

Language barrier was evident for sisters in India

SISTERS from A1

The ceiling fan blew their pattern pieces around though, in the 34-degree weather, they could not turn it off. The two tables on which they could lay out and cut the fabric were smaller than standard-size card tables, and the floor was too dirty and too full of the playful children the women brought along to use for work space.

They started out with a class of 15, and a half-dozen others eventually joined in, adding to the challenge.

"They were easy patterns, but difficult for beginning sewers who had never used a machine," Marshman said.

"Some women cut tight to the pattern, some added a couple of inches here and there. The sewing machines were a challenge to keep operating at an even pace, and the fabric moving forward at the same time.

"It was not uncommon for all six women to be threading their machines and demanding assistance at once. We were all called

Auntie over and over and over again," she recalled.

And the language barrier was certainly there, she added.

"We learned on the 12th day that a brief sideways shake of the head meant yes. It sort of looked like no."

Bobbins jamming, thread breaking, children crying—it all required enormous patience, Marshman admitted.

"Being exhausted at the end of the day was an understatement."

Even so, they spent many a night sorting out the fabric and trying to fix sewing mistakes. But they found it was well worth the extra effort.

"The joy was evident as they gradually mastered the art of sewing. When the women held up their finished garments, our joy was equal to theirs. The smiles, when they completed their projects, were so rewarding."

Clarke said that Bible school made a wonderful start to each day. The children loved the actions songs they learned, and especially

liked acting out Bible stories. Daniel in the Lions' Den was popular, she said, but their favourite seemed to be David and Goliath. The simple props they'd brought along added to the fun.

And they always loved craft time.

"Any crafts they could take home were wonderful," Clarke said.

When the occasional grateful parent would invite them for dinner, she added, it was an invaluable opportunity to learn more about the poverty they struggled with. It was not uncommon for an entire family to be living in a two-room house, relying on a public water tap in the street to bathe, brush their teeth and do their laundry.

The sisters had the relative luxury of being billeted in a bigger home, but a good night's sleep eluded them for another reason—the almost almost-nightly festivals and parades held for one reason or another, with marching bands, horns and boisterous crowds going strong into the wee hours.

They found a similar contrast in the church services they attended while they were there.

One was an Assembly of God service, an evangelical high-energy service for about 1,000 people. Another was a visit to a small church, where a baptism by immersion was followed by box lunches for all of the dozen or so in attendance.

Church services were almost exclusively attended by women, Marshman said.

"Most men do not make a public display of their Christianity, because they don't want their neighbours to know."

The sisters did make time for a few highlights of their own, including a stop in New Delhi to ride a camel and see the Taj Mahal.

A far deeper impression resulted from their visit to Mother House where Mother Teresa is entombed and flowers spell out "Love only Jesus" on the floor. The sisters ended their presentation with a quote from Mother Teresa.

"What you can do, I cannot. What I can do, you cannot. Together, we can do great things."

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Todd McEwen / Northumberland News
GRAFTON — Carter Clarke, 14, participated in the fourth annual Danielle's Diamonds Tournament of Hope where more than \$10,000 was raised for Princess Margaret Hospital and a local family.

NORTHUMBERLAND NEWS JULY 28/16

Grafton slo-pitch tournament raises \$10,000 to fight cancer

Fourth annual Danielle's Diamonds Tournament of Hope fundraiser a resounding success

NORTHUMBERLAND -- A local slo-pitch fundraiser had a smashing outing after raising more than \$10,000 for a local family and hospital.

Danielle's Diamonds fourth annual Tournament of Hope took over the Grafton ball diamonds on July 9 for the fundraiser in memory of Danielle Provost who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor at the age of 18 and died when she was 25.

Since her death, friends and family have organized an annual tournament to raise money for local families affected by cancer and the Pencer Centre at Princess Margaret Hospital.

This year, 19-year-old Hanna Sherk from Grafton was the recipient. She was diagnosed with an aggressive form of lymphoma in March, according to the event organizers.

"She just finished three months of intensive chemotherapy," Alexandra McCarthy said.

The event began at noon with Sarah and Lindsey Gillespie cutting their hair and raising \$800 for Sherk. Then, Sherk threw the first pitch to Danielle's step-father, John Cartwright, to kick off the tournament.

To date, the tournament has raised more than \$42,000 for Princess Margaret Hospital and local families.

Finalists will perform at Folk Festival

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY AUG 4/16

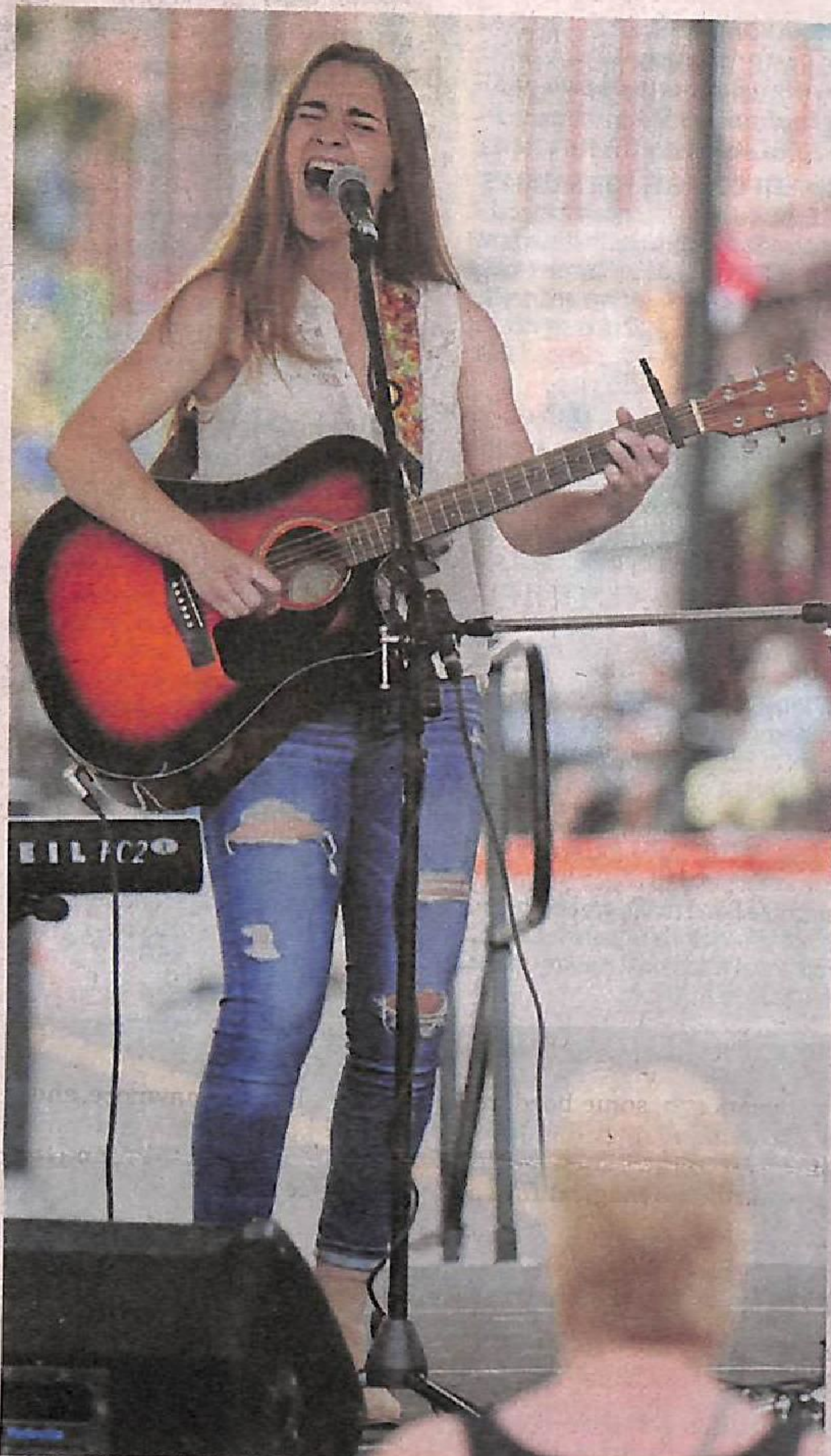
The 2016 Shelter Valley Local Songwriters' Showcase was held in front of Victoria Hall last Thursday evening in Cobourg.

Eight artists from around the area performed two songs for the judges and audience.

The artists were judged on

originality, creativeness and uniqueness.

The top three were Doug Alcock, Sadie Goering and Peter Graham, who will now be performing at the Shelter Valley Folk Festival during the Labour Day weekend.



PETE FISHER/NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
Sadie Goering was one of three finalists chosen.



PETE FISHER/NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
Peterborough residents Phaedra Muirhead and her husband Mark perform at the Showcase.

