

Thrift shop may fold up

Does Acton really want a thrift shop? Organizers are asking themselves searching questions after two years of operation, and are considering even closing up for good.

Apparently the same few people are return customers to the swap shop in the Y. This is well and good, but not the original intention when the shop was opened. The volunteers who banded together and started the group thought many families would be able to benefit by being able to purchase good, clean clothing at very low cost.

Need-free As well as being open to all, the shop would also outfit families free if there was a need, and nurses, doctors, school principals, the town office and the welfare office were all informed. Just two such cases have been looked after in all the

months of operation. The volunteers say they are willing to work — if more people come.

"Some people don't miss a good thing until it's gone," one of the volunteers mused this week. "This service was certainly never just for poor people. The more we can serve the better." Lately the shop was open evenings, with a good response at first which quickly tapered off.

Stock moves Unsold clothing is soon moved off to the Salvation Army. Articles are good — men's suits, just back from the cleaner — for a quarter! And that's not dirt cheap... it's clean cheap!

Last thrift shop dates are Tuesday afternoon, June 6 and Tuesday afternoon, June 20. Then they'll close up for the end of their second year — and decide if those two nights warranted their effort in continuing.



AUCTIONEER Jack Holmes assisted Acton Y's Men with their annual auction sale in the community centre Saturday. Many useful items were sold at unbelievably low prices at the successful sale. (Photo by D. Gibbons)

No carrots for students at Hockley Valley school

The Hockley Valley School will be beginning its ninth season of instruction in July, but at least one person is very busy already. School director is Mrs. Laura Dittrich of Acton and she is deeply involved making plans and arranging accommodation for the popular classes and students.

This year Elizabeth Wilkes Hoey of Moffat is instructing in handspinning and dyeing at a one-week session in July. She'll be talking about the washing of fleeces, carding, spinning and dyeing and showing how.

Mrs. Sale hostess to study group

The study group of Trinity U.C.W. met at the home of Mrs. Sue Sale for their May meeting. Mrs. Usher opened the meeting by reading a poem if Jesus Came Today, followed by prayer.

Mrs. Jean Johnston was in charge of study of Angola, Africa, and Mrs. Kathy McGilivray continued the study by using maps and charts which were very interesting.

The June meeting will be a pot luck supper at the home of Mrs. Johnston.

There are no tests and no certificates at the Hockley School—no carrots, say the staff. Just sheer enjoyment. Some of the other courses are drawing, silkscreening, painting, sculpture, Chinese brush-painting, acting, poetry and dancing.

How about "raku"—called a "state of happy anticipation!" Raku pottery is a technique evolved from the tea ceremony in Japan 300 years ago and is associated with primitive methods and spontaneous results. The "philosophy" includes the firing of simple pots!

Families attend There are special classes there for young people each summer as family groups attend.

The students camp nearby, live with families in the district or at motels. Classes are centred in the Hockley Hills ski resort but classes are held in neighboring barns and on the beautiful nearby hills.

The faculty comes mostly from the faculties of the New School of

Art and the Artists Workshop in Toronto. The whole concept started there in 1962 when all that was visualized was a one-week course in painting that fall. Director John Sims says he had no idea then what they were letting themselves in for. Now he directs three schools, a theatre, an art supply store, a monthly magazine, an art gallery, another embryo art school, a project for a new crafts shop and has a total operating budget in the region of a quarter of a million dollars.

Mrs. Dittrich, a keen painter herself, has been associated with the endeavors for several years now. She's also the Hi Neighbour hostess in Acton and district, welcoming new families.

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By Wendy Thomson

Last month, I covered I don't know how many miles, just tooting around. My mother was off riding camels in Morocco and I was "babysitting" her little car, making sure it didn't seize up from misuse.

It was a hectic three weeks and would have been even worse if Gord hadn't bugged up the brakes on the truck and confiscated the Rambler for his own use, two of the weeks. The last week, I insisted on my rights. (It was MY mother's car) and tried to cram 21 days of odds and ends into the time left, driving to Oakville, Georgetown, and Guelph one day, then to Hornby and Kitchener the next and so on.



WHILE WENDY Thomson's mother rode a camel in Morocco columnist Wendy rode mother's car.

Virtually no housework got done (I'm having some fun trying to catch up now) but nobody here seemed to consider it a traumatic experience, except for the night I didn't get in from shopping till 10.15. (How is it that husbands can come in at all hours because "they have a Good Excuse" but nothing a wife says is a good enough explanation? True, I didn't have any explanation at all except "I got talking", but really, I think that's what holds husbands up, too, if they were honest about it.)

Cat-nipped Cats I couldn't sit and brood for long. Cock-eyed Cat and Tansy-Too appeared up the pathway as soon as the horses had gone and we spent a ridiculous half hour with me feeding them catnip I found alongside my rock, and they getting sillier and sillier every moment. On the way back to the house, they presented a perpetual obstacle course by lying down every few feet and rolling over. Between the two of

Couture - Garvin wedding May 6

A double ring wedding took place at Hillsburgh Baptist Church on Saturday, May 6, at four o'clock, when Mrs. Margaret Garvin of Guelph, was united in marriage with John Frederick Couture of Acton, by Rev. R. G. Cross.

The bride wore a rose pink dress ensemble with overlay of lace, and a crown of pink rosebuds and pearls atop a white veil, with silver accessories.

A gift from the groom was a pair of rhinestone earrings.

Daughter attendant Bonnie Garvin, daughter of the bride, was maid of honor wearing a long dress of yellow crepe with a white lace trimmed bodice. She wore yellow velvet bows in her

Tea at Knox held by choir

Knox choir held a successful tea and sale of baking in the church Saturday afternoon. The event was held to finish paying for the new choir gowns, and nicely overshot its goal.

them, I felt like I was playing leapfrog.

At least it kept them from sitting and staring indecently at the birds. While I sat, I could hear dozens of birds around in the trees and would love to be able to identify them (I'm pretty good at picking out the robin and the hoot owl) but couldn't get close enough to see what they were.

Must take the binoculars in one hand and bird book in the other next time I go down. I've tried it before, but always seem to be looking where the bird is not.

I guess the easiest way is just to educate myself to know the different calls, then I can just lie back in the grass with my eyes closed and the sun shining down and tick them off knowingly. "Ah, there's a Veery (I DO know that one) and a meadowlark, an oriole, a fly-catcher, and..." without having to open an eye at all!

hair. The groom's son, Garry Couture Sr. of Acton, was best man.

The bride's mother, Mrs. Hilda Ashley, of Erin, wore pale mauve and white accessories with a corsage of white carnations. The groom's mother, Mrs. Viola Sheppard, of Acton, wore a lilac ensemble with white accessories and a corsage of yellow sweetheart roses.

Reception follows The reception was held at Erin Legion Hall. The bride's table was centered with a three tiered wedding cake made by the bride's sister, Mrs. Earle Marshall of Acton.

Floral decorations were created by a friend, Mrs. Jerome Hunter of Erin.

Marjorie Holt, a young niece of the groom, took home a treasure—the bride's bouquet. Best wishes were sent to the bride and groom from the bride's aunt and uncle in Yorkshire, England. Guests attended from Acton, Bramalea, Erin, Guelph, Milton, Aurora, King, Toronto, Gormley, Terra Cotta and Stratford.

The couple left on a honeymoon trip to Oshawa and surrounding districts, and are now living in Guelph.

The groom is employed by the Ford Co. of Canada in Oakville.

Free Press Family page

Focus on grandmothers at Greenock W.I. meeting

Mrs. K. Eckerich was the hostess for the May meeting of the Greenock Women's Institute. The roll call was, "A picture of one of your grandmothers," which proved very interesting as each member gave a brief history of the picture.

Many items of business were dealt with and gladioli provided by Mrs. C. Blinnie from last year's garden were sold to members. Mrs. C. Aitken gave the meditation. Mrs. R. Sinclair was convener of the program. The motto was, "A tribute to Grandmothers".

Mrs. C. Aitken gave a reading, "A little girl's impression of what

No more coffee — weather's good

An experiment in friendliness, the informal coffee hours are now over for the season. The every-other-week event was held at first in the parish hall and later in the United church.

Later, certain subjects were chosen for the gatherings and a public health nurse spoke a couple of times.

About 16 women made fairly regular use of the coffee hours. Some brought along pre-

grandmothers are like". Mrs. Sinclair read two poems, Grandmother's Dusty Rocker, and, Grandmothers Are To Love. She showed members a family tree she had made and grandma's recipes.

Final arrangements were made for the district annual to be held at the Stone church May 31st.

Mrs. R. Sinclair conducted a guessing contest, won by Mrs. G. Wallace. Mrs. C. Storey won the prize for having the most grandchildren and Mrs. E. Johnston for having the youngest.

Lunch was served by the committee in charge and a social time spent.

schoolers who played together while the mothers chatted or talked with the nurse.

Those who attended enjoyed the informal sessions very much. Organizers felt need for a meeting place diminished greatly with the arrival of good weather.

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