



The Rockcliffe News

October 2018

Rockcliffe Park Residents Association

www.rockcliffepark.ca

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Board meetings are held monthly and are open to all. See calendar for dates and times. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Correspondence to Board members and any enquiries for administration purposes may be addressed by email to secretary@rockcliffepark.ca.

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER

- 2 Tuesday, 7:30 pm.....Experts@Elmwood: Jessica Lahey explores "The Gift of Failure," Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista*
- 10 Wednesday, 8:00 pm....Speakers Program: Professor Christina Cameron on "World Heritage: Today and Tomorrow," Community Hall*
- 17 Wednesday, 7:15 pm....RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 20 Saturday, time TBAElmwood School Fall Open House, 261 Buena Vista*
- 24 Wednesday, 6:30 pm....Ashbury College Information Evening, 362 Mariposa*
- 25 Thursday, 7:30 pm.....Rockcliffe Park Garden Club: Terry (Jusei) Hodgins, Ikebana expert, on "The Inspiring Beauty of Ikebana," Community Hall*

NOVEMBER

- 2,3,4 Friday to SundayRockcliffe Park Book Fair, Queen Juliana Hall, entrance behind the Community Police Centre at 360 Springfield*
- 3 Saturday, 10:00 amSomething New Edinburgh Craft Show, Memorial Hall, to 3:00 pm 39 Dufferin Road at MacKay Street*
- 3 Saturday, 1 to 4 pm.....St. Bart's Bazaar, Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street*
- 14 Wednesday, 8:00 pm....Speakers Program: Barry McLoughlin on "Politics and Media in a 'Disruptive' World," Community Hall*
- 17 Saturday, 5:30 pm2018 Ashbury Ball – Taj Gala, Infinity Convention Centre, 2901 Gibford Drive, Ottawa*
- 21 Wednesday, 7:15 pm....RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 29 Thursday, 7:00 pm.....Rockcliffe Park Garden Club: Virginia Vince, owner of Bloomfields Flowers, on "Holiday Decorating with Florals and Greens," Community Hall*
- 30 Friday, 6 to 8 pm.....RPR fundraiser in support of Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Centre's food bank, Parish Hall of the Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street*
- 30 Friday, 6:30 pm.....Elmwood Art Fair Vernissage, Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista Road*

DECEMBER

- 1,2 Saturday, SundayElmwood School Holly Tea and Art Fair, 261 Buena Vista*
- 5 Wednesday, 7:00 pm....Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, Community Hall
- 9 Sunday, 2 to 4 pmChildren's Christmas Party, Community Hall
- 14 Wednesday, 8:00 pm....Speakers Program: Barry McLoughlin on "Politics and Media in a 'Disruptive' World," Community Hall*

*Additional information on these events may be found in this newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



It seems as if a switch has been flicked and we have suddenly been plunged into fall temperatures alarmingly close to the freezing point. The temperature was far from freezing last August 24 when a good crowd of 45 or so turned out for our August outdoor film night. On the bill was *The Maltese Falcon*; however, a few minutes into the film it became clear that we were watching a different film altogether. An administrative error had resulted in being shipped *The Big Sleep* by mistake. No matter as the film was enjoyed by all. The success of the two film nights this year ensures that we will do the same again next summer and maybe expand to three or four evenings, perhaps following a theme of some kind. Any ideas out there?

Our new soccer field is now in use and the reports are fantastic. It is a wonderful field and we are going to do everything we can with all the stakeholders to ensure that it is maintained and kept up to standard. Construction on the field house and rink pad continue apace – check out the Hosers' update in this newsletter. Everything is expected to be ready for this year's skating season. With two high-quality rink surfaces, we hope that we will see lots of skaters out there this year.

Residents on the eastern side of Ottawa were extremely fortunate to have avoided the devastating effects of the tornadoes that touched down recently, with only minor loss of tree branches throughout the Village. Others were not so lucky. Various agencies in Ontario and Quebec are currently working around the clock to restore order after this highly unusual weather event, one of the most destructive I can remember in my time here.

As you read this, we are a few weeks away from the municipal election in Ottawa. We are trying to organize a candidates' forum for the councillor and mayoral candidates; we will send out an email notice to all for whom we have email addresses as well as posting details on our website, rockcliffepark.ca. As of writing we have yet to receive confirmation from the Mayor's office, which has postponed all official election events until further notice to help with tornado relief efforts, so stay posted for late-breaking news.

Over the summer, we learned that Ottawa-Vanier has, at 30 percent, the highest child poverty rate in all of Ottawa and the 18th highest in the country! It is an appalling statistic and one that should give us pause. Figures such as these are one of the reasons that we, as a community, continue to work with Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre (RRCRC). This year, the focus of the RPRA's annual fundraising drive will again be RRCRC's food bank initiative. We will be kicking off the campaign on Friday, November 30 with an evening of music and food at the Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street in New Edinburgh. See the announcement in this newsletter for details and information on how to purchase tickets. Music will be provided by a quartet from the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra and there will be a cash bar and a silent auction. I hope to see you there.

In mid-September we had a packed hall to listen to **General Andrew Leslie**, MP, who gave us an extremely interesting and timely synopsis on the NAFTA discussions. For the first time anyone can remember, the talk was given under Chatham House Rules. I was left with the feeling that we are in very capable hands. If you missed this talk, be sure to take note of the upcoming speakers over the next three months: **Professor Christina Cameron**, past chair of UNESCO World Heritage Committee, locals **Barry McLoughlin** and **Andrew Cohen** are all coming up. Dates and times appear in this newsletter. Many thanks to **Susan d'Aquino** for lining up another terrific speaker series.

Back in August, we put out a call for anyone interested in taking on the role of recording secretary at our Board meetings. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone who would like to become more involved with the community but who may have some time constraints – roughly three to four hours per month is all it takes. Please let us know if you would be able to help out by contacting us at secretary@rockcliffepark.ca.

Finally, it is with sadness and great affection that we note the recent passing of longtime resident and Rockcliffe Park's only centenarian, **Diana Rowley**. A tribute to Diana appears on page 12 of this newsletter. Although diminutive in stature, she was a larger-than-life presence and continued to be active until very recently in many community activities. Our sincere condolences to **Anne, Susan, Jane** and the rest of the Rowley clan, and to the many close friends and neighbours who will miss her.

From all of us on the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association Board, we wish you and your families a happy Thanksgiving.

Peter Lewis, 24 September 2018

The Village Foundation is a unique charitable organization established at the time of amalgamation with the City of Ottawa to manage an endowment, the interest from which is used to help fund community projects and programs in three areas of focus: the conservation of the environment; preservation of the heritage character of the Village; and promotion of a sense of community for all residents.

Is there a Conservation, Heritage or Community Building project you think the Foundation should be considering? We welcome your ideas. Contact Bonnie Robinson at 613 749-5297 or by email at bonnie@rockcliffeparkfoundation.org.

Official Inaugural Historical Plaque Unveiling and Community Reception

At time of writing the unveiling of the first historical plaque to be placed in the Village was scheduled for September 30, past this issue's publishing date. We will bring you a report of the event in the December issue of this newsletter.

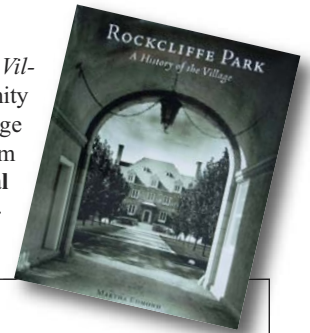
Did You Know?.....

Park Road used to continue east beyond Springfield Road to Acacia Avenue (Buchan Road did not yet exist). It ran in front of the original Rockcliffe Park Public School building, approximately where the current footpath goes through

the property. In 1935, with the threat of a housing subdivision being planned immediately south of the school, the Village purchased 3-1/4 acres from the Keefer estate for \$13,000. This property is the current soccer field and north end of the Village Green.

Do you remember when Park Road extended from Springfield to Acacia? Share your memories with us by email to aag8789@yahoo.com.

Source: *Rockcliffe Park – A History of the Village*, by **Martha Edmond**, was the community millennium project sponsored by the Village Foundation. It is available for purchase from Books on Beechwood for \$49.50 **Additional Source:** Oral history and memories of Rockcliffe Park residents.



THE 2018 VILLAGE FOUNDATION BOARD

Executive: Bonnie Robinson, Chair | Ryan Kilger, Vice-Chair | Roy Williams, Treasurer | Jane Newcombe, Secretary

Board Members: Sarah Baxter, Nancy Carr, Alexandra Colt, Jean-Guy Dumoulin, Alison Green, Jane Panet and Paul St. Louis

HERITAGE MATTERS

Setbacks for Accessory Buildings



The RPRA has requested that the City change its zoning by-law to reinstate the long-established setbacks for accessory buildings in Rockcliffe Park. Accessory buildings are anything from small sheds to detached garages in backyards. Upon amalgamation in 2001, it was agreed that all the zoning by-laws in Rockcliffe Park would be carried forward, and

this was done. However, in 2008, when the City was standardizing some by-laws, it changed the setbacks for accessory buildings to two feet from five feet. This is incompatible with the generous setbacks that are central to the heritage character of Rockcliffe Park.

The error came to light only recently. Former judge **Michael Kelen**, a member of the RP Heritage Committee, has investigated this thoroughly and has asked **James Taylor**, who was a Village Councillor and oversaw the by-laws at the time of amalgamation, to recount in an affidavit what happened. The affidavit forms the basis of the request to the City.

Susan d'Aquino

Photo: www.rachelhammer.com

HERITAGE MATTERS

Pride of Place and the “Public Face”: Door to Door

*This is the second in a series of articles dedicated to promoting the “sense of the beauty and spirit of [Rockcliffe Park] and its wonderful quality of life.” It was penned and photographed by Ottawa landscape architect and Chair of the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Committee, **Linda Dicaire**. The quote is from local realtor **Marilyn Wilson**, who describes our lovely neighbourhood as “the most prestigious real estate in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.”*

“They open a door and enter a world.” – C.S. Lewis

Of all the the fascinating details one takes in and perhaps photographs during a sojourn to some distant or not-so-distant city, doors on the street are the human scale calling cards that summon an immediate relationship to the passer-by.

Doors can hold us spellbound and trigger unexpected delight by many means: the unusual knocker, the shiny mail slot or foot plate, the robust hardware, the intriguing doorbell, the leaded glass transoms, the ‘adamesque’ fan light, the architectural composition, the shadows of a setback, the eye-catching gleam of colour, the moggy curled up by the threshold, the overflowing planted urns, the seasonal wreath, the spellbinding sculpture, the walkways’s paving pattern leading the eye to the door, the soft wash of light in the blackness of night.

Whether they are new or historic, Modernist or Edwardian, unadorned or part of a more elaborate statement, boldly coloured or calm in white, doors often contribute flair. But whereas their aesthetic experience is above ground, doors harbour meaning below the surface as they carry memory of place: Who walked through that door in years past? Who lives behind that door today? At the door we greet. At the door we bid farewell. The hug of welcome, the screech of reunion, the last breath of a good story. At the door, also the daily routine. The paper on the mat as we gauge the morning weather, eyes sometimes meeting those of an enthusiastic runner.

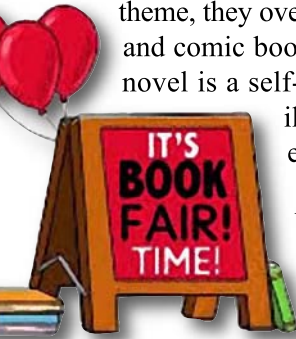
Rockcliffe Park presents many fine doors and a great deal with many good stories behind them. The next time you think about chucking out that old door, consider that it is connected to every person who has set foot inside. Maybe it can be lovingly restored in its place of honour and all those coats of paint on the hardware boiled off, or the door can simply carry on with its life in another part of the house.

What does your door say about you? Shown here are a few of the untold numbers of doors that delight throughout the Village of Rockcliffe Park.



BOOK FAIR

Clear Your Bookshelves for the 57th Annual RPPS Book Fair, November 2 to 4!



Our students are extra-excited about the 2018 Rockcliffe Park Public School Book Fair – tasked with voting on a theme, they overwhelmingly chose graphic novels and comic books! For the uninitiated, a graphic novel is a self-contained story told primarily in illustrations, usually laid out in panels, like a comic. It's a format so appealing and accessible that such bestselling series as *Harry Potter*, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* and *The Babysitter's Club* have recently gotten the graphic novel treatment. And more mature fans of gorgeous illustration and thoughtful storytelling will find lots to love in graphic novels, too.

Now in its 57th year, the RPPS Book Fair welcomes thousands of avid readers over three days. Visitors can browse through more than 50,000 donated titles in every genre as well as magazines, DVDs, CDs, vinyl, puzzles and board games – all at great prices. Busy volunteers restock shelves regularly, so there are new finds each and every day; lots of savvy shoppers make repeat visits over the weekend. Kids are always busy at our Craft Corner and folks drop in to our Café for tasty snacks and even hot lunch and dinner options.

Book Fair is RPPS's chief fundraiser and one of our community's most anticipated annual events. Volunteers from the school and community work more than 4,000 hours each year to make Book Fair happen. It's a big job with enormous benefits: Book Fair 2017 raised more than \$50,000. These proceeds flow not only back to RPPS, but also to other area schools in the form of grants to support literacy efforts and other essential programs.

Mark Your Calendars:

Join us for the 57th annual RPPS Book Fair!

When: November 2 to 4, 2018

Where: The Rockcliffe Park Public School gymnasium (Queen Juliana Hall – enter off Springfield Road near Buena Vista Road)

For information on the Fair: hours, location and volunteer opportunities: **Web:** rockcliffeparkbookfair.com, **Twitter:** [@rppsbookfair](https://twitter.com/rppsbookfair), or **Facebook:** [RockcliffeParkBookFair](https://www.facebook.com/RockcliffeParkBookFair).

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Rockcliffe Park Community Hall
380 Springfield Road

Join your neighbours for informal evenings with distinguished speakers. Presentations will be followed by questions, coffee and cookies. Admission is free. The Speakers Program is an initiative of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association and is supported by the Rockcliffe Park Foundation. Details may be found at www.rockcliffepark.ca.



*Professor
Christina Cameron*

**“World Heritage:
Today and Tomorrow”**

Past chair of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee and presently Canada Research Chair in Built Heritage, Dr. Cameron will tell us about the severe challenges facing world heritage and bring us up to date on Canada's world heritage sites.

Wednesday, October 10 at 8:00 pm



Barry McLoughlin

**“Politics and Media
in a ‘Disruptive’ World”**

Join one of Canada's most experienced political and leadership consultants as he explores what is happening in politics and the media, what the massive disruption means for voters, and the search for truth in an era of Fake News.

Wednesday, November 14 at 8:00 pm



Andrew Cohen

**“Trump's Washington:
Post Mid-term Elections –
U.S. Relationship”**

Award-winning columnist, former Washington correspondent and best-selling author reflects on the significance of the U.S. mid-term elections and what they mean for Donald Trump's chaotic, unprecedented presidency as it approaches its mid-point in January.

Wednesday, December 12 at 8:00 pm

THE POND CONSERVATION EFFORT

Summer 2018 Report

New signage at the Pond (including the conservation map), combined with roping off the severely eroding banks in 2018, has raised public awareness of both the erosion issue and the importance of undertaking a personal and collective commitment to protecting the banks while conserving the natural habitat. Successful efforts to remove invasive buckthorn demonstrated another level of commitment to protecting and preserving the natural growth. Frequent visits from City staff to monitor the water levels and secure the stone steps conveyed a supportive message to the swimmers, and an increase in the random visits from City bylaw officers also helped.



As the water level dropped, some swimmers tended to bypass the barrier ropes at the northwestern bank (by the eroding tree roots) and the eastern bank in order to walk along the protected shorelines and sunbathe. This required active citizen and City monitor interventions.



While the number of daily swimmers appears somewhat lower than 2017, concrete data are not available to substantiate this observation. Traffic congestion on Pond, McNabb and Whitemarl was consistently high, and families continued to camp out for several hours a day with towels, noodles, buckets, strollers and boom boxes (at times), often digging in the sand and leaving refuse behind.

Mornings were generally peaceful and could be considered compatible with a conservation area. By noon on most days, however, and until 2:00 pm, large crowds arrived at the



Pond, transforming the habitat from a conservation area to a boisterous recreation area often littered with forgotten articles and clothing. And on holiday weekends, without City monitors, the high number of visitors

overwhelmed the site – with many people disregarding the request to stay within permitted areas. Labour Day was especially crowded.

Constant vigilance of swimmers disregarding the 2:00 pm time limit remained a necessity. For example, on September 1,

early morning swimmers encountered a couple who had camped out all night, disappeared into the bushes and brushed their teeth in the Pond before leaving. Concerns raised by swimmers are the increase in babies wearing diapers in the water and more broken glass and cigarette butts often found on the sand.

Other issues pertain to how the Pond is being promoted in the media – both online, and most recently by realtors and developers of properties in the area, especially in light of Wateridge at Rockcliffe and the new condos on Beechwood. Describing the Pond as “one of the best swimming finds in the City” promotes misuse of this resource. A conservation area is not sustainable if human activity does not afford an opportunity for the fauna and flora to exist and regenerate. More needs to be done in order to preserve and protect the fragile environment. We must continue to be proactive in modifying the perception of the Pond from “one of the best swimming finds in the City” to “a prized conservation area for all to enjoy.”

Recommendations for ongoing maintenance and sustainability:

- Pumping by the City should continue, as water levels would likely have been significantly lower in 2018 without it;
- The two main signs with conservation maps should remain in their present location, but additional signs should be reproduced and placed more prominently along the walking path for visitors to see and read before arriving at the Pond;
- Consider rebuilding the severely-eroding northwestern and eastern shorelines with boulders and stones between November 2018 and the spring of 2019, which was done effectively by the former Village Council in other areas of the Pond before amalgamation;
- Reinforce the idea that the Pond, while available at times for recreational purposes, is first and foremost a conservation area that is home to many plants, birds and animals, and that the boundaries and rules have been created to ensure their survival. Install attractive and informative signs communicating that this is a natural habitat for particular species to be protected and thrive (turtles, geese, herons, cormorants, ducks, otters, fish, frogs, woodpeckers, etc.).



The RPRA will be requesting a meeting with City officials to discuss lessons learned and to develop a plan of action for the coming year.

Brian Dickson

QUEENS PARK / HOUSE OF COMMONS



*From the desk of Nathalie Des Rosiers
MPP, Ottawa-Vanier*

Update on Issues of Importance

We have had a very unusual summer at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. The government called the Assembly on emergency sittings in order to debate their bill to reduce the size of the Toronto City Council from 47 seats to 25 in the middle of the municipal election campaign. The government wanted to use the Notwithstanding clause in the Charter to prevent any court challenge to this intervention and prevent the application of the Charter of Rights and of the Human Rights Code to their new legislation.

I have been very outspoken about this: I do not believe that this was a case to use the Notwithstanding clause because this trivializes Charter rights. It was not only about the City of Toronto, but about the protection of all of our rights and freedoms. Please visit my website if you would like to read some articles that I have published on this subject.

I also recognize that there is still a lot of uncertainty about what will happen with the legalization of cannabis on October 17. The government has not provided much clarity on their intentions to allow private retailers to enter the market as of April 2019. I will keep you posted as we hear more. On these or any other topics, I am always interested in hearing what you have to say; please contact my office with your concerns and questions.

Very soon, I will be hosting some round table discussions on housing, and on the needs of seniors. If you would be interested in participating in one of these discussions, please communicate with my office by emailing ndesrosiers.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org or by calling **613 744-4484**.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all students between the ages of 16 to 22 that we will soon be starting our Constituency Youth Council in collaboration with **MP Mona Fortier**.

Contact us for more details!

Constituency Office:
237 Montreal Road, Ottawa, ON K1L 6C7

Telephone: 613 744-4484

Email: ndesrosiers.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Website: www.nathaliedesrosiers.onmpp.ca



*From the desk of Mona Fortier
Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier*

Diversity is one of Canada's Strengths

Over the summer, there have been many conversations in our community and in the media about Canada's diverse multicultural fabric. I have long believed that in Ottawa-Vanier, as in Canada, diversity is our strength, and I take every opportunity to brag about our communities' diverse cultural background.

However, over the past few months, I have noticed a change when I meet people in the community and at cultural activities. I hear that individuals are concerned about the dangerous rhetoric coming from members of the opposition. They are concerned that Canada will no longer be a welcoming place.

I completely disagree with those who are trying to spread fear and divide our community. In Ottawa-Vanier, as in Canada, we have so much to learn from each other. The different life experiences and perspectives of the people and groups that live in our community is a tremendous asset that helps us build up our community and face life's challenges together. As **Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** said recently: "Compassion, acceptance and trust; diversity and inclusion – these are the things that have made Canada strong and free. Not just in principle but in practice."

I wanted to take the opportunity, in this newsletter, to thank everyone in our riding who contributes to our thriving and dynamic riding.

As always, my constituency office is there to help you with any interactions with federal services. It is open Monday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Give us a call at **613 998-1860** or send an email to mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca.

THE ROCKCLIFFE NEWS • VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 5

The Rockcliffe News, the newsletter of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA), is published six times each year: February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions pertaining to the Village are welcome by mid month before publication. Copy may be edited for clarity, length and content. Paid advertising is not accepted. Current and past issues are posted on the RPRA website, www.rockcliffepark.ca. Editor: Cynthia Hamady, editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca.

SCHOOL REPORTS

ASHBURY
COLLEGE



Ashbury Hosts International Student Conference

Over 350 students and teachers from various locations around the globe descended on Ashbury's campus in late September for the 2018 Round Square

International Conference. Ashbury was one of three Canadian schools co-hosting this annual event, where young people explore the themes of ethnic, cultural, gender and religious diversity.

The theme of this year's student-led program was "Bring Your Difference," representing the fact that multiculturalism is a fixture of Canadian society.

The conference delegates, from countries such as Australia, New Zealand, India, Chile, Indonesia, Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, Thailand and the United Kingdom, listened to speakers, pooled ideas, participated in team-building, service and leadership activities, and experienced the Canadian wilderness through camp excursions, hiking and white-water rafting.

Students were hosted by Ashbury families, who shared the Canadian way of life and exposed these young visitors to the National Capital Region.

The conference program included multicultural, Indigenous, adventure and service days, along with opportunities to explore Ottawa and experience that all-Canadian pastime – attending a hockey game!

Ashbury is a proud member of Round Square, a worldwide association of approximately 180 schools in 50 countries on six continents that encourages students to push beyond academic excellence to discover and develop their full potential.

Round Square schools are characterized by a shared belief in an approach to education based on six pillars called IDEALS – Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service – drawn from the theories of education philosopher **Kurt Hahn**.

Admissions Information Evening, Wednesday, October 24

Interested in discovering the Ashbury advantage?

Join us on October 24 at 6:30 pm to learn more about our admissions process and financial assistance opportunities. Tour the school, chat with faculty, parents and students about our academic/athletic programming and co-curricular offerings, and see our exciting classroom displays.

Everyone is welcome! Ashbury College is located at 362 Mariposa Avenue in the heart of Rockcliffe. On-site and nearby street parking will be available. Contact *admissions@ashbury.ca* for more information.



Join Us for the Ashbury Ball – Taj Gala on Saturday, November 17

Please join us for an unforgettable evening of delicious

food, fabulous entertainment, and live and silent auctions in support of Ashbury students.

Date: Saturday, November 17

**Location: Infinity Convention Centre
2901 Gibford Drive, Ottawa**

Time: Cocktail Hour at 5:30 pm

Tickets: \$300

For more information on the event and to purchase tickets please visit *ashburyball2018.com*.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Elmwood School



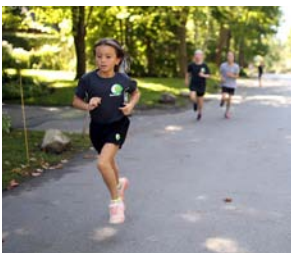
Members of the cast and crew of Elmwood Theatre's *Brollies & Bumbershoots* in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

This August, members of Elmwood's theatre program traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland for the annual Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Our impressive young cast presented an original play titled *Brollies & Bumbershoots*, which was written and directed by Elmwood's own **Ms. Angela Boychuk**. Our students performed brilliantly on the festival stage, impressing fellow students and theatre veterans alike. We are so proud of everything they accomplished this year!

Terry Fox Run

On Friday, September 14, our Junior School girls once again took part in the annual Terry Fox Run. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 walked and ran around the Junior School, while our older girls completed several laps around the Rockcliffe neighbourhood.



McKenna Wu was one of the Elmwood students who participated in the recent Terry Fox Run.

We were so impressed with their enthusiasm and support for this vital cause – carrying forth the efforts of Terry Fox and his dream of creating a world without cancer.



Round Square

We are thrilled to share we have been accepted as a candidate school to Round Square, a global network of like-minded schools spread throughout 50 countries on six continents. Our new membership status – which came after a year-long application process – means we can now offer even more opportunities for our students to take their learning outside of the classroom, as Round Square offers access to international exchanges, student-led conferences, volunteer service trips and more.

Experts@Elmwood: Jessica Lahey

Join us on October 2 at 7:30 pm for an evening with teacher, speaker and bestselling author Jessica Lahey as she explores what she refers to as the gift of failure. A firm believer in learning from our mistakes, Lahey demonstrates that when children are taught to take risks and accept failure, they will be well equipped to grow into strong, confident and self-reliant adults. To register for this free event, visit <http://info.elmwood.ca/lahey>.



Photo: Twitter

Holly Tea and Art Fair

Members of the Rockcliffe Park community are invited to join us this December for our annual Holly Tea and Art Fair. This event is always a highlight of the holiday season, filled with stunning artistry and festive cheer. We will be kicking things off on Friday, November 30 at 6:30 pm with our Art Fair Vernissage. The show will continue on through Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm – as will our Holiday Marketplace. And don't miss out on our Holly Tea on Saturday from 1:00 to 4:30 pm.

Fall Open House Saturday, October 20

If you are keen to learn more about Elmwood's innovative approach to girls' education, please join us on Saturday, October 20 for our fall Open House. You will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet with teachers, and learn more about how Elmwood can inspire your daughter to reach her full potential.

To RSVP, visit <http://info.elmwood.ca/open> or call us at 613 744-7783.



Elmwood girls Sierra Betts and Layan Kuhail with Head Girl Grace Goldberg.



WILDLIFE NOTES

The whinnying call of a Screech Owl between 9:00 and 10:00 pm has graced a number of nights for **Iola** and me since the end of July. The owl is always in the group of maples that overhang our north fence. This has been the case in past summers. What is special about that site?

Photo: National Audubon Society



This summer we again surveyed for nesting Chimney Swifts, both in our Rockcliffe neighbourhood and Manor Park. One of the two Rockcliffe houses has had swifts

nesting in its chimneys every summer we've watched. Not this year. Only the second house's chimney was in active use. Pre-settlement, these swifts apparently nested in hollow trees in old growth woodland in eastern North America. The clearing of forests and emergence of millions of brick chimneys in the 19thC invited a switch to chimney nesting. The interior chimney brickwork is rough, allowing adherence of the tiny shelf-like nest. In the past half century I've noticed more and more Rockcliffe brick chimneys modified to meet modern needs: Originally topped with large open-topped clay tiles, openings that swifts could use, chimneys are now topped with narrow metal flue pipes to accommodate gas heating. This loss of available chimneys has been

going on across the swift's breeding range and is one of the factors leading to its greatly reduced population.

For me as a vegetable grower, as for many others in Ottawa, this summer has brought extraordinary damage by squirrels. My wildlife-expert friend **Gerry Lee**, who gardens in the Meadowlands area, thinks the story began last year with a good crop of tree nuts and cones so that squirrels went into winter in good condition and had high over-winter survival. So this summer started with large populations. But this year the butternut in my garden, as across eastern Ontario, had zero nuts. Our black walnut also had none. This shifted the balance of power in my garden. In normal nut years, a male red squirrel furiously defends the butternut against grey squirrels. Coincidentally, this defense helps to keep the greys away from my nearby tomatoes. Not this year.

This year's abundance of squirrels was exploited by the Rideau Hall fox family, as noted in the May column. On August 29 at 7:00 am I found myself a few metres from a fox drinking from our frog pond: we were both startled. The fox was in and out of the garden for the next two days. Soon came a report of a fox carrying a squirrel on a nearby road. Now, if only that fox would den near my tomatoes.

Anthony Keith, 14 September 2018

Rockcliffe Park Garden Club Upcoming Events

Events are held at the **Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road**. Free for members, \$5 for guests. For more information, please contact **Vera Cody**, President, at **613 695-2827** or **jcody1@rogers.com**.

The Inspiring Beauty of Ikebana Thursday, October 25 | 7:30 pm | Speaker: Terry (Jusei) Hodgins

Join us in welcoming Terry Hodgins, one of the most advanced Ikebana teachers, who has wide-ranging experience in demonstrations and workshops for the Ohara School of Ikebana, Ottawa Chapter. The arrangements are not unlike sculpture; considerations of color, line, form and function guide the construction of a work. The resulting forms are varied and unexpected, and can range widely in terms of size and composition, from a piece made from a single flower to one that incorporates several different flowers, branches and other natural objects. An amazing up-close and personal experience, this evening will showcase the history of this ancient floral art as well as the methods of Ikebana. *Photo: Ohara School of Ikebana, Ottawa Chapter*



Holiday Decorating with Florals and Greens Thursday, November 29 | 7:00 pm

Presenter: Virginia Vince, owner of Bloomfields Flowers on Bank Street in the Glebe and Wellington West



Our most popular evening; acclaimed Ottawa florist Virginia Vince will delight us, creating holiday floral arrangements that will be the envy of your friends and family. Her exquisite floral designs and arrangements showcase the desire she has for making flowers, plants and natural beauty an essential part of everyone's everyday life. Get an early start on holiday ideas for floral décor for your home from a florist passionate about creating beautiful and natural places, designs and experiences. A raffle of her arrangements will be part of the evening. Bring a friend and arrive early. This always is standing room only. *Photo: Yelp*

HOSERS

Milestone Rink Project Reaching Completion

After seven years of proposals, discussions and fundraising, the new rink and community field house have finally taken physical form. The Rockcliffe Hosers are thrilled to see this capital project take shape in the heart of our community, ready for use this winter.

Throughout the summer, construction crews worked diligently to raise the concrete structure of the new field house before the new school year. In the coming fall months, we will see the exterior cladding of the field house structure in wood finish and the emergence of the new concrete pad that will form the rink structure. High-quality permanent rink boards will create a year-round solution for active living in our neighbourhood.

The expected timeframe for full project completion will be in late November 2018. We will be hosting an official launch in due course to celebrate this milestone opening. Posted signs will announce the timing of an official opening day.

In addition to the new permanent sports pad and field house, neighbours will notice exciting changes to the field of Rockcliffe Park Public School. The field was entirely revamped with a properly graded surface, new irrigation, fresh sod and new track. This additional community project was funded by the Rockcliffe Hosers, with valuable contributions from the **Rockcliffe Park Residents Association**, the **Lindenlea Community Association**, the **Ottawa-Carleton District School Board**, and the **City of Ottawa**. Many thanks to these contributing groups.

With our new facilities in place, the Rockcliffe Hosers will continue the long-standing tradition of maintaining and hosing the rink surfaces. As always, we are looking for volunteers to join the group. With a new concrete pad and proper boards, this maintenance will be easier, faster, and result in better-quality ice. Join your neighbours and friends – be a Hoser this winter! Contact therockcliffehosers@gmail.com to be part of this fun community group.



The field house construction in progress, September 24, 2018.

UPCOMING

“Something New Edinburgh” Returns November 3



New Edinburgh will once again play host to the fourth annual “Something New Edinburgh” – the beloved local craft show where community, artists and one-of-a-kind craftsmanship meet. The show touches down at Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Road, on Saturday, November 3 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. As always, admission is free.

Enthusiastic local support and a vibrant atmosphere take the day to the next level. Talk with over 30 talented artisans and makers, and shop handmade wares for holiday giving or for yourself. Cast your ballot for a chance to win one of over

\$1,200 in door prizes from community businesses, then grab lunch at **Angry Dragonz**, the food truck parked right outside. It promises to be a lively day – don’t miss it!

For more information:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/somethingnewedinburgh

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/somethingnewedinburgh/>

Email: somethingnewedinburgh@gmail.com

St. Bart’s Bazaar Kicks Off the Holidays on November 3



St. Bartholomew’s Annual Church Bazaar promises an afternoon of fun, food and fabulous finds on Saturday, November 3 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Church, located at 125 MacKay Street.

Please join us for one of the best local Bazaars. There will be tables of books, jewellery, antiques, gifts, knitting, crafts, jams and jellies, attic treasures, baking, toys and games, Christmas decorations, and a wonderful, cozy tea room with homemade sandwiches.

Proceeds will support Cornerstone Womens’ Shelter and the work of the Church. **Note:** If you have items to donate, please call **Ruth** at 613 745-7834, ext. 115 or **Liz** at 613 745-4677.

We hope to see you there!

END NOTES



Music, Food and Festivities to Support Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre

The RPRA and musicians from the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra will launch this seasonal fundraiser on Friday, November 30. Enjoy music, food and a cash bar, a silent auction and a gathering of friends, all while supporting Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre's food bank.

The event will take place in the Parish Hall of the Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Ticket are \$40 each, which includes a glass of Prosecco and food. Purchase tickets at www.eventbrite.ca; access the event using the search words COMMUNITY GET TOGETHER or RENDEZ-VOUS COMMUNAUTAIRE.

For further information, please visit any of these websites: rockcliffepark.ca, ottawasymphony.com or www.crcrr.ca.

Heritage Ottawa Sunday Walking Tours

Stroll through some of Ottawa's most interesting neighbourhoods with knowledgeable and enthusiastic volunteer Tour Guides. Walking Tours are just \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members, payable by cash at the start of the tour. For more information and the full schedule, go to www.heritageottawa.org/heritage-ottawa-walking-tours.

Lecture Series

Held September to June, the series features a wide range of interesting speakers and topics pertaining to Ottawa's history and heritage. Unless otherwise noted, lectures are free and are held at the Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library at 120 Metcalfe Street. The (approximately) one-hour lectures begin at 7:00 pm, followed by an informal gathering. There is no need to pre-register. For more information and the full schedule, go to www.heritageottawa.org/lecture-series.



Diana Rowley, 1918 - 2018

Diana Rowley died peacefully at home in the early hours of Saturday morning, September 22, just months after celebrating her 100th birthday at the Community Hall, an event she thoroughly enjoyed.

Her early interests were focused on the Middle East. However, at the end of the Second World War she found herself married and heading to a new life in Canada. With husband **Graham**'s interests and using her strong editing skills, she was drawn into the world of the Arctic and the Canadian North. She now had a new home (Ottawa and subsequently Rockcliffe Park) and new interests, which she pursued for the rest of her life.

Diana loved to travel. Adventures to interesting locales with her good friend **Susan Belgrave** were a passion. As two intrepid women they travelled to Ethiopia, Syria, Tashkent, eastern Turkey and the Yemen. Notable family trips in her last decade included Venice, a Norwegian Fjord cruise, the classical wonders of Sicily and a trip to the Sudan. Diana was born in the Sudan and this was her first visit since leaving as a babe in arms at the end of the First World War. She and her three daughters had a fabulous time exploring Khartoum with their cousin **Elizabeth Hodgkin**, visiting old family friends and seeing some of the ancient sites Diana's parents had also visited.

Diana was very active in Rockcliffe's daily life. The Three "Di"s – **Di Bethune**, **Di Ainsley** and **Di Rowley** – were founders of the RPPS Book Fair in 1961, a community institution that lives on and thrives to this day. For many years, Diana priced the Northern books – spotting rarities and collectibles that were certainly worth more than fifty cents. In the 1960s and 1970s Diana was a key figure in the McKay Lake Campaign, a battle to preserve the eastern shore of the lake that led to the creation of the Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area. She was also a keen supporter of heritage and was a founding member of Rockcliffe's Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) and later our Heritage Committee. She inspired many in the pursuit of heritage matters. She was of great assistance to **Martha Edmond** in the research and editing of *Rockcliffe Park: A History of the Village*, and Martha dedicated the book to her.

Jane Rowley, with additional text by Martha Edmond and Iola Price Photo: Seanna Kreager