE @ YOUR LIBRARY

SARAH CHAMBERLAIN

Write @ Your Library is the biggest and longest running local creative writing contest for youth, partnering public libraries across Grey-Bruce, the United Way and The Ginger Press to provide young writers from our region with the opportunity to be recognized for their creative achievements.

This year's judges, Richard Thomas, Doug Archer, and Rebecca Diem, had the serious task of making the selections from over 100 stories and poems submitted by young writers across Grey-Bruce. There was a tremendous amount of creativity, with the stories and poems crossing all genres, from comedy to action/adventure, and so much more. Congratulations to everyone who entered. We hope you enjoy this year's winning stories and poems!

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

Junior Short Story - First Place

Free as a Bird by Alegra Tudor

Junior Poetry - First Place

The Effects of the Voice by Tristin Croft

Senior Short Story - First Place

Blue Sunrises by Isabelle Faith Young

Senior Poetry - First Place

Highly Sensitive and Flammable by Freda Osayande

If you would like to read their winning entries, you can pick up a copy of the *Write for 2024 Anthology* at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library or visit <http://www.osngupl.ca/writte-your-library> to read the stories and poems online.

Watch for information about the 2025 Write @ Your Library contest and call for submissions in September. If you would like to find out more about the Write @ Your Library contest please contact the Youth Services staff at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library at ysinfo@library.osngupl.ca.

TWINNED POEMS OF THE APOCALYPSE

RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI

If you're not overwhelmed by what's going on in the world, you either possess superhuman reserves of calm, or you're not paying attention. Because we're living through a pivotal moment in the history of the species. This is one of those great historical turning points that so exercise scholars, and never has there been so much fodder for speculation – most of it terrifying. It turns out that terror is a great source of inspiration.

As a poet, I'm under no illusions about whether art can have a transformative effect upon society; Auden said it plainly enough: poetry makes nothing happen. But I still feel compelled to write, if only to express myself (admittedly, the least important function of poetry) in light of the meteor crash that is predicted for the second quarter of the 21st century.

So I posted the following poem to Facebook in the hope that it would generate dialogue. And boy, did it ever — mostly

on the part of people who empathized with me and agreed with the sentiments expressed herein. But upon reading it, my good friend David Mossy had a different take. He sensed that if pushed to its logical conclusion, my poem would provoke paralysis. In his view, we are not defenceless, nor are we pawns to be moved about the board by historical forces. And so he composed a rebuttal which answers every single point I raised. This was the dialogue I was hoping would come about, and David did not disappoint. He reminded me that we still have agency, that we still have options, that it is possible to look at our plight and not despair, and that hope is not the last refuge of Pollyannas.

And so we present for your consideration two versions of "Commissioned Poem". Yin and yang, darkness and light, horror and hope. We leave it to you to decide which one best suits your taste and attitude.

...Continued on page 20

COMMISSIONED POEM (BECAUSE I FEAR FOR YOU)

RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI ●

This is the birth of something big.

A continent becomes countries, barbed wire squeezes around a vague idea.

This is the birth of midnight passage, of muleback and blistered foot and the windblown dust in the open wound.

The birth of flame, of the ashes of passports and garment factories.

The birth of the sleeping bag on the steps of city hall.

The birth of economies of scale, which is the mark of the end times.

The birth of panic at the daycare, which is the mark of the end times.

This is the birth of the roof torn off in the storm.

Of machines that have no sense of humour

Of career paths no human should follow

Of zero sympathy for plastic whales.

This is the birth of a profane geometry.

This is the birth of servitude on cruise ships

Of passing over that about which we can speak

The birth of clothing that your body must be made to fit

This is the birth of seeing the back of your head when you look in the mirror.

Of having all the knowledge and none of the power, which has been our problem all along.

The birth of investing heavily in collateral damage

Of the first bear to die of heat stroke

Of the last drop of honey, which is the mark of the end times.

This is the birth of what comes after popular music.

This is the birth of world famous teapersons.

This is the kind of research that needs to be done in the field of climate change.

This is the high score with each line indicating the number of points scored by each player.

⁶ See also the discussion of the relationship between the two in the introduction.

¹⁰See also the introduction to the book by John C. Pollock, *Philosophical Perspectives*, 1990, 4, 1.

This is the birth of the pharmaceutical apocalypse, of the oil-powered whatever, of the mother tongue you no longer speak, of the unkindled lights of desire, of the unloved voices of the dead, and of the unfathered children without the

This is the birth of shouting and shouting into a canyon and thinking the echo to be someone else, which is the mark of

COMMISSIONED POEM

(BECAUSE I HOPE FOR YOU)

MOSSY •

This is the birth of something strong.

A continent becomes community, bridges rise where borders fell.

This is the birth of lanterns in the night, of hands that lift, of voices raised in songs that shake the walls.

The birth of open doors, of passports burned because they are no longer needed.

The birth of blankets offered on the steps of city hall.

The birth of economies of care, which mark the new beginning.

The birth of laughter at the daycare, which marks the new beginning.

This is the birth of the roof rebuilt after the storm.

Of machines that tell jokes in many tongues.

Of careers no longer bound to survival alone.

Of oceans teeming again with life.

This is the birth of sacred geometry.

This is the birth of freedom on open waters.

Of speaking of all that we once passed over in fear.

The birth of clothing that moves with your body, not against it.

This is the birth of meeting your own gaze in the mirror.

Of knowing both power and wisdom, which has been our dream all along.

The birth of investing heavily in kindness.

Of the first cubs born in a cooling forest.

Of the first golden hive rebuilt, which marks the new beginning.

This is the birth of music that heals.

This is the birth of elders dancing with teenagers.

This is the birth of the courage that attends true freedom.

This is the birth of love unshackled from fear, which marks the new beginning.

Of spice smells rich in every hallway.

Of having time to pack, to plan, to walk forward in warmth and light.

This is the birth of the medicine that does not harm, of the energy that does not destroy, of the mother tongue spoken once more, of food shared without cost, of what comes after despair, of the hourglass turned upright, of theory shaped by practice.

This is the birth of shouting and shouting into a canyon and hearing a thousand voices call back— you are not alone.

LEITH SUMMER FESTIVAL

DONNA PHILLIPS •

Step into the Historic Leith Church with its excellent acoustics, enthusiastic audience, and intimate ambience to enjoy a series of five Leith Summer Festival (LSF) concerts that span the genres of serene classical music to the energetic beats of contemporary jazz.

The stellar Leith Summer Festival 2025 season will include:

GALA OPENING: A fun night mixing classical and jazz on Saturday, June 28, 7:30 pm, with Caity Gyorgy, JUNO-award-winning Canadian vocalist singing bebop and swing music; accompanied by pianist Mark Limacher, a regular with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra; and Joe Phillips one of Canada's most versatile double bassists. PLUS, the remarkable Penderecki String Quartet approaching their third decade of an extraordinary career, will join the fun in the gala inauguration of LSF 2025.

Famous Cheng 2 Duo: will bring Canada's Stradivarius, on Sunday July 13, 2:30 pm. In 2016, named in the CBC list of "30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30," the talented duo of cellist Bryan Cheng and his sibling pianist Silvie Cheng opened the Leith Summer Festival. Now, as globally renowned brilliant musicians, the duo returns to the Historic Leith Church for another breathtaking performance.

Tenor Marcel d'Entremont and Pianist Dakota Scott-Digout on Saturday, July 26, 7:30. We are delighted to welcome a rising star: Canadian tenor Marcel is recognized for his powerful voice and dynamic stage presence. He has

performed widely across Canada and is a winner of the National Canadian Music Competition. LSF Artistic Director Jeremy Bell describes his vocal gifts, with a range of operatic, traditional folk and pop songs, as “perfect for the acoustics” of the Leith setting. Accompanying Marcel is Toronto-based pianist Dakota who is a highly sought after prize-winning pianist for vocal performances. Dakota, originally from Nova Scotia, is pursuing his Doctor of Musical Arts.

The Gryphon Trio is back on August 10, 2025, 2:30 pm. Winners of three Juno awards, this group is always a sell-out. Gryphon Trio is firmly established as one of the world's preeminent piano trios. For more than 30 years, the trio has impressed international audiences with its highly refined, dynamic, and memorable performances.

Quartetto Gelato: A Dazzling Closing Concert on August 23, 7:30 pm. The Historic Leith Church will be the perfect venue for this ensemble that has enchanted audiences and critics worldwide with its exotic blend of musical virtuosity, artistic passion, and relaxed humour. Their performance repertoire includes classical masterworks, engaging vocals, and the sizzling energy of tangos.

Leith Summer Festival is a not for profit, charitable organization that relies on volunteers and donations to maintain the building and plan cultural events such as the Leith Summer Festival. Mark your calendar now and prepare for a summer of extraordinary music and magical moments. Details and tickets at www.leithchurch.ca and The Roxy box office.

BUILDING RESILIENCE

MARIE KNAPP

It is a day-to-day thing. Sometimes I feel confident that everything will clear momentarily. But all it takes is the voice of one to throw me off balance. "What now? What is he planning this time?" There is no point in lingering in that state of mind. How can I be calm within?

We live so near to many hiking routes on the Bruce Trail. I feel uplifted when I hike or snowshoe or cross country ski in the forest. The Bruce Trail takes us to some awe-inspiring wooded areas that connect deeply with our heart. Old trees, crevice caves, escarpment edges, and more trees feed the soul. We are led to places of wonder, safe places where we can connect with all that is good in nature. We feel the essence of life and the uniqueness of each tree as it shares its magic with us. We simply allow a connection with all that we see and

experience on the trail, even the underground root system, even each seed which may be in a walnut, or berry, or cone, or key.

We feel the magic of nature when the first snow fall brightens the landscape. We feel it when, with icers on snow boots we tread the slippery areas. And we especially feel it when the snow melts, the sun shines, the sap runs and the buds of early blooms start to enlarge. We consciously allow nature to penetrate our being through our sight and our hearing, through the aromas of spring, through the gentle touch of spring breezes on our cheeks. We hike on the Bruce Trail, opening up to what the woods share with us. I can hardly wait. This, my friend, is appreciating the great natural area where we live. This is how we can nourish and grow our resilience.

Community Services and supports at your fingertips

Dial 2-1-1

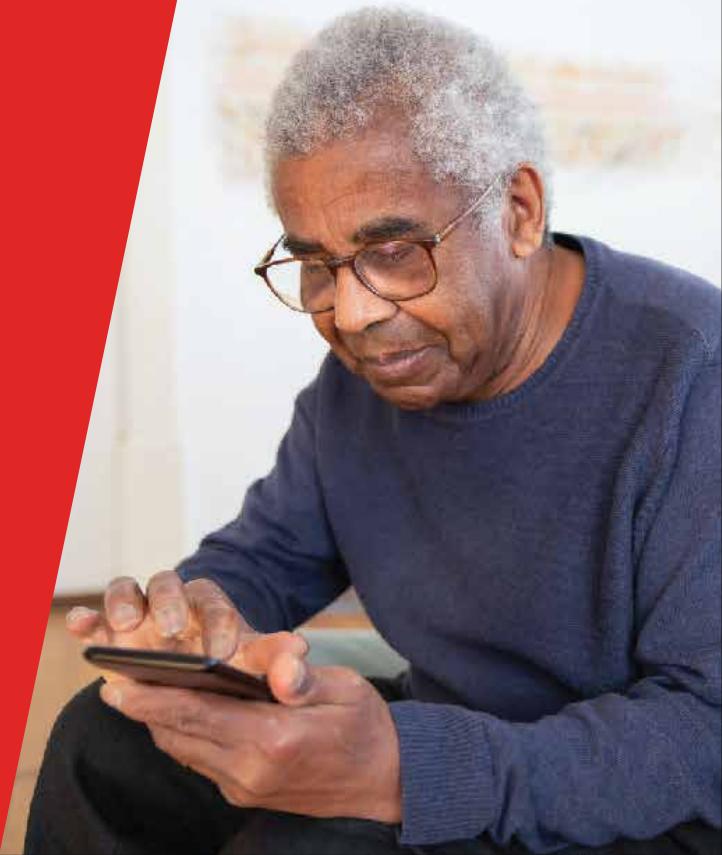


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LEITH SUMMER FESTIVAL 2025

"THE LITTLE FESTIVAL WITH THE HEAVENLY SOUND"



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SATURDAY,
JUNE 28,
7:30 PM

SUNDAY,
JULY 13,
2:30 PM

SATURDAY,
JULY 26,
7:30 PM

SUNDAY,
AUGUST 10,
2:30 PM

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 23,
7:30 PM

CURATED BY JEREMY BELL

PHOTO BY FRED WALKER/GOOD NOISE/CA

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BLUEWATER QUILTERS' GUILD

MARTHA CHOWN • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

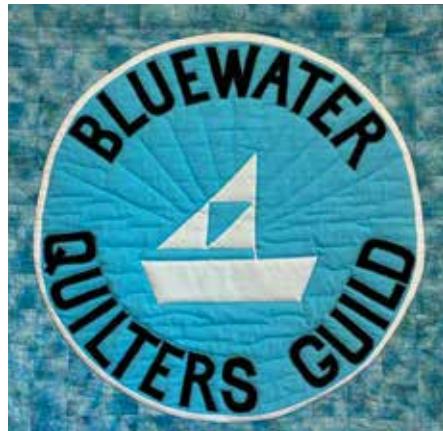
The Bluewater Quilters Guild was formed in April, 1987, by Sylvia Harvey, Noreen Smale, and Carol Seaman. On the first anniversary there were 32 members from Grey and Bruce counties. Today the Guild has approximately 150 members; it is a vibrant quilting community where creativity, learning, exploring and mutual support thrive. The physical act of making "by hand" creates beauty, relieves stress, challenges us, and builds community. Everyone is welcome, whether you are a beginner who has never quilted, or have years of experience. Membership in the Guild is \$40 per year and includes monthly meetings held on the third Monday of the month from September to July. Meetings usually include a guest speaker and a "Show and Share" of members' latest projects. Visitors are always welcome.

Members of the Guild also receive a monthly newsletter delivered to their inbox, and there are Special Interest Groups with a focus on particular sewing/quilting techniques. Current groups include Machine Embroidery, Sew Sisters, Stashbusters, Art Quilts, and Long Arm Quilters.

If you drive by 769 2nd Ave East in downtown Owen Sound you will see the bright storefront of the Bluewater Quilters' Guild Quilt Studio, also known as Pauline's Place, which has been operating since 2014. Don't be surprised if you haven't noticed us before; we have a new look due to the recent painting of the front exterior and the installation of a new colourful, eye-catching sign. In the spring of 2024, the Guild applied for and received a Façade Improvement Grant from the City of Owen Sound which covered part of the cost of the painting and the new sign.

The Quilt Studio is a place where members can borrow books, magazines, and patterns from the Guild's library, attend workshops including our popular Beginner Quilting Classes, socialize, and create beauty in the company of other quilters.

A cornerstone activity of the Bluewater Quilters Guild is Community Quilts, an outreach group which responds to requests from local non-profit and charitable organizations to provide quilts for individuals and families they support. Twice a week, a group of quilters from the Guild gathers at the Quilting Studio to make beautiful comfort quilts with donated fabric. Ongoing projects include donations of comfort quilts to Brightshores Cancer Centre for people receiving cancer treatments, and "Sensory Activity" quilts for the Alzheimer Society, as well as other groups and individuals. In 2024, 278 quilts were donated by the Guild through the Community Quilts Outreach group. Drop by



our Quilting Studio, the "Bright Spot" at 769 2nd Avenue East on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and see what we're stitching together.

For more information or to contact us, email info@bluewaterquiltersguild.ca, or visit our website at www.bluewaterquiltersguild.ca, or join our Facebook group ([bluewaterquiltersguild](#)).



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HOMETOWN CONNECTIONS AND RESURRECTIONS

STEVEN MOREL, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, SGB YOUTH LITERACY COUNCIL • • • • • • • •

I hail from that other ‘Sound-town’ on the Bay, Parry Sound. So does acclaimed, Indigenous author, Waubgeshig Rice, who grew up in Wausauksing First Nation, just outside of town. I brought Waub to West Grey many years ago to read from his first novel, *Moon of the Crusted Snow*. The event was very successful, being enjoyed by over 150 book lovers!

Currently, I work as the Program Coordinator with South Grey Bruce (SGB) Youth Literacy Council, a charitable organization that works to provide local youth in need with free literacy and numeracy tutoring. I have invited Waub back to read from his follow-up sequel, *Moon*



of the Turning Leaves, as a fundraising event on May 24, at the Hanover Civic Theatre, generously sponsored by Bruce Power. Waub will be reading from his book, sharing writing insights and discussing his work with Tracy Primeau, a retired Bruce Power engineer and member of the Nipissing First Nation. Save the date of Saturday, May 24 from 2-4pm. Check our website, www.sgbyouthliteracy.org for tickets in the near future, or email us at info@sgbyouthliteracy.org.

And SGB Youth Literacy Council is resurrecting our popular Adult Spelling Bee on Wednesday, April 2 at the fabulous Neustadt Springs Brewery. Sponsored by Ryan Enright and Cooperators, cost to play is \$100 per team of 4, or \$25 per player. It promises to be an entertaining evening of spelling, numeracy, literary trivia, and more!

We hope you can attend both of these exciting fundraisers and help pledge your support for youth literacy in South Grey-Bruce.

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Canadian Encaustic Conference

Three days of demonstrations and presentations on art, creativity, and encaustic painting, held in early September at the Bayshore Community Centre. Featuring 35 pre- and post-conference workshops across five locations in Owen Sound, led by influential instructors from around the world. Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Gauntlett, Canada Research Chair in Creativity, The Creative School, at Toronto Metropolitan University.

For more information and to register visit:
encausticconference.ca

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EMANCIPATION FESTIVAL

• •

The Emancipation Festival, originally called the Emancipation Day Picnic, commemorates the British Commonwealth Emancipation Act of August 1, 1834. Since 1862, descendants of those who escaped slavery and found freedom and peace in Canada, gather in Owen Sound's beautiful Harrison Park and other places such as the Grey Roots Museum and Archives over the Civic Holiday weekend to celebrate Emancipation Day. This is a time for fellowship and reflection with family and community, to share memories, and keep the tradition alive for future generations.

Join us over the Civic holiday weekend (August 1 to 3, 2025) to celebrate 163 years of the longest continuous festival in North America!

August 1 will be the fifth Emancipation Day since Bill M-36 was unanimously passed in the House of Commons to officially recognize this significant day across Canada. Stay tuned for more program details.

The Emancipation Festival, a not-for-profit organization, is grateful for the support from the government, community organizations, businesses, individuals and volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

As the public granting landscape becomes more unpredictable, we have launched an annual initiative to help keep our celebration going for many years to come. If you appreciate the Emancipation Festival or share our mission, consider making a donation to help us achieve our fundraising



target. No matter how big or small, it will help a lot.

Learn more about the Emancipation Festival — this special part of Canada's Black history in Owen Sound — and how you can get involved at emancipation.ca.

Celebrating 30 YEARS

"From a tiny seed, a mighty trunk may grow."
-Aeschylus

Community Foundation Grey Bruce is celebrating its 30th anniversary!

As a registered Canadian charity, the Foundation creates grants to support community wellbeing through a wide range of projects, from youth programs and scholarships to environmental stewardship to local festivals to food and housing security.

Visit our website to see how your donation can make a lasting positive difference in Grey Bruce.

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CEDAR & SAGE DESIGNS: A FAMILY JOURNEY OF CREATIVITY, LEARNING, AND BUSINESS

MORAG BUDGEON •

In 2023, a dream was born within a family of four with a shared vision — Cedar & Sage Designs. This family business isn't just about creating beautiful products; it's about building a future together and teaching the next generation how to turn passions into a meaningful and thriving venture. At the heart of Cedar & Sage Designs are Andrew and his wife Beth, who share a passion for blending creativity with technology, and their two children, Danya and Psalm, who help bring the dream to life.

What makes Cedar & Sage Designs unique is the family's journey with neurodivergence. Their two children, both of whom have autism and other disabilities, are integral to the success of the business. In fact, this venture was inspired by the desire to teach them valuable skills while pursuing their own interests. The family aims to use the business as a learning tool — one that combines their love for art, technology, and entrepreneurship, and helps foster their children's growth.

A FAMILY OF CREATORS

Cedar & Sage Designs offers a range of products from hand painted 3D printed products to handmade jewelry, with each family member bringing their individual strengths and passions to the table. Danya, the family's oldest child at 16, has been creating jewelry for the past six years. With an immense talent for design, she incorporates a wide range of artistic mediums into her work. Danya is the mastermind behind all of the jewelry designs at Cedar & Sage. What began as a hobby has now evolved into a full-fledged business where her unique, handmade pieces are shared with the world.

But Danya's creativity doesn't stop there — she's also involved in creating designs for their 3D printing patterns. Cedar & Sage recently ventured into the world of 3D, and Danya's design input has been invaluable. Psalm, her younger sister, has joined the creative side of things by helping with the 3D printing process; she also helps with the final stages of painting each piece. Psalm also does the tagging and show prep with mom, playing an essential role in keeping the printers running smoothly, changing the colours, cleaning the print beds, and learning how to send files to the printers. Her boundless imagination fuels the development of new and innovative designs, adding a fresh, exciting layer to the business.

LEARNING THROUGH DOING

One of the driving forces behind Cedar & Sage is the family's desire to give their children a real-world education — one that extends beyond the traditional classroom. As homeschoolers, Andrew and his wife use their business as a teaching tool. Every aspect of running Cedar & Sage, from production to sales, provides valuable learning opportunities. The family teaches their kids important life skills, such as problem-solving, responsibility, and teamwork. They also dive into the business side of things, including inventory management, customer service, and financial literacy.

By homeschooling their children in this way, Andrew and Beth are empowering Danya and Psalm to not only learn academic subjects but also to understand how to apply that knowledge in practical, everyday situations. This approach gives the children an immense sense of pride, as they are active participants in the growth of Cedar & Sage Designs.

A JOURNEY OF GROWTH

Cedar & Sage Designs is more than just a business — it's a family journey of growth, creativity, and learning. Andrew and Beth have turned their passion for art and technology into an opportunity to teach their children important life lessons, while simultaneously creating a space for them to showcase their own talents. Every step of the journey has been an opportunity to learn together, and the family continues to grow and evolve with each new venture.

For Cedar & Sage Designs, the future is bright. As the business expands, the family remains dedicated to its core values: creativity, community, and education. Their story is a testament to the power of following one's passions and using those passions to shape a positive future — not just for themselves, but for the next generation as well.

For more information, visit cedarandsagedesign.ca or stop by their booth at the Owen Sound Farmers' Market.



INTERSECTIONS WOOD COLLABORATIVE

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Intersections Wood Collaborative is a not-for-profit woodworking studio offering learning opportunities for everyone. Located in the heart of Owen Sound, it was formally incorporated March 1, 2022, after months of planning, realizing a long-time dream of world-recognized woodworker, artist, designer, writer, and environmentalist Stephen Hogbin.

Upcoming classes include:

- March 22-23: Woodturning a Peppermill with Carl Durance \$200
- March 26: Fine Woodworking with Pierre Rousseau \$50
- March 30: Power Tools for Women Level 2 with Jennifer Hart \$100
- April 4-April 6: Introduction to Woodturning with Carl Durance \$300
- April 12-13: Fine Woodworking a Hinged-lid Box with Pierre Rousseau \$200
- May 2-May 4: Woodcarving Celtic Love Spoons with Carl Durance \$300
- May 10: Sharpening your Woodworking Tools with Pierre Rousseau \$100

These classes fill up quickly; class sizes are limited. For more information, and to register, please visit www.intersectionswoodcollaborative.org.

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a shapeshifter
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- Rob Rolfe



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MARCH 20-22 & 26-29, 2025 AT 7:30PM
MARCH 23 AT 2:00PM

DIRECTOR: JOHN FLYNN
BY: HENRY LEWIS, JONATHAN SAYER & HENRY SHIELDS



APRIL 26 & MAY 2, 2025
AT 7:30PM

APRIL 26 & MAY 3, 2025
AT 2:00PM

DIRECTED BY: CARRIE CATHRAE-KEELING
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY: DON BUCHANAN

Based on the 1951 Disney film *Alice in Wonderland*
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and *Through the Looking-Glass* by Lewis Carroll

7 STORIES

AN OWEN SOUND LITTLE THEATRE PRODUCTION

JUNE 12-14 & 18-21, 2025
AT 7:30PM

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