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**Zombies in Brooklin**

The zombies were out at the 1st annual Zombie walk in downtown Brooklin last Saturday. Hosted by the Brooklin Optimist Club, the event collected non-perishable food items for Feed the Need Durham's Food Bank. Amber Zealand attended with her three little ones "Gavin, Piper and Lynn" despite her late "pregnancy."

**LEST WE FORGET**  
VILLAGE OF BROOKLIN

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Credit: Banner by Emma Inkpen

**See our Remembrance Day features, pages 4-7.**

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Poppies are available from most local merchants.

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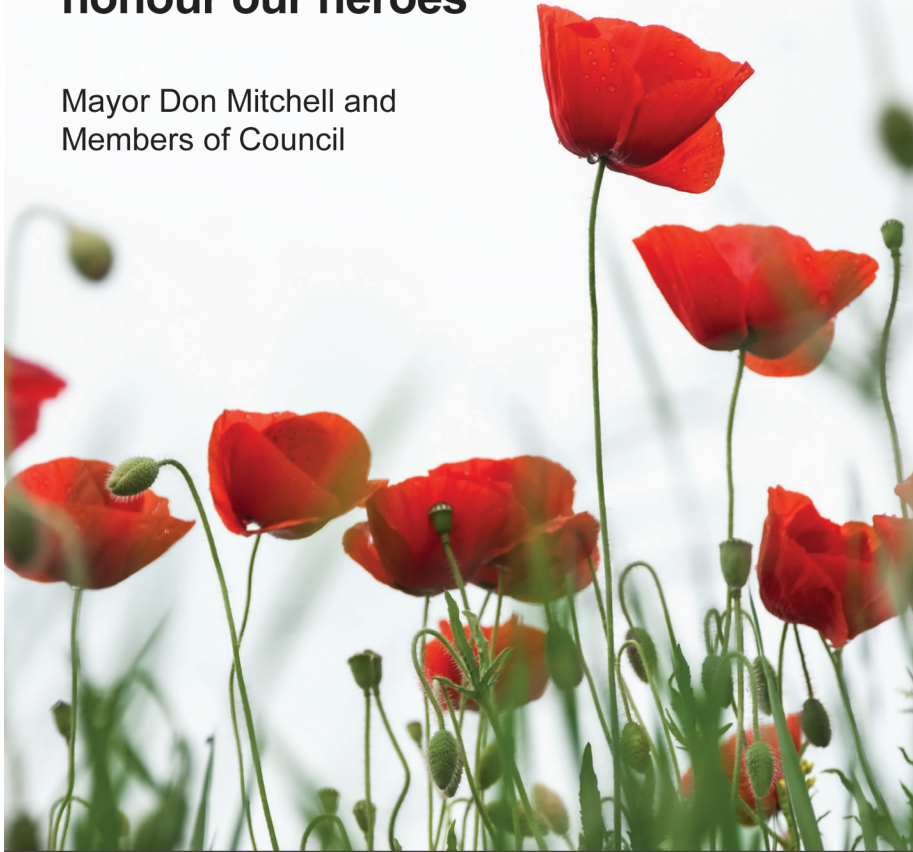
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# Lest We Forget

## November 11

A day we remember and honour our heroes

Mayor Don Mitchell and  
Members of Council



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# Mitchell Lumber Closes After 65 Years

By Richard Bercuson



Mayor Don Mitchell's family-owned business on Church Street closed last Saturday, 65 years after his father and uncle opened it. Essentially, it came to this: as soon as Mitchell was elected mayor in 2014, it was a matter of when, not if, Mitchell Lumber would close.

In 1990, the mayor took it over after spending nine years doing court work in family and criminal law with a Guelph firm, a career he called "alright but a little office-y" and not always to his liking. But when it seemed the Brooklin business might shut down, he chose to step away from his law career to return and give it a try. That "try" lasted 26 years, through his entry into politics as a ward and regional councillor and now as mayor.

As Mitchell explained a few days prior to the closing, council positions were never designed to be full time. In fact, he says, people have been encouraged to be fully employed. Being mayor, however, was another matter. As a full time job plus, it just wasn't possible to run a business and the Town of Whitby.

"I was on council a long tim," Mitchell says, "and it wasn't much of a juggle. As a regional councillor though, it became a little more challenging. As mayor, it's been impossible. I've just been doing some bookkeeping and government deductions and stuff. I don't have time to be here on a daily basis. It's put a big load on Chuck Treacy (a key employee). We were together for years and he's been trying to carry on by himself with other folks, but it's a big load. When I ran for mayor, I was 63 at the time and I knew it was going to come."

It became further apparent in August when he turned 65 and realized that trying to do both was next to impossible. "This business has been good to me. It's been a good life in a good community. After all it's been here my whole life. We even live in the house here where I grew up. But really, I don't like owning a small business I can't be at. For me, that's stressful. It's a lot of responsibility. My wife is relieved to see the schedule lightened. She was worried about the stress load."

When he stepped in to run the company in 1990, the era of big box stores had not yet begun. Within

a decade though, the landscape changed entirely. A small family-run business suddenly became much more challenging to operate. His entering politics compounded the problems.

The obvious question he's been asked is about other family members picking it up. "Would I have preferred if it had continued as a family business? Sure. But they weren't interested. Lots of people have that idea that the next generation becomes involved. My dad certainly did. He was happy when I came here and lots of businesses make that transition. But kids make that decision and if they're happy, then that's fine."

The day he decided it had to end was not so much difficult than relief. Aside from the inconvenience of being in politics and owning the company came the worry about the perception of a conflict of interest, not to mention other potential issues.

As well, how long could the good luck in the community last? His neighbours around the Church Street property have always been terrific, he admits. "Let's face it. A lot could have gone wrong here. We have big trucks coming through and customers parking. This kind of business has a lot of moving parts. We've been very fortunate."

A lumber company in old Brooklin, essentially a residential area, wouldn't happen today. "Nope, it's an old legal non-conforming use and I'm sure the neighbours will be delighted to see it go, although they've been great neighbours and we haven't had any complaints."

Having grown up in the business and working at it as a child himself, Mitchell figures that it worked for its time, but he couldn't imagine anyone else taking it over. He hasn't yet looked at what is to be done with the buildings and land. The structure where the retail store, originally a chicken coop, stands was built in 1967.

And so after a lifetime living in and around Mitchell Lumber, Don Mitchell can now focus more on his political career. When asked if the closing that Saturday would feel weird, he replies, "The weird part will be Monday morning when no one opens the door."

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# Alzheimer's Society To Make Whitby "Dementia Friendly"



by Barbara Howe

The Alzheimer's Society Durham Region (ASDR) is trying to make Whitby Canada's first "dementia friendly" community, using funds received from the mayor's summer golf tournament. As many as 10,000 Durham families are affected by the disease and the organization has provided support for 30 years.

The society expanded into Brooklin on Oct. 11 with a monthly Caregiver Support Group at the Court of Brooklin Retirement Home. The aim is to provide an opportunity to exchange information and concerns in an empathetic environment.

The ASDR is also working on a Blue Umbrella Program, an initiative that will reach out to corporations, retailers, and businesses to train employees on how to communicate with someone with dementia. Once the training is complete, they will be given a blue umbrella plaque to display.

The person with dementia will get a list of dementia friendly businesses once they access the ASDR intake program. They will also have a choice to wear a blue umbrella pin to identify themselves to the participating businesses. According to Christie May, ASDR's Director of Philanthropy, this is important because "You can't tell someone has dementia by looking at them."

"It is a long, drawn-out, uncomfortable disease," she says. "It can span 10-12 years and, in the meantime, people have to live their lives. This means they still have to cope with doing their banking, shopping and ordering meals in restaurants."

Alzheimer's is a progressive, degenerative brain disease, most common in a larger group of disorders known as "dementias". It affects hundreds of thousands of Canadians, has no cure and limited medication. It eventually affects all aspects of a person's life; how they think, feel and act. And it is fatal. Some have described it as a world epidemic, yet people are reluctant to talk about it.

It usually occurs in people over the age of 65, but can strike people in their forties. However, there is growing evidence that healthy lifestyle choices may slow the rate of progression. It is also important to have access to support and services to optimize the patient's quality of life.

"It is very overwhelming and people do come to us when they are in the highest level of stress," says Jessica Scheffee, ASDR's fundraising and communications coordinator. "If anyone knows anything about our office, it's that they are not alone."

Aside from caregiver support groups, the society is keen to promote other family support and recreational programs such as the "Walking Buddies" program. Another, the "Minds in Motion" program, encompasses physical and mental stimulation activities for the patient and caregiver.

Jill Czuczman is a Brooklin resident whose husband, Dave, was diagnosed with Frontotemporal Dementia in May, 2015, at age 49. He is no longer able to work. "There's still so much stigma attached to dementia," Czuczman says. She and her husband have accessed both ASDR programs. "I like that we get together and everybody gets to chat about what's happening with them. It's just a different way of connecting."

"The Walking Buddies" fall program has just ended, but Czuczman, the mother of two young adults, notes how much she enjoyed the 90-minute walks throughout Durham, from Bowmanville to Pickering. However, she would like to see more drop-in programs and ones in which the care partner was not required.

Music is also important for those diagnosed with dementia-related illnesses.

The society offers an "iPod Music and Memory" program where the society downloads a chosen playlist from the client to an iPod. "They say that the feeling of nostalgia listening to music in the era which they grew up can do a world of good," said May. There is even a choir program which culminates in a concert performed by the clients.

Over half a million people are living with dementia, with 25,000 new cases diagnosed each year, according to the Alzheimer's Society of Canada. Some warning signs are:

- Memory loss that affects day-to-day abilities.
- Difficulty performing familiar tasks – have trouble preparing a meal or playing a game.
- Problems with language – forgetting words or substituting words.
- Impaired Judgement – wearing heavy clothing on a hot day.
- Problems with abstract thinking – not understanding numbers or how they are used.
- Misplacing things – putting things in inappropriate places, an iron in the freezer for example.
- Changes in mood and behavior – severe and varied mood swings.
- Changes in personality – apathy, fearfulness or acting out of character.



Jessica Scheffee (left), Fundraising and Communications Coordinator, and Christie May, Director of Philanthropy, in front of artwork created by participants in one of their programs.

- Loss of initiative – may become passive, apathetic or require cues to become involved.

The main message to anyone who has a friend or family member affected by Alzheimer's is to know that "we are here for them." "We want to hear from them and we want to support them," adds May.

ASDR also has open positions for volunteers in a variety of roles from office administration to support workers in recreational programs. For more information, contact **905-576-2567**.

## Road Closure Notice Coronation Road

Effective Monday November 7, 2016 to January, 2019

Coronation Road, from Taunton Road to Rossland Road, will be permanently closed to traffic for a minimum fifteen (15) month period to facilitate the safe and efficient re-construction of the road and installation of Municipal/Regional infrastructure.

Traffic control signage will be in place to direct motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians to use alternate routes. Local access will be provided to Taunton Road West only.



Figure 1 - Map of Closure Area

During construction, access to local residences within the construction area will be open and maintained. Emergency services have been advised of the closure and proposed construction activity. Access by emergency services (Police, Fire, and Ambulance), postal delivery, and waste collection will remain unaffected during this time.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation for the duration of this project.

Questions or concerns should be directed to:



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Next Issue: Friday, November 18, 2016

Deadline: Friday, November 11, 2016

**Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson***

**...from the darkness...**



Doncaster, England - circa 1940 - Bernie had been flying Ferry Command. This was the special squadron of pilots and radio operators who flew aircraft from Canada to Great Britain to use in the war effort.

Planes were either trucked or flown from the U.S. to Canadian installations. For Bernie, a Montrealer, it meant waiting at Montreal's Dorval airfield for planes to be flown in from Maine by American pilots since the U.S. had not yet entered the war. He and the small crew of two other men would fly the bombers to Gander, Newfoundland, refuel, rest, and then hazard the flight to Scotland and Ireland. It was dangerous work and hundreds of men died.

Referred to as flying gas tanks, planes were often jammed with extra tanks to survive the 12-13 hour flights. On one trip over the frigid North Atlantic, Bernie had to crawl back to the fuselage to turn the crank so fuel could be transferred from the extra tank to an empty one. Except, while whacking at it to loosen the frozen mechanism, he turned the crank the wrong way. The Hudson's engines sputtered and the pilots cursed at him to crank in the opposite direction.

On another trip, the plane was also laden with Coca-Cola bottles and sandwiches, all of which froze during the flight. When they landed in Scotland and were taxiing in, they

could see dozens of airmen cheering and waving and running to the plane. Bernie and his crew were joyous to get such a welcome. But when the plane rolled to a stop, the ground crews made straight for the Cokes and food, tossing dirty looks at the exhausted airmen for letting their food freeze.

While stationed at RAF Doncaster, Bernie developed a close friendship with one particular local chap, Philip. As young men are wont to do, especially in stressful war situations, they spent much time together, joking and drinking. A lot of both, it seems.

During one particular binge, they made a promise to each other. Whichever one was killed, the other would stand over his grave when no one was around, swig a beer, and then urinate on the grave. They howled over it.

Shortly after, Philip was killed. From a staunch Roman Catholic family, his burial was as per his religion required. Bernie attended. When the priest began sprinkling the holy water over the grave, Bernie could only hold himself back for a few seconds before he began snickering. The family and the priest were aghast at the young Canadian's boorish behaviour.

Later, at the family's home, Bernie approached the priest, apologized, and told him of the promise he and

**Brooklin Bafflers by Liz Lowe: Remembrance Day**

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- |              |                |           |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| Armed Forces | Korean War     | Sacrifice |
| Cenotaph     | Last Post      | Salute    |
| Conflict     | Lest we forget | Silence   |
| Courage      | Merchant Navy  | Valour    |
| Defend       | Military       | Veterans  |
| Dieppe       | Missing        | Vimy      |
| Flanders     | Patriot        | Wounded   |
| Freedom      | Peace          | Wreath    |
| Gratitude    | Poppy          | WWI       |
| Gulf War     | Remember them  |           |
| Heroism      | Reveille       |           |

Philip had made to each other. The priest put his arms around Bernie and also laughed heartily before going to Philip's family to share the drunken promise with them. They,

too, had a good laugh and welcomed Bernie into their circle.

Decades later, Bernie - Dad - would still chuckle at the memory.

**Our Brooklin Kids *By Leanne Brown***



**Helping children appreciate the concept of peace**

During our October vacation in Florida, we hit the fringe of Hurricane Matthew. As the storm approached, the National Guard was a solid presence ensuring people were safe.

Curious about the soldiers, my daughter asked why they were there. She eyed them suspiciously and asked, "Are they going to shoot people?"

"Wow," I thought as I reassured her they were there only to help. Suddenly it occurred to me that seeing people in military garb around Brooklin is a rare occurrence. Fortunately for most Brooklin kids, the main reference of militia is what they see in the media and entertainment.

Being the parents of young children,

we try to keep them from seeing violence and war. Sure, we quietly recognize our veterans once a year on Remembrance Day. Many Canadian kids, don't really have an understanding of what Remembrance Day is all about. They see the poppies, go to the school assemblies and make the poppy wreaths. But unless they have members of the armed forces in their families, most of its meaning is lost on them.

The commemoration we call Remembrance Day affords us parents a wonderful opportunity to talk to our kids about the significance of the day: war, death, freedom and peace. Start with the basics. Keep it simple and let their curious minds lead the conversation.

- Remembrance Day is an annual occasion when our country remembers and honours the men and women who have fought

in wars for Canada to keep us safe.

- It's always on November 11th as it marks the day in 1918 when World War I ended and there was peace again.
- We observe two minutes of silence at 11:00 am on November 11th to be thankful for all the brave soldiers who gave us a safe country in which to live. It was at 11 am on Nov. 11, 1918, that the peace treaty took effect.
- Explain that we are very lucky to live in a country where there is peace.
- Explain what a poppy is and the reason poppies are used. (They are flowers which grew on the battlefields in Belgium during World War I).

One thing to point out is that no matter when wars took place, these individuals were fighting for the same

purpose as our military does today. This can also help them understand Canada's role in significant world events. It helps them appreciate the contributions of Canada's military and the roles and responsibilities of citizens in times of conflict. Encourage children to think of those who served in the past and also those serving today both at home and abroad. Remind them of how Canada continues to serve an important role, providing security, building nations and protecting our freedom.

As for my daughter, I explain that when she wears a poppy, I hope it gives her pride for the sacrifices made by our military forces to preserve the freedoms that we all enjoy. I like to tell her that the poppy she wears today, is not only to remember the past, but also a promise to work towards a more peaceful world.

# A Local Veteran, John Graham, RCAF, Remembers

by Tommy Morais  
Special to the Brooklin Town Crier

Three years into the Second World War, John Graham didn't wait to get drafted. He volunteered. After graduating from high school, he went to work for an electrical company before deciding to join the Royal Canadian Air Force.

"I volunteered in 1942 at 21 years old," he recalls. "I was with the Royal Canadian Air Force for maybe a month when they told me I was going overseas."

His duties on European soil often involved driving vehicles that held gasoline reserves for Canadian aircraft. "It was fun. We got to drive on the wrong side of the road. The army went ahead and followed with their dirty work, fighting."

One time, Graham, then a corporal, was sitting on a gasoline tank when he witnessed an event he says he'll never forget. "We lost some aircraft and some of the boys jumped out in parachutes and were shot as they floated down which wasn't very nice to watch," he says. "I also saw German bodies lying on the road. They were dead, but they were still human beings."

Today, at 95 and in good physical shape aside from lost vision in his left eye, Graham finds it difficult to talk about the war, something he avoids doing as much as possible.

"I don't talk at all about the war. It's something we'd like to forget," he admits. "I guess my two friends died on the field."

Still, the veteran makes it clear he holds no animosity towards those he once fought. "We didn't like them, they didn't like us either," he says. "Why hold a grudge? It wasn't their fault, it was Hitler's."

Memories from his wartime experiences aren't all dark; some are even warm. For instance, there was the Christmas dinner when he was invited into a civilian home. "They cooked us rabbit. It would remind you of chicken," he laughs. "It was quite nice of them to invite us in."

Graham has only good things to say of his time in the RCAF and the way they treated him. "We were well looked after in the Air Force," he acknowledges. "We had beds, food - we were taken care of."

Over time, Graham lost most of his war souvenirs. There is, however, one special memory that can never be taken from



John Graham at home at the Court at Brooklin

him. That one comes in the form of the song "My Best To You", written and performed by the "cowboy" Sons of the Pioneers, which included a young Roy Rogers. Graham's been singing it since the 1940s and it takes him back to those days.

"I sang it when I came back from the war," he says. "Do you want me to sing it? I'll sing it now." Which he does, and his singing voice remains in great shape.

Today, living in the retirement home at The Court at Brooklin, he maintains a steady daily schedule, interrupted only by occasions when a family member takes him out to lunch. Nevertheless, he says it does get lonely at times as he lost his life partner to a stroke in November of 2015.

"I lost my gal a year ago," he explains. "She had a bad stroke so she went in a hurry."

Still, he has no complaints. "It's been a good life." As for the future, Corporal John Graham doesn't want future generations to see war. "Devastation is something I hope they don't experience."



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# REMEMBRANCE DAY *in Brooklin*



THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD AS WE  
THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD;  
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM NOR  
THE YEARS CONDEMN.  
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN  
AND IN THE MORNING,  
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.



Brooklin Legion Branch 152 invites everyone to the Annual Memorial School Day Service Friday, November 11, 2016, 1:00 p.m. at Luther Vipond Memorial Arena

A moment of silence will be witnessed. Wreath presentations will be made by local area schools and various community members. Come honour those who have fallen in the name of Canada.



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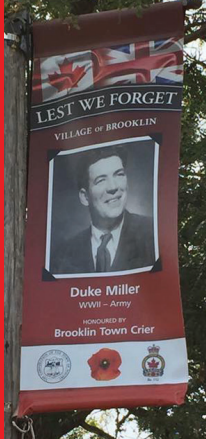
At the going down  
of the sun

And in the morning  
We will  
remember them



North Ward  
Councillor  
Rhonda Mulcahy

Remembering  
Brooklin  
Legion  
Branch 152  
Veterans



...  
and all who  
serve to raise  
our flag high.

**Brooklin Town Crier**

May we never forget!



BSM Wallace H. Gleed 1915-1919  
**Forever remembered.**  
Regional Councillor  
Derrick Gleed

The Brooklin Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion is a local long standing organization. Funds raised through Legion initiatives go to a wide variety of charities. From children's sports and school programs to senior's medical services, the Legion has been behind countless donations for the betterment of our community.



This year, when you see a local Legion representative promoting the Annual Poppy Campaign, please give generously. Poppy funds go towards helping our veterans and seniors as well as several others in the community.



Local artist Emma Inken created these banners that festoon various streets throughout Whitby, including Brooklin's Grass Park. Emma's husband's two grandfathers are feature in the banners on the right.

## A Must-See Video: "A Pittance of Time"

(from <http://takeapittanceoftime.org/>)

On November 11, 1999, Terry Kelly was in a drug store in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. At 10:55 am, an announcement came over the store's PA asking customers who would still be on the premises at 11:00 am to give two minutes of silence in respect to the veterans who have sacrificed so much for us.

Terry was impressed with the store's leadership role in adopting the Legion's two minutes of silence initiative. He felt that the store's contribution of educating the public to the importance of remembering was commendable.

When 11 o'clock arrived on that day, an announcement was again made asking for the two minutes of silence

to commence. All customers, with the exception of a man who was accompanied by his young child, showed their respect.

Terry's anger towards the father for trying to engage the store's clerk in conversation and for setting a bad example for his child was channeled into a beautiful piece of work called "A Pittance of Time". Terry later recorded "A Pittance of Time" and included it on his full-length music CD, "The Power of the Dream."

Thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion Todmorden Branch #10 and Woodbine Height Branch #2 for their participation in the video. To view it, go to: <http://takeapittanceoftime.org/>

## A Pittance of Time

By Terry Kelly

They fought and some died for their homeland.  
They fought and some died, now it's our land.  
Look at his little child; there's no fear in her eyes.  
Could he not show respect for other dads who have died?

Take two minutes, would you mind?  
It's a pittance of time,  
For the boys and the girls who went over.  
In peace may they rest, may we never  
Forget why they died.  
It's a pittance of time.

God forgive me for wanting to strike him.  
Give me strength so as not to be like him.  
My heart pounds in my breast, fingers pressed to my lips,  
My throat wants to fall out, my tongue barely resists.

But two minutes I will bide.  
It's a pittance of time,  
For the boys and the girls who went over.  
In peace may they rest.  
May we never forget why they died.  
It's a pittance of time.

Read the letters and poems of the heroes at home.  
They have casualties, battles, and fears of their own.  
There's a price to be paid if you go, if you stay.  
Freedom's fought for and won in numerous ways.

Take two minutes, would you mind?  
It's a pittance of time,  
For the boys and the girls all over.  
May we never forget, our young become vets.  
At the end of the line,  
It's a pittance of time.

It takes courage to fight in your own war.  
It takes courage to fight someone else's war.  
Our peacekeepers tell of their own living hell.  
They bring hope to foreign lands that hate mongers can't kill.

Take two minutes, would you mind?  
It's a pittance of time,  
For the boys and the girls who go over.  
In peacetime our best still don battle dress  
And lay their lives on the line.  
It's a pittance of time

In peace may they rest,  
Lest we forget why they died,  
Take a pittance of time.

## In Flanders Fields

By Lieutenant Colonel John McRae

Composed on May 3, 1915, during the Second Battle of Ypres

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.  
Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields

## Yes Woman By Marissa Campbell

# Prima Dance

I Am Now a **PRIMA** Ballerina

My inner tomboy quaked in her sneakers.

I looked up at the sign for **Prima Dance Academy**, took a deep breath, and entered. Cue flashback to “muffled years ago” when I was five. I stood shivering in a large open hall, waiting for my first ever ballet lesson. I wore a pink leotard and scratched at the constricting fabric, squirming in my shiny new pink slippers. The instructor called the class to order and I lined up beside a row of ballerinas. I had no idea what I was doing. About as uncoordinated as a rhinoceros in pointe shoes, I blundered and fell, flailing my arms and missing my steps. An hour later,

I left the class in tears, determined to never go back.

Jump to present day. I’m just as uncoordinated as I was when I was five, but I no longer fear the colour pink. Here’s the thing: I love to dance. Give me music and I’ll boogie like nobody’s watching. But my style of dance is a free-flowing form of art borne of years honing my own personal flair and creative expression. In no way does it resemble anything structured, though I do consider myself a step above Carlton from *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* or Elaine from *Seinfeld*.

With my eclectic approach, I met Catherine Kourkounakis, or Mrs. K. as she is known to her students. Mrs.

or revisiting their childhood love of the dance. They enveloped me in an atmosphere of acceptance and exploration. To my delight, there was laughter and smiles as we stretched, tested our balance, and practiced some pliés and classical foot positions.

Mrs. K. knows her stuff. She regaled the class with history and taught technique and form, all the while infusing the movements with a mind, body, and spirit consciousness. Ballet is disciplined but also Zen-centred. You connect to your body and your breath as you focus on the nuances of this beautiful dance.

Not only did I gain a real appreciation for the dedication and skill this practice requires, I also learned it’s an excellent workout. If you’re looking for a booty lift, this is the dance for you. Your core is active throughout the movements, and the needed coordination challenges your balance and strength. I loved every minute of it, despite my body shaking from the effort of holding my leg up for that photo op. I had sweat pouring down my face at several points throughout the hour and a half class (the leg warmers had to go).

**Prima Dance** offers movement and ballet classes for ages two and up. Before I left, I was fortunate enough to catch a peek at a class of young ladies practicing ballet. The stu-



Rockin’ my tutu with Artistic Director Catherine Kourkounakis (Mrs. K)



Totally nailed 2nd arabesque

K. is **Prima Dance Academy’s** Artistic Director and Co-owner, and she welcomed me with open arms, ushering me into the studio. I was introduced to the other women in the class, all either learning ballet for the first time

dio focuses on training dancers for further professional studies, and the poise, grace, and dedication of these young women was inspiring. **Prima** offers two adult ballet classes, one for beginner/intermediate students and one for dancers looking to take their skills to the next level. They also offer a free trial class, so you can come check it out and see if it’s right for you (both adults and children can try a class for free).

I may not be the most graceful gazelle out there, but even five-year-old me was happy. Now to find a pink leotard to go with that awesome tutu.

(Yes Woman is a paid advertisement)

Prima Dance Academy is committed to developing a strong arts and dance community of young people in the heart of Brooklin.

We are a community based academy offering ballet for kids and dance classes for children ages two and up.

Dance classes include ballet, contemporary, workshops and performance ensemble



Prima Dance Academy provides pre-professional training that is focused on a performing arts education. Our staff are qualified and registered dance educators. Our alumni have been accepted into professional schools like Canada’s National Ballet School, Boston Ballet School, Quinte Ballet School of Canada, School of American Ballet Theatre and the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School, Alberta Ballet School & Royal Winnipeg Ballet School.

Registration is still open for 2016-2017. Contact us today!

905-425-2828

58 Baldwin Street North, Brooklin

[www.primadanceacademy.ca](http://www.primadanceacademy.ca)



**PRIMA  
DANCE  
ACADEMY**



**Brad's El Camino By Brad McIlwain**

**Part 2 -  
On the Road with *On the Road***

BTC Contributor Brad McIlwain began the El Camino de Santiago walk early last month. He's been documenting his 800 km plus journey for us.

I walk over a mountain with Graham and Maree from Melbourne. At the top, Graham teaches me how to "coo-weee," a traditional Australian bush call if you're lost in the wilderness. It's fun and we've been "coo-weee-ing" all along the Camino.

Near the top of the Pyrenees mountains is a white food van where a farmer is selling fruit, coffee, and snacks. Maree, Graham and I have coffee. The farmer has this amazing sheep cheese that came fresh from his mom's farm down the road. I have never had anything so delicious, especially after climbing a long time!

From the Spanish village of Najera, I walk 30 km over the Rioja Valley with my friend and walking buddy, Terry J. Hawn, a retired Lieutenant Colonel from Michigan. Terry has been a blast to adventure with. He's always quick with a joke to make the journey brighter and it helps to break up the long sections of the day when we're walking 25 km in the sun, with hunger and fatigue setting in. Sometimes you really need to laugh and let things go. He's been a great motivator and a good friend.

You think of a lot of weird things on the

trail. One day I pass these slouching trees and wonder what they would look like if I hung Christmas decorations from them. What's that about? I'm still looking forward to Halloween!

Washing your clothes by hand has been humbling, as has buying and carrying what you need as you go.

Here in Spain, cyclists and villagers have been helpful in pointing us in the right direction of the way, or wishing us a Buen Camino, which is super encouraging.

Sometimes you come to a fork in the road, and right when you don't know which way to turn there always seems to be a yellow arrow, or scallop shell, pointing the way. Some of these are hand painted by other pilgrims or villagers.

One night, in Logrono, I find a rare Spanish translation of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* at an antiquarian book fair in the middle of a town square. Ironically, it's titled *El en Camino*. It's strange and a little surreal because there are times when it's felt that way, walking on long stretches of highway and changing countrysides. I've been carrying it with me - on the road.

**Update Oct. 29**  
Today I made it to Cruz de Ferro where people from all over the world have placed stones and written messages. Today I climbed to the foot



Brad McIlwain poses a long way from Brooklin

of the cross and placed one of my own. It's a spiritual and special place and I'm glad to leave a small part of myself here. I am in the village of Acebo, just under 222 km from Santiago. It's a surreal feeling to have been on the road

for almost a month, crossing countrysides and meeting wonderful people along the way. There is a feeling that while the destination is getting closer, the real journey is only just beginning on the next horizon.

**Short Term On-Street Parking Changed Nov. 1**

Excerpt from [www.whitby.ca/en/residents/shorttermonstreetparkingregistration.asp](http://www.whitby.ca/en/residents/shorttermonstreetparkingregistration.asp)

The Town of Whitby Traffic By-law permits on-street parking for a maximum of 3 hours unless otherwise prohibited by posted signs (such as "No-Parking" zones, Fire Routes, etc.). This by-law is in effect all year long. In addition to the maximum 3-hour parking limit, vehicles are not permitted to be parked on the street between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to April 15. Vehicles parked in contravention of these regulations may be issued a parking ticket.

On occasion, residents have special circumstances that require vehicles to be parked on the street for longer than 3 hours or during the

2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. overnight parking period in effect from November 1 to April 15.

Special circumstances include out-of-town guests, parties and celebrations, holiday gatherings, family functions, driveway repairs, and home renovations.

Parking Services tries to accommodate these special circumstances by allowing on-street parking registration on a temporary basis. Each household in the Town is permitted to make a maximum of 12 requests for on-street parking registration each calendar year.

Each request may be for a maximum of 7 days in duration. On-street parking registration is not intended to be a solution for residents who routinely have more vehicles than parking spaces on their property.

With a minimum of 2 business days notice, a resident can call or email Parking Services to register vehicles for on-street parking. Alternatively, with a minimum of 2 business days notice, residents can complete the On-Street Parking Online Registration Form. In the event of an unexpected need to park on the street for special circumstances, call or email Parking Services as soon as the need is identified. Voicemail and email systems are open 24 hours a day.

For further information, call the Operations Centre: **905-668-3437**

**Whitby Chief Admin Officer Departs**

On Oct. 16, Robert Petrie left his position as Chief Administrative Officer at the Town of Whitby.

"On behalf of the Town Council Members and staff," said Mayor Don Mitchell, "I would like to thank Mr. Petrie for his more than eight years of service and dedication to the town. He has made a significant impact and together we wish him future success. We are committed to continuing our service excellence during this transition. Fire Chief Dave Speed has been appointed as acting CAO on an interim basis."

**SAVE THE DATE!**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH | DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM

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NEW THIS YEAR: Wine sampling by **Joseph's Estate Wines**  
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# Grade 5 Action Pass returns for the 2016-17 school year

The Grade 5 Action Pass is back for the 2016-17 school year, with the goal of getting grade 5 students up and active. The pass gives all grade 5 students in Durham Region access to free public swimming, public skating and other programs such as, soccer and squash, throughout the school year from September 2016 to August 2017.

According to statistics from Durham Region Health Department, only 20 per cent of area elementary school students are getting the daily recommended 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity. In addition, ParticipACTION's 2016 Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth gives Canadian children a grade of D minus in overall physical activity. The report found that only 14 per cent of five to 11-year olds are getting the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity every day, with this number dropping to five per cent for children 12 to 17-years old.

"The report card is concerning and

it's important to note that grade 5 is an important time in a child's life to promote a commitment to physical activity throughout life," said Lindsey Partridge, a public health nurse with the Health Department. "We find that as students reach higher grades, physical activity levels tend to drop-off. The Grade 5 Action Pass program supports grade 5 students to be active and enjoy free, fun physical activities every day."

The pass can be used at participating municipal recreation centres, the Durham Family YMCA in Oshawa, the Abilities Centre in Whitby and Durham College/UOIT Campus Ice Centre in Oshawa. Students can obtain their pass by visiting local municipal recreation centres or the Durham Family YMCA, 99 Mary St. N., Oshawa. Proof of address and date of birth must be provided. Students registering in the townships of Uxbridge and Scugog must also bring a current one by one and a half inch size photograph of themselves to obtain the pass. Students in Brock Township will receive their pass at school.

# Mayor's Fund Gives to Diabetes Centre

The Mayor's Community Development Fund (MCDF) is providing a grant of \$4,200 to Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre for the purchase of an A1C Glucose Analyzer.

The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre will use the Mayor's Community Development Grant to purchase an A1C analyzer, a device that measures blood glucose levels and assists with diabetes management. The analyser will allow the clinic to continue provide excellent diabetes management to patients and families as they learn to integrate the changes demanded by diabetes into their lives so they can live longer, happier, healthier lives.

Founded in 1989 as a "first of its

kind" centre in Canada, the Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre serves over 500 children and 1,000 adults in the Durham Region by providing the most current information, support and management available from the time of diagnosis through all of life's challenges; from sick days to pregnancies, from school days to work days and every day in-between. Visit [www.charleshbest.com](http://www.charleshbest.com) for more information.

The MCDF uses net proceeds from the Mayor's Annual Golf Tournament and Mayor's Fund-raiser to support two lead causes or charities and provides funding in smaller amounts to other initiatives that benefit Whitby residents. Visit [whitby.ca/mcdf](http://whitby.ca/mcdf) for more information.

For more information about the Grade 5 Action Pass, please call Durham Health Connection Line at 905-

666-6241 or 1-800-841-2729, or visit [durham.ca/physicalactivity](http://durham.ca/physicalactivity).

# Community Calendar

If you have a community not-for-profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to [editorofBTC@gmail.com](mailto:editorofBTC@gmail.com) with the subject line "calendar." Priority will be given to Brooklin events. Some editing may occur.

**Fri. Nov. 11: 1:00 pm** Brooklin Legion Branch 152 Remembrance Day Ceremony at Luther Vipond Memorial Arena. Join school children in remembrance of our fallen heroes. Laying of wreaths. Moment of silent.

**Sat., Nov. 12: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm** Annual Vendors' Sale at St. Leo the Great Parish Hall, 130 Watford St. (off Winchester). Free Admission- Over 30 vendors - Door Prizes - Something for everyone!

**Sat., Nov. 12: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm** Rebekah's Craft Sale - 42 Bagot Street, Brooklin -Vendor tables \$15.00. 6 or 8 foot tables. For more information call Samantha Puckrin at 905-620-0538 or Lis Whetstone at 289-356-3913

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**Sun., Nov. 20:** Mt. Zion United Church annual Turkey Dinner. Two settings: 5:00 pm or 6:30 pm. Adults \$18.00, children \$5.00. Tickets available from Jones: 905 649-5200 or Taylor: 905 649-3332. Email: [evelynjones02@gmail.com](mailto:evelynjones02@gmail.com)

**Sat., Nov. 26:** Group 74's Santa's Snowman Workshop. Tickets now on sale on-Line! This year's theme is "Snowmen" and we look forward to welcoming all of our Snowmen-in-Training. Tickets usually sell out quickly. Two sessions. Tickets are \$20.00 per child and adult admission is a donation to the Salvation Army Food bank. [whitby.snapd.com/#/events/view/994824](http://whitby.snapd.com/#/events/view/994824). Visit our Facebook page for details. [facebook.com/Group74](http://facebook.com/Group74). Our Charities of Choice for this event are: Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre and Salvation Army Food Drive. Contact us at [Group74@hotmail.ca](mailto:Group74@hotmail.ca) if you have questions.

**Sat. Nov. 26: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** Group74 and Keller Williams Energy host their 9th Annual Turkey Drive. Our mission is to feed 1800 families a full turkey dinner this holiday season. Drop by the Brooklin Community Centre and help make a family's Christmas special. \$35.00 feeds a family an

entire dinner... including all the trimmings and dessert. Dinners may be paid via chq. For more info pls contact [Group74@hotmail.ca](mailto:Group74@hotmail.ca)

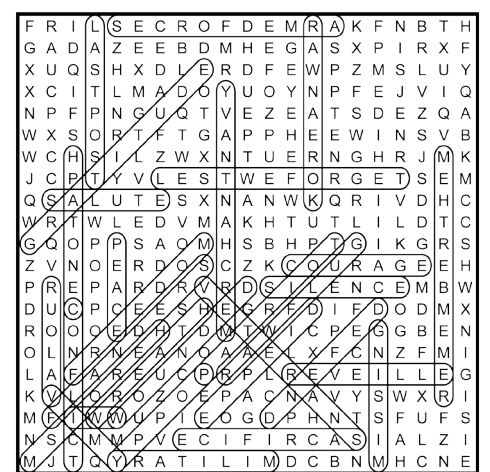
**Mondays 6:30-7:00 pm:** French Family Storytime: Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join Madame Sue for our weekly French Family Storytime! Enjoy a half hour of stories and songs in French, with a dash of English too! Registration is not required. Just drop in! LOCATION: Central Library - Children's Program Room

**Tuesdays:** Brooklin Toastmasters, 7:15 pm for Meet & Greet, Meeting from 7:20 to 9:14 pm at the Brooklin Community Centre & Library, 8 Vipond Road, 2nd floor Boardroom. For more information, contact John at 905-683-4439 or [jajhj@sympatico.ca](mailto:jajhj@sympatico.ca) or Loran Weston-Smyth at [lorn@lornawestonsmyth.com](mailto:lorn@lornawestonsmyth.com) or 416-910-4109. Brooklin Toastmasters provides a supportive and positive environment where members have the opportunity to develop their communication and leadership skills.

**Basic Foot Care:** Community Care Durham provides basic foot care services by registered foot care nurses on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of ev-

ery month at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. Please call 905-668-6223 for more information.

**Thursday evenings:** Love to sing! The Brooklin United Church adult choir welcomes new voices to join us. Practices are Thursday evenings 7:30 - 9:00 pm. You do not need to read music to be part of the choir. Practice CD's are made available. For more information, please call the church office at 905-655-4141 or by email at [office@brooklinunited.ca](mailto:office@brooklinunited.ca)



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**Burns Presbyterian Church**  
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10am Worship, Kids Zone Fun & Nursery Care  
"Discovering God, Sharing God's Love"  
905.655.8509 [www.Burnschurch.org](http://www.Burnschurch.org)

**St. Thomas' Anglican Church**  
101 Winchester Road East  
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:30 am  
Sunday School & Nursery Program (10:30am)  
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.  
Communion and Healing Service  
905-655-3883  
[www.stthomasbrooklin.ca](http://www.stthomasbrooklin.ca)

**Brooklin United Church**  
19 Cassels Rd. E.  
Sunday Services at 10:30 am  
Sunday School & Nursery Care  
[www.brooklinunited.ca](http://www.brooklinunited.ca) 905-655-4141  
Come catch the Spirit!

**Renaissance Baptist Church of Brooklin**  
40 Vipond Road (Just West Of Library)  
Sunday Worship  
& Kids Program 10:30 a.m.  
905 655 4554 [www.brooklinrbc.ca](http://www.brooklinrbc.ca)  
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## Meet Your Local Merchant

### Oxford Learning Centre

As schools edge towards the Christmas break, students and parents are seeing term results through progress reports and teacher interviews. When things aren't going quite as planned or hoped for, the call for assistance is always answered by Brooklin's **Oxford Learning Centre**.

Conveniently located in the Brooklin Town Centre plaza at 5969 Baldwin South at the corner of Winchester, **Oxford Learning Brooklin** provides a host of programs for every age group and skill level. It's at this time of the year when its customized programs serve to assist and guide students.



Trisha Dosaj Makarov from Oxford Learning Brooklin

"We will help improve what appears on your child's report," says the Centre's Owner and Director, Trisha Dosaj Makarov, "and we will also help your child reach their potential."

A parent herself, and qualified teacher with a graduate degree, Trisha recognizes the stresses report cards can bring and knows how **Oxford Learning Brooklin** can help. After all, she's been doing this for years and has seen hundreds of students and parents come through the doors.

"We show students how to develop better learning skills," she adds, "and apply them to their academics so that there is an improvement on the next report card."

One way in which **Oxford Learning Brooklin** does this is through cognitive learning techniques, which assist children and teens in developing more effective ways

of thinking, concentrating, listening, and remembering. **Oxford Learning's** programs assist children of all ages acquire the necessary tools to read and write, in both English and French. Children also learn to study more effectively and be better organized, motivated and confident both inside and outside the classroom.

"I've seen kids flourish," she says. "There's a moment of clarity when they realize they can do it, especially when they learn to read or complete a task independently. We want to ensure we can help everybody, to make sure students have the right strategies to transfer from **Oxford Learning** to their daily

lives, at home, or at school."

**Oxford Learning Brooklin** also works to partner with schools and teachers so that everyone, as she says, is on board with the student's learning. "We believe in the importance of these partnerships," Trisha adds.

The most recent addition to **Oxford Learning Brooklin's** comprehensive programming is instruction in the U.S.-based S.A.T. and A.C.T. examinations, including mock exams. With a number of local students potentially heading to the United States as elite athletes for

post-secondary education, preparation for these difficult exams is essential.

**Oxford Learning Brooklin's** other programs, for all ages, all, grades and subjects, include:  
**Little Readers - Ages 3-6**  
**Beyond Tutoring - Grades 1-8**  
**Advantage - Grades 8-12**  
**French - Grades 1-12**

To maintain learning or provide enrichment to have your child prepare for the next grade level, contact **Oxford Learning Brooklin**, now celebrating five years of teaching excellence. You will be amazed at what your child can accomplish.

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