

# Sights, sounds reflect spirit of Christmas

It's Christmas time! Everywhere, glad sights and sounds reflect the spirit of the season, as this community celebrates the joyous holiday.

The spirit of Christmas is seen, in gaily decorated streets and stores, in homes aglow with light and festive, with evergreens, in churches where the manger scene tells anew the wonderful old story of a holy Babe who was born in Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago.

The spirit of Christmas is heard, in bells ringing out from street corner to steeple, in happy voices singing all the songs of the season, from old familiar carols to the more solemn, but at the same time joyful, anthems, cantatas and oratorios.

The spirit of Christmas is felt, as last minute preparations for the big celebration are made. There are always, it seems, some packages still to be wrapped, some final trimmings to be put on the tree, some part of the Christmas pageant or choral program that needs just one more rehearsal, some extra touches to make the Christmas feast absolutely perfect.

In the midst of the hustle and bustle, the spirit of Christmas shines through in all its many meanings.

The spirit of Christmas means laughter and joy best expressed, perhaps, by the faces of children, eager and smiling as they wait for Santa, full of reverent wonder as they hear the

Christmas story and see the manger scene.

The spirit of Christmas means giving, with love wrapped into every package. And it means sharing the riches of thoughtful consideration and genuine interest, as well as time and money with the aged, the ill, the needy and unfortunate.

The spirit of Christmas means a warm renewal of family ties and close friendships and an enjoyment of traditions treasured through the years the special customs each family creates for itself, as well as the traditions generated from the lore and legends of Christmas.

As a holy day and a holiday, Christmas means both prayerful worship and festive merrymaking. The holy meaning of the day is expressed in its name.

The Latin name for Christmas translates as the Feast or Birthday of Our Lord. The English Christmas means the Mass of Christ, a meaning which is closely paralleled by the Dutch "Kermis." In German it's "Weihnacht," or sacred night.

The French "Noel" has several possible meanings: news, birthday or a "shout of joy." Whatever the exact origin, there's no question that Noel now means Christmas.



May all the peace, happiness and blessings of this holy season be bestowed upon you and yours. A very Merry Christmas to one and all.

**ACTON HOME FURNISHINGS**



G.C.I.T. CAROLLERS Sandra Denny, Carol Masales and Colleen Houston circled the town square as small gifts. (Staff Photo)

**NIGHT OF CAKES**  
In Ireland, Christmas Eve is often called the Night of Cakes. This name is based on the custom, still practiced, of baking special Christmas Eve cakes spiced with caraway seeds.



Best Wishes for the **CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Thanks to the support of friends old and new, everyday business is a special pleasure. Best wishes for the holiday season.

**ROYAL CAFE**  
853-2601



**Greetings**

May the peace and serenity of this holiday season dwell in the hearts of all. To our customers and friends, our greetings, good wishes.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF AT THE **CAMEO SHOPPE**



**HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO YOU, AND YOU, AND ESPECIALLY YOU!**

Spirited as a jingling bell, joyful as a carol is the Christmas we wish for you and yours. Happy holidays!

And at this time, we wish to extend our thanks to each and every one of our wonderful customers, for your favors and friendly good will. Your patronage is always deeply appreciated.

**THE HOLLAND SHOP**  
71 MILL ST. E. E. HUISMAN, Prop.



**Greetings**

A Star to guide them on their way. Wise Men came bearing gifts. Today the wonder glows anew, with gifts of joy to gladden every heart. May yours be a blessed Christmas.

**Elizabeth - Lo BEAUTY LOUNGE**

## Canada's first Christmas observed by Jacques Cartier

Canada's first Christmas celebration was back in 1535, when Jacques Cartier wintered at Stadacona with his ill-fated little colony. But that gallant band of venturers had very little to celebrate: famine, illness, hostile Indians winter itself combined to make that Christmas anything but merry.

The first Christmas worthy of the description "merry" was in 1606 in the colony of Port Royal. Plagued by scurvy and with another long winter upon them, the Port Royal colonists were struggling against extinction when Samuel de Champlain enlisted the art of gastronomy in the interests of good physical and mental health.

Champlain formed a dining club, "L'Orde du Bon Temps." Each member took turn in being Grand Master for a day and it became a point of honor to fill the post of providing meals for the company with flair.

As a result of this friendly competition of the table, Marc Lescarbot, one of the earliest historians of Canadian settlement records that the "board groaned beneath all the luxuries of the winter forest: moose, caribou and deer, beaver, otter and hare; ducks, geese, grouse and plover, sturgeon too, and trout, and fish innumerable speared through the ice."



**Silent Night**

Rosy cheeked carolers carry our glad message of Yule greetings to everyone.

**ROOT HARDWARE**  
ROCKWOOD, ONT.

**AVIS RENT - A - CAR**

WE AT **AVIS**

WISH YOU AND YOURS COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON

J. G. TOLTON



**GREETINGS**

Santa's on his way with a sleighful of merry wishes for you, plus a hearty "Thank you" from us, too!

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF **ACTON RED & WHITE STORE**



**To Wish You**

all the joys and blessings of this glorious holiday season... is the tradition we treasure. Merry Christmas.

**ARTHUR A. JOHNSON, O.D.**  
OPTOMETRIST



**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

It's Christmas... families gather 'round the tree... friends exchange greetings - and best wishes to all.

**ACTON BOWLING LANES**  
RUTH, KEN HULFORD AND STAFF