

Emma Stevens

Theatre Lac Brome
founder and artistic
director is leaving

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Brome County Community Billboard

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Thursday July 26

A 500 card party sponsored by the Christ Church Committee will be held at 7:30 at Fraternal Hall, 910 Main St. in Cowansville. Everyone is welcome.

Friday July 27

The Knowlton Pony Club will be holding a hay ride and barbecue at the club on Ball Road. Soft drinks, hot dogs and hamburgers will be served starting at 5 and a hay ride will follow. Interested in some good old fashioned summertime fun? Please call The Pony Club any morning at 243-6613. Cost is \$5.00 a person and includes hamburger or hot dog, drink and hay ride. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday July 28

The Annual Church Bazaar

Sponsored by the Ladies Guild will be held at the Church of The Ascension in West Brome from from 3 to 5. There will be a table of home baking, handicraft tables, books, surprises and much more. Afternoon tea will be served. Admission charged.

A rummage sale sponsored by the St. James Evening Guild will be held in St. James United Church Hall at 2. Tea and cookies available.

CHS Homecoming '89. The First anniversary of Homecoming '89, a get together to exchange photos, videos and an opportunity to look at Pat and Shirley's "Book of memories." The event will be held at 2:30 at the Cowansville Gold Club. Refreshments will be available at club prices. Stay as long as you wish! For information call Pat at 263-0751, Doug at 263-3463 or

Warren at 263-1261.

Sunday July 29

The Foster Horse Show will take place at the Lion's Park in Knowlton. For more about this historic annual event see page 9.

Friday August 3

The Austin Women's Institute Annual Garden Party is to take place at the Austin Town Hall from 1:30 to 4. Included in the event will be: Sale of home cooking, handicrafts, children's treasures, nearly new and salvaged. Afternoon tea will be served, also soft drinks and ice cream for everyone.

Saturday, August 4

A Coldmeats and Salad Supper will be held from 5 to 7 at the Bolton Centre Town Hall to benefit the Holy Trinity Church Women's Committee. Admission charged. Everyone is welcome.

ARTS

Until August 11

Theatre Lac Brome presents eight classic comedies by the Russian master comedy Anton Chekov. See review below.

Until July 29

Arts Sutton Gallery — 7 Academy, Sutton, is presenting an exhibition of paintings by Michèle Drouin.

Until July 29

Now's your last chance to take part in the second annual Tour des arts. The tour of 20 local studios allows art lovers a chance to get out and meet local artists in the Sutton, Knowlton and Mansonville triangle. Maps of the tour are available at the Chambre of Commerce and in local tourism bureaus.

The Arts Sutton Summer

School is offering a wide range of three- and five-day workshops in painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, silkscreen, etching and woodcuts for adults and children in July and August. The school's studio is located in Dunham in an old countryside church. For more information call the school at (514) 248-3969.

Brome County Community Billboard is published as a free service to the community. If you have a notice you wish to appear in the Billboard send your submission to: Brome County Community Billboard, c/o The Record, 88 Lakeside Road, Brome Lake, Quebec, JOE IVO, or 2509 Delorme Street, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1K 1A1, or just drop it by the Knowlton office. Material must be received by Monday noon the week of publication. Be sure always to include a phone number.

The Sneeze: Classic Chekhov sure to please everyone

By Cindy Fisher

KNOWLTON — Taking in Michael Frayn's translation of Anton Chekhov's *The Sneeze* at The Brome Lake Theatre last Friday was watching quality, professional theatre in every sense of the word and gave the audience a chance to see the humorous side of this usually serious Russian playwright.

The eight short plays, although dated *in situ*, were nonetheless topical if viewed purely from a human standpoint, making one take a lighthearted look at the human

The SNEEZE

by Anton Chekov

race and its foibles and amusing failings.

Featured were the acting talents of five people with a wealth of diverse acting experience amongst them, all being equally proficient and gifted.

The plays were a series of Chekhov's earlier works. Seasoned English actor David Clarke played the inspector general with Susan Glover as the cart driver who brought the action to a recognizable national level with a strong newfie accent.

Clarke was also brilliant as Dr. Shelestov, his ceaseless rapid fire monologue and final intricate, entangled disagreement with his suspenders and pants gave the audience their money's worth in comic value.

With spasmodic right eye twitching uncontrollably, Robert Higden played the henpecked husband and ladies school administrator (of

questionable ability), in *The Evils of Tobacco*, and was the stuffy senior Government official with Leni Parker as his wife in *The Sneeze*. Bill Rowat with Susan Glover as wife played the socially inferior but "trying hard to be noticed" minor government official, both seated, incongruously, above the senior government official at a concert. Through crucial, perfect timing and action alone, these four actors never broke stride. The story made even funnier as the minor made every major social faux pas listed in the books including producing a sneeze with rather moist and

unfortunate consequences much to the chagrin of his superior below.

The set design, the creation of the multi talented Jean-Charles Martel, effective in its austerity, was simply huge, blow ups of Chekhov's face in stark black and white, the shelves, chairs and tables used also carrying the same color and design theme.

While the term "summer theatre" brings to mind plays of a lighthearted nature, *The Sneeze* was quality theatre with substance and is well worth the trip. *The Sneeze* continues until August 11, 1990.

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THE KIDNEY FOUNDATION
OF CANADA

Emma Stevens: Local theatre founder moving on

By Rita Legault

KNOWLTON — After eight years of being the heart and soul of Theatre Lac Brome, Artistic Director Emma Stevens is leaving to expand her horizons.

Come September 3, Stevens will be moving on to other projects. She may be back to act from time to time — but her days as the Theatre's main resource as founder, artistic director, actress and personable PR person are over.

"It's time to go on," she said in a recent interview.

Stevens said it's healthy for artistic directors to change regularly in order to avoid "things getting stale".

"I think its a good thing for an

artistic director not to stay too long," she said, adding that there is no decision on her replacement yet.

But Stevens, who has always worked in the area, also longs for new challenges.

"I need, for my own personal satisfaction, to see if I can do well elsewhere," said the energetic 43-year-old actress, who celebrated her birthday earlier this week.

TOUGH DECISION

But Stevens admits it will be tough to leave her baby — even now that it is doing well on its own.

"I don't regret it, for me to leave at a time like this when the theatre is doing so well artistically," she said, adding that she is happy with this year's season — "the best yet."

Stevens, who founded the theatre when she moved here from England eight years ago, said the early days were tough.

"Five of those years I didn't earn any money," she said. "I lived on welfare."

"I practically starved for those years — but it was worth it," she said. "Every moment of it was full-filling."

The theatre began as a children's workshop and gradually turned professional — acquiring

its own playhouse behind the Knowlton Pub last year. Until then it put on professional productions at the Glen Mountain Lodge and the Lakeview Inn.

"I never imagined we would have a permanent place to work," she said, commenting on the recent success of the theatre.

While nothing is definite yet Stevens is looking into doing a one-woman show in Montreal next season — a project she is very excited about but reluctant to talk about until its in the bag.

SUMMER CAMP

Stevens is also considering working with children again — starting up a summer theatre camp for children — with whom she loves working. She explains that it would be a theatre appreciation camp with puppet work, improvisation, dance and music.

Stevens said she hopes she will be able to return and act at the summer theatre that is so dear to her heart. And she has been asked to head up an artistic committee.

While Stevens may not have time for the committee she says she will always be around for help and advice.

"I will continue to be involved," she said. "I can never completely cut the umbilical cord."



Emma Stevens... 'I can never completely cut the umbilical cord.'

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Grants available to municipal recyclers

By Nancy Grenville

Generous grants from both the federal and provincial governments are available to Quebec communities embarking on recycling programs.

This was the message from Stanley Lake and Elizabeth Côté to members of the Sutton region Recycling Committee at their meeting July 17.

Lake described the successful beginnings of Mansonville's recycling program, which provides a subdivided container to receive recyclable waste from local residents.

Every Saturday morning an attendant assists contributors to stow four different kinds of paper and newspapers, cardboard, clear,



brown and green glass, rigid plastic and steel cans. The material brought to this depot can all be reprocessed and represents a substantial reduction in the community's refuse otherwise destined for landfill sites.

GAINING MOMENTUM

"Now that the Mansonville project is gaining momentum, we will apply for a federal matching grant from the Environmental Partner-

ship Fund which will substantially reduce our total costs," said Lake.

Elizabeth Côté of Abercorn described similar grants which are available to municipalities from the provincial agency, *Collecte Sélective du Québec* (CSQ).

Grants from both federal and provincial agencies must be sought by municipal authorities. In the case of Sutton, Abercorn and Sutton Township, all three councils have indicated they will not act before September.

The Recycling Committee will continue to press councils for their approval of a local program and hopes individual residents will speak up to their councillors.

"We sense a growing frustration with the lack of political initiative on recycling," said Betsy Johnston, President of Parc Sutton.

Noseguays highlight women's meet

SUTTON — The members of the Sutton W.I. met at 10:30 a.m. on July 12 in the Anglican Church Hall. Each one arrived with bunches of fresh cut flowers; both garden and wild ones, with the necessary accessories to assemble small nose-gays. The results were 75 plus pretty arrangements.

Several of the ladies prepared the lunch, each one having brought sandwiches and (or) squares and cookies. Tea was plentiful and all enjoyed the break. Following lunch a short meeting was held.

Reda Lewis opened the meeting with all repeating the Collect, followed by the Motto: *Patience is the Rose of the Soul.*

Roll call was answered by each naming a Canadian Provincial Flower. Reda welcomed 14 members, also two young ladies were present - Jessica and Rachel.

The secretary Corrie Slangen read the minutes from the previous meeting and gave the treasurer's report. The "Wool Gathering" project is to be continued again this year and the articles to be turned in

by November meeting.

Norma Jennings reported on a letter she had received from the head nurse on the geriatric ward of the BMP Hospital thanking her for teddy bears and bed socks; they were most appreciative. This could be a Christmas project.

Final arrangements were made for the group to attend Brome Lake Theater on August 21.

Corrie read a letter from Pearl Yates, Provincial President, reporting in detail on a successful convention held in May at Macdonald College. A letter of thanks to be written to the Sutton Fire Department for a wonderful festival enjoyed by all the townspeople. You are to be congratulated.

Corrie Slangen and Norma Jennings were celebrating Wedding Anniversaries the day of our meeting and congratulations were extended to the both couples.

Get-well wishes to be sent to Jim Anderson, a former resident of Sutton.

After some discussion it was decided to pay the balance of the cost of the Macdonald Journal from the funds.

The semi-annual Brome County convention will be hosted by the Sutton branch on September 27. A committee is in place to arrange for the luncheon - Norma Jennings, Ola Carr, Eileen Maxham and Reda Lewis. The regular meeting will be held September 13.

The QWI Rally to be held in Magog on October 11 - details later. Each member is asked to bring a roll of Pennies for Friendship to the September meeting.

The August meeting is in the form of an outing. The tea money and Pennies for Friendship were collected and the meeting closed with the singing of O Canada.

Several ladies left for the Sutton Foyer at 2 p.m. with the nose-gays that were previously made; each resident was presented with one and a few minutes spent in conversation with them. This is one project during the year that the ladies receive a great deal of satisfaction from and hope that in return it gave a bit of cheer and sunshine to the recipients.

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
EMMA STEVENS

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Riders: Brome youngsters compete on own level

By Cindy Fisher

BROME — The Young Riders Show went off without a hitch at The Brome Fair Grounds last Sunday under sunny skies and very warm temperatures.

Bobby Derby supplied hungry showgoers with "Derby Burgers," made famous by the culinary wizardry of parents Charlie and Sheila, and an enthusiastic crowd wat-

ched the action from the shady grandstand.

"We had our best turnout ever," said a delighted Gail Evans, show organizer after the event. "The show ran smoothly and we were finished by about 4:30 p.m."

Shows like this one are important events to many of our local riders because they offer them the opportunity to show off their ponies and riding abilities amongst their

peers. For many its the one and only show they attend during the summer.

"Most other area shows cater to people with more experience and horses of a different calibre," Evans said.

"Years ago, Foster Horse Show became aware of the different rider calibers and included a school horse division so that pony club and school horses and riders could compete against people their own level," she said.

"The Young Riders Show was conceived so that those kids who are average riders, on average ponies can have a fair chance at winning a ribbons."

"The show is definitely not for children on expensive show ponies, with weekly trainers who accompany them to all the major regional horse shows. They have their turn in the limelight; this show of mine is for those kids who rarely get a turn to shine. This point will be made very clear for next year's show." Evans also added that she would like to see "Children and ponies sized more suitable. We sometimes get kids on ponies that they, the children have outgrown long ago, or tiny children riding huge horses."

A special thanks to Ann Johanson for judging the show, for Dave Evans for acting as ringmaster and to the countless other volunteers for their help and support.

Class sponsors also deserve a heartfelt thanks. Without them small shows like this would be hard pressed to continue. When you see a beaming face on a small pony holding a well earned ribbon, you know running and organizing shows like the Brome Young Riders was worth the effort. Thanks

Gail!!

Champion Horse - Alora Jubel. Owner Diane Boomauer. Rider Annie Beaucage.

Reserve Champion Horse - Al Capone. Owner Ferme La Licorne.

Rider Natalie Farley.

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Reserve Champion Pony - Fancy Patches. Owner Deborah Soul. Rider Tina Boomauer.

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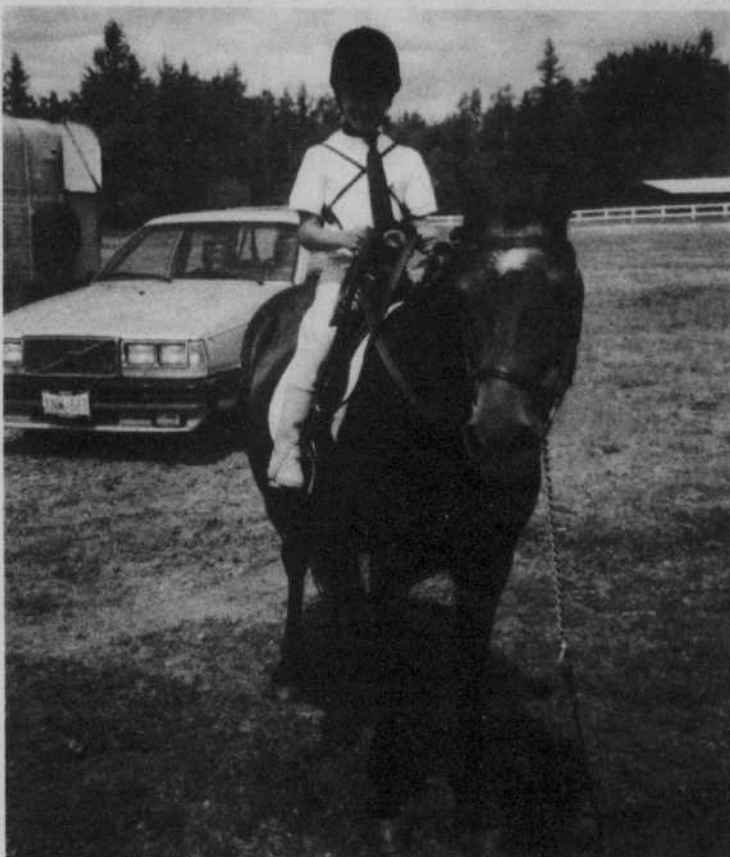
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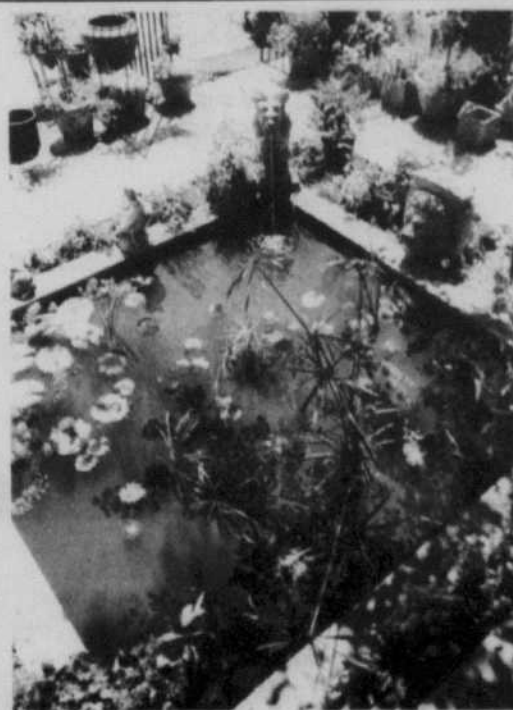
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Santa Claus visits Knowlton to celebrate Christmas in July

By Cindy Fisher

KNOWLTON — Hot, hot, hot! Santa Claus came out of the moth balls last Saturday, produced some glorious summer weather and came to visit for Knowlton's Christmas in July.

"We were very pleased with the turnout and the weather," said chief organizer Sharon Ostroff.

"But there were, as there usually are, a few minor problems."

These "minor problems" included an antique car that decided it was too old to drive in another parade; a Lion's Club trolley that blew a tire and went around the parade route empty; and some singers that were noticeably late arriving.

"We could always use more help and more parade entries but understandably costumes in the summer time are hot and uncomfortable, Ostroff added"

Ostroff would like to thank all those people who did make the effort to join in the parade. Stuart Whitehead and his fine team of horses, the square dancers, the Oompah band, the barbershop sin-

gers, the antique car driver, Don Hall for adding a certain "je ne sais quoi" to a rumble seat, the trolley driver and of course all the local children who dressed up as clowns including Ashley, George, Christine & Ronnie.

A thank you also to Sharon Ostroff for all her hard work in organizing this summertime gala. The job was even more difficult for

Knowlton's "Chocolate Lady" thanks to a cast on one leg brought on by a small disagreement with a large hole.

Santa Claus also deserves a round of applause for trading the brisk climes of the North Pole for some southern heat; no pleasant task in that red winter weight suit! Thank you. Merry Christmas to all!!



Santa waves to the crowd at the Christmas in July celebration in Knowlton.



Hundreds showed up to watch Santa weave his way through town.

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LOFT ACRES

Golden Age Club meets

MANSONVILLE — Golden Agers met at the town hall on Tuesday, July 17. Marjorie Newell donated several items for lunch, including a scrumptious carrot cake. The club added ham, baked beans, etc. Thelma Wilkins supplied her homemade doughnuts and Lina Tomuschat gave us garden fresh lettuce. I omitted to mention last week that Myrtle Bullock had given us a very generous donation toward future lunches. Sorry Myrtle!

Door prizes: Raymond Bedard, Cecile Hamelin, Mary Schoolcraft, Joe Drouin and Julienne McDuff.

500 winners: (1) Myrtle Bullock; (2) Toni Lamothe. (1) Joe Drouin; (2) Julienne McDuff.

Game prizes: Mildred Atyeo, Rita Mossa, Walter Smithers, Lina Tomuschat, Alice Drouin, Verli Aiken, Merle Young (Milton, Ont.), Juliette Laliberté, Mary Schoolcraft and Porter Knowlton.

A get-well card was signed for Judy Rypinsky, a patient in CHU Hospital.

Rev. Allen: Modern minister in today's world

By Cindy Fisher

MANSONVILLE — Ryk Allen is a most unlikely looking United Church Minister. If you harbor traditional visions of black coated, starchy, upright individuals darkening and guarding their church doorways with bible in hand, this man will be a pleasant and refreshing change.

Allen is very much a minister for the people, a "today" kind of minister, approachable and in tune with the rights and wrongs of society. He enjoys a glass of wine, smokes a pipe, sports a salt and pepper beard and is soft spoken with eyes that twinkle when he smiles as he dispenses his thoughts and ideas in a gentle manner.

Presently married to a minister, Allen was ordained in 1971 in Len-

noxville, choosing to enter the ministry because of his "Love of people, to work with them and to be with them in their highs and lows. I wanted to be involved and visible."

Allen feels the church "has a variety of jobs to do, it must try to be creative in many different ways and aspects."

Presently based in Mansonville, his "area" covers the autoroute to Vermont and includes Bolton Centre, part of The Glen, Vale Perkins, and Knowlton's Landing."

HELPING PEOPLE

Allen spends very little time in an office, preferring to move amongst the people planning their weddings, helping people deal with death, organizing family funerals, and seeing bed ridden patients in 2 or 4 different hospitals.

"Dealing with the emotional highs and lows is very draining," he admits. "And dealing with grief is very hard. The end result is that keeping an emotional level is difficult."

One of Allen's greatest concerns lies with natives, this interest stemming from his childhood when he grew up in Lachine near Kahnawake where some of his schoolmates were Mohawks.

He went to Norway House in Northern Manitoba in 1965, '68 and '70 as a student Minister for the summer and once ordained, went to Island Lake for 3 years as Minister. Since then he has been involved with the Assembly of First Nations (those Indians who have signed treaties in the past) and is all too aware of the social injustices

our native people have had to deal with.

"No effort has been made to bring native people into the constitution, to give them the right to self government, to see them as a distinct society. Meeting with two different Prime Ministers on five different occasions at First Minister's Conferences and over Meech Lake have produced no positive results," Allen said.

Allen is also quick to point out that for the aboriginal people, the discovery of America was the beginning of the end for many of them.

"For the 1992 Spanish World Fair, forty million dollars is being invested in a celebration of the discovery of North America," he said.

UNITED CHURCH APOLOGIZES

"The aboriginal people are meeting to try and counter these cele-

brations because for them the arrival of the white man was the start of murder, disease and genocide. The United Church was also to blame for many of their problems, they treated the Indians as sub-humans and in 1986 the United Church of Canada made a public apology to them," he said.

Ryk Allen is very much a modern man seeking and finding answers to modern problems and social wrongs. Yet he is also an approachable person in every sense of the word, able to communicate and discuss less lofty concerns, making sense of many unanswered questions without elevated rhetoric.

In a community encompassing many diverse social and economic groups, a man and minister like Ryk Allen is a must, bringing people today spiritually and emotionally, spreading the word the modern way.



Ryk Allen... a modern minister in a modern world.

RECORD/LUCINDA FISHER

Golden Age Club meets

KNOWLTON — The Golden Age Club met on Thursday, July 19 with 40 members present.

President Elsie Royea opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary Muriel Cook and accepted as read. A get-well card was signed by members for Hazel McGovern.

Five hundred was played at nine tables and one game table.

Prizewinners: Ladies 1st, Lillian Brown 3820; 2nd, Agnes Bailey 3540; Gents 1st, Guy Booth 3300; 2nd, Ormonde Brown 3180; consolation, Gertrude Ferguson 1320. Game table winner Lee Lawruk.

Prizes were won by lucky ticket holders.

Refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed.

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Pettes Library: New look for Knowlton matriarch

By Cindy Fisher

KNOWLTON — The Pettes Library, Literary Grand Dame of Knowlton, has undergone a major facelift spawning a resurgence of public interest in this venerable local institution.

Seventy-five per cent of the three month's work was funded by a government subsidy from the Quebec Cultural Affairs Ministry. The balance of funds came from the Town of Brome Lake.

"From money raised — but not from regular fund raising campaigns," librarian Susan Bailey Godin was quick to point out. "Understandably, some people did not want their donations going towards renovations."

Originally built in 1893, The Pettes Library was recently given historical landmark status by the Brome County Historical Society.

However, any library, old, new, local or metropolitan, must move with the times and when Godin was hired seven years ago, she brought with her the winds of change.

NEEDED UPDATE

"The library content was in need of modernizing," she admits. "But not all people were ready to accept that a library of the 80's and 90's needed a few books on physics or raising children. Many people were quite happy with the library as it was as long as they could find

their favorite Danielle Steele or Herman Wouk."

A visit to the Pettes Library reveals that book content is but a very small part of the major changes to the red building situated at one of Knowlton's major intersections.

Local decorator Sally Webster was instrumental in colour choice, furniture selection and decor throughout the renovations.

With a Master's Degree in Library Science behind her, ex-Knowlton resident Portia Leggat also drew on her experience working for an architectural firm that specialized in library design to find tune the original ideas put forth by Godin.

Alain Bellevance of Sutton drew up the plans and the results are pleasing to far more than just the eye.

The dated obsolescence and institutional look has been replaced by a welcoming openness that invites any bibliophile to pick a book, have a seat, and stay a while. In fact library staff members have noticed that more and more members are taking advantage of the comfortable overstuffed chairs and reading tables that give the library an almost living room atmosphere.

MORE LIGHT

The walls of the once rarely used rooms at the rear of the library

have been completely removed allowing more light into the central area and all walls have been painted a dark green accented by off white door and window frames and wall to wall carpeting throughout.

Downstairs was also given a fresh coat of paint making it far more cheerful for those interested in children's books, and non fiction. A back entrance for the handicapped in wheelchairs was also added allow them access to the lower level books.

Godin sees the role of the library as an important one to any community and when asked about the library's plans for the future she points out that "We would like to plan more activities for the library and have purchased a good T.V. and video so that one day we may be able to present quality videos for all. We also plan to continue to upgrade our book collection which is really good for a library of this size. One day I hope to be able to call it superb."

Presently the library employs two full time and one part time staff member and is helped by about 50 volunteers. In the summer a student is brought in and another part time member will be hired after the summer.

POSITIVE RESULTS

Godin said she is pleased with the positive effect that the library's new facelift is producing.

"We seem to have acquired many new members recently," she said. "In fact, record numbers."

"There are some afternoons when we process from 250 to 300 books," she adds. "Word of mouth seems to have brought many readers out of the woodwork and our membership is stable at about two to three thousand."

A newly acquired computer will one day take the manual work out of recording the exact number of members, now an almost impossible task due to countless variables such as part time, full time

residence status, language, sex, age etc.

Knowlton's Pettes Library, like a precious book, is a rare find. It has managed to keep up with the times, moving, as Knowlton has done, with the changing tide.


As today's world becomes increasingly automated beyond human comprehension asking us to make a multitude of confusing choices, the written word remains the simplest and most constant choice of all.

Throughout the ages, it has provided the human mind with food for thought, comic relief, historical information and the delight of a "Can't put it down" mystery with a gripping final twist. No matter what the outside world offers, libraries like The Pettes will always welcome with open arms, offer a comfortable chair and a good book.

For the reader, the greatest decision is a simple one: When to put it down.



Local decorator Sally Webster was instrumental in colour choice, furniture selection and decor throughout the renovations.



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Foster Horse Show... The little show that grew

By Cindy Fisher

The Foster Horse Show, taking place on July 29 at The Lion's Park in Knowlton, celebrates its 40th birthday this summer.

Believed to be the oldest self-supporting horse show in Quebec, today's Foster Horse Show is a far cry from the small event organized in 1951 by Buffy Glascoe in his field in Foster.

Glascoe's small show attracted people in their cars so he passed the hat and gave the \$8.00 he collected to the church across the street.

Little did he know that he had started one of the most successful annual horse events and fund raising in the area. Old newspaper clippings from 1958 attest to the 3,000 people who attended the show, the proceeds going, as they do now, to the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital.

20 SPECTATORS

In 1958 the Knowlton advertiser and Eastern Townships Chronicle wrote that the show was "A far cry from the first show ... when there were only twenty spectators ... and even they weren't expected."

Instead of four horses, this year there will be fifty.

As time went on, the show attracted the bigger stables and horse loving families who brought their horses and ponies and provided top level competition.

The Mounties would come to hand out ribbons and be photographed with the youngsters. The Knowlton High School band would bring on the winners and send out the losers. Fathers would sit and chat, a beer in hand, in the back of a truck or trailer and the mothers would organize, console and congratulate.

However, for many who remember, the nicest part of the old show was that sense of family friendship and fun, so often lacking in today's shows with their "Let's win attitude."

One Knowlton resident remembers fondly that "It was really one big social gathering where everybody knew each other."

MOVED TO KNOWLTON

In the 1970's the show was becoming a major horse event so it moved to the Lion's Park just outside of Knowlton. It became a top rated show offering hunter, jumper and flat classes and as in the past is run completely by volunteers who work hard for months before the show to make sure all goes well on the day.

About five years ago, area horse enthusiast Anne Johnston took over the reins as show organizer and gave it a much needed boost in the form and organizational revamping. She appears to have the running of the show down to a "T" and takes no bones about how and where the money is allocated, that's done by Hank Rotherham and crew Macrae.

"The Foster Horse Show management makes a veritable art of being tight fisted when it comes to expenses," she notes, "All workers are volunteers and any 'freebies' required by our Sponsor Chairman are given as prizes to reduce the

toll taken by ribbons and prizes from our entry money."

The entry money for the show goes to pay such expenses as judges fees, advertising, mailing, Canadian Equestrian Federation dues and any other show expenses.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Trimming and cutting the excess has enabled the show to give charitable amounts to the hospital; in 1989, the cheque was for twenty thousand dollars, a more than generous sum from a small local show run by dedicated volunteers.

Johnston will only keep a class on for two years if it's running in the red but admits that there are special cases.

"About the only exceptions are

the walk trot and the family class which saves me from being accused of hating small children (not good P.R.!)," she said.

Johnston is also amusingly ruthless about her team of dedicated volunteers and warns, "Woe betide any committee member who tries to reclaim any of their huge long distance bills ... that is automatically assumed to be part of their volunteer effort."

However, as anybody who has ever worked with this organized dynamo knows, she has a special gift when it comes to dealing with people, makes the most mundane job sound crucial to the success of the show (even garbage collection!) and freely admits that she

often "bites her tongue."

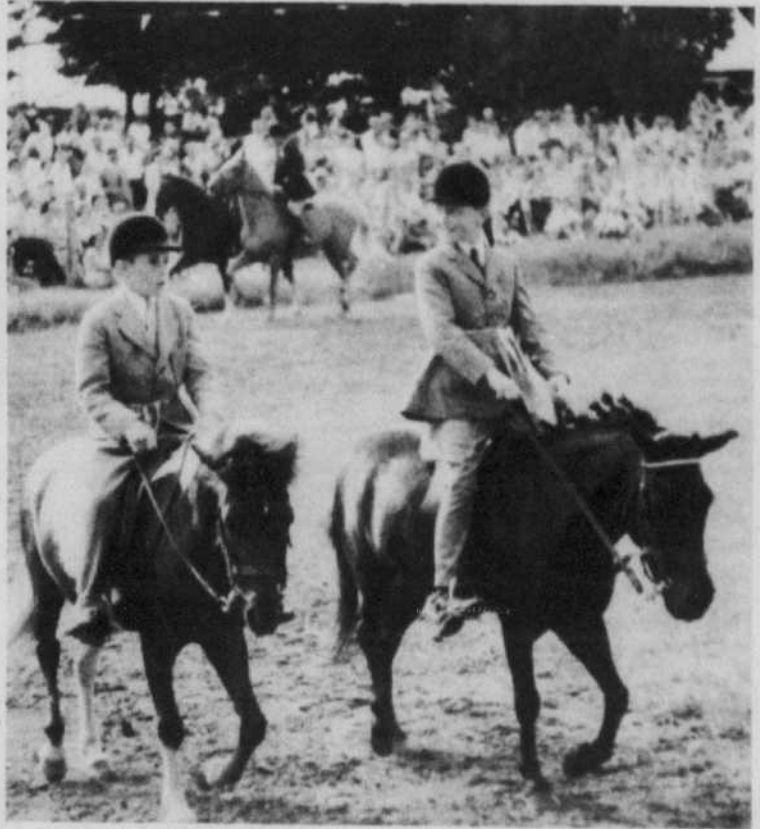
WIZARD

Needless to say, that through her organizational wizardry, The Foster Horse Show is now an efficient money making machine. In this day and age, that is no small task and the community owes her a round of applause and a thank you.

The year's Foster Horse Show will also feature a Picnic Contest and prizes will be given out for the most delectable and lavish of the day. These contests are frequent at many shows and draw countless entries from people wanting to join in the edible fun.

While some people go for lavish, linen covered table complete sterling silver place settings and mouth watering goodies, others may choose a simpler theme, like The Teddy Bear's picnic. Interested? Call Ann Johanson at 243-5963 for more information.

Horse lovers and sports enthusiasts of all ages are welcome to come and join the fun on July 29th at The Lion's Park in Knowlton and organizers can almost guarantee perfect weather ... rumour has it that the weather has always cooperated for the show ... after 39 years the odds are in their favor.



Brian Shemilt and Claudia Southan compete in a pairs class.

Recognize any familiar faces from 35 years ago?

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Love is costly but maybe not enough

"The exorbitant price of love"

In Ethel Wilson's short story "From Flores" there is a moving scene of Captain Crabbe's wife sitting on the wharf at Alberni, B.C., waiting for the Captain to bring his boat home. The newspapers are quite certain by now that the ship has gone down in a storm with all aboard, but day after day Mrs. Crabbe still waits on the wharf, refusing to believe, or as Ethel Wilson puts it, "paying the exorbitant price of love".

This story was on a course which I taught for many years, and that phrase always provoked argument. Mine were college students, you see, many of whom were already gloriously in love, and except for a few not quite recovered from recent heartbreak it seemed a downright sacrilege to accuse the grand passion of costing more pain than it was worth.

Nor was the class comforted when I would suggest that even for the forever and ever, divinely ecstatic kind of love allegedly made in heaven there has to be an end; and that the deeper the love the deeper the agony when comes that inevitable day.

Which explains why in the boundless poetry of love there are so many tears and so few rejoicing.

Now we who have loved know all too well that we paid a price for that love, but even when that price was a very high one, was it really too high? Was Ethel Wilson unduly pessimistic when she answers yes?

Because the word 'exorbitant' implies something beyond a price that is justified.

H. Gordon Green



Let me assure you that it was not the reading of some broken-hearted verse that set me to pondering this. Nor was it some love tragedy of my own. It just happens that as I look out of my window now I can see our bull gazing wistfully through the bars of his pen at the herd enjoying the freshness and freedom of the shimmering green just a few rods away.

And except for the frolicking calves, every critter out there is a female; lovely virgin heifers some of them, who are so hungry for the service that he alone can provide that they have come as close to him as the fence will permit and are jumping each other obscenely to show him what they have in mind.

Furthermore it is June outside, the one month when it is almost a sin to be celibate, and the reason we have named our bull Casanova is because — well if you haven't read the life story of the original Casanova it's high time you completed your education.

Now before you Animal Rights people start jamming my mailbox with indignation again I want to tell you that I have every sympathy for our Casanova, and though you might think me too old for it I know exactly how he feels. But let's take time out for a bit of mathematics here. A cow's term of pregnancy is nine months, the same as a woman's, which means that if I were to let Cassie out to give those heifers what they're begging for, they would drop their calves in a snowbank. (Like any other beef herd that isn't coddled our Belted Galloways prefer to be wintered outside.)

So it won't be till Dominion Day or a couple of weeks later that Cassie will finally be let out with the herd. And then my friend, will follow a scene so saturated with unbridled pleasure that even the Animal Rightists would find it refreshing. (Unless of course they decided they should feel sorry for the cows.)

But on the day when he is finally free to roam the fields of heaven, I wish I could offer an apology for those six months of solitary confinement which is the price our Casanova must pay for his season of love.

"Cassie," I would say, "you could consider yourself lucky, you know. You still have your reproductive organs, a rare streak of luck indeed in today's cattle world. Like winning a super lotto would be for me. The market wants steers, not bulls. And for the very few of your brothers that have been selected to carry on the race, fewer still are allowed to copulate. Most must spend their entire lives in some bull monastery where they can only wonder what a cow must look like. The conceited little man from the Artificial Insemination Centre now insists that he can manage the breeding business better than the bull can.

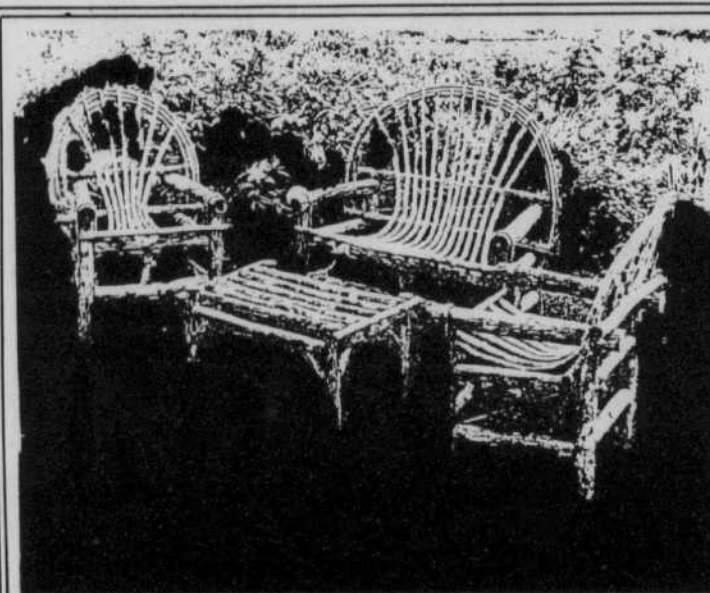
You, Cassie, are one in a million. You are still permitted to do what comes naturally.

But even if he could understand I wonder if he would think my apology sufficient: if with a shake of that massive hairy head, he would try to tell me that the orgy now about to begin would never be enough to atone for that long, long winter of his discontent. That like Ethel Wilson, he finds the price of love exorbitant.

Back in '75 after running afoul of too many jealous husbands as well as the Inquisition that first Casanova found himself in a dungeon in Venice's notorious Piomb' prison; and his first remark here was that to be sentenced for five years in such a doleful place was indeed one high of a price to pay for the pleasure he had so unselfishly given so many women. But a few months later after he had made an ingenious escape from the place and was again in a bed where he had no business to be he was suddenly the optimist again.

"It costs much to love," he told the woman beside him. "But not too much!"

And I'm hoping our Cassie would agree.



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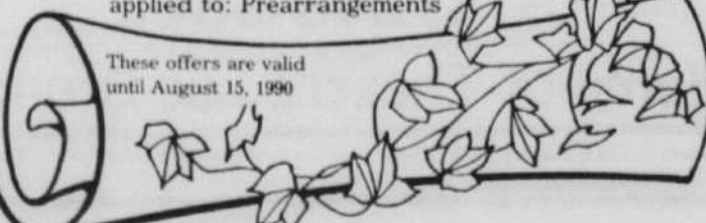
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Abercorn: Churches change hands but keep faith

By Audrey Martin McCaw

Church Street in Abercorn is certainly well named.

Today, St. Simon's Roman Catholic Church on the north side faces All Saints Anglican Church on the south side.

But this was not always so.

St. Simon's was originally All Saints Anglican, the community's first church built in 1865.

The present Anglican church building, on the south side, was built in 1870 as a "Union" church, later part of the United Church of Canada.

This changing of sites represents the fluctuation in the population of a small community and the attendant ability to support a local place of worship.

According to the late historian Harry B. Shufelt, "the first information we have with respect to church services at this place is found in the journal of the Rev. Thomas S. Chapman who arrived on January 24th, 1849, at 'Sutton Corner,' five miles from Sutton Flats."

SHEPARD'S MILLS

Actually, Abercorn was known for many years as Shepard's Mills, after its Loyalist pioneer Thomas Shepard, and the name was changed to Abercorn when the Post Office was established in 1849.

Mr. Shufelt writes that Mr. Chapman had received a letter of introduction from Rev. Joseph Scott, who was at Coldbrook (Knowlton) to Dr. B. Seaton, collector of Customs. Dr. Seaton was an Englishman and as we shall learn gave the land and also money for the erection of 'the large brick church' by the members of the Episcopal Society.

Dr. Seaton was absent from home and so the Rev. Chapman went to a man's house by the name of Spencer with whom he lodged for the night. That evening Mr. Chapman held a service at which about 75 persons were present, chiefly youths, and so he 'gave a sermon appropriate to the young. They were very orderly and attentive.'"

"He wrote in his journal that there was no place for public worship except an old delapidated school house, which was probably the school building mentioned by Thomas (Contributions to the History of the Eastern Townships) as the second school house which was built of logs and had a much better heating system than the first.

PRIMITIVE HEATING

It was warmed by the primitive Dutch back, whereas the second one had flat stones placed on the ground in the centre of the school room and on these a circular space was enclosed by bricks, raised to a height of a few inches, so as to contain the wood necessary to warm the room. On top of the bricks 'an old cauldron was inverted, with a hole in the bottom, through which smoke passed into the pipe.'"

Mr. Shufelt says that several years passed before a church was actually built on the ½ acre of land given by Benjamin Seaton - who

was quite prepared to fence in the beautiful site as well as draw stones for the foundation and contribute a cash donation.

In 1865 the Rev. J. Smith of Sutton reported that "At Abercorn the Church Building Committee are prosecuting their labours with zeal and vigour a neat design has been furnished by Messrs. Lawford and Wilson, Architects, Montreal." It was described as "a large brick church of Gothic style the main building is 50 x 36, with a chancel 20 x 18. It affords seats for about 350 persons. Its windows are filled with beautiful stained glass and it promises to be, when completed, one of the finest specimens of architecture in this section of Canada."

In 1868 the Rev. Smith of Sutton reported to the Church Society for the Diocese of Montreal:

NO BELL TURRET

"The church at Abercorn is completed, except the bell-turret, and we opened for divine worship on the 10th July last (1867), upon which date two years had elapsed since the laying of the corner stone. It was a day of grateful interest to the friends of the church, who have struggled through all difficulties and succeeded in erecting an edifice creditable to their zeal and energy."

In a further report two years later, he wrote: "In July 1868 the late lamented Metropolitan consecrated All Saints Church, Abercorn, and also held a confirmation at the same time. The services will be long remembered by those who were privileged to be present."

Soon after this auspicious beginning, in 1870, some "non-conformists" chose to leave the Anglican fold and form a separate church. Possibly they had been attracted to the Methodist doctrine which had been preached in Sutton since the turn of the century.

The Abercorn group built a new church across the street from the Anglican on land given to them by Dr. Lorenzo Miner. This congregation, which later became part of the United Church of Canada in 1925, was served in those years by the pastor of the United Church in

Sutton.

SADDLE-BAGS MAN

Methodism had begun in England around 1730, with John Wesley, and had spread to Eastern Canada and the U.S. In 1799 a Methodist Conference in Massachusetts sent a young preacher, Lorenzo Dow, to develop a new circuit in northern Vermont and nearby parts of the Eastern Townships, including Sutton, Dunham and St. Armand.

A typical "saddle-bags man", Dow covered his territory on foot, or when possible on horseback, riding about 30 miles per day, preaching in fields, barns, private homes or schoolhouses, where they existed, and he was described as "one of the most remarkable men of his age, for his zeal and labour in the cause of religion." He wrote several books and in one he refers to his first visit to Dunham and 'Murphrey Magog-Lake' (sic):

"The people in this part of the country were the off-scouring of the earth, some having ran tither for debt, others to avoid prosecution for crimes, and a third character had come to accumulate money. These were like sheep without a shepherd, having only two ministers; one of whom believed one principle and preached another. From there I went to Sutton and got into three parts of the town; in two of which there was a prospect of much good; but in the other, reprobationism shut up the hearts of the people, and I must speak there no more."

RELINQUISHED RIGHTS

In 1828 the American church relinquished its rights over Canadian Methodism. Other Protestant groups, such as the New Connection, the Congregationalists, Baptists and Adventists, were attracting adherents and, consequently, the "Union" churches served as a meeting place for several denominations.

Following the first World War the original Anglican Church building, described above was sold to the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Sherbrooke, and it became a Mission of the church in Sutton.

Various Protestant denominations, including Anglicans, worshipped in the Union Church building across the road. By 1949 this building, no longer being extensively used, was sold to the Anglicans who once again desired to have their own place of worship in Abercorn. It resumed its former name of All Saints, and so continues today, on the south side of Church Street.

In the meantime, the Roman Catholic Church Mission, occupying the original All Saints on the north side, had in 1941 formed a new Parish, now large enough to serve the growing French-Canadian population which had been moving into the area following the late 1830s. It was called St. Simon's and the first curé was Father Roméo Lapointe. Again we quote Mr. Harry Shufelt:

KEPT NAME

"A very beautiful church has been created by covering the exterior (brick) with stucco and stone, and by wonderfully doing over the interior. There was a stone with the words 'ALL SAINTS' on it above the entrance door and when the church was taken over by the Roman Catholics they very gra-

ciously did not remove the stone, nor did they cover it with stucco

Today St. Simon's Church is served by priests from Sutton or Montreal.

A third church in Abercorn, the Seventh-Day Adventist, was completed in 1930. Located on Thibault Street in the southern part of the village, it serves adherents from both sides of the international border.

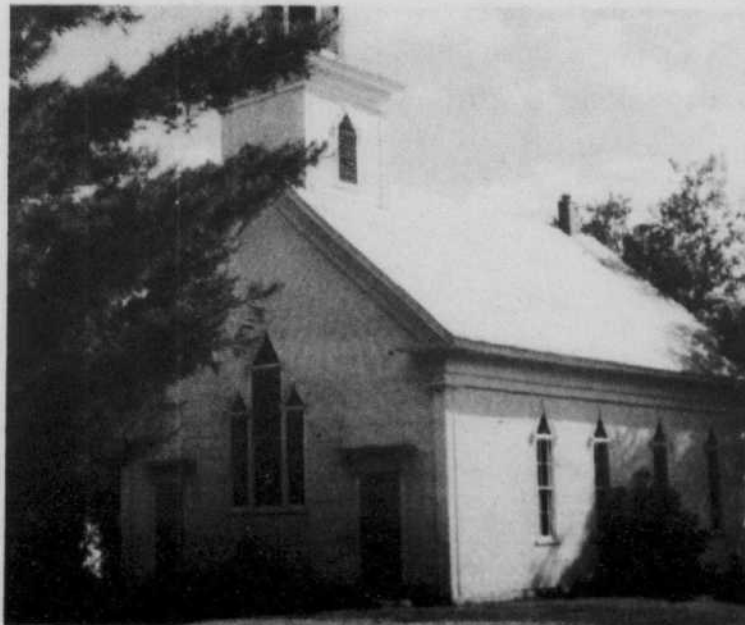
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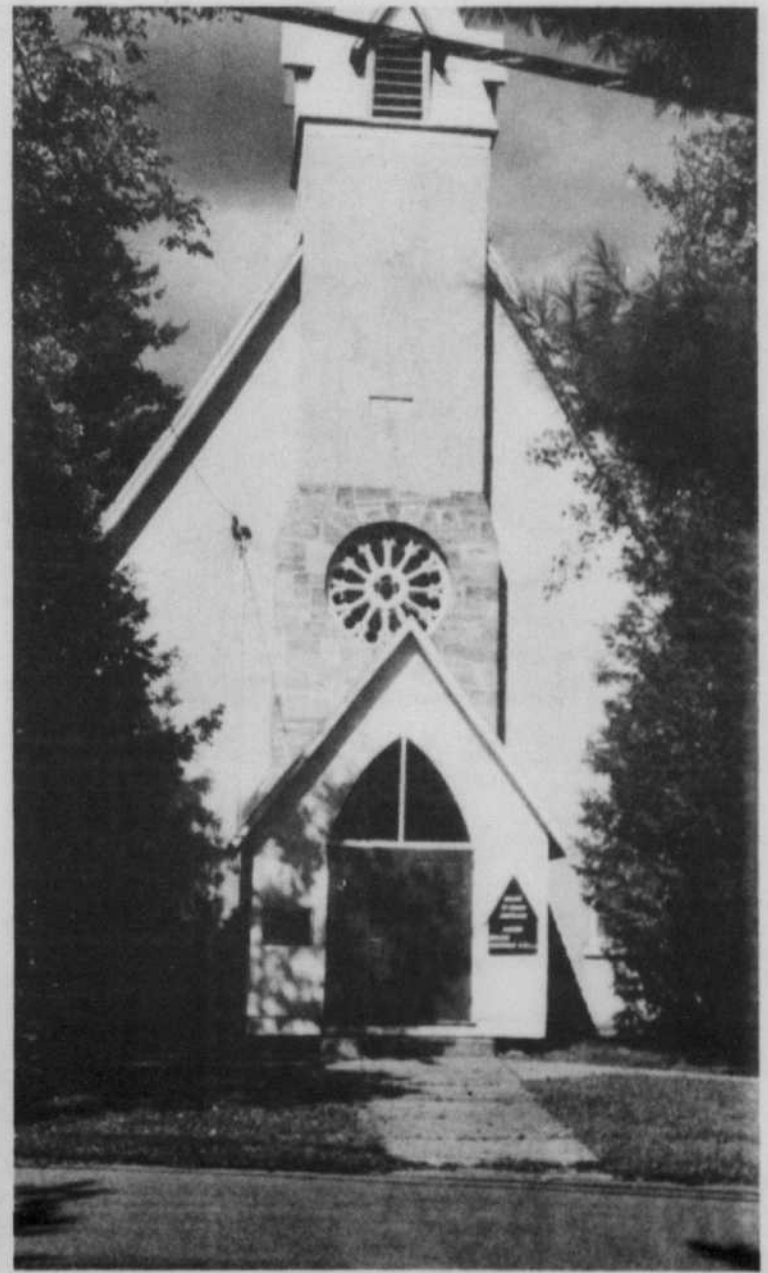
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The Anglican Church in Abercorn



The Catholic Church in Abercorn.



Waterloo

Alice Ashton

On the weekend of July 6, Mrs. Jesse Bailey was in Peterborough, Ont. to attend the funeral of her sister, Myrtle McMellian. She was accompanied by Ross and Elaine Hamelin of Mansonville and her brother Merrill Sherrer of Dunkin.

Mrs. Anita Hanna spent over two weeks visiting members of her family in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dunsmore were here from Maine for a couple of days when they visited Gordon's father and Frances' mother, Mrs.

Breault, both at the Courville Nursing Home.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Foster of Knowlton were in town one afternoon and while here called on Byron Mizener and Alice Ashton at the Nursing Home.

South Bolton

Jane Willey
292-5785

Recent weekend guests of Burton and Frances Salls-Tracy and Ros Macgregor were Sandra Miller, St. Lambert and Lynda Hill, Wales. Ros is working at Trinity Church as a student minister for the second summer. She has received her M.A. in Pastoral Studies from the University of Montreal and will start her ministry course at the Diocesan Theological College in September. She still follows patients at the University of Vermont Medical Centre, and their parents.

Burton and Frances Salls-Tracy were in Greensboro, Vt., for a bar-

becue at the home of his sister Evelyn and husband Kenneth Withers, three brothers, the spouses, a sister and friend were also present.

Erwin and Wilfreda Salls and their grandsons Willie Salls and Raymond Rothfel, Greensboro Bend, brother Howard and Ruth Salls, Morrisville, and sister Gertrude Dunbar and Milton Montgomery, St. Johnsbury, Vt., spent a day with Frances and Burton.

Lynda Hill and her mother Joan Higeon of England were guests of Ros, Burton and Frances for a long weekend before returning to the United Kingdom.

After preaching at Holy Trinity, South Bolton, and St. Paul's, Mansonville, Eugene Wright, his wife Elyse and baby son Adam spent Sunday afternoon at Pine Ridge. Ros was pleased to greet her good friends from St. Barnabas church in St. Lambert.

Mansonville

Bertha Nichols
292-3258

Elden and Evelyn Judd of Highwater, Que., have returned home from a month's holiday out west and in Ontario, visiting their god-

child, Dana Murphy and his family in Hinton, Alta., also calling on Deena and Allen Feuber and family, also in Hinton. The Judds returned to Cochrane, Alta., where they visited their other godchild, Deborah and Mick Domenyoz and toured many places. They were supper guests of Roger and Glenna Holmes in Calgary. Returning to Ontario on June 17 after their lovely time out west, the Judds stayed in St. Jacobs with their daughter Linda Kraak, husband Gerry and daughter Maria. Evelyn and Elden returned to their home in Highwater on June 26.

On July 15 Elden and Evelyn Judd were dinner guests of Evelyn's aunt Pearl Griggs and brother Sidney Griggs in Sutton to celebrate Evelyn's birthday.

The death of Rev. John Morris whose funeral was held on July 3rd at the Cathedral in Montreal has left the members of this former Parish of St. Paul's Anglican Church deeply saddened. Sincere condolences are extended to his family and Mrs. Joyce Morris.

In the recent death of Bernice Leigh Smith, her many friends from the Vale Perkins, Sugar Loaf and Mansonville areas wish to express feelings of a great loss, both

to themselves and to the community, for whom she did so much.

The accidental death of Kevin Cote has shocked his family and friends. Sincere sympathy is sent to his parents, other relatives and friends.

Norman Lawlor has been a patient at CHU Sherbrooke for several weeks. His condition is not good.

Sutton

Mable Boyce
538-2946

Mae Russell and Pete and Cora Hazard motored to Mississauga, Ont. where they visited Mike and Noreen Applebee and family. The Hazards went on to Dorchester, Ont. where they spent two days with Scott and Kim Davidson. Then to Brantford, Ont. as overnight guests of Mae and Howard Litt. Back to Mississauga, returning home on Sunday with Brian Applebee accompanying them to Sutton, where he spent a week with his grandmother.

Pete Lussier and Elaine Tucker, Gagetown, N.B. and Bev and Mike Lussier of St. Hubert were calling on Mrs. Hazel Hazard recently.

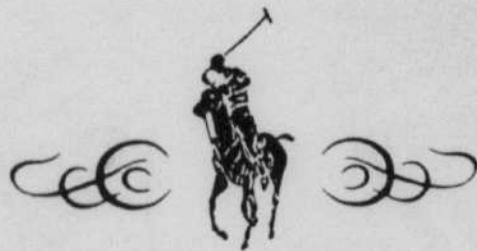
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilfred, Rosenberry Road, were recent guests of Harold and Ruth Hazard.

Bid Lachapelle spent a few days in St. Andrews East with her daughter and family Pam and Ken McOuat.

Rev. James Cowan and Mrs. Cowan were visiting Mrs. Ellen Rumsby recently: They are from St. John, N.B. where James is Pastor of Main St. Baptist church. Mrs. Cowan is the eldest daughter of the late Rev. J. M. Jones and his wife Bessie Willey. Rev. Jones was pastor of Sutton Olivet Baptist church from 1929 to 1933.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Owen, Vero Beach, Florida, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rumsby.

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