

**ROCKCLIFFE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 2017**



---

**Annual General Meeting of the RPRA  
and  
The Village Foundation's  
Report to the Community**

February 28, 2018 at 7:00 pm  
Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President’s Report .....	3
Heritage and Planning .....	5
Heritage .....	5
Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA) of Ottawa-Carleton .....	5
Finance and Membership .....	5
Treasurer’s Report.....	5
Membership.....	6
Community Events.....	6
Speakers Program .....	6
Library Book Sale and Rockcliffe Park Library .....	7
Soccer .....	8
Candidates’ Forum .....	8
Movie Night.....	8
Spring Village Clean-up.....	8
Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing .....	9
Children’s Christmas Party.....	9
Environment.....	10
Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area: Environmental Remediation 2017 .....	10
The Pond: Water Quality .....	10
The Pond: Water Levels .....	10
Jubilee Garden and Village Green .....	11
Rockcliffe Park Community Police Centre .....	12
Neighbourhood Watch.....	12
Communications .....	13
Website and Email Alerts .....	13
Newsletter Team.....	13
Appendix A: RPRA Financial Statements for 2016.....	14

**Cover:** *The Village Green, in the heart of Rockcliffe Park, is an urban green space with a wonderful collection of outdoor art. “Regeneration,” a series of giant pine cones by Floyd Elzinga, was installed in the Village Green in 2009 in honour of Margaret Gualtieri. The pine cone is considered by many cultures to be the seat of the third eye, also known as the “seat of the soul,” or “epicentre of enlightenment.”*

---

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It gives me great pleasure to present the 2017 Annual Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association. It has been an eventful year and, on the heritage front, a somewhat frustrating one. In early September, the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) heard the lone appeal to Rockcliffe's Heritage Conservation District Plan (Plan). The RPRA was a participant in the proceedings and **Brian Dickson, Susan d'Aquino** and I sat through the six days of testimonies and cross examinations, with me making our presentation on the last day. We hope to receive the OMB's decision within the next month or two. Meanwhile, development pressure in Rockcliffe continues apace and our Heritage Committee has been extremely busy. The City staff's response to Heritage Committee reviews of recent development applications indicates a substantial gap in how the City and the Heritage Committee interpret the Plan. We will be seeking ways to bridge this gap in the coming year. In anticipation of having the Plan approved early in 2018, we will also organize discussions on heritage conservation in Rockcliffe to ensure that Village residents have the opportunity to become fully engaged and informed on this matter.

The annual Rockcliffe Park Library Book Sale continued with its pattern of exceeding the previous year's performance, grossing over \$40,000 in 2017 and providing a very large grant to the Ottawa Public Library system. An extraordinary performance! A new feature this year was a string quartet, whose melodies created an atmosphere of elegance and warmth that was appreciated, given the dour weather. Many thanks are due to chief organizers **Jane Dobell** and **Linda McDonald**, and the huge stable of volunteers who pitch in throughout the year to sort, price, box and shift the masses of books and audio-visual material that accumulate. This year we mark the passing of the organizational torch from Jane Dobell to Linda McDonald and her team as Jane takes a well-earned retirement from this enormous task. Jane has been a strong advocate for the public library system and the Rockcliffe Park branch in particular, and we are grateful for her leadership. As always, the book sale is generously supported by sponsors; we thank **RBC Wealth Management | Montgomery Asset Management** and **Dymon Storage** for their support, as well as **Epicuria Fine Food** for their magnificent chili and sandwiches for the volunteers during the sale.

**Susan d'Aquino's** excellent Speakers Program continues to be a favourite attraction. City-enforced capacity limits in the Community Hall reduced seating such that more people ended up standing for the popular events. We look forward to another exciting programme in 2018. The annual Village Clean-up was another success. Many thanks to the volunteers who make these events possible.

Water levels in the Pond continue to be a challenge. For the first time ever, the City embarked on a pumping programme that pumped just under 50,000 litres of water per day from the aquifer into the Pond during the summer. We continue to work with the City to seek ways of managing the water loss and are pleased with the cooperation we have had with them.

In the latter months of 2017, Rockcliffe saw new and revised plans for the permanent rink and sports pad and the new field house, to be located in the field where the present hockey rink is situated. Plans are still being finalized, but after many years of planning, the project is ready to commence in the summer of 2018. This new facility will be a welcome addition to the community. This year, the **Hosers** installed a fantastic rink in the Jubilee Garden, with low-profile boards and miniature lights in the trees creating a wonderful winter scene. Many thanks to the Hosers and to **Charlie Sezlik** in particular, who put in countless hours to create a first-class skating rink.

The RPRA informs residents on matters concerning Rockcliffe by publishing six newsletters a year. Thanks to editor **Cynthia Hamady** for the many hours she puts into the production of each issue and to

the group of volunteers who collate and hand-deliver the newsletter to every residence in the Village. The RPRA had hoped to have its new website up and running by fall of 2017, however, delays and resource constraints (volunteer time) have conspired to delay the project. We have been testing a beta version and hope to have the site ready early in 2018.

As winter set in, our seasonal festive activities, the Tree Lighting and Carol Ceremony and the Children's Christmas Party, were well-attended. This year's Children's Christmas Party boasted a record turnout! Many thanks to **Imbaw Storer** and his crew of volunteers for pulling off a great party. The Tree Lighting ceremony was blessed with the presence of Rockcliffe's almost-centenarian, **Diana Rowley**, who came, as she always has, to sing and be part of the celebrations. Her presence so inspired us that a small group, myself included, who optimistically dubbed ourselves "the Four Tenors," and Diana's party continued to sing until the Salvation Army Band could no longer play due to frozen fingers and numb lips! Many thanks to **Jim** and **Nancy Carr**, who organized the event and put on a great spread of hot drinks and cookies, and to **Bridgehead** for their donation of herbal tea.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony also marked the formal launch of our RPRA fundraising drive. After our successful campaign last year, we again elected to support the **Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre** ([www.crcrr.org](http://www.crcrr.org)) with a fundraising goal of \$15,000. I am delighted to be able to report that we raised a grand total of \$15,672. I would like to thank all those who contributed to making this community campaign such a success.

The activities of the RPRA could not take place without the financial support of **The Village Foundation**. In 2017, the RPRA received a grant of over \$26,000 to carry out activities in support of the Foundation's key priorities of Community Building, Communications and Heritage. This year's grant included a special allocation to be directed towards developing resources for generating income. The RPRA will use these funds to develop an e-commerce module on the new website to allow residents to pay their membership dues and other fee-based services online. Thank you to the Foundation and its Chair, **Bonnie Robinson**, for their continued critical support. We look forward to building on our relationship in the years ahead.

Many readers of this report will have received a personal visit from one of the RPRA Board members earlier in the year as part of a membership drive. I am pleased to report that our membership numbers are now up significantly over the past few years. Membership is important as it provides the RPRA with needed resources to carry out activities not specifically funded by The Village Foundation.

The 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 28. For the first time, we will hold a volunteer appreciation reception before the AGM. I have often made much of the efforts of Board and committee members and other volunteers – mostly unnamed – who put in countless hours and work to make the Village of Rockcliffe Park such a wonderful place to live, and I look forward to the opportunity to thank you all in person. We will also present two new by-laws at the AGM. The first will introduce term limits for executive positions on the Board and the second will allow the Board to make greater use of committees. The aims of these by-laws are to create an expectation of a regular transition of executive officers and to encourage community members to become involved with Board activities as committee members without the commitment of being a full Board member. On that note, we need more volunteers! We are looking for folks who have interest and expertise in heritage matters, an interest in running social events, gardening enthusiasts, expertise in marketing, communications and finance, working with websites, etc. If you have an interest in getting involved, please email [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca). This year at the AGM we will see a transition in the Board as six of our members will not seek re-election. The nominating committee has been hard at work recruiting new members and we believe we have some great new candidates. To all Board members, it has been a pleasure to serve with you this past year and I look forward to an exciting and eventful 2018. To our outgoing members, thank you for your years of service and I hope that you will continue to remain engaged in community affairs.

*Peter Lewis*

---

## HERITAGE AND PLANNING

### Heritage

The RPRA's Heritage Committee is tasked with reviewing and advising the City on all development applications for the demolition, alteration or additions to existing houses, and the construction of new houses in Rockcliffe Park. The objective is to protect the special heritage character of Rockcliffe Park by ensuring that the provisions of the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Plan and Secondary Plan (part of Ottawa's Official Plan), as well as federal conservation standards to which Ontario adheres, are respected and applied consistently and transparently.

In 2017, the Committee reviewed six applications for demolition and new construction, two for new houses on vacant lots, eight for additions and alterations, and one for lot severance.

To foster transparency, a regular column, *Heritage Matters*, now appears in *The Rockcliffe News*. As well, a booklet explaining the *Rockcliffe Park Heritage Plan in Brief* was produced and delivered to every house. Special thanks to Rockcliffe resident **Allan Du Manoir De Juaye** for lending his graphic design skills and volunteer time to produce the booklet. The members of the Heritage Committee are **John Cook, Michele Collum-Hayman, Susan d'Aquino, Linda Dicaire, Brian Dickson, Marianne Feaver, Michael Kelen, Vic Lanctis and David McRobie**.



The RPRA participated with the City in the defense of the new Heritage Plan before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) in the appeal against it brought by **Richcraft Properties**.

*Susan d'Aquino*

### Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA) of Ottawa-Carleton

The FCA is the forum for community associations and similar non-profit volunteer groups in Ottawa to share information about issues facing their communities and, when appropriate, to take joint action. The FCA includes associations from the City centre, the inner suburbs, the suburban communities outside the Greenbelt and rural Ottawa. The RPRA has been a member of the FCA since amalgamation. The 35+ member FCA meets monthly. In 2017, FCA priorities included R4 zoning, OMB reform, building in mature neighbourhoods, community safety, and transit and transportation.

*Chris Barker*

---

## FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

### Treasurer's Report

The RPRA maintains a fiscal and membership year ending December 31. The restricted funds for Library and Heritage are controlled by the respective committees. The remaining restricted funds for Environment and Community plus unrestricted funds are controlled by the RPRA Board of Directors. Long-term cash is invested in easy-to-cash low-risk government bonds. A separate Finance Committee oversees the RPRA's financial activities.



In 2017, the RPRA received \$26,300 in grants from The Village Foundation and \$6,850 from membership fees. The fiscal year ended with 2017 net assets \$15,066 higher than the previous year. Full details of the RPRA's financial report are found in Appendix A of this annual report on pages 14 through 16.

*Angelica Bolitho*

## Membership

Membership in the RPRA provides critical support for the Association's work in representing the community's interests at City Hall. In addition, membership dues help finance community events and communications, such as this annual report. Our membership total at the end of the year was 274, reflecting an increase of 34.3 percent from the previous year's total of 204. In 2017, we introduced the option of two-year memberships, which was popular with residents. Despite rising costs, we have kept the annual fee at \$25 per family. Again, we offer two-year memberships for \$50 to facilitate renewals. Membership forms may be obtained by contacting [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca), or they may be downloaded from the RPRA website, [www.rockcliffepark.ca](http://www.rockcliffepark.ca).

*Claire Ouseley*

---

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Speakers Program

This was the 17th year of our community's Speakers Program. Held in the Community Hall on Wednesday evenings periodically throughout the year, these popular events are an opportunity for friends, neighbours and newcomers to hear from outstanding individuals, engage them in discussion, and enjoy coffee and homemade cookies afterwards. Admission is free.

In 2017, we were pleased to welcome the following speakers:



**Harley Finkelstein**, Chief Operating Officer, Shopify, speaking with **Tom d'Aquino** on *"The Shopify Story: Thriving on Change."*

**Charlotte Gray**, award-winning author and historian, about her book, *"The Promise of Canada: 150 Years and Counting."*

**Robert Fife**, Ottawa Bureau Chief for *The Globe and Mail*, on *"The View from Parliament Hill."*

**Arif Virani**, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and **Lori Rosove** on *"Canada's Syrian Refugees: One Year On."*

**Andrew Cohen**, celebrated author, columnist and former Washington correspondent, on *"Trump's First 200 Days."*

**Hon. Peter Harder**, Government representative in the Senate, on *"Canada's Senate: What Next?"*

**Thomas d'Aquino**, Canadian Chair of the North American Forum, on *"NAFTA: Dead or Alive."*

Special thanks to **Nancy Hooper** and **Lynn McGuffin** for graciously providing the warmth of coffee, tea and cookies, and to **Jane Dobell**, **Joan Kellett**, **Peter Lewis**, **Claire Ouseley**, **Imbaw Storer** and **Marilyn Venner** for organizational support.

*Susan d'Aquino*

## Library Book Sale and Rockcliffe Park Library

The annual Spring Book Sale in support of the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) continues to go from strength to strength. This year the sale, when added to our year-round shelf sales and generous sponsorship donations, produced a revenue of \$42,000. As we expand, our expenses also increase, but we were able to make a grant to the OPL of \$33,000, as well as keep a prudent balance to cover next year's expenses.

How is our money spent? **Philip Roberts**, the supervising librarian, reports that our funds paid for new books for the branch's collection for children, teens and adults, including large-print books, as well as DVDs, the magazine collection, and for particular enhancements to the Express collection.

According to Philip, our funding allowed a variety of programs which would otherwise not have been available to the community. This included programming to increase awareness of indigenous culture and history. Author **Melanie Florence** gave a library talk about the residential school experience. Parents were grateful for Professional Development Day programs featuring a magician, Little Ray's Reptiles and musical groups. General programming, such as Saturday programs on Robotics and other summer programs, were well-attended. Our funding helped bring greater awareness about our local branch by supporting an Open House for families which included entertainment, crafts, face painting and refreshments. **Linda McDonald** describes this event in the accompanying issue of *The Rockcliffe News*. None of the special events would be possible without the skills and dedication of **Sonia Doyon**, the branch librarian. Of course, the Book Sale itself puts an extra load on the library staff year-round and we are extremely grateful for their good humour, support and expertise.

As the money raised by the Spring Book Sale has increased over the years, the library committee has allocated increased funds to support system-wide initiatives. This year, close to 30 percent of our funding supported OPL's outreach to the indigenous community and to parents from vulnerable communities. We continued to support OPL's *One School One Book* initiative across the City in which students read the book *Lost in the Backyard*, followed by programming on themes related to the book, including a program on wolves in Gatineau Park, a presentation by **Jean-Francois Carrey**, who was once the youngest Canadian to climb Mount Everest, as well as a visit by author **Alison Hughes**.



Sale Day volunteers.

You don't pull a book sale out of the hat without huge community support. The Book Sale volunteers – 35-40 in number year-round, and more than 100 the week of the sale itself – are what makes it all possible. They are drawn from Rockcliffe and communities around us: Lindenlea, New Edinburgh, Manor Park and others surprisingly far away. The volunteers are

firm supporters of the printed book, they like a good gossip and a joke or two, are prepared to argue with spirit such topics as whether books related to Churchill should be classified as history, biography, or politics, and debate when a book becomes a classic. Above all, we are all grateful to those who donated an estimated 33,000 books and AV material for the 2017 sale. So as long as you keep donating books and then buying them back, the Library Book Sale will be a success! To paraphrase Mark Twain: The reports of the death of the book have been greatly exaggerated.

We are grateful to our sponsors: **Brian Montgomery, RBC Wealth Management**, and **Tim Miller of Dymon Storage**, whose ongoing support gives us the feeling we must be doing something right.

*Jane Dobell*

**Note:** In June 2017, Jane Dobell resigned as long-time Chair of the Book Sale. The 2018, Book Sale will be chaired by **Linda McDonald, Jane Newcombe and Kevin Philips**.

## Soccer



We conducted very little maintenance activity on the field this year due to an unfortunate setback in the summer. The contracting company failed to perform the scheduled treatment as contracted. Once we discovered the error, it was deemed to be too late in the season to warrant the expenditure. The contractor admitted to the mistake and agreed to apply fertilizer at no cost. The **Hosers'** plan to construct in

2018 a permanent rink and field house on the City property to the east of the soccer field will necessitate a minor truncation of the field, and either removal or realignment of the running track and possibly part of the irrigation system. The rink project presents an opportunity to regrade and dome the soccer field to improve water absorption using earth removed from the construction site. Discussions are ongoing with the Hosers' Corporation to examine a full rehabilitation of the soccer field. We therefore decided not to do further surface treatments and save the funds for possible use in the field rehabilitation. The stakeholders agreed to continue to contribute the same amount in 2017 as in the past to continue to build the capital fund in a planned and measured manner. This year, the **RPL Soccer League** hosted 260 participants from the ages of 4 to 14 in the summer programme and an additional 35 in the fall skills training programme. **Katherine Hall** and **Bruce Covington** continued to lead the volunteer effort that makes the league successful and won the *Volunteer(s) of the Year Award* in recognition of their contribution to the community. Teams are coached by parent volunteers and the league helps to bring the community together.

*Peter Lewis*

## Candidates' Forum

A seasoned team representing the community associations of Lindenlea, Manor Park, New Edinburgh and Rockcliffe Park organized a successful Candidates' Forum in advance of the Ottawa-Vanier federal by-election. The event, held the night of Tuesday, March 21 in Queen Juliana Hall at Rockcliffe Park Public School, attracted roughly 300 residents from the area. The four candidates were: **Adrian Paparo**, Conservative; **Emilie Taman**, New Democratic Party; **Mona Fortier**, Liberal; and Nira **Dookeran**, Green Party.

Thanks to **Ann Davis**, **Bea Hampson**, **Sebastien Laroche-Cote** and family, **John Leefe**, **Jacques Legendre** and **Stelios Togias** for another well-run event.

*Marilyn Venner*

## Movie Night

The RPRA hosted an outdoor movie night on August 25 in the beautiful Jubilee Garden with approximately 40 hardy Rockcliffe residents enjoying *Mary Poppins* on a big screen. Thanks to **Rhodes Barker Luxury Real Estate** and **Royal Oak Pub**, with sponsorships of \$250 each, and **Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre**, which arranged for popcorn and movie set-up. Thanks too to the volunteer team who put this event together: **Aly Abdulla**, **Jim** and **Nancy Carr**, **Peter Lewis**, **Emily Moyo**, **Lauren Touchant** and **Marilyn Venner**.

*Aly Abdulla*

## Spring Village Clean-up

On Saturday morning of April 29, a hard-working crew of volunteers gathered to clean up the Village. In just two hours, they had raked and gathered enough sticks and leaves to fill more than 44 leaf bags, hauled bundles of large sticks and branches to the edge of the Village Green, and filled 12 large garbage





bags with litter. Thanks to **Joan Kellett** for organizing this year's clean-up, and to the following contributors: **Bill Clarke, Julian, Gulay and Elizabeth Coulter, Susan and Tom d'Aquino, Brian Dickson, Bill and Linda Dunn, Alan Gill, Kyrce Good, Robert and Suzanne Gougeon, David Graham, Robert Graham, Margot and Inger Gualtieri, Peter Lewis, Ricarda McFalls, Louise Meyer, Jane Newcombe, Roger and Jeremy Ouseley, Maria and Milos Rajcic, the Reesal family, the Shantz family, Gordon and John Venner, and five Ashbury volunteers – Aaron, Haifei, Jack, Melvin and Sam.**

*Joan Kellett and Marilyn Venner*

*Photo: Terry Milewski*

### Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing was held on a cold and snowy Wednesday night, December 6, at the Community Hall. We had a good attendance of close to 100, with a large number of Elmwood School pupils, their parents and Rockcliffe Park residents participating. **Bridgehead** kindly provided herbal tea and **Jim and Nancy Carr** donated a large selection of cookies and hot chocolate that warmed hearts and stomachs – especially of the many children in attendance. The event started with the **Elmwood Junior School Choir** singing *O Christmas Tree* to coincide with lighting of the Christmas tree by MP **Mona Fortier**. The Elmwood Choir performed Christmas songs, and then community carol singing began. Each year, the **Salvation Army Brass Ensemble of the Ottawa Citadel Band** accompanies the local carolers. At the end of the Salvation Army's accompaniment, **Peter Lewis**, RPR President, presented the band with a cheque in support of their work for our greater community. The evening also marked the launch of the 2017 RPR fundraising drive to support the **Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre**. It was a very successful and enjoyable evening.



*Jim Carr*

### Children's Christmas Party



The 2017 Rockcliffe Park Children's Christmas Party was held on December 10 in the Community Hall. One participant said it was the busiest Christmas party ever, with lots of pre-school and early elementary school-aged children and their families attending. The reliable **John Cundell** with his horse-drawn carriage drove Santa and the happy children around the neighbourhood. **Goopee the Clown** created holiday-themed balloons, there were Christmas crafts, and the popular gingerbread house-making gave the kids an opportunity to show off

structural engineering skills. Hot chocolate with marshmallows and holiday treats kept the young ones energized. Participants brought toys and donations for the **Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre**.

Thank you to our high school volunteers, **Catie Baxter, Thomas Baxter, Christopher Dayton, Katrina Dayton, Georgia Forler, Vanessa Lu Langley and Anna Roper**, and to our uOttawa volunteers, **Ellie Sabourin and Tian Zhao**, to **Theodore Bisserbe** of the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community



*Children's Party Photos: Mireille S. Boulos*

Resource Centre, to **Lauris Zobs** and to our organizing team, **Mireille Boulos**, **Inta Sipolins-Zobs** and **Imbaw Storer**. We could always use more help, especially from families with young children who know how to plan a good time for the kids. If you are able to help, please indicate your interest by checking off the Children's Christmas Party on the RPR membership form or by sending an email to [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

*Imbaw Storer*

---

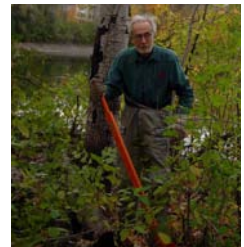
## ENVIRONMENT

### Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area: Environmental Remediation 2017

With the continued help of two stalwart and enthusiastic invasive plant removers, we continued the 2017 program of ecological remediation – removing Buckthorn. We continued to cut off berried Buckthorn branches, marking the cut stems for later removal. Three major areas for removal this year were around the Pond, behind the houses on Lakeway Avenue, and the Hillsdale Road slope – walkers and drivers can now see the lake. All in all we accumulated almost 350 hours of removal work. Other volunteers also helped with Buckthorn, Garlic Mustard and Dog-strangling Vine removal as their time permitted. We planted understory ground-cover (Virginia Waterleaf), planted one of the five Bur Oaks purchased by the RPR for the area (the four remaining will be planted in the spring) and spread seeds of Sugar Maple, Grey Dogwood, Aquilegia and other flowers in places where there might be enough light for them to grow. **Marilyn Venner** arranged for students from the **uOttawa Days of Service** program to come and help us sweep the paths clear of leaves, pull small Buckthorns and move Buckthorn brush to the central pit.

Thanks to **Chris Allaway**, **John Brooks**, **Carol Christensen**, **Anthony Keith**, **Irene Knoepfel**, **Jane Newcombe**, **Marilyn Venner** and our uOttawa Days of Service volunteers – **Lindsay Armstrong**, **Joshua Ivare** and **Tian Zhao**. The Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area is being turned into an evolving woodland useful to wildlife and people, thanks to your efforts.

*Iola Price*



*Intrepid volunteer  
Anthony Keith.*



### The Pond: Water Quality

**Derek Chase** and other Pond swimmers braved the Pond waters three times this year and our contract laboratory analysed the test samples for Phosphorus and Nitrogen. This year there was a decline in Nitrogen in August and September, and a decline and then an increase in Phosphorous over the summer and fall. The City also tested the Pond water for nutrients and we are waiting for that report so we can compare data. It does not appear that the pumping of water from the deep well into the Pond had any significant impact on Phosphorous and Nitrogen levels.

*Iola Price and Derek Chase*

### The Pond: Water Levels

It was a good year for the RPR in its relations with the City on Pond issues. As background, the RPR followed up on a consultant's report on low water levels at the Pond with a request to the City to reactivate the pump (installed in the early 1980s but unused for many years) as a pilot project to raise

the water level and hopefully decrease the number of visitors who establish themselves for long periods of time on the exposed “beach” area. The City reacted positively to our concerns and carried out the necessary preparatory work. We would like to thank our Councillor, **Tobi Nussbaum**, for his strong support for this initiative. Pumping took place in June, July and August at a rate below 50,000 litres a day, above which a provincial permit is required.

In conjunction with the pumping project, the City also carried out complementary activities, including monitoring the water level through a computer-assisted program, in addition to tracking rainfall and water quality in the well and the Pond. Sonar mapping of the Pond bottom was also completed. At the time of writing, the City was finalizing its report detailing the results of the summer pumping. We have asked to meet with City officials once the report is available to discuss its findings and a joint plan for next summer’s swimming season.

From our perspective, the pumping was very helpful in maintaining water levels and we hope it will continue next year, especially since the investments in capital infrastructure, such as a new pump, a new control panel and upgrades to standards, have already been made. We have also pointed out that, after the pumping ended, later in the season, the water level dropped precipitously. We would also like to explore with the City the implications of applying for a provincial permit and pumping a greater volume of water in the future. Other issues for discussion include a plan to deal with bank stability and erosion, as well as improved signage, which better explains what a Conservation Area is and enlists the support of swimmers and visitors in protecting it.

*Brian Dickson*

### Jubilee Garden and Village Green



In advance of the sesquicentennial celebrations and again just before the August 26 **Lumière Festival** (when thousands of visitors came to see the Village Green illuminated with beautiful paper lanterns and then stayed for food and performances), Rockcliffe volunteers weeded and watered the flower beds and pruned the yews and junipers and cedar hedges in the Village Green and Jubilee Garden. Thanks to **Margot Gualtieri** for her donation of flowers for the Village

Green and for the repair and repainting of the centennial benches, which now look so much better! Thank you to Margot for initiating this work and to the following volunteers who beautified these gardens, including: **Joslyn Adams, Neva Bruce, Jamie Carr, Anthony Keith, Wendy Nesbitt, Jane Newcombe, Jane Panet, Iola Price, Earl Weybrecht**, and the **Gualtieri** and **Venner** families.



Later in the season, with the help of five students from **uOttawa’s Days of Service** program, a group pitched in to trim the Oriental Bittersweet vine climbing the pillars of the Jubilee Garden pavillion and then help with a general fall clean-up. Following the vine trimming, the City replaced the pavillion’s aging cedar shingle roof. Thanks to **Lindsay Armstrong, Joshua Ivare, Yashas Krishna, Tian Zhao** and **Chenyue Zhu**.

*Marilyn Venner and Iola Price*



---

## ROCKCLIFFE PARK COMMUNITY POLICE CENTRE



I would like to take this opportunity to share some information with RPR members. The link below to the Ottawa Police Service Online Crime Mapping Tool will give you statistics for your neighbourhood. The Ottawa Crime Map can display the last 14 days of data for selected crime categories. You can also change the date selection and crime categories to customize a search to display up to 30 consecutive days' worth of data within the last six months.

<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/crime/crime-mapping-tool.asp>

I have also attached links to our Crime Prevention and Safety programs, our News Releases if you would like to register for news updates, the Crime Prevention Ottawa Neighbourhood Tool Kit and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services Home Security Audit Guide.

- <http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/safety-and-crime-prevention/Crime-Prevention-and-Safety-Programs.asp>
- <http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/news/search.aspx>
- [http://toolkit.crimepreventionottawa.ca/index.php?g\\_int\\_AppLanguageId=1](http://toolkit.crimepreventionottawa.ca/index.php?g_int_AppLanguageId=1)
- <http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/stellent/groups/public/@mcscs/@www/@com/documents/webasset/ec076626.pdf>

Reporting incidents to the police is important and provides us with the information needed to identify crime patterns. Please encourage all your neighbours to report any crimes in progress, suspicious activity and all crimes to the police to assist us in addressing crime in the community.

- **911 is for crimes in progress and life-threatening emergencies**
- **613 230-6211 for non life-threatening emergencies (i.e. suspicious activity)**
- **613 236-1222, ext. 7300 to report crimes that are not in progress**
- **Online reporting at <http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Online-Reporting.asp>**
- **613 236-1222 for Community Police Centres and all other enquiries**
- **Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-800-222-8477 or <http://crimestoppers.ca>**
- **Contact Us link: <http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Contact-Us.asp>**

*Constable Jonathan Kenney, Ottawa Police Service*

### Neighbourhood Watch



There were changes this year to Neighbourhood Watch: The City-wide program is now administered by a Board of Directors, and the City's community policing areas have been re-drawn to support the new Ottawa Police Service's delivery model. Rockcliffe Park is now part of an area which also includes New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, Manor Park, Overbrook and Vanier. Our Community Police Centre is now Vanier Community Police Centre, 252 McArthur Avenue, and Constable Jonathan Kenney is our Community Police Officer.

Under revised OPS protocols, allocation of resources is very much data-driven. This means that it is more important than ever for every incident or concern to be reported to police. Non-emergency incidents that did not involve violence, or where loss or damage was less than \$5,000, may be reported online at [www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Online-Reporting.asp](http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Online-Reporting.asp) or by calling **613 236-1222, ext. 7300**.



In Rockcliffe, neighbours continue to watch out for neighbours, and our Block Captains' efforts are much appreciated. Residents can now join Neighbourhood Watch simply by checking a box on the RPRA membership form, which is expected to increase participation.

*Kay James*

---

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Website and Email Alerts

Our new website is in testing and almost ready to launch to our residents. The new site will feature e-payment capacity for membership renewals, since some of you have asked for that, in addition to social media.

In 2017, the RPRA issued approximately 50 email notices about local issues and events to residents who are RPRA members and who have provided their email address on their membership form. If you are not receiving these notices and want to be added to our list, send a note to [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

*Marilyn Venner*

### Newsletter Team

A print version of *The Rockcliffe News* is delivered six times yearly to residents; a full-colour web version, as well as archived issues, may be viewed online at [www.rockcliffepark.ca](http://www.rockcliffepark.ca). **Cynthia Hamady** continues as our volunteer newsletter editor.

Thanks to **Marilyn Venner** for helping to organize content, and to Marilyn, **Claire Ouseley** and **Iola Price** for their eagle-eyed proofreading. We would also like to acknowledge the amazing service provided by **Allegra Marketing • Print • Mail Services**, whose owner, **Walter McGinn**, is a Rockcliffe resident. Special thanks to **Ling Lu Langley** for organizing newsletter volunteers and distribution, to **Brian Dickson** and **Paul St. Louis** for ensuring that our volunteer deliverers receive their bundles on schedule, and to **Iola Price**, who ensures non-resident members receive their newsletters. And, of course, thanks to **The Village Foundation**, whose continuing financial support helps to defray printing costs.

We are always interested in your comments, suggestions, stories and photos. Please send them to [editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca).

And, as always, many thanks to our volunteer delivery force who, in 2017, delivered your newsletters:

**Chris and Stephanie Barker, Cynthia Baxter, Rachel Baxter, Catie and Thomas Baxter, John Brooks, Derek Chase, Brian Dickson, Jane Dobell, John Edmond, Chantal Gobeil, Alison Green, Walter Grego, Nancy Johnson, Ana Klar, Anthony Keith, Ling Lu Langley, Peter Lewis, Ainsley Malhotra, Kent Manderville, Colin McCartney, Louise Meyer, Rodney Moore, Jane Newcombe, Claire Ouseley, Iola Price, Twyla Ruta, Tani and Gregory Sanders, Dean Saul, Mary Anne Smallwood, Claire and John Schofield, Paul St. Louis, Inta Sipolins-Zobs, Imbaw Storer, Kate Struthers, Mary and Si Taylor, Hans and Annegret Uhthoff, and Marilyn Venner.**

Despite this impressive list of volunteers, we can always use more help to deliver newsletters and to assemble and bundle them. Please email [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca) if you are able to help.

*Cynthia Hamady and Marilyn Venner*

## APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	34,111.11	13,564.80
Short-term investments	55,895.05	55,443.46
Other receivables	4,500.00	4,989.88
Total Assets	<u>94,506.16</u>	<u>73,998.14</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities		
Prepaid memberships	3,825.00	725.00
Accounts payable	4,852.68	2,510.66
Total Liabilities	<u>8,677.68</u>	<u>3,235.66</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
Restricted net assets – library	10,718.10	8,490.38
Restricted net assets – other	27,934.33	16,545.65
Unrestricted net assets	47,176.05	45,726.45
	<u>85,828.48</u>	<u>70,762.48</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>94,506.16</u>	<u>73,998.14</u>
<b>Schedule – Accounts Payable</b>		
Library	–	159.07
Environment	2,723.30	–
Communications and social events	1,993.67	1,171.99
Administration	135.71	1,179.60
Total Accounts Payable	<u>4,852.68</u>	<u>2,510.66</u>

---

## APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2017	2016
<b>Restricted Funds – Library</b>		
Revenue		
Sponsorships	2,213.80	1,759.77
Book Sale	41,349.75	38,299.85
Total Revenues	<u>43,563.55</u>	<u>40,059.62</u>
Expenses		
Grant to library	33,000.00	30,000.00
Expenses	8,335.83	6,955.98
Total Expenses	<u>41,335.83</u>	<u>36,955.98</u>
Change in net assets	2,227.72	3,103.64
Net assets – opening balance	8,490.38	5,386.74
Net assets – closing balance	<u>10,718.10</u>	<u>8,490.38</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		
Revenue		
Memberships	6,850.00	5,100.00
Investment income	451.59	414.24
Donations	164.00	479.89
Booklet sales	32.00	115.00
Total Revenues	<u>7,497.59</u>	<u>6,109.13</u>
Expenses		
Annual report	1,036.80	1,145.17
Events	2,162.86	1,379.74
Environment	1,164.29	–
General administration	690.59	410.69
Insurance / filing fees	674.48	725.33
Bank charges	163.97	245.12
Membership dues	155.00	155.00
Total Expenses	<u>6,047.99</u>	<u>4,061.05</u>
Change in net assets	1,449.60	2,048.08
Net assets – opening balance	45,726.45	43,678.37
Net assets – closing balance	<u>47,176.05</u>	<u>45,726.45</u>

## APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2017	2016
<b>Restricted Funds – Other</b>		
Revenue		
Village Foundation	26,300.00	19,450.00
<b>Communications and Social Events</b>		
Speakers Program	603.36	320.95
<b>Sports</b>		
Soccer, running track rehabilitation	5,000.00	7,250.00
Total Revenues	<u>31,903.36</u>	<u>27,020.95</u>
Expenses		
<b>Heritage</b>		
Heritage Management Plan	348.82	404.90
<i>Heritage Plan in Brief</i> Booklet	898.35	–
<b>Environment</b>		
Jubilee Gardens / CH gardens maintenance	5,678.33	4,971.66
Village Green / JG hedges maintenance	1,378.60	–
Sprinkler maintenance	321.67	386.91
Pond water analysis	238.31	320.19
<b>Communications and Social Events</b>		
Newsletter	4,932.36	5,277.00
Children’s Christmas Party	1,307.49	1,359.00
Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing	1,290.32	1,044.94
Speakers Program	2,055.55	1,711.25
Website and strategy	1,612.88	728.10
<b>Sports</b>		
Soccer, running track rehabilitation	452.00	5,367.50
Total Expenses	<u>20,514.68</u>	<u>21,571.45</u>
Change in net assets	11,388.68	5,449.50
Net assets – opening balance	16,545.65	11,096.15
Net assets – closing balance	<u>27,934.33</u>	<u>16,545.65</u>
<b>Schedule – Restricted Net Assets – Other</b>		
Heritage	5,980.93	7,228.10
Environment	3,983.09	–
Communications and social events	2,354.66	999.90
Sports	15,615.65	8,317.65
Total restricted net assets – other	<u>27,934.33</u>	<u>16,545.65</u>