

Profiles

with Jennifer Barr



Kirk Brush has the nicest pair of legs I've ever seen! And in a kilt a man needs good legs. A lifelong habit of highland dancing helped shape those legs as did many years marching with the pipes.

Kirk, a Rockwood resident, is a world class champion highland dancer and has played the bagpipes for a variety of highland bands.

As a teenager, Kirk travelled three times to Scotland each time winning impressive awards. He won the Scottish Boys Championship, an award that had never before left the country; the

British Overseas Championship at the Edinburgh Festival; and third place in the World Championships.

Currently Kirk is teaching highland dancing at the Guelph School of Dance and studying for his teaching certificate in order to teach high school science and industrial arts. His wife Celeste is an enthusiastic spectator of highland events and daughter Erinn, 5, is already following daddy's dancing shoes.

Highland dancing is as rigorous as most Olympic sports it seems. Kirk says he danced two hours a day for six months and jogged and swam to keep his stamina up. When competition was close Kirk would step up his dancing hours to include most of the day.

"I was in really good shape," he grins.

He'd have to be. Highland dances are really tests of athletic ability. Each competition requires five or six different dances lasting three to five minutes each. At the Edinburgh Festivals Kirk was required to dance up to 18 times a day for a week which did not include many hours of practice in between each performance.

"It's just too much work," says Kirk explaining why he no longer competes.

Kirk grew up in Milton and says he owes his success to Milton teacher Molly McGregor who went with him to Scotland for each of the major competitions. His teacher had a house in Scotland so he was able to spend several weeks visiting and exploring the country. On his last trip for the world championships at age 18, Kirk rented a car and travelled through England and Ireland.

With three Scottish grandparents and one English one Kirk's interest in the British Isles is well founded.

A second generation Canadian, Kirk started dancing at age 5. His father Harvey Brush played the bagpipes with the 48th Highlanders and is now Sergeant of the Lorne Scots Pipe Band in Halton.

As a boy, Kirk found himself making the circuit every year from May 24 to Labour Day weekend, competing in Highland Games all over Ontario and the Maritimes. He never had any problems with his friends concerning his interest

in dancing.

"All my friends appreciated it and admired highland dancing, of course, I won lots of medals and trophies so it helped," he adds.

Now more of a piper than a dancer, Kirk plays with the General Motors Pipe Band. The band is experimenting with different slants and a variety of methods of arranging jigs and reels.

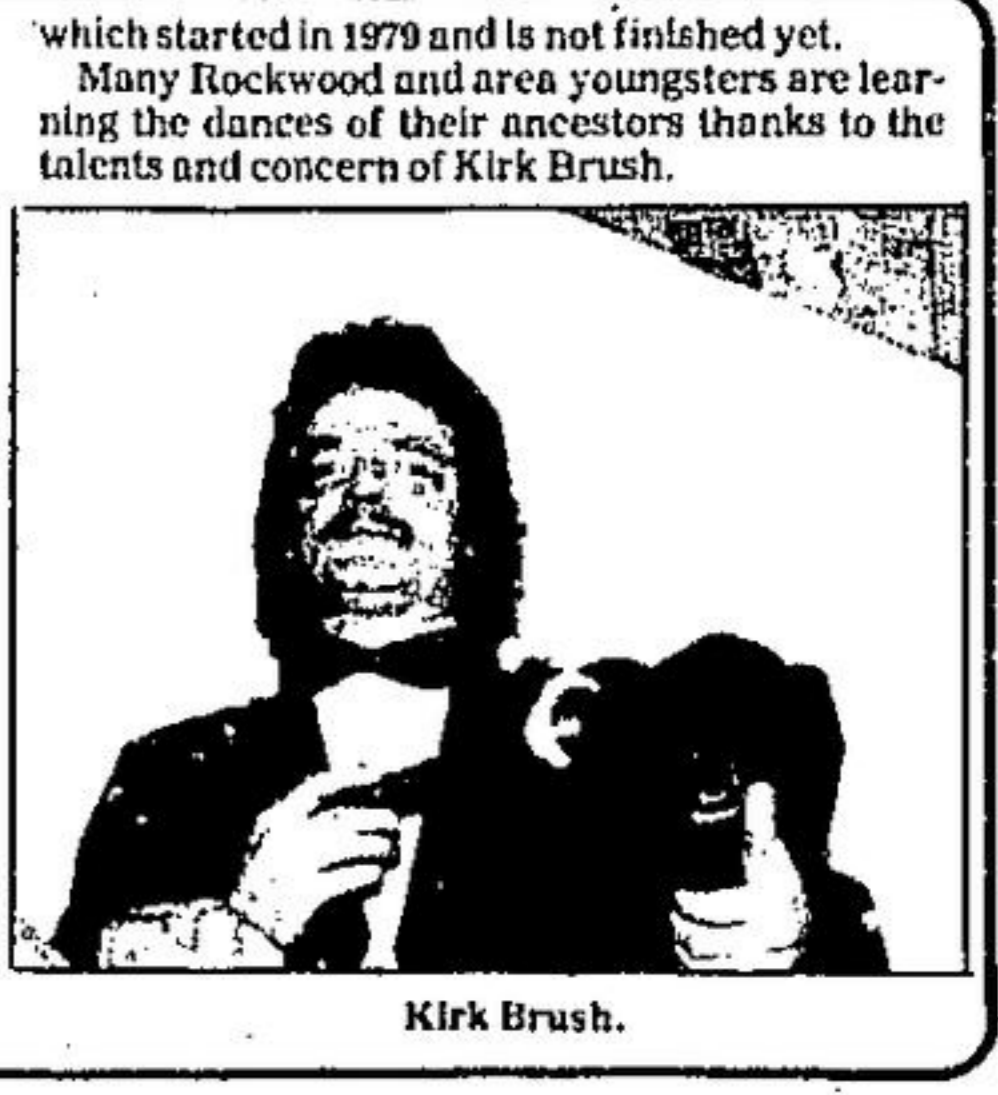
Prior to joining the General Motors Band Kirk played with the City of Toronto Pipe Band until it disbanded in 1975.

Highland dancing and pipe bands are very popular in Southern Ontario says Kirk who believes the area has the greatest amount of enthusiasts in Canada.

"People really take it seriously," he comments adding, "it's often a family activity."

Dancing and playing calbre in Ontario is as high as that in Scotland according to Kirk.

Now involved with teaching and studying, Kirk has spent some years in the carpentry and machinists trades. Experience building log houses has given him the impetus to build his own residence in Rockwood, an undertaking



Kirk Brush.

Planners — BIA examine redevelopment costs

Halton Hills planning staff and Acton BIA officials have started looking at cost estimates for improvements and beautification of downtown.

Deputy planner Bruce McLean told councillors Monday that now that they have cost estimates the BIA and staff are examining a program for redevelopment of public lands downtown for council so the municipality can then apply for up to \$150,000 low interest provincial loan. McLean said a report should be back to council in a month.

However, Mayor Peter Pomeroy urged a report be brought back within two weeks. He noted the Ministry of Housing is interested in redevelopment in the BIAs of Halton Hills, but want the matter handled "expeditiously." The province wants funding to take place this fiscal year and so needs the

program soon so it can be considered early in the new year. "If we are going to be serious about this, we must be serious in a hurry."

Some aspects of the two plans for downtown Acton were referred Monday to the Official Plan Task Force while the improvement and beautification aspects were designated as guidelines for redevelopment. Staff was also authorized to prepare applications for council approval for the Main Street Revitalization Program loans.

A planning report noted George Hubmann, RR4 Acton, owner of the Donut Shop at the corner of Main and Mill is concerned about the future of the property because it was suggested in the downtown study it would be a good spot for a parkette. The town has no idea if or when it would acquire the pro-

perty for a parkette so it will be designated as land which "may be developed for parkette purposes" but can still be used for commercial purposes. Buying the property for a parkette will depend entirely on public funds being available sometime in the future.

Councillor Harry Levy agreed with approval of the BIA plans in principle but expressed concern about going any further because costs are still up in the air. He said council simply can't be committed to buying land for off-street parking, parkettes, or beautification projects.

Pomeroy said for now all that is being discussed is nailing down the financial contribution of the BIA and securing matching funding from the province.



Acton Opti-Mrs. Held a Christmas party Friday night for seniors at the apartment complex on Holmesway. Pauline Barlow presents a gift to senior citizens Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Humeniuk, Mrs. Coe, Mrs. Wallace, Mr. Masales, Mr. Humeniuk, Mr. Whyte and Mrs. Buttenham.



New Fourth Acton Brownies are: seated Cathy Pucz, Katherine Thomson, Jamie-Lynn Verbil; standing Christine Kruger, Kerri Nell, Jennifer Kruger, Heather Fleming, Ann-Marie Lucac, and Jennifer McNabb.

Take a tip from

Prices effective Dec. 9, 10, 11, 12/81.
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

| | | |
|---|------|---|
| RED ROSE 60's tea bags | 1.89 | |
| GREEN GIANT 14 oz. tin cut wax or cut green beans or peas | | 2/1.00 |
| 1 litre detergent Sunlight liquid | 1.98 | |
| 1 lb. tin premium blend Melitta coffee | 379 | REDPATH 2 kg. white granulated sugar |
| BLUE BONNETT 1 lb. bowl soft margarine | .89 | 1.39 |
| 6 litres Laundry detergent Sunlight powder | 368 | CAMPBELL'S 10 fl. oz. tomato soup |
| REYNOLDS 25 ft. 18" foil wrap | 1.39 | 3.89 |
| HIGHLINE 200 g. frozen whole cooked lobster | 2.39 | WESTON pkg. of 6 lemon or raspberry butterhorns |
| LIBBY 28 oz. in tomato sauce spaghetti | .98 | 13 oz. aerosol Pam vegetable oil |
| UNIT DEJEAN 425 oz. clean medium shrimp | 3.59 | 30 m/29 cm jumbo Saran Wrap |
| SAICO 105 g. unit smoked oysters | 1.19 | PAKO 8 oz. poultry stuffing |
| SAICO 142 g. boiled oysters | 1.29 | STAFFORD 19 oz. pumpkin pie fill |
| SAICO 5 oz. baby clams | 1.59 | 3 oz. dessert topping Dream Whip |
| LIBBY 14 oz. in tomato sauce red kidney beans | .68 | DELMONTE 14 oz. ass't pineapple in juice |
| LIBBY 28 oz. sauerkraut | .79 | DELMONTE 28 oz. fruit cocktail |
| OLD SOUTH 125 oz. frozen unsweetened Florida grapefruit or orange juice | .98 | 750 ml bottle Coca Cola Sprites |
| | | .49 plus deposit |
| | | Canada Dry Ginger Ale .39 |

FRESH PRODUCE arrives daily at the lowest possible prices

Canada Grade 'A' Red Brand Beef short rib or blade roasts (Blade Bone Removed)

Full Cut Shoulder or Regular Cut blade beef steaks 1.59 lb.

MAPLE LEAF 175 g assorted popular varieties luncheon meats .89

MAPLE LEAF 1 lb. pkg. regular or beef skinless wieners 1.69

CANADA PACKERS DEVON 500 g pkg. sliced breakfast bacon 1.79

Fresh chicken legs 1.19

Knox Alert Sing Prince Charles' wedding hymn

The Knox "Alert" Evening Group met in the Mary Ellen Anderson Room with the president, Isabel McDonald, opening the meeting with Prayer recently.

Bessie Musselle, Convener of the month, took charge of the program opening by reading the Hymn that was sung at Prince Charles' wedding, with the entire congregation standing and singing — "I Vow to Thee, My Country."

Hymn 74—"O God, Our Help in Ages Past," was sung and Babe Roszell read the scripture. The Prayer was taken by Mrs. John A. Robertson, who followed with a reading—"Test of Sunday's Religion in Monday's Behavior."

Babe gave a reading, "Defending Civilization," which was followed by Hymn 582, "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee."

Bessie read an article "Chapel in the Mud" which was most interesting and Babe read "In Flander's Fields."

The program was closed with Hymn 652 "O God of Love, O God of Peace." The president took charge of the meeting, calling for the secretary's and treasurer's reports.

After various items of business were dealt with, the election of officers was held. The meeting was closed with the Mizpah Benediction and a delicious lunch followed.

Province framing sample bylaw for special disabled parking

The provincial government is framing a sample bylaw to cover parking for the disabled for Ontario municipalities, but some aspects of their plan don't go far enough according to Acton's regional councillor Dave Whiting.

The region got involved in special parking spaces for the disabled early in the fall when Acton businessman Lorne Doberthien wrote calling for disabled parking facilities at recreation and shopping centres in Ontario.

The region backed Doberthien's request to Queen's Park and Whiting reports they've heard back from Provincial Secretary for Social Development Margaret Birch saying the province is working on a sample bylaw for municipalities to follow.

However, the province isn't including anything in the bylaw covering a sign or car tag system to identify a vehicle is operated by or transports a disabled person. The province has backed away from a sign or tag system fearing it would "stigmatize" the disabled.

Whiting says this is ridiculous and plans to raise the issue at region, hoping a letter will be sent suggesting those among the disabled who wouldn't mind having a tag or sign on their car can apply for one.

He notes having legislation requiring special parking spaces for the disabled won't be much use if the police can't determine if the owners or operators of cars parking in these spaces are handicapped or not.

Currently there are no laws requiring reserved parking for the handicapped at recreation and shopping centres, and no way for police to enforce what little, disabled parking there is.

Take a course in Halton Hills this winter!

"Lifespan Crises: Introduction to Helping Strategies" will be the theme of University of Waterloo lectures at the Acton Public Library this winter. You can attend these lectures free of charge simply for personal interest, or you may take them for university credit. For more details, call the public libraries in Acton (519-853-0301) or Georgetown (416-877-2681), or come to the first lecture.

Lifespan Crises: Introduction to Helping Strategies (Interdisc. Social Science 150R RZ2) Tues., 7-10 p.m., Jan. 5 - Mar. 30 Mr. Colin Hollidge



Acton Photo & Camera
Leathertown Village, Acton
863-0250

TRUST US with your precious pictures
NO NEGATIVE? NO PROBLEM!

DECEMBER COPY PRINT SPECIAL!
FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES,
EXTRA PRINTS, WITHOUT NEGATIVES FROM
KODAK AND POLAROID INSTANT PRINTS

COPYPRINTS ARE BORDERLESS AND ARE MADE
AS CLOSE TO STANDARD SIZE AS IS POSSIBLE.
"ORDER AS MANY AS YOU WISH - FROM ONE
OR MORE OF YOUR PRINTS!"

5 for \$2.99
ADDITIONAL COPYPRINTS 69¢
(Regular 95¢)
THIS COUPON MUST ACCOMPANY
THE ORDER FOR THE SPECIAL PRICE.
THIS OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 31, 1982

We are OPEN
MONDAYS
color/ton
photo
services

We use Kodak paper
for the good look.

Norval Junction

No Bingo

This Friday, Dec. 11

Next Bingo

Friday, December 18

Rec. booklet in mail today

Halton Hills Recreation Department today mailed out their 1982 Winter Program Brochure to all homes in Acton and Esquesing.

This issue is 40 pages long and features information about the Town of Halton Hills, programs offered by the Recreation and Parks Department, the local Ys, the Libraries, the Halton Board of Education and other community groups and service organizations.

If you do not receive your brochure, extra copies will be available at the Recreation Offices in Acton and Georgetown, the libraries, arenas, pools, post offices and a variety of stores and banks throughout all of Halton Hills.

Song sheets available

Having a party or get together? Want to sing some Christmas carols.

Well, the Free Press is here to help you.

Song sheets are available at our office at 59 Willow St.