

OUTDOORS with George Hoare

Discarded Fish Tackle Killing Our Wildlife



As I said before, I saw my first robin on March 14. Umpteen dozen have since been reported, and today (April 12) even with 1/2 inch of snow on the ground, they are seen hopping around, cocking their heads from side-to-side listening for their favourite food, the earthworm.

They don't mind the snow, so why should we. After all the sun is so warm it would tan a person. They know, and we know, that spring is not just around the corner, it is here. I hope your Easter holidays will be pleasant.

A POLLUTION PROBLEM
Last year, while walking

along the banks of rivers, I noticed many yards of discarded fishing lines, much of it was of the monofilament type. There are many other kinds of pollution, but . . . our wild life doesn't get tangled up in discarded coffee cups, tin cans, beer bottles, lunch wrappers and cigarette cartons. But . . . they sure do get caught real good in plastic fishing lines.

The results are just as disastrous as a fly or a moth that is lured into a spider's web.

OVER ANXIOUS
Anglers who discard their lines in this manner really don't intend to harm our wild life.

They are just over anxious to get that rotten line off their reel and get a new one on so they can try for the big one again that got away.

So . . . a word of advice to every angler, when you discard that line, burn it, or cut it up in short lengths. And furthermore, when you hook on to that broken-off-line, that some other person lost in the river, try and pull it all in, destroy it, and perhaps a new expensive lure will end up in your tackle box that you found on the end of the line.

Don't just think about it! Do it! You will be rewarded by your own feelings.

BIG PROBLEM
The fishing line problem is not just here in Ontario, it's world wide, where ever there is angling.

More on different types of river pollution later, in the meantime, please read the following that I have received from Svangsta, Sweden. It's quoted from the booklet called Tight Lines published by ABV Fishing Tackle Company.

"Because we love to fish . . . not so long ago I found a dead mallard on the reedy shore of a fishing bay. She had been caught in a mass of tangled fishing lines, had tried to free herself, became desperate and had gradually become more and more entangled.

"Now she lay dead in a bush. Presumably she had starved slowly but surely to death. Surprised? Sorry? Angry? I felt all at the same time.

"Naturally, this was not done intentionally. No one throws away their lure packages, tangled up fishing lines, lunch box leftovers and empty beer cans with the intention of injuring either people or animals.

"It is only a lack of common sense like most other things concerned with today's environmental problems. If only more common sense had been used 10, 20 or 30 years ago perhaps there would not be the environmental damage there is today.

"But you and I agree about all this. Moreover thanks to an intensive environmental protection debate at the highest level, governments all over the world agree with us too.

"We sport fishermen have to set a good example.

"Firstly we must take care of our own rubbish and then we should help to pick up all the trash others have strewn around on the shores and beaches. Partly for our own sakes — because we love to

fish. Partly for the sake of the next generation — as we want them to be able to fish — because it's the best recreation there is."

—Lennart Borgstrom.
"P.S. Well perhaps not the best recreation there is, but, one of the best."

A REMINDER WOULD HELP
Everyone who has driven along our highways must have seen the sign which reads — Fifty Dollar fine for throwing trash along this highway.

Perhaps if a few such signs were erected in such places as the Saugeen River, Beaver River, Nottawasaga River, and a few other popular places, people would think before they throw.

MUCH MORE
There is much more to write about, but it seems we were allotted so much time to work, sleep, write and watch hockey games on television so this has to be all for this week.

I do hope to be in touch with all you readers again before opening day though.

So, enjoy the outdoors, safe journey, have a pleasant Easter and tight lines.

NORTH HALTON RAIDERS O.H.A. CHAMPIONS

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Saturday, April 21

8:30 p.m.

\$6.00 per couple

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The presentation of the Silvers Trophy, recently, included Roger Leveque, skip, at left, Bill Smeaton, Steve Silver of Silvers, Bill Elliott and Gord McKeeman.



With the Cornelius Trophy winning rink are Kay Cornelius, second from left, John Cornelius, third from left, and Jim Cornelius, second from right. From left are winning skip Tony Hull, Norma Hush, Karin Henderson and Jean Chappel.



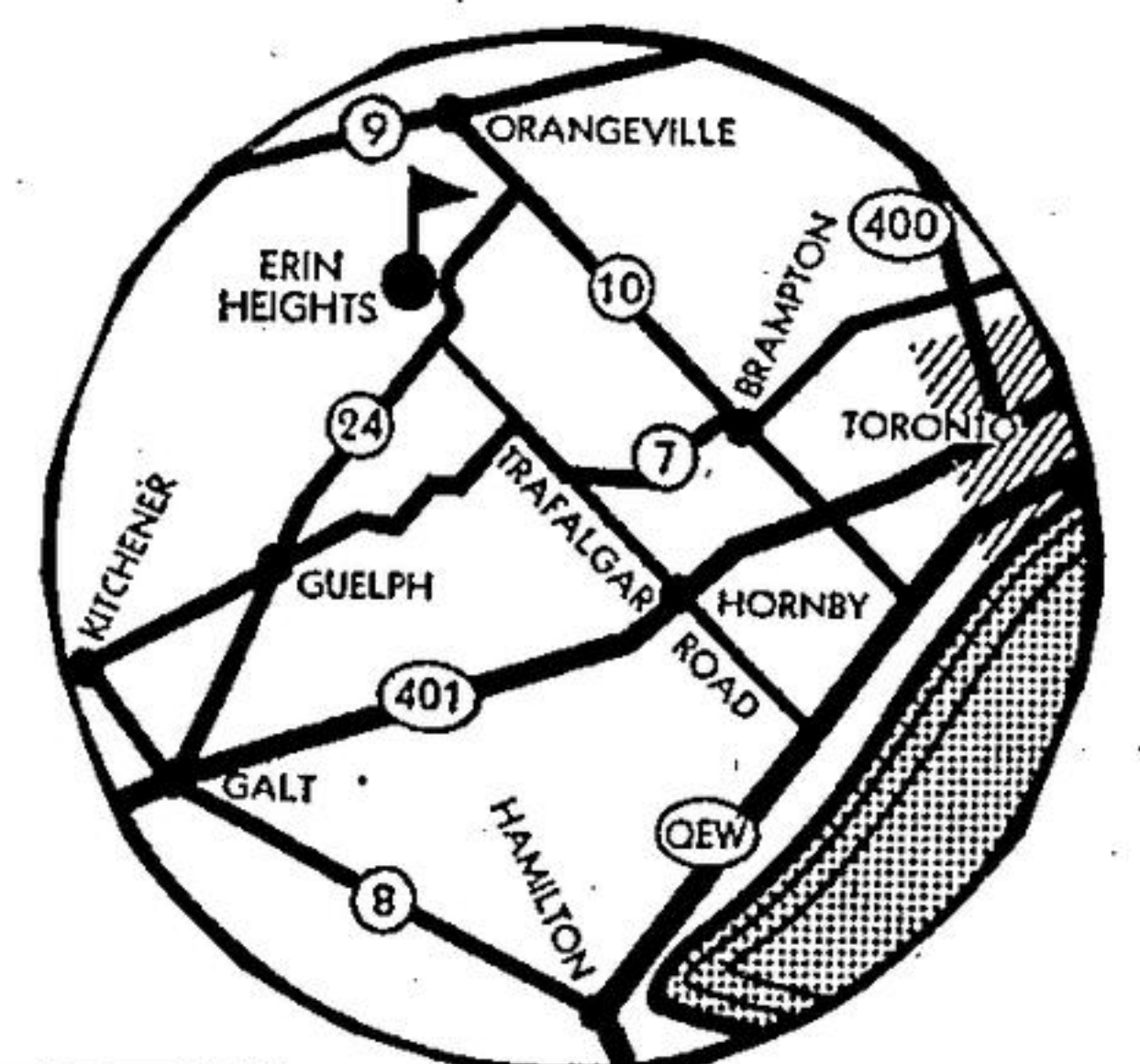
John Cornelius acknowledges the applause as Gord Partridge presents him with a portable TV from the Ladies', Men's and Business Girls' sections recognizing his contributions to them.

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NORTH HALTON CURLING NEWS
by Cynthia and Gord Partridge

"The Party's Over — It's All Over"

Last Saturday saw the curling season wind up for another year. The Johnny Cornelius Mixed Bonspiel, which was a week long event with 128 curlers taking part, drew the season to a close.

Tony Hull with Jean Chappel, Karin Henderson (sparing for Rick Symmes) and Norma Hush captured the trophy after defeating Jeff Duck, June Evans, Frank Wilson and Ida Mae Woodburn. This game went right down to last rock and the spectators witnessed some of the finest curling shots from both rinks. This had to be the greatest game we have ever had at the club to wind up a curling season.

The second event was won by Wayne Taylor, with Arden Mainprize, Dave Woodburn and Dorothy Currie. Runners up in the second event were Bill Smeaton (sparing for Tracy Barrager), Lorna Elliott, Glen Hickey and Naydene Roberts.

Capturing the third event was Howard Lindley with June Magnuson, Dan McAlpine and Velda Carlo. Runners up in this event were Ken Howat with Peggy Crichton, Stan Hegstrom and Marie Smith.

Fourth event honours went to Ron Hopkins, Betty Hull, Mike Geofreda and Lynn Gerrard, who won out over Pearce Porter, Hilda Hoyt, Ron Perego and Adrienne Pink.

The Johnny Cornelius Bonspiel is the most popular bonspiel held every year at North Halton. Johnny does so much throughout the year for both the Ladies and Mens sections by always being on hand to referee and he also records all the Mens and Mixed scoring. As a token of our appreciation for all Johnny's efforts, the Ladies, Mens and Business Girls sections in North Halton presented him with a portable television.

A tremendous evening was had by all and anyone not there really missed a real blast. You can still get in on another one by coming out to the Closing Curling Dinner on April 28. Reserve now and don't be disappointed.

Sunday saw our fine ice disappear under the blades of many members and their children enjoying the annual skate off. Some of the old boys couldn't keep up with the young boys in the broomball game and no one could keep up to the children in the hot dog department. A good afternoon was had by all and it was nice to see so many members supporting this event.

A team of business girls missed the trophy by 1/2 point recently at Weston Golf and Country Club. Maria Douglas was skip with Barb Skinner, Karin Henderson and Hilda Hoyt.

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