

# WOODFIELD

NEWS  
FALL 2013

## 2013 Harvestfest Potluck and Auction Thursday, November 21



Hello Woodfielders! Happy Fall! We've been enjoying some glorious weather and beautiful Fall colours here in Woodfield. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new Social Chair. I took the position from Rod McDowell this past Spring. My husband, our 2 small children, and myself are new to Woodfield and we have been very much enjoying the amazing people and architecture of the neighbourhood. We hope to plant some roots and help preserve this special community.

I hope I will get a chance to meet more of you at our upcoming Annual Harvestfest **Potluck Supper & Silent Auction on November 21st at Dufferin Hall**. The festivities will begin at 6:30. Please bring along your best entrée, salad, or dessert as well as cutlery and plates (we'll have extras in case you forget). Coffee, tea and juice will be supplied.

We would like to extend a special thank you to all of the local businesses and residents who donate products and services to our silent auction. Without their generosity this event would not be possible. If you know a resident or business you think would donate something please let me know. We look forward to seeing you all on November 21st!

— Rosy Loewith, 519-434-8854, [rosy@rivetsales.com](mailto:rosy@rivetsales.com)



### RESIDENTIAL TO THE CORE

The Woodfield News is published twice a year and delivered free of charge within the Woodfield area.

We invite your comments, suggestions and submissions.

Please write to:  
Lorraine de Blois  
c/o Woodfield News,  
3 Prospect Avenue,  
London, ON N6B 3A4  
[lorraine@segue.ca](mailto:lorraine@segue.ca)

[www.historicwoodfield.com](http://www.historicwoodfield.com)

A member of the  
Urban League of London

## Heritage Alteration *Permits!*

If you are receiving this newsletter, chances are you are in one of Woodfield's two Heritage Conservation Districts! If you are planning any (even minor) exterior renovations remember to call Don Menard (City Heritage Planner) at 519-661-2500, ext. 0267 to see if you require a 'no fee' Heritage Alteration Permit before you start (to avoid delays or a 'stop work' order). The call is quick and easy!

# The Long (Long) Goodbye...

*"He's very slowly getting away!"*  
(Principle Skinner as Homer makes his escape in a stolen float)

As fall settles in here in Woodfield, I find myself a little nostalgic this year. I have decided that this will be my last term as Chair of the Woodfield Community Association, and making this decision has caused me to look back over the years. It is hard to believe that as this term ends in the spring of 2015 (still quite a way off) I will have been in this position for 10 years, and on the executive for more than 12! What a decade I was lucky enough to be a part of though – and what an amazing team of people I worked with.

As I sat with these tireless neighbours over the decade, they did so many wonderful things. They published 2 books, grew our annual events wildly in attendance (from the Plant Exchange to Harvestfest) and branded our community in countless new ways (from umbrellas to aprons). They created a new tradition in the Woodfield Fair, started a website, a Facebook page and a digital newsletter. They found an unlikely mascot in a little groundhog named

---

## **Pillar and Pine Digital Newsletter**

If you are not yet receiving our Pillar and Pine Digital Newsletter, then you are missing out on many of the things happening throughout the year in Woodfield!

Unlike this paper newsletter, which is more informative and 'article based' and delivered twice annually, the Pillar and Pine is more of a 'news bulletin'. Through it we can alert you to fun, impromptu events happening in and around Woodfield, and deliver 'calls to action' on issues at City Hall and beyond.

We don't share your email with anyone and we only send out about one per month.

*If you want to get on the list, drop us an email at: [wkinghorn@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:wkinghorn@historicwoodfield.com)*

Woodfield Wallace, held Groundhog Day pub crawls and Autumn Pub nights. They created the Streetscape Improvement Award, held community forums and political debates, and worked with City Hall to create new bylaws to make life even better in this wonderful place. They held movie nights under the stars, and caroled in the snow. They coordinated yard sales, heritage tours and historic events. They planted trees, and worked hard for the school that we love. They hosted Secret Garden and Geranium Home tours, and even started a brand new Heritage Conservation District in the West.

...and what list of this fun decade would be complete without noting that they, and you all, made us (say it with me now) the "Greatest Neighbourhood in Canada"!

Sure the work was hard, and in each vintage year there were a few sour grapes (Ontario Municipal Board hearings and difficult zoning battles among them). Those grapes aren't sour in my mind anymore though – they have sweetened in the sun of the fun that we've had together all these years.

As this fall sets in, my mind also turns to personal goodbyes said over the years. Ah, but each new

## *A Message from the Chair*

'goodbye' makes way for a 'hello' of course. We had to say good bye to our best friends, neighbours and constant drinking buddies Peter and Irene (in the big beautiful house on Princess), but we got to say hello to our amazing new neighbours the 'Macs' (and so many other new wonderful neighbours). We said goodbye to our poor boulevard ash tree, but will say hello this spring to a brand new oak. Our hearts broke when we had to say goodbye to the star of our house (and its namesake) Paper, but then along came little Clover to fill that big collar. No 'hello' ever replaces a 'goodbye', but rather they add a few new bricks to the sturdy Queen Anne of our lives (and happily Peter and Irene only moved a few minutes away).

...and so in a year and a bit when I step aside as Chair (surely 12 years is more than enough to have to stare at that damned kilt) it will open the door to a brand new Chair, with brand new ideas and a new direction for Woodfield.

I for one can't wait to say 'hello'. Have a happy fall and see you all at Harvestfest.

– Wes



*Streetscape  
Improvement  
Awards*

## **Call for Nominations**

**Streetscape Improvement and Neighbour of the Year**

Once a year we take a moment in Woodfield to stop and reflect on those who have made life in our neighbourhood better and more beautiful.

Please take a moment in your busy schedule to help us in our search for nominees for the annual Streetscape Improvement Awards. As you walk through Woodfield enjoying the fall show, take note of home, business or front garden improvements that are worth our attention and give us a call to let us know. We will put them on the

voting slate for a Streetscape Improvement Award. In November, all those who attend Harvestfest will get a chance to vote for their favorite.

We are also looking for our 2013 'Neighbour of the Year'. If you know of someone who is making (or has made) a big difference in our community this year please let us know. We try to honor achievements in a specific year, but are open to any nominations.

– Wes Kinghorn (Chair)  
519-439-0004  
[wkinghorn@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:wkinghorn@historicwoodfield.com)



# Historic Street Fair



Left: Children at the arcade games with John Therriault (centre) and Linda Palmer (bottom).

Above: Taking in the tunes.

Right (top): Enjoying a horse drawn carriage ride.

Right (center): Rob Rice (left) with his sister Julie hope for a buyer at the lawn sale.

Right (bottom): Mary Elizabeth Jones (left) observes the festivities from her front step with her mom Bonnie Whitaker.



## Guess who showed up at a Woodfield breakfast!



Have you ever had one of these little guys show up uninvited? In a recent report in Woodfield, a rat was seen stealing a pancake right out of the frying pan as the family sat down to breakfast. In another incident, a few brazen party crashers showed up during a barbeque.

Rats are an unavoidable part of our environment. The goal is to make our living spaces less attractive to them.

If you are a tenant, inform your landlord and try to resolve the issue together. Landlords have obligations but if unreported, they cannot help. If the situation is not addressed, report the situation to the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer.

If you are the property owner, call a local pest control company.

If the rat activity is generated from an adjacent property, attempt to resolve the issue with the property owner. If unsuccessful, the phone

numbers below may help to motivate the owner to act.

### To discourage rat activity:

- Keep the lids closed on large communal garbage bins. Keep garbage secure and put it out as late as possible — early morning is best. Metal containers with secure lids are best — avoid garbage in plastic bags.
- Rats look for nesting spots and food. Composting provides a food source. Stop composting until the infestation is over or totally secure the compost. Rats will tunnel under a composter from a few feet away. Sink your composter into the ground and add a light gauge wire fabric underneath the composter, extend it a few feet in every direction to discourage tunneling. This still allows the soil to breath and worms to do their magic.
- Don't use an open compost pile

- Don't put egg shells, meat or dairy into your compost
- Agitate the contents regularly (rats only like undisturbed heaps)

### Trapping Rats

- Spring loaded traps generally lead to a quick end. Glue traps and poisons are slow working and may result in having to deal with the termination of a live animal.
- If rats are getting into your compost, place spring loaded traps right into your composter (assuming other animals aren't getting in).

### Who to Call?

Laura, Queenan, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, Planning and Development/Building Control at the City 519.661.2500 x6503

Report the problem to the Middlesex-London Health Unit Andrew Moulton 519.663.5317 extension 2312.

— Jason Kipfer, Member-at-large



# Every Tree Counts

— by Hilary Moon, Trees for Woodfield



The Trees for Woodfield committee met in early October with London's Manager of Urban Forestry Ivan Lister and the Supervisor of Roadside Operations, Rick Cosby. Rick is deeply involved in tree planting in the forestry department.

We had a very useful conversation with these gentlemen and now we need your input and co-operation as residents, as well.

## Here is how you can help

Residents along William Street and Cartwright Street have been advised that their street will be dug up next summer. Public information meetings will be held before the work begins. PLEASE take time to attend these meetings. They give you an opportunity to see the scope of the work to be done and will allow you the opportunity to ask questions.

What does this road construction have to do with boulevard trees?

At the Public Information Meeting, you will be advised about what trees will need to be felled and what trees may be damaged.

Can they be saved in any way? Are there alternative methods that could have less impact on the trees root system?

When digging takes place, the tree roots are often severely challenged, damaging the trees irrevocably.

TREE PROTECTION policies and procedures (orange fencing around tree areas) will be put in place. But please be responsible and safeguard the trees on your front yard and boulevard. Be aware and alert

throughout the construction process. Do not take anything for granted. Not all on-site construction workers have their minds on the importance of trees in our neighborhood or how best to work around them.

If you have any concerns, please call one of the Trees for Woodfield committee. See [www.historicwoodfield.com](http://www.historicwoodfield.com) and click on *News and Notes*.

The mandate that Trees for Woodfield has taken as their guideline is to get as many trees back on our boulevards as possible, restoring the treescape of this Historic District to the way it was 50 years ago. Large trees lined all the streets and provided many benefits to our urban environment including cooling shade in the heat of the summer.

Trees are a **must have** in order to keep our residential area a healthy and lovely place to live.

When the City asks to plant a tree on the boulevard in front of your home, please tell them a resounding YES!

## Every Tree Counts

Help us restore the street you live on to greener times. Trees add value to your property and to Woodfield.

Please continue to water your trees throughout the fall. They rely on your thoughtful care.

### Trees for Woodfield Committee Members

Elizabeth Drewlo	434-1407
William Funston	433-5618
Chuck Hoch	432-6231
Hilary & Burton Moon	438-8648
Linda Whitney	434-9574

## ANNUAL PLANT SALE



For years Woodfielder Rick Thomson has moved Woodfield "stuff" around the neighbourhood in his old white truck and around our Plant Exchange Sale he could be seen delivering the beautiful flowers and plants donated by Springtime Garden Centre and Canadian Superstore. Thanks Rick and also Starbucks for donating coffee and to the Central High School students for helping to bag and distribute the mulch and compost donated by Try Recycling. This year's Sale raised nearly \$1,100.00.

## Christmas Caroling

**Thursday, Dec. 12 at 7 pm**  
**Come join us in this Woodfield Holiday tradition!**

For decades, Woodfielders have joined their friends and neighbours to share the best songs of the season. There will be treats and festive beverages, and with any luck a snowy backdrop. After our warm-up the 'real' caroling starts as we bundle up and wander from door to door guided by our lantern bearer. The evening closes with a wonderful party at a Woodfield home. We will announce the details at Harvestfest, or drop Rosy an email if you miss us there. Bring the whole family – kids love this night even more than the adults do!

— Contact Rosy (social chair) for all the details!  
[rosy@rivetsales.com](mailto:rosy@rivetsales.com)



## Woodfield Membership

**If you have received this newsletter, you are living in the Woodfield neighbourhood.** Your membership to the Woodfield Community Association is important for the preservation of our neighbourhood. We invite residents not already members to join. \$5.00 for 4 years, Lifetime Membership \$50.00.

Please contact **Hazel Elmslie at 519-434-4629** for more information.