



RECREATION PROGRAM co-ordinator John Cooper's wife Janice treks across Limehouse Conservation Area on cross country skis on Saturday. Goggles kept the cold from her eyes as she grips a map in her mouth. She and her husband joined the high school Outers club in an Orienteering program.

## Outers experience sub-zero temps

By Jennifer Rowe

The cold of winter may stop some groups, however, for the Outers it is just the beginning of a brand new experience—winter camping.

On Friday, January 23, 11 Outers along with Rick Boychuk, Dr. Paul Tamblin and Bruce Swift headed for Algonquin Park.

The weather they encountered averaged about -35 F.

It took them about two hours to snowshoe in to their campsite of about one mile away. However with heavy packs they would sink down about two feet with each step.

**Too cold to sleep**

After setting up their lean-to or their tents, everyone jumped into their sleeping bags for a night's rest. The next morning they woke up early due to the fact that it was too cold to sleep. They spent that day tracking through the bush using a map and compass. While hiking they found that they stayed extremely warm.

They were in food groups of two or three people and cooked dinners where they gained experience in building outdoor fires in the winter. To give an idea of how cold it was they had cheddar cheese which had to be chipped like ice. Dr. Tamblin found that

when he went to turn the film in his camera, it shattered because of the cold.

**Pack up**

The next morning they got up at 7:30 a.m. and started to pack up camp. Dr. Tamblin would take people and drop them along the trail leaving them for about a half an hour before they were picked up by Rick Boychuk and Bruce Swift. During this time they would be able to imagine what a trapper in Northern Canada felt like as he spent his winters in the north alone.

This was Dr. Tamblin's fourth trip winter camping and he said that he learned a lot of new things about surviving in the cold, so you can imagine how much the students learned.

**Frostbite**

They had only one case of frost bite and that was the toes of Nicki Field. When I asked Nicki about this she said that she really enjoyed herself and that she would go again this year if she could. Nicki is planning to go again next year.

One thing that seemed to be noticeable was the way people shared what they had, whether it be food or just a pair of warm dry socks or mitts.

## Acton high notes

by Jennifer Rowe

Students of Acton high are settled back into the routine of second semester. After a brief three day break students started back to all different subjects and teachers. During the break, teachers attended meetings and completed report cards.

Included with the report cards this term was the Acton high newsletter. This is a community newsletter published by teachers and students within the school. If you have any comments good or bad please send them to the school. We would love to hear from you!

### Women's liberation?

Acton high's newest sports team is the Acton Aces Girls' volleyball team. It consists of about 12 girls ranging in age from 14-18. Coaches are teachers Wanda Hall and Harriet Knor. When I asked coach Knor about her team she said that they were a very strong team and despite the temporary losing streak they have been in, they continue to have high hopes and give each other moral support. This is the first team of its kind for years at the high school. As of now we have no boys' team—this is truly the year of liberation for women!

The boys' basketball team played a strong game against Oakville's Perdue high school last week.

Out in the cold again are the Outers. Even after sleeping in -35 degree F. weather while winter camping a few weeks ago, they once again hit the outdoors. On Saturday Keith Hansen from Sport Ontario came to give a workshop to 15 interested Outers in Orienteering. It included a film and some practical exercise with compass around the school yard. They then went out to Limehouse Conservation area where Orienteering was

practised.

Last Tuesday students of Acton high had a short period day. The reason for this was a presentation by Dr. Paul Tamblin on the new learning experience soon to be undertaken by students of Acton high. The program is called Mountsbury and is designed so that 20 senior students can go and take subjects that will be worth four credits to them. The difference is that they are taught in a different environment outside the four walls of a school. Read Dr. Tamblin's article in today's Free Press and find out about this unique new program.

Thursday was also a short period day where Dr. Tamblin once again got into the act. With the help of Ken Ellis they gave a film presentation on the qualifications for obtaining the Duke of Edinburgh award.

**Study snow**

On Friday Dr. Paul Tamblin and Wally Rowley took their grade ten environmental science classes on a snow study. Dressed in funny looking, yet warm outfits, they went out to explore the snow. Here they measured the depths of the snow and the temperature at different depths. Also, they studied how the snow compacted at different depths. This is a new addition to the course. All the findings are leading up to a study on the effect of snowmobiles. Next week the class is planning a trip to Acton's own Fairy Lake where they will complete an ice study.

Yesterday (Tuesday) our principal Dean Pink went to Port Colborne where he instructed a Professional Development Day for teachers from the Niagara South area.

What's happening with the new school? Well, the drawings are complete and a construction company will be

decided upon within the month. Construction should be underway.

One of the first problems that has been brought up to the teachers and students of Acton high in the new semester is the budget restrictions. The board wants advice on how to cut down expenses without really affecting education. One big expense is books and here is a way that you can help. Many students somehow manage to collect a library full of textbooks over the years. Please return these to the school; you're not using them, so why not let someone else?

Coming up at Acton high on February 16 is the beginning of ten days for World Development. Each day a guest speaker will talk on the ways of a country different from our own. Then at the end we will have a starve-a-thon for one lunch period where people will donate what they usually spend on lunch to Oxfam. Take part and help someone else help himself.



OUTERS PRESIDENT Carol Buchanan sank to her waist in snow without snowshoes on Saturday's Orienteering program at Limehouse Conservation Area.

## New club "French Knots" is formed

by Julie Pierce

The first meeting of the North Halton French Knots was held on Wednesday, February 4 at the home of Mrs. M. Hunter. This club is called a Touch of Stitchery with leaders Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. Anne Dodds.

The meeting opened with the all pledge, then the executive members were chosen: president, Penny Kirton; vice-president, Beverly Methelal; secretary, Bonnie Methelal; press reporter, Julie Pierce, and phone girl, Mona Tonelli.

The rest of the meeting was spent talking about color schemes and learning three stitches of embroidery; back stitch; the twisted chain stitch and the couching outline stitch.

At the end of the meeting, the girls enjoyed a snack and decided the next meeting would be February 11 at the home of Mrs. Dodds.

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Are they like people?  
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Marion Jameson

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## Brass band

M. Z. Bennett school will be hosting Robert Little school on April 13 when the Canadian Brass visits that school.

Over 400 students will enjoy the musical group who can play everything from Renaissance music to Dixieland jazz to the Beatles.

The quintet have made appearances with the Hamilton Philharmonic, with the Toronto-based New Music Concerts, and toured Europe with the Festival Singers of Canada. They also make radio and television appearances.

The Outers are planning another trip to the Bruce Peninsula on February 21. Hopefully this next group will learn as much and have as good a time as the last.



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