

WHAT'S HAPPENING *in Howick*

MAY 2022 ISSUE | whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com



A steady flow of people found their way to the "Hop Into Spring Market" at the Howick Community Centre on Saturday, April 9. Over 20 vendors and artisans showcased their products, with food available from Country Style Family Restaurant. A photo booth was setup, and kids were invited to make and take a craft at the Painting By Megan booth.

There were also free gifts for the first 100 kids, and activities for all. This event was hosted by "For the Love of Local", and they will have more events throughout the year. The next is in honour of Mother's Day, on Saturday, May 7 at the Howick Community Centre, from 10am to 3pm. Find more information on their Facebook page.

Cheryl Mann, EPC, RIS

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*Rain or
Shine*



The weather seems to be heading in the right direction for spring (I hope), with more warm days than cold, and more rain than snow. However the kids' snowsuits are still on stand-by and my washing machine gets a regular work out as the muddy puddles are a favourite stomping ground. The sunshine can do wonders for our state of mind, where one day it's difficult to feel motivated, and the next you're keen to tackle the to-do list. Maybe some of that has to do with my quality of sleep the night before, which tends to widely fluctuate during these last couple months of pregnancy. Though it's not an easy period of time, the gift (and challenge) of children is worth it. At least that's what I remind myself on the hard days.

On page 18 I included a quote about how if there's no struggle, there's no progress. While it is sometimes (or often) frustrating, the sense of accomplishment can be amazing to reflect on once we're through the tough parts and realize how much we have grown as an individual, especially when we are aware of the support and comfort of a loving God who never leaves us. No experience is wasted, no matter how difficult or heart-breaking it is. I think of a number of people in my life right now who are in very challenging circumstances, whether dealing with childhood cancer, major health crisis, or having experienced a stillborn baby. We can't understand the 'why', but maybe it's more about 'what now', or simply 'Help me God'. I hope each of these families will get to a point of looking back and seeing how God was at work in their lives and those around them.

This month I have begun to work with Julia Lien, who has agreed to help keep the newsletter running this summer while I adjust to the arrival of baby#3 in June. She moved to Fordwich a few years ago and is eager to be involved in our community. Let's give her a warm welcome!

Keep your face always
towards the sunshine –
and the shadows will fall behind you.

- WALT WHITMAN

Angie Koerssen

Deadline for the next issue is May 18.

519.292.0878
whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com

HOWICK LIBRARY

May Events:

NEW LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday 10am - 2pm
Tuesday 4pm - 8pm
Wednesday 4pm - 8pm
Friday 10am - 2pm
Saturday 9am - 12pm



Take & Make Kits:

Available at the branches for pick up.

In Your Backyard:

May 5th - Huron's Hidden Gems Online Speaker event at 7pm-8pm. This talk will focus on Goderich, Bayfield, and points in between.

Virtual Meditation

Every Wednesday there is a free virtual meditation and mindfulness group that meets in the afternoon from 1-2pm and another session in the evening from 8-9pm. For more information visit BlueOwlMindfulness.com



Please feel free to contact the library with any questions or concerns, and follow our social media pages for upcoming programs and events.



FROM THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE

Upcoming **Council meetings** are scheduled for **May 3 at 9 am** and **May 17 at 7 pm** in the Howick Council chambers at the municipal office. All meetings of Council are open to the public.

Information for voters - to vote in a municipal Council or school board election, you need to be on the voters' list as an elector. Find out if you're on the list to vote for municipal Council and school board elections at voterlookup.ca. You can add yourself, change personal information, change your school support for electoral purposes and add other electors under your address.

Notice of Nomination for Office

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s. 32)

2022 Municipal Elections

Notice to Municipal Electors of the Township of Howick

Nominations for the positions listed below must be made on the prescribed form available at the municipal Clerk's office. Nomination forms must be filed, either in person or by your agent, with the Returning Officer of the Township of Howick during normal office hours between the first business day of May in 2022 to Thursday, August 18, 2022 and between 9 am and 2 pm on Friday, August 19, 2022 (Nomination Day).

The required filing fee for the Head of Council is \$200.00 and all other offices are \$100.00 (cash, debit, certified cheque or money order made payable to the Township of Howick) must accompany the signed form. Full details on the procedures to be followed may be obtained from the Clerk.

- Reeve (1)
- Deputy Reeve (1)
- Councillor (3)

Returning Officer – Carol Watson
519-335-3208 ext 2
www.howick.ca



HURON
HAULING & EXCAVATING

Laverne Brubacher
519-292-0078
45961 Salem Rd. Clifford
laverne@huronexcavating.ca

WROXETER PARKS BOARD

The Parks Board is looking for new board members to help with projects and we are looking at hiring students to line the diamond for games. If you are interested and want more information please contact Joanne at 226-230-2359.

WROXETER BALL PARK CLEANUP DAY

May 7 at 9am

Wroxeter Ball Diamond

Bring rakes, shovels, gloves etc.

The next tax due date is **May 27th**. Payments can be made at the municipal office by cash, cheque or debit. Anyone wishing to pay by credit card or e-transfer should visit our web site at www.howick.ca and choose the option from the front screen "Pay by credit card..." any fees are the responsibility of the payee.

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation has advised that they will be forwarding assessment updates starting in May. If you have built a new house or did any building improvements, you will receive a notice from MPAC and a bill will be forth coming from our office.

Remember to test your well water! Test bottles can be picked up at the municipal office but must be dropped off at a Public Health Ontario Laboratory site. Check out our website for a listing of local drop off sites and hours as well as steps you can take to reduce your risk of consuming contaminated water.

Do you have a community event you would like posted on Howick's website? Submit your information at <https://howick.ca/add-your-community-event>. For up-to-date information, contact the municipal office at 519-335-3208 or check out the website at www.howick.ca.

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK IS CHANGING THE WAY BURN PERMITS ARE ISSUED



***UPDATE APRIL 6, 2022* All Rural Open Air Burning in Howick Township now requires a permit. A burn permit will be required annually ONLY for rural open air burning. The cost of a permit is \$50.00 and is valid for the property registered. If you own multiple properties where burning may take place, they can be registered on the same permit. Recreational "camp fires" DO NOT require a permit.**

This single point registration will be kept on file and will eliminate the need to call in prior to each burning. You will also be provided with a copy of the Howick Township Open Air Burning By-Law for reference.

Remember YOU are responsible for your burning and costs associated with any fire department response to illegal open air burning.

Permits must be filed and payment made at the Howick Township Municipal Office, 44816 Harriston Road, RR1 Gorrie.

For more information contact Fire Chief Shawn Edwards 519-335-3202, howickfire@howick.ca

Howick Township Open Air Burn Permit 2022

PERMIT #: _____

Make cheque payable to:
Township of Howick, Gorrie, ON, N0G 1X0

NAME: _____

PROPERTY OWNER -or- RENTER (please circle)

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

NAME OF BUSINESS (if applicable): _____

ADDRESS (where burning to take place): _____

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES (business only): _____

Open Air Burn Permits are valid from January 1 - December 31 and must be purchased annually.

You are responsible for your burning. Conditions of the Open Air Burning By-Law are to be adhered to.

I have received a copy of the Open Air Burning By-Law

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION

HOWICK OPTIMIST POOL:

Online Swimming Lesson Registration is now open, please visit our Facebook page or www.howick.ca to register online.

In Person Swimming Lesson Registration Night will be held **May 15th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm** at the Howick Community Centre.

HOCKEY REGISTRATION:

Howick Minor Hockey Registration and Information Night, **May 15th 5:00pm to 7:00pm**

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT IN HOWICK:

May 15th 4:00pm to 8:00pm hosted by Howick Hustle Minor Soccer. Food trucks and free fun for the kids. See ad on Page 7 for more information.

Maitland Valley CAMERA CLUB

The Getting to Know Our Camera Session was How To Keep Inspired With Photography. Never lose interest in taking photos. We thank Deb Griffey for the video presentation.

During the meeting we chose photos for the 2023 calendar our club is working on with the Brussels Agromart. We are having it printed in Blyth. Each member will have a photo in the calendar. A great project for the club – we thank the Brussels Agromart for being part of this with us.

Many members visited the display, The Changing Face of Photography in the Harriston Library. An excellent event hosted by Gary Moon and Mark Robinson.

Gary Moon and Mark Robinson had a Winter Challenge with the members. On April 21, they returned to our meeting and each member brought some photos for the Challenge. Still Life, Macro Photography, Outdoor Landscape, and something different – an Ad for a Product. We thank Mark and Gary for helping us through these challenges.

We are currently working on 5x7 photos for a display in June at the Listowel Library. On May 19 we will be on a photo shoot practicing our macro photography.

The club meets in the lower level of the Brussels Library at 7:30 p.m., December to March first Thursday of each month and April to November first and Thursday of each month. Check us out on Facebook: Maitland Valley Camera Club



LIZ ALLAN - "SNOWDROP"



MARY WINGER RAE - "CROCUS"



LIZ ALLAN - "A WASP IN THE CROCUS"

DRIVE-THRU PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY MAY 29TH, 2022
8AM - 11AM



PRESENTED BY
THE HOWICK
FIREFIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION

**MEALS ARE BY
DONATION ONLY**

MEALS INCLUDE
Pancakes
Sausage
Eggs
Syrup/Butter
Drink

**FIRST-COME
FIRST-SERVED**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

May 1 - May 7

Be Ready for Anything



HOME EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT

Supplies for Your Family for 72 Hours

- Non-perishable food items. Canned food such as soups, stews, baked beans, pasta, meat, fish, fruit. Crackers and biscuits, honey, peanut butter, jam
- Manual can opener (bottle opener)
- Bottled water. 4L per person per day. (2 for drinking & 2 for hygiene and washing)
- Crank or battery operated radio
- Flashlight with batteries
- Candles and matches (lighter)
- Family First Aid kit
- Personal hygiene items (toilet paper, feminine products, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- Pocket knife or multi-tool
- Whistle
- Cash (small bills and change)
- Special needs items for babies, pets, elderly (as required)
- Garbage bags and zip-lock bags
- Duct tape
- Copies of important papers (insurance, medications, family contacts, etc.)
- Emergency document holder
- Spare phone or tablet charger

NOTE: Consume and replace water and canned goods annually

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT IN HOWICK

HOSTED BY HOWICK MINOR SOCCER



SUNDAY, MAY 15, 4 - 8 PM

AT THE HOWICK COMMUNITY CENTRE

ENTRY BY DONATION

TRUCKS INCLUDE:

FO 'CHEEZY
BIG BITES
BEAVER TAILS
THE WILD BOAR
EL MILAGRO
BORN 2 EAT



RAIN OR SHINE
INDOOR SEATING AREA
RAFFLE DRAWS
BAKE SALE

FREE FUN FOR THE KIDS
INCLUDING A CLOWN

Community Events

BELMORE PICKLEBALL RESUMES - Starting May 3, Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30-9pm, or Sundays 9-11:30am. See ad on Page 9.

WROXETER BALL PARK CLEANUP DAY, May 7 at 9am. Wroxeter Ball Diamond. Bring rakes, shovels, gloves etc. See ad on Page 5.

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT - Sunday, May 15, 4-8pm at the Howick Community Centre. Entry by donation. Hosted by Howick Minor Soccer. See ad on Page 7.

DRIVE-THRU 1/2 BBQ CHICKEN DINNER - Friday, May 27, 5-7pm. Hosted by the Optimist Club. See ad on Page 9 for tickets and info.

DRIVE-THRU PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST - Sunday, May 29, 8-11am at the Howick Fire Station in Gorrie. Presented by the Howick Firefighters Association. By donation. See ad on Page 7.

What's Happening in Howick?

Get your community event added to this calendar by sending us a message at:

whathappeninginhowick@gmail.com

GORRIE HALL BOARD

The Gorrie Hall is open for rentals as per the current restrictions.

For rentals, call **519-335-3798**

We welcome new members interested in joining the Hall Board.

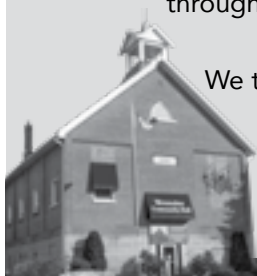
The Wroxeter Community Hall is now **open for rentals**. Please contact Carol E. to book your special event.

The board members are looking for **new volunteers** to join the board. If you would like to be part of the hall board, please come in for a coffee or contact Marvin G. for more information.

Come for a coffee and a visit each morning, Monday through Friday. The coffee shop is open from 6am to 10am. Welcome everyone!

We thank you for your continued support.

For the latest updates, follow us on facebook
"Wroxeter Community Hall - 1094 Centre Street"



WROXETER HALL NEWS

Celebrations

Lily Vittoria Biglow

Proud parents Rachel & Tyler Biglow are happy to announce the birth of their daughter Lily.

Born March 12, 2022, 12:44 a.m.,
7 lbs. 9 oz., 20.5" long,
Guelph General Hospital.

Happy & very proud Grandparents are
Sandra & Bob Kloiber of Kitchener
Kimberley & Steve Biglow of Fordwich.



Lucas Stephen Bartmann

Proud parents Amanda & Matt Bartmann are happy to announce the birth of their son Lucas.

Born August 27, 2021, 1:12 p.m.,
8 lbs. 9 oz., 21.5" long,
Groves Memorial Hospital, Fergus.

A wonderful new addition for brothers
Dominic, Samuel and sister Abigail Jean.
Happy & very proud Grandparents are
Kate & Garry Skelding of Point Clark
Kimberley & Steve Biglow of Fordwich.



Thank You

My heartfelt thanks for all of the good wishes, phone calls and gifts I received helping me to celebrate my 90th birthday. It was so nice to see everyone at my come and go. Special thanks to my family for planning the event to help me celebrate my special day. It is one I will remember and treasure always.

Most sincerely,

Jim Stewart

Send in your birth announcements, anniversaries, birthday celebrations, etc. to **whathappeninginhowick@gmail.com**

There is no fee for this service, but you're welcome to make a donation to the newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS MAY 18.



DRIVE-THRU

1/2 BBQ CHICKEN DINNER

Includes baked potato, coleslaw, bun, vegetable and dessert.

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2022, 5-7PM

Pickup at the Howick Community Centre

\$20/ticket, available from any

Howick Optimist member or email

3054www@gmail.com or call **519-335-6346**.



Howick
OPTIMIST
Club
"Friend of
Youth"

50/50 DRAW

Tickets will be on sale from early
May until the end of July.

*The Howick Optimist Club thank
you for your continued support.*

BELMORE PICKLEBALL RESUMES

STARTING MAY 3

Free demonstrations anytime.
Play Tuesday and Thursdays 6:30 - 9pm
and Sundays 9 - 11:30am
in the Belmore arena.

Equipment will be supplied.
Bring your own running shoes and water.
YouTube pickleball to learn about the game!
It's a fun sport with a great social aspect
that you play when you want.
No teams or schedule.



For more information, call **519.881.8056** or
email **belmorepickleball@wightman.ca**



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ELECT

Huron-Bruce Liberal Candidate

SHELLEY BLACKMORE



Dear Neighbours,

For those of you who don't know me, my husband and I have lived on a farm in Howick Township for 24 years. I am a retired principal and I spent the last four years of my career as principal of Howick CPS. I am honoured to be the Ontario Liberal Candidate for Huron-Bruce. As a mother and grandmother, I want to be a part of a government that will pass legislation to protect our environment and our way of life for future generations.

I am running as your Liberal Candidate because I care about people, and I want to do everything I can to build strong communities in Huron-Bruce. The past two years have been hard on all of us. We are tired, frustrated, angry and divided. The pandemic has exposed many weaknesses in our systems and the Ontario Liberal Party under the strong leadership of Steven Del Duca, has a recovery plan that will rebuild a better Ontario.

As I travel throughout Huron and Bruce, I am hearing about many things that matter to you and your family – the cost of Housing, the state of Long-term Care, the cost of Childcare, the cutbacks to Education, Health-care, Labour shortages in all sectors, lack of Support for Small Business, the impact of the carbon tax on Agriculture and Climate Change just to name a few. Many of these complex issues will require co-operation between all levels of government and I will work towards this collaboration. When we all work together, great things can be achieved.


I have the experience, competence and leadership skills to be a strong advocate for our riding. I will listen to your concerns and bring my passion and energy to work for you at Queen's Park. I hope I can count on your vote. **Together, let's "Choose Change In Rural Ontario!"**

Sincerely,

Shelley Blackmore

Choose Change in Rural Ontario!



 1-226-839-0660

 sb@shelleyblackmore4huronbruce.ca

 www.shelleyblackmore4huronbruce.ca

 [ShelleyBlackmoreHB](https://www.facebook.com/ShelleyBlackmoreHB)

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 [@SBlackmoreHB](https://twitter.com/SBlackmoreHB)

*Authorized by the CFO for the HBPLA

WWW.HOWICKNEWS.CA



THE HURON COUNTY CRUISERS ARE SEEKING A NEW MANAGER

If you're interested or have questions, contact **Verdun Zurbrigg - 519.444.8551**



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- L 33 Hp Loader tractor

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- Log Grapple
- Brush Grapple
- Vibrating Packer
- Forestry Brush Cutter
- Forestry Mulcher
- Landscape Rake (Harley)
- Hydraulic Post Hole Auger
- Laneway Grader with Ripping Teeth



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- Landscape rake • Lawn roller

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Wright Blooms GREENHOUSE

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SUBMITTED BY TRACEY SWART, PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through the month of April in the school year. What is even more hard to believe is that this is the first time in two years that we will be at school for the full months of April, May and June. However, we are quickly remembering what a busy time of year it is as we work hard to deepen our learning and as a staff we start to make plans for the 2022-2023 school year.

Much of our professional development this year has been focused on literacy and we have been re-examining the importance of phonological awareness throughout the grades and we hope to continue that work next year. Our primary classes have been working hard on understanding syllables and rhyming which are important predictors of reading success. Reading is also a wonderful way to improve our mental health. Did you know that a recent study found that reading for 30 minutes can reduce stress as much as yoga for the same duration? Reading really is good for us!

During the first week of May our school will recognize Children's Mental Health week from May 3 to 6th with a variety of activities. On Friday May 6th our School Mental Health team which consists of Mr. Ramnarine, Ms. Fox, Mrs. George, Mrs. Carmichael and Ms. Campbell are organizing a hands on activity for all of our students where the students will be able to make a special bracelet to remind them of how they are part of our school community. We are excited to be able to have activities like we did in the past and know that is important for our students and our whole school community.

A special thanks to Mr. Herrfort and Mr. Ramnarine for coaching our intermediate boys and girls basketball teams. These two teams headed to FE Madill on April 28th to proudly represent our school. May will also see the return of track and field for our junior-intermediate students, class pictures and even pizza days on Thursdays! We look forward to updating the Howick community on events around the school in the upcoming month.

Captions:

TOP: Reading in Ms. Gottfried's grade 2 class.

MIDDLE: Mrs. Chris Wright who has been a consistent and amazing supply teacher for us this year. We are so grateful to her when she picks up the call and fills in at Howick!

BOTTOM: Intermediate boys basketball practice.



Community CHURCHES



MCINTOSH & MILD MAY UNITED CHURCHES

will hold worship services
at MILD MAY UNITED CHURCH
for MAY 2022, Sundays at 10am.

Contact for information:
Dave Mawhinney - 519.392.6710
Deanne Dickson - 519.418.9748

Belmore Presbyterian Church

Join us for our Worship Service at 9:30am
Everyone is welcome!

REV. CAREL GRUNDLINGH - 226.222.0051
carel.grundlingh@gmail.com

ABE VERSTEEG - 519.327.8578

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

7 CLARKE ST. N., CLIFFORD

Rev. J. Rinas as Pastor

Sunday School and Bible Class at 9am

Sunday Divine Service at 10am

stjohnsoffice@wightman.ca

Office: 519.327.8298

Church Basement: 519.327.8262

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

PASTOR KURT E. REINHARDT

Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45am

Sunday Divine Service 11am

519.291.1165 - trinity1874@gmail.com

6784B Perth Line 88, KURTZVILLE

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FORDWICH BIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

Family Worship Sundays 10:30 - 11:45

ROOTS & WINGS Sundays 11 - 11:45

Children: ages 3-10 years

Questions? Contact Pastor Mike or Terri

519.335.3479 - pastorbicfordwich@outlook.com

Facebook: "Fordwich BIC Community Church"

Gorrie Bible Fellowship

www.gbchurch.net

Find us on Facebook

Join us for Sunday morning services

at 10:00am. All are welcome.

Sunday evening services begin at 6:30pm.

519.335.3500 | info@gbchurch.net

Starting on April 24, 2022,
we will be having our church
service in the upper level
of the Wroxeter United
Church beginning
at 11:00a.m. An
online service
with Rev. Jeff
Hawkins begins
at 9:30a.m. on
Facebook: Gorrie
Wroxeter United
Churches.

Thanks to all
for joining us
online or at the
Wroxeter United
Church.



Gorrie 
Wroxeter



WISH (WI Scavenger Hunt)

Celebrating 125 Years of the Women's Institute in Canada

SUBMITTED BY DARLENE HARDING

WI is celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2022. Due to the unknown of what Covid-19 restrictions would be in place, instead of having a large celebration, the FWIO executive came up with the idea of creating a Scavenger Hunt that would be held throughout the province. Commencing February 2022, the Clue and Activity will be revealed to the team the first Wednesday of every other month. Five more clues and activities will be released every other month throughout the year, with the final Clue in November.

All WI members across the Province (including Associate Members) were invited to join in on the fun and friendly competition. Teams consist of at least one WI member and one non-WI member. Howick WI has 2 teams entered in this competition!

The first clue was released the beginning of February and completed by the end of the month.

CLUE # 1: Extraordinary Achievement comes from Ordinary People. There are some extraordinary WI Plaques, Halls, and Projects that can be found throughout the Province of Ontario. What better time to remind everyone of WI's 125 years of accomplishments and community involvement!!

ACTIVITY: Find one of the WI plaques, Halls, or Projects near you. Then snap a photo and send it along with a story, telling us about it and where your Team found your treasure.



History took a turn 125 years ago, when a brilliant young lady, Adelaide Hoodless, from St. George came to the attention of Erland Lee, a farmer and teacher from Stoney Creek. She was asked by Erland and his wife to speak to the Annual Ladies Night of the Farmer's Institute of Stoney Creek.

Adelaide spoke on the broadening of knowledge of 'domestic science' and suggested that an Institute for women be created. You see, Adelaide had lost a child and she wanted to educate other young women to avoid this tragedy. The idea was met with great enthusiasm and the following week Erland and his wife Janet, and Adelaide welcomed 101 rural women to this follow-up meeting.

On February 19th, 1897, it was decided that the Women's Institute should be formed. Within a decade there were more than 500 branches across Canada. In 1907 the University of

Guelph began a Home Economics course. To this day, the course continues to teach young people cooking, sewing and hygiene.

In Howick Township, the first branch of the Women's Institute was formed in Gorrie in 1902, followed by Fordwich in 1903, Wroxeter in 1919 and Lakelet in 1952.

In 1978 a group of young mothers decided they needed a night out together without their children. The Howick Junior Women's Institute was born. In 1998 The Provincial Junior Women's Institute disbanded, and the Howick Branch joined the Federated Women's Institute and became Howick Women's Institute.



Celebrating 125 Years of W.I. Shown L-R: President of Huron/Perth District Margaret McInroy, Darlene Harding, Leone Foerter, Heather Stinson, President of Howick Ria Stewart, Margaret McMahon, Gwen Catherwood, Brenda Bunker, Ronna Lee Johnson. Absent members are Marg Greig & Pauline Aton.

Over the years, the women in these Branches spent many hours fund raising for charities, teaching babysitting classes, learning and teaching how to preserve their own fruits and vegetables, cooking meals, and baking amazing desserts. Quilting was always a favourite activity, stitching together while sharing stories of times gone by.

All of the WI Branches in Howick Township supported the 4-H Clubs as leaders and volunteers. Many of the same women took great joy being involved with the Area Fall Fairs and sponsoring young people to be Ambassadors to the Fairs. Scholarships were offered to graduating students at local Elementary and Secondary schools. These scholarships were in support of Home Economics or Agricultural programs.

As our WI Branches started to disband, the idea of the display case came from finding memorabilia from Fordwich WI when cleaning the Fordwich Hall before it closed. Howick WI had already received many articles from family members of disbanded branches, and wanted a way to safely preserve and display them. This idea of a display case to be put in the Howick Community Centre became a project to mark the 40th Anniversary of Howick Women's Institute in 2018.

Today the display case proudly preserves and displays treasured articles from former WI branches. Many people have stopped to look at the display case and reflect on family members who belonged to these WI branches. We have banners, some quilted, and a lovely array of pins and badges from past members, all part of our 125 years together. Precious fine china cups and plates representing the Women's Institute crest.

Howick Women's Institute continues to be an important part of Howick Township, eagerly embracing the future while also being proud of preserving some of the past.

CLASSIFIEDS

BOOTCAMP at the Wallace Arena, Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm. \$10/class, drop-ins welcome. Contact Sonya Arksey: littleark@hotmail.com or 519-492-0622 or Kelly Boughton at North Perth for more info.

PERMANENT PART-TIME POSITION: Gathering Eggs, near Gorrie. 8am to 4pm, 2-3 days per week plus alternate weekends. Starting wage \$17. Contact Laurie Bott, 519-291-0062.

LAWN CARE: Do you have property in Howick Township that you need help keeping the lawn mowed? If you'd like it cut on a weekly basis, please contact Rob to discuss further, 519-292-9195.

IS YOUR DRINKING A PROBLEM OR CONCERN? Help is available. Please call Alcoholics Anonymous for information and local meeting times. All calls are private and confidential. 519-500-0278

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! One Care is a non-profit agency that supports individuals to stay in their home longer. We need drivers to deliver meals in the Fordwich, Gorrie and Wroxeter areas. Mileage reimbursed. Call Grace for more info, 1-877-502-8277 or emailvolunteering@onecaresupport.ca.

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TELEPHONE RULES

BY CAMPBELL CORK

(Originally printed in the March 2022 issue of Better Farming)

In the early 1900s telephones started appearing in homes in Ontario. The wall-mounted, crank telephones were a blessing to the isolated farmer and the telephone operator was a friend to all. The big telephone companies such as Bell weren't interested in the less profitable rural telephone lines, so it often fell to a local farmers to build their own telephone systems.

One of those telephone pioneers was Robert Wightman who started his telephone company from his farm in Howick Township, just west of the village of Clifford. Robert's telephone switchboard was in his farm kitchen and his wife, Tryphena, would drop whatever she was doing in the kitchen to answer the switchboard. Robert Wightman's telephone system is still in the family today and going strong.

Most owners of small independent telephone companies in Ontario, and there were almost 700 of them in 1921, were quick to publish a rule book which spelled out the rules, regulations and manners required of anyone using the telephone.

Telephones were high tech in those days and as essential as internet today. Most were on party lines, sharing one line between four or more neighbours. More than one farm woman was known for putting on a fresh apron before answering the telephone just in case the caller could see as well as hear.

Robert Wightman published his rule book to lay out the ground rules. It was a little 3x5" booklet given out to all customers. It was fairly legalistic in its wording and pretty strict about issues such as non-customers getting their hands on the phone for a free call. "Positively no free messages for non-subscribers." It gave business calls a high priority, and levied some hefty fines on those who did not abide by the rules. Due to the large German population in Wightman's coverage area, Robert's Rule Book was printed in both English and German.

The rules start with a very stern safety warning:

Article 1 — Caution! Never attempt to take receiver off hook, or speak through phone during a thunder storm.

The overhead telephone wires were a magnet for lightning, and more than one crank telephone was blown off the wall during a storm.

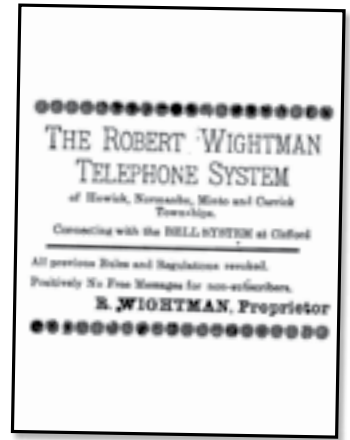
Robert Wightman's 22 rules included a 50¢ fine for using the telephone for more than five minutes.

There was a \$1 fine for swearing over the telephone. And a fine of up to \$10 could be levied for anyone quarreling on the line.

And a very serious penalty which could include having your phone removed, was levied on anyone "listening in". Listening in was the widely practiced and most annoying habit of listening in on the party line to someone else's conversation. With each extra person listening in, the quality of the line would drop, finally making it impossible to hear what was being said.

While the rule book threatened many fines for many offences, judging by the universal popularity of listening it, the fines couldn't have been levied very often.

And finally the most important rule of all was the universal distress call: One long ring. Any time that one long ring was heard, it was known someone's house was on fire and it was time to race there with help.



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Obituaries



KEFFER, Paula Veronica of Fordwich passed away unexpectedly at Listowel Memorial Hospital on Thursday, April 14, 2022, in her 62nd year. Daughter of Audrey Keffer and the late Fred Keffer. Sister of Randy Keffer of Mount Forest, Fay and Ty Cross of Listowel, Phyllis Keffer of Fordwich, and Chris and Debbie Keffer of Harriston. Aunt of Sarah Cross and Dylan Matheson, Allison and Jesse Endeman, and Jason Keffer, and great-aunt of Wyatt, Annelise, Elijah, Landon, and Sienna. Predeceased by her brother Kevin Keffer (2014). Visitation was held at Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel, on Tuesday, April 19, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The funeral service was at Zion Mennonite Fellowship, Cranbrook, on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Interment in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Ethel. Memorial donations to Christian Aid Ministries, or Gospel Echos would be appreciated. Online condolences may be left at www.eatonfuneralhome.ca



GILKINSON, Jordan Ronald of Wroxeter passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at the age of 25. Much loved son of Shelly & Bruce Jantzi of Listowel, and Ron Gilkinson of Listowel. Brother of Amber & Brennan Cuerden of Stratford, stepbrother of Jocelyn & Andre Couture of Parry Sound, Andrew Foster & Kate of Australia, Dawsyn Jantzi of Listowel, late Jordan Jantzi,

and uncle of Owen, Charlie, and Maple. Grandson of Bill & Marilyn Lockie of Goderich, and John & Eleanor Gilkinson of Listowel, and great-grandson of Vera Miller of Listowel. Nephew of Wayne & Karen Lockie of Fordwich, Ron Lockie & Sandra Irwin of Listowel, Lloyd & Joanne Lockie of Goderich, Murray Gilkinson & Tammy Coffey of Fordwich, Kim Elg of Listowel, and Bruce Gilkinson & Tawnya Pettitt of Listowel, and loved and remembered by Bruce's parents Aaron & Martha Jantzi of Milverton, their family, and many cousins. Fiancé of Stephanie Robinson of Wroxeter, and remembered by her parents Steven & Joanne Robinson of Belgrave, grandparents Mary Robinson of Wingham, Muriel Coultres of Belgrave, siblings Jeremy Robinson, and Nicole Robinson & fiancé Blazej Pellowski, and nephew Rylan. Visitation was held at the Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel on Tuesday, April 5, from 1:30 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The funeral service was held at Knox Presbyterian Church, Listowel, on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. The service was livestreamed. Reception followed at Listowel Legion. Memorial donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. Online condolences may be left at www.eatonfuneralhome.ca

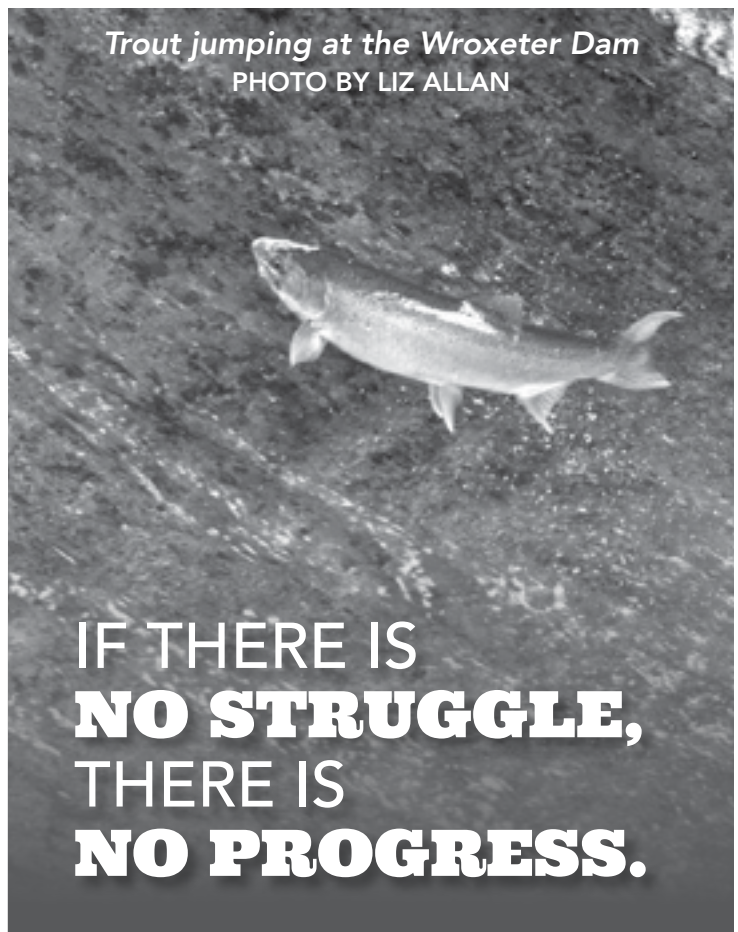
CARD OF Thanks



We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to our family, friends, and neighbours for the outpouring of support after the tragic loss of our mother, Marion. We were overwhelmed with gifts of food, cards of sympathy, phone calls, flowers, and memorial donations made in her memory to the Howick Fire Department and the Howick Legion Branch 307.

Special thanks to the staff of Eaton Funeral Home for their kind and compassionate service; to Rev. Dave Jagger for performing such a beautiful funeral service; to Trinity United Church, Listowel for the use of their sanctuary and to Listowel Legion for their hospitality.

Christian, Mary and Leonard Feldskov



Trout jumping at the Wroxeter Dam
PHOTO BY LIZ ALLAN

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