

Sing-a-long

Every Sunday

The Sunday night sing-a-longs at Lansdowne Park are going into their 28th year now, and will draw an average of 700 people every week this summer.

People will be walking, pedalling, or driving down to the park to listen to the likes of the Kincardine Community Singers or the KDSS Knights of Jazz or to enjoy Rosemary Cutting's dancers.

But it's thanks to Caddy Mullen, Harry Chapman, Gerry McLeod and Norm Dunsmoor that different bands perform at the Park.

The popular Sunday night gathering began when Clarence "Caddy" Mullen, manager of the Pavilion, complained to Harry Chapman that Lansdowne Park was a dull place for a tourist area. Mr. Chapman, an active member of the Chamber of Commerce at that time, gave the problem some thought and came up with the sing-a-long idea.

The Chamber sponsored the event until the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 183, took it over.

The sing-a-long hasn't just attracted Kincardine's year round and summer residents, though, according to Mr. Dunsmoor.

"We have people come from Port Elgin and there are two carloads that come over from Walkerton every Sunday night," said Mr. Dunsmoor. "A carload comes over from Brucelea Haven, also."

Talented entertainers from Kincardine and other points in Western Ontario have performed. Scottish night is the sing-a-long's largest attraction and Mr. Dunsmoor says organizers try to bring in a new group every year.

Silver collections have resulted in several improvements to the park, including the installation of a glassed-in stage and a water fountain.

The Community Singers will be the first band to perform this year, on the July 1st weekend. They'll be singing a specially written Bicentennial song. It is a place where people from all ages can bring their own lawn chairs and sit back and listen or join in the singing while enjoying the world's most beautiful sunset from the shores of Lake Huron.



EVERY SUNDAY EVENING from the July 1 weekend to Labor Day, huge crowds gather at Lansdowne Park for a Sing-a-long. The popular event attracts people

from across Bruce County as different musicians and singers are on centre stage, adding a relaxing finish for young and old to the week. The first Sing-a-long will take

place Sun., July 1. In case of rain, the Sing-a-long moves to the Legion Hall on Lambton Street.

1784

This Day in History in Canada

Jan. 8, 1680 - La Salle's Griffon, the first ship on the Great Lakes, sunk off Manitoulin Island.

Jan. 8, 1948 - with 7,825 days in office, MacKenzie King set a record for being Prime Minister longer than any other government leader in the British Commonwealth.

Jan. 8, 1954 - the first crude oil reached Sarnia, Ont., through the pipeline from Edmonton.

