

## 'Local youth' will be focus for new Rockwood C.O.P.

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Rockwood Miller

Reaching the youth of Rockwood is the main focus of Rockwood's new Community Oriented Policing (COP) officer.

Although OPP Const. Andrew Ferguson has been on the job in Rockwood for several weeks, he was formally introduced to the community on Saturday during the open house at the Fire Hall.

Ferguson replaced Constable Murray Martin and he says being Rockwood's C.O.P. is like coming home. "I kind of asked to come to Rockwood because I grew up in Acton so this is almost like home."

As an OPP officer working out of the Guelph detachment, Fer-

guson will still carry out his regular duties, but he will also try to spend time each day in Rockwood working on pro-active community-based policing issues.

"My aims and goals are to work with the businesses, residents and youths in Rockwood to see how we can work together to solve any problems that arise," Ferguson explained.

Ferguson said he will spend the next few months making his face known in Rockwood so people feel comfortable approaching him with their concerns and suggestions.

"Anytime people see my cruiser parked outside this sub-field office at the Fire Hall, they know

that I'm here to help them if they need to file a complaint or just have a chat."

Ferguson said that he hopes to develop a good relationship with young people.

"That age group is the hardest to reach and that's where I'd like to focus. The youths in the area seem to be bored — there's not much for them to do. I'd like to get involved with them and see what their needs are."

Ferguson said there are a lot of youths involved with the auxiliary fire department but it's not usually those kids who are uncomfortable dealing with police.

Ferguson plans to revive the dormant village C.O.P. committee and to meet with the business sector, seniors and youths in the coming weeks.

Ferguson, an OPP officer for two years, is married with two daughters.

"I've wanted to be a police officer since I was a small boy and fortunately, very fortunately, I was lucky enough to become a police officer."



**NEW OFFICER:** Andrew Ferguson, Rockwood's new C.O.P. officer, was formerly introduced to village residents on Saturday at the Fire Department's open house. (Lori Frechette photo)

### Garden club meets

The Rockwood Gardening Club will be featuring speaker Sean James at their October meeting.

James, from Envex Landscaping, will be showing slides about country and perennial gardens at the gathering, scheduled for 8 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 19 in the basement room at Rockmosa.

Everyone is welcome; readers can call 856-4605 for info.

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## Women hear report from Nova Scotia convention

### ROCK-A-LONG W.I. NEWS

The October meeting of the Rock-a-long Women's Institute was held at the home of Jessie Ramsden with seven members present. President Myrtle Mitchell welcomed the members and read "Ten Commandments for Better Living."

Plans were made for our social evening on Nov. 1 at 6:30 at the home of Joan and John Ramsey.

Roll Call — A way to improve

the Women's Institute was answered by the members.

Joan Ramsey, who attended the F.W.I.C. convention in Truro, N.S. from June 2 to 6, gave us a report of the convention, the bus trip to Truro, the tour of Nova Scotia and the conclusion of meetings. Our branch was fortunate to have a member attending this gathering of the Women's Institute.

Jessie Ramsden served lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

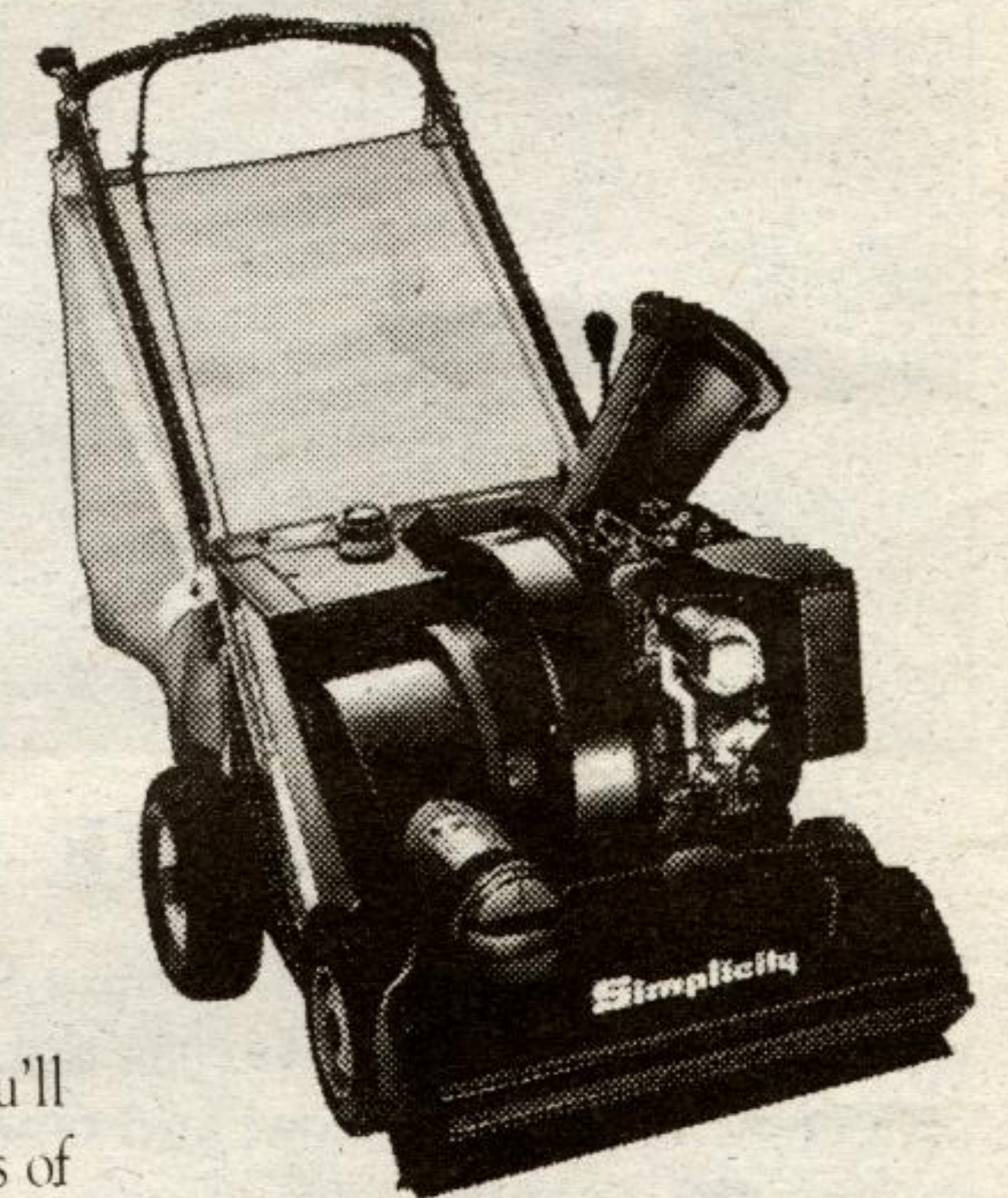
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