

# WOODFIELD

NEWS  
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

2018

## HarvestFest

### Potluck and Auction

Tuesday, November 27, 6:30 pm

**NEW LOCATION**

First St. Andrew's United Church, 350 Queens Avenue

Come to HarvestFest! This event is a fantastic community tradition in Woodfield. Every year, friends, family, neighbours gather and share a meal. Bring your favourite potluck dish along with cutlery and a plate for yourself (we'll have paper plates in case you forget). Our silent auction will feature lots of wonderful treasures donated by generous businesses and members of our community. This is our major fundraiser for the year so don't forget your cheque books! Plus we will be voting on the Major and Minor Streetscape Improvement Award recipients. This award honours all the hard work and creativity that people put into the exterior of their homes. If you know of someone who deserves this recognition, nominate them! Email your nominations, with a photo by November 15, to [info@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:info@historicwoodfield.com). Thanks and see you at **HarvestFest!**

**PLANNING NOTES:**  
Eyes on potential developments

**Pre-Order  
Christmas Tree  
Sales**

**2018 Historic  
Woodfield Fall  
Street Fair**



#### 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.

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*A member of the  
Urban League of London*



## Heritage Alteration Permits must now be visible on site

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 – all work on the exterior of buildings in the Woodfield Heritage Districts requires that a quick and **free** Heritage Alteration Permit be acquired and hung visibly on site.

Contact Kyle Gonyou (City Heritage Planner) at 519-661-2500 (ext 5344) to get your permit if you are planning any work (to avoid delays or a 'stop work' order).

Also if you see alterations without a permit visible, please give Kyle a call so that he can set the owner up with one.



# How to bring a community together

## — A Message from the Chair

The first Woodfield Fall Street Fair took over Princess Avenue this past September! What a huge success. And next year, it will be bigger yet. Thank you to the incredible group who worked to make this event happen. And thanks to neighbours, near and far, for joining us on that day.

It's events, like this one, that help bring a community together. Coming up next is our annual HarvestFest, followed by a new event, the Woodfield Christmas Tree Lot! Pre-order your tree, and when you pick it up, plan to stay a while, meet new neighbours and

have a cup of hot chocolate by the fire. Then, on December 20, is our annual night of Carolling.

On another note, the Woodfield Community Association is proud to welcome a number of new board members this fall! Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in joining our group. If anyone else is interested in becoming involved, please send an email to [info@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:info@historicwoodfield.com).

See you all at HarvestFest!

— Kate Rapson, chair

## 2017 Neighbour of the Year



Kate Rapson presenting Neighbour of the Year award to Lincoln McCardle at the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

## PLANNING NOTES: Eyes on potential developments

*The following is a brief update on some of the potential developments in our area. We'll continue to watch as these progress and engage the broader community where appropriate.*

### 560 & 562 Wellington

The Auburn Development application for a 22-storey (78m tall) mixed-use apartment building was downsized to less than 20 storeys earlier this year. The application currently is on hold, pending the Victoria Park Precinct Study by the City of London.

### Victoria Park Precinct Study

Last spring, London City Council approved the Victoria Park Precinct Study to look at how the lands surrounding Victoria Park could be developed in the future. About 100 people attended at public input meeting earlier this fall and learned that there are several potential locations for new developments in the immediate park area including three large lots currently zoned to allow for buildings as high as 90 metres. Many felt that some development would be acceptable but not 30 storeys, while others felt there should be no new development in the immediate area. Most agreed that too many high rises would negatively impact the park. Reasons included concerns about shadowing, wind,

access to the park, and traffic, all detrimental to the health and public use of the park.

The City will host another public meeting later this year. The Woodfield Community Association will send out a notification as soon as a date has been announced. In the meantime, if you wish to share your thoughts on the future of Victoria Park, please contact the City Planner, Michelle Knieriem at [mknieriem@london.ca](mailto:mknieriem@london.ca).

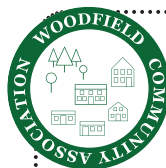
### 467 & 469 Dufferin

This duplex was to be the subject of an Ontario Municipal Board hearing earlier this fall at which Marigold Development was appealing the City's decision to deny its application to construct a 12-unit building. However, the hearing has been pushed to next year. This means this building will degrade further. Just a few years ago it was in much better condition and fully rented. Why is this building significant? There is solid evidence that the building

could be from the British Military barracks making it one of the most important sites in the City. Other research confirmed the building to be the site of the first Labour Council Office, the first London Library, the first newspaper and a founding home of a national political party. As a community association, we continue to pressure the owner to keep up the building and do basic maintenance.

### Adelaide Street Underpass

The environmental study for an underpass is complete and submitted to the province. The assessment can be appealed and we are waiting to see if that happens. Then the project moves to the next phase which will entail more detailed design work. Currently the project will include a two-lane detour through McMahan Park during construction, a realignment of Central Avenue, and park area to the west. The detailed design work can take a while. Stand by for updates!



### Woodfield Memberships

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.

For more information please contact [info@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:info@historicwoodfield.com).

# The 2018 Historic Woodfield Fall Street Fair

On Saturday September 8th we returned to our very popular Historic Street Fair in beautiful Woodfield. This year it was a Fall Fair, and included scarecrow decorating, lots of straw bales, a pumpkin toss, and our own custom BBQ by the fabulous “BBQ Blokes” (led by our own Jeff Carson) to compliment our Woodfield Café (led as always by Alex and Mike). The fall weather didn’t scare away our ice cream



*Joan Clayton entertains a captivated audience.* eaters, and Bob the Ice Cream Man sold out. Kelly reports that popcorn sales were brisk, and Wendy could hardly keep up with the kids cashing in their games tickets for prizes. As always, Woodfielders and Londoners were out in droves celebrating our unique history through music, shows, food, displays, Victorian Fairground games and more.

The Mac/Cool Kid Zone was bigger than ever.

We closed down Princess (from William to Palace) and transformed the street into a 1900ish pedestrians-only Fairground, with free performances and activities for the whole family. Big thanks to our performers: The Woodfield Winds (with Benedict and his talented ensemble), the fabulous Joan Clayton for an original play, as



*Bean Bag Toss players hoping to win big.* well as music and dancing by the kids of Woodfield. Jacqui put together a stellar art gallery of our local talented kids, and the City was with us (the NeighbourGood team and our Heritage Planners), as was Lily the librarian and a number of our local Council candidates. There was so much more that it just won’t fit here!

THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who set up and tore down the Fair, and ran our kids games and concessions. BIG THANKS also to the Western Students who generously volunteered their time throughout the day.

See you all next year on Saturday September 7, 2019 — when the horse and carriage rides will return! We are looking for Woodfield-loving sponsors for next year’s event to make it even bigger! If you know of one, please ask them to call Wes at 519-858-1900.

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The Kids of Woodfield (KOW)

crafted some very nice art pieces and packed the KOW Art Gallery to the brim at the Fall Fair. The Gallery was almost sold out and the kids raised



over \$100 for Woodfield. A special thanks to the parents that helped out at the Art Attack and to Max Kipfer for running the Gallery and making the sales. A fantastic effort by the kids and lots of fun was had getting messy with paint!

## Trees are Trendy! Catch the big city trend!

Many cities put a lot of resources into their Urban Forest, and Urban Design is currently focused on green spaces. In Woodfield our largest public green space is Victoria Park. Certainly, our City Planners will protect and maintain that Park. Probably there will never be concrete covering all of the park and there will always be grass and trees. But there is another dimension to concrete and that is the vertical dimension: high walls of concrete and glass for proposed highrises. Infill planning is important, but our parks and green spaces are equally vital. Both City Planners and developers have a vested interest in increasing the density around Victoria Park, and ultimately it is all reduced to the mighty dollar.

Why would these high walls of concrete and glass negatively effect our precious Victoria Park?

1. Some of the open sky and hours of sunshine, essential to the wellbeing

- and flourishing of trees, will be lost.
2. Many birds will die or suffer by flying into the windows of highrises. Fewer birds effect the ecosystem, including trees.

The intended buildings are too close and too high for our Park. These may seem small considerations but attention must be given to protect a vibrant urban forest.

In Canada we plant millions of trees each year — but we cut down millions more than planted. It takes approximately 30 years for a new tree to replace the benefits of a mature tree. We need to focus on caring for our older, more valuable trees, while adding new ones for future generations.

Recently I read of an initiative spearheaded by Imran Khan, cricket-star turned politician, and now Prime Minister of Pakistan, that succeeded in planting 10 billion trees. Having the vision to plant 10 billion trees is enor-

mous and it is heart-warming to hear of a politician that put his influence to such a positive undertaking — to *stop talking*, and *start planting*. I spent some of my childhood in Pakistan and I felt proud that this country was pursuing a programme that effects the globe.

In our City, Re-Forest London is committed to planting 1 million trees.

Please go to the website [www.plant-for-the-planet.org](http://www.plant-for-the-planet.org) as it is inspiring! Children creating a better world for themselves.

Trees for Woodfield monitors boulevard trees, and recently undertook a tree walk to identify where trees can be planted. 41 spaces were submitted to the Urban Forestry department. If you know of a boulevard space where a tree could be planted, please let us know, giving the street name and building number closest to the empty space.

— by Hilary Moon, 519 438-8648





## Pre-Order Christmas Tree Sales



Here it comes — The Woodfield Christmas Tree Sale! This is by pre-order only, so you need to order ahead and pick up at our 1 day ‘Charlie Brown style’ Christmas tree lot, with carolling, roasted chestnuts, Christmas movies, warm drinks and a campfire. NOTHING could be more Christmassy! These beautiful, fresh trees got stellar reviews last year!

Pickup Friday, December 7 only at the corner of Prospect and Princess (4-9 pm).

**\$50.00 will get you a beautiful 6-7 ft. #1 Fraser Fir**

**\$65.00 will get you a majestic 8-9 ft. #1 Fraser Fir**

These trees are fresh cut and driven back to Woodfield by Jeff and Wes in a big van for our 1-day pick-up event. Please call in your orders to Wes at 519-858-1900 by November 24 (earlier if you can). All proceeds go to the Woodfield Community Association.

## More Bell Box art coming soon

Last year, as part of the City of London's Neighbourhood Project, Dawn Redskye was hired to paint the Bell Box located by Lord Roberts



*Bell Box painted by Dawn Redskye*

French Immersion Public School at the corner of Maitland Street and Princess Avenue.

We loved this idea so much that at our AGM this past April, we approved \$400 to hire a local

high school art student, Emma Cervinka, to beautify another brown Bell box. Emma Cervinka, will be busy transforming another box in our community this fall!

## Christmas Carolling

**Thursday, Dec. 20 at 6:00 pm**

**Come join us in this Woodfield Holiday tradition!**

When the nights get colder, it's time for our annual evening of Carolling.

Join us at a local home where we

warm up our vocals before heading out in the streets to regale our neighbours with festive song. For details on

where we are meeting, email [info@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:info@historicwoodfield.com).



## 2018 Plant Sale and Exchange



*The plant sale is not just about plants. It's also about food. Left (l to r): Rosy Loewith and Patricia Zachos cooking up*

Each May for over 20 years, the Woodfield Community Association has hosted a Plant Sale and Exchange. Wagons and wheelbarrows are heard throughout the morning as neighbours and friends bring their plants to us and then take home new specimens, mulch and manure. This year's event raised more than \$1,200.00.



*breakfast sandwiches. Right (l to r): Peyton and Lucia serving coffee and fresh baked pastries.*

Special thanks to the Superstore, Springtime Garden Centre and Try Recycling on behalf of the City of London for their generous donations and support. Thanks also to our friends and neighbours who take the time to transplant, care for, label and transport their beautiful plants to this much anticipated event.

Printed with the support of

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