

WOODFIELD COMMUNITY NEWS

Spring 2024

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RESIDENTIAL TO THE CORE

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

We invite your comments, suggestions and submissions.

Please email
info@historicwoodfield.ca
 Or write to
 PO Box 601, Station B,
 London, ON N6A 4Y4

www.historicwoodfield.ca/contact/

*A member of the
 Urban League of London*

Plant Exchange and Sale

Saturday, May 11, 2024 - 8:30am



Everyone is welcome!

Join us for this Woodfield tradition! Even if you don't garden, there is a little something for everyone.

- Market: Artisans and makers will be selling their original creations. For information on reserving a space, email info@historicwoodfield.ca
- The Woodfield Sidewalk Chalk Giveaway. We will be giving away bags of colourful chalk to kids of all ages.
- Woodfield Bake Sale. The bake table will be selling coffee, tea, juice, and, of course, baking!
- Trees for Woodfield. Several varieties will be available for sale, including Dogwood, Black Cherry, Bladder Nut and Silver Maples. Plus, this year, Trees for Woodfield will be selling a section of garden tools! And of course, members will be on hand to share their knowledge and sage advice on trees!
- And of course, what started it all, the plant exchange. All are welcome to dig up some perennials to exchange for tokens to use to 'buy' other plants. We will also have a selection of annuals, mulch and compost for sale.

If there are high-school students who need volunteer hours, email us at info@historicwoodfield.ca.

See you at Lord Roberts French Immersion Public School, 8:30 am to noon.

Woodfield AGM—April 16, 2024

Everyone from Woodfield is welcome!

Lord Roberts French Immersion Public School in the gym

7 pm – 9 pm | Doors open at 6:30, rear of school

Please join us at the Woodfield AGM either in person or via live stream! Our board is looking for new members. Open positions include vice-chair, social and communication chairs. Or, if you're more of a hands-on type, we have a few sub-committees that organize various events and could use some help.



HARVEST *A Wonderful Evening in November!* fest

To the complete delight of the Woodfield neighbourhood, the Harvestfest Potluck Dinner & Silent Auction was back again, well attended and hugely successful.

It was held in Proudfoot Hall at First St. Andrew's United Church. Two local politicians, David Ferreira and Terence Kernaghan, celebrated the evening with us and both praised our community spirit. The potluck food table was better than ever and greatly enjoyed by all. On the silent auction tables, there were lots of donated

items and services to bid on including a piece of original art donated and created by our own talented Jacqui Kipfer.

Our Woodfield-branded cookbooks, history books and aprons did a brisk trade, too. The evening was skillfully emceed by neighbourhood entrepreneur Justin Bardawill.

The next Harvestfest is scheduled for mid-November 2024. More information will appear in our Fall Newsletter. We'll see you there!

We acknowledge and thank our many generous donors for November's

HARVESTFEST

JACQUI KIPFER

REED'S UPHOLSTERY

REIMAGINE

DR. LETHEREN

JILL'S TABLE

THE BAG LADY

PALACE THEATRE

WOODFIELD AUTOMOTIVE

COVENT GARDEN MARKET

DR. ARNOLD SPOOZAK

COPP'S BUILDALL

DAISY FLORISTS

SOLE SCIENCE

CHURCH KEY RESTAURANT

INN ON THE HARBOUR

FRAME SPACE

ARTISTIC SPA

THE PARK HOTEL

ANDREW DOUGLAS CLOTHIER

HEY CUPCAKES

KATE RAPSON AND FAMILY

HEATHER ETCHES

ANN AND DAVID LINDSAY

GLEN AND PEGGY CURNOE

HELEN ALBERT

And to all the many friends of Woodfield who offered gifts and support that evening from set up to clean up, it took our village to make this evening a success.



Left:

*Justin Bardawill
as emcee*

Right:

*Proudfoot Hall
with Woodfield
Neighbours*



PLANNING REPORT ~ Planning Chair Stephanie Bergman

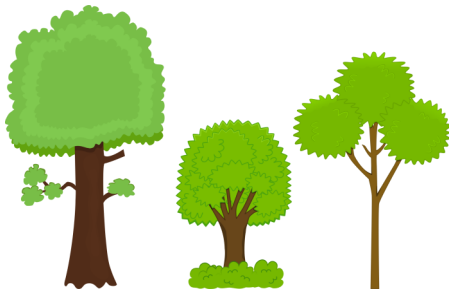
ReThink Zoning: A Zoning Bylaw is an important document that sets out how you can use your property. The City's current zoning bylaw dates back to 1993 - a lot has changed since then! The City is now developing a brand new zoning bylaw, which will apply to every property in the city. Some information and sample zones are provided on the ReThink Zoning website, and the next step will be for the City to provide a draft of the zoning bylaw for public review. Visit getinvolved.london.ca/rethink-zoning to sign up for project updates.

300 and 306 Princess Ave Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendment: Some may have noticed these two stately homes on Princess Avenue (beside Centennial Hall) have fallen into disrepair, and have been boarded up since at least the fall of 2023. The property owner has now submitted applications to construct 3-storey rear additions to the existing buildings, increasing the number of units from 6 to 9 units. While we recognize that any change in our community can be concerning, especially when it comes to heritage structures, this is the type of sympathetic development that the Woodfield community needs to help address the housing crisis. It is often referred to as "gentle density", and it will also help prevent these beautiful structures from falling victim to demolition by neglect. The WCA Executive has submitted comments in favour of the applications, provided the heritage attributes are protected and restored (the applicant will need to submit a Heritage Alteration Permit before construction). More information on the application can be found on the City's website: (london.ca/planapps).

TREES FOR WOODFIELD ~ Submitted by Hilary Moon, Committee Member

We are more than half way through a winter that felt, on many days, that Spring had arrived already! With so little snow, or rain, the trees will be begging us to supply them with the water that they need to flourish - or even to survive.

Perhaps the most 'at risk' trees are those that line our streets - the **boulevard trees**.



The boulevards are those spaces between the side-walks and the street - generally a few feet wide, and grassed. These trees not only beautify our streets, they also provide some sound-softening between the traffic and our homes. They clean the air for us, create shade to walk under in the heat of

summer - give birds, squirrels and many other creatures a home, a playground, or a shelter. Research has shown that just looking at trees supports healing to our body, and souls. In fact, trees are an essential ingredient in creating a healthy city, and healthier citizens!

The City plants the boulevard trees and though they actually belong to the city, it is up to us to take care of them. This Spring, Summer and Fall WE NEED TO WATER THE BOULEVARD TREES that are closest to our homes.

Will you make a commitment to do that this year?

The trees need our help in what will likely be a really dry year. Two or three times each week, each tree needs a slow watering from a good-sized watering can or bucket. Could you make a family commitment to go out together for Tree-Watering for just half hour in the evenings? Or perhaps get neighbours together to water the

boulevard trees on your block a couple of evenings each week?

Everyone knows how important trees are to help mitigate the effects of Climate Change - could this be your contribution?

I remember several years ago that Mrs. Beryl Ivey could be seen in the summer evenings, driving up Wellington Street (where there is a well-treed centre boulevard) with watering cans, buckets and other assorted water containers, watering the trees as the summer sun went down. She was passionate about trees, and 'did her bit' to ensure that there would be a healthy treed boulevard for the entire neighbourhood to enjoy and benefit from.

Let's take Beryl Ivey's lead. Can we Woodfielders make our own contribution to keep our community beautiful and healthy by caring for our joint ownership of boulevard trees?

EACH ONE, WATER ONE

MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHAIR ~ Barry Francis

As the newly appointed Acting Chair of the Woodfield Committee, I wish to publicly thank all Committee Members for their on-going support, and to thank Kate Rapson for her many years of service as the previous Chair.

Woodfield has held several events with overwhelming response and support of the Community, for which we are grateful. The AGM (Annual General Meeting) on April 16th is approaching, and I would like to invite you all to attend. This is a great opportunity to express your concerns or to relay your appreciation for what Woodfield Community has to offer.

Our Slate of officers will have to be elected at the AGM. The Committee has vacancies and I encourage anyone who wishes to join the current Executive, and to become more involved in the Community to put your name forward.

This is an exciting time in the Community with the AGM in April, and our upcoming Plant Exchange in May.

We hope you will join us at these events!



GERANIUM HERITAGE HOUSE TOUR 2023

The London branch of Architectural Conservancy Ontario was delighted to host its 47th annual Geranium Heritage House Tour in historic Woodfield on June 18th 2023. The walking tour began at Lord Roberts Public School where tourgoers picked up a guide book and then headed out to explore the neighbourhood's tree-lined streets in search of heritage architecture.

Eight houses, built in the 1870s

and 1880s, were open for viewing, each one marked by a pot of red geraniums and manned by a team of ACO volunteers to describe the history and architectural details. Although the homes varied in size and style, they were all lovingly cared for by homeowners with an eye to maintaining their heritage character despite the renovation and updating old homes often require. The tour's final stop was at the London Masonic Centre for refreshments and guided tours of the magnificent building's interior.

Profits from the Geranium Heritage House Tour help to support ACO's mission to "preserve the finest examples of architecture in the province". The

London branch, established in 1966, hosts tours, lectures, and an annual Heritage Awards night. They run a popular Historic House Sign program and have recently published a book called London Doorways.

For more information or to become a member you can check out their website acolondon.ca.

Sylvia Chodas
Chair, GHHT



WCA Executive Committee

- Acting Chair—Barry Francis
- Acting Vice Chair—Vacant
- Past Chair—Kate Rapson
- Secretary—Laura Wherry
- Planning Chair—Stephanie Bergman
- Acting Treasurer—Jean Hewitt
- Acting Membership Chair—Tricia Mohan
- Acting Newsletter Chair—Rod McDowell
- Acting Web/Communication Chair—Leif Harmensen
- Acting Merchandise Chair—Sandra Black Evans
- Social Chair—Vacant
- Lord Roberts Rep—Kate Rapson
- Urban League Rep—Barry Francis
- Members-at-Large—Tim Turner, Dawn Marie Deagle, Mandy McDowell

New Digs for WCA Meetings

McCabe Promotional Advertising, a local Woodfield business, has graciously allowed us to use the employee social area at their offices located at Central and Maitland for our monthly Woodfield Executive Meetings held the last Tuesday of the month except, July and August and December. We are grateful and extremely happy with this location and support from a local

business. Jamie McCabe is enthusiastic about supporting future social events in our neighbourhood.



Woodfield Membership

If you have received this newsletter, you are living in the Woodfield neighbourhood. Your membership to the WCA is important for the preservation of our neighbourhood. For more information about joining the community please email:

members@historicwoodfield.ca



Dates to Remember

April 16th—AGM @ Lord Roberts 7-9pm

May 11th—Plant Exchange and Sale

@ Lord Roberts 8:30am—Noon

Rain Date—May 12th



Please visit his website www.davidferreira.ca for newsletters, ward meetings, current city initiatives and other resources.