

# Idle Pursuits



## Sculpture serves as powerful image of World War II

PHOTO AND STORY BY DEBORAH QUAILE

A Georgetown sculpture casting company and a Flesherton area artist have joined forces to create a magnificent new sculpture, Remembrance and Renewal, that is to be the focal point at the Juno Beach Memorial Centre in Normandy, France. The 8 x 11 x 7½-foot bronze was cast direct using the original full-size wax model as supplied by sculptor, Colin Gibson.

"It was a seven month process to design and present the concept," Mr. Gibson explains. "It took about a year to carve...The towering figures that loom over the viewer of the monumental sculpture elicit remembrance and contemplation of the heroic sacrifice of the members of the Canadian Armed Forces and all compatriots during World War II. When the sculpture is first viewed, the helmets provide a spark that kindles remembrance. Under the helmets, five figures wrap in a circled formation, gazing



Remembrance and Renewal: Pictured second from the left (back) is artist Colin Gibson, and far right is Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle.

out... The forms embody the heroism, courage and compassion of the men while accentuating their unity and camaraderie." The figures depict leadership, alertness, reflection and advancement while assisting a comrade. Chiseled lines on the faces of the men portray determination and bravery; their broad shoulders convey the weight

of responsibility. "The forms and features are somewhat abstract, reflecting that much time has passed since the war, yet the values defended live on. The memorial sculpture honours the sacrifices of all who participated in the war effort, on the battlefield and at home, that led to ultimate victory and the hope for world peace."



## Northern Nurses

By DEBORAH QUAILE

Quaile Reviews

There are a few individuals, both men and women, who aren't content with the everyday life of urban Canada and who strike out for harsher territory. These nurses are drawn into a system that demands self-reliance, growth and, of course, compassion. *Northern Nurses* offers readers a liberal dose of travel in the high country that is well presented in the original voice of the writers.

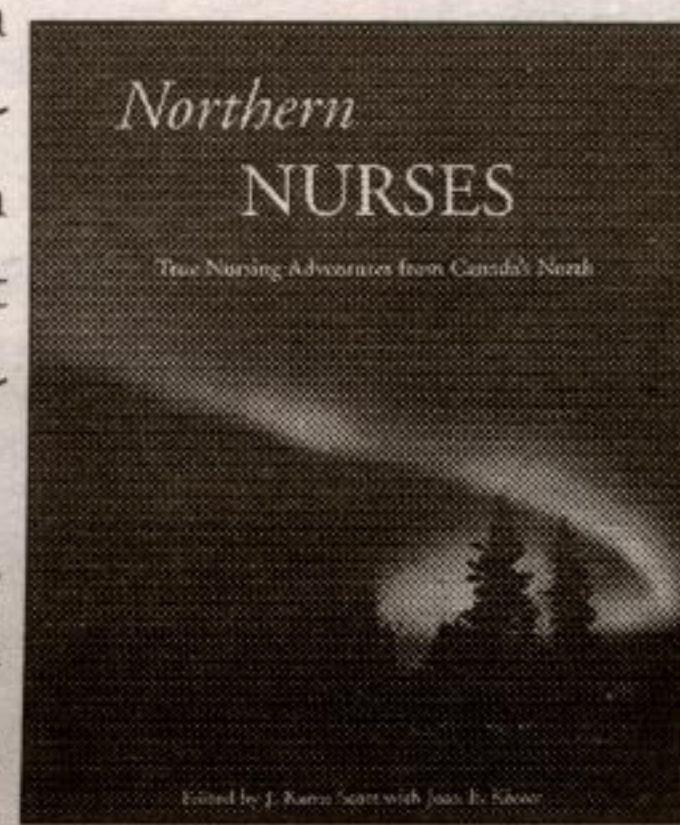
These nurses give up a certain amount of comfort to live in isolated posts, many without roads, where often the only form of travel in is by plane or boat. They have to adapt to traditions and cultures foreign to their own in order to incorporate their own healing methods. But by doing so, they are able to tap a vast source of knowledge and even absorb local stories of historic value.

There is much uplifting material in *Northern Nurses*. A Nova Scotia nurse has a distinct craving for some down-home food, lobster, and arranges to get a shipment of crustaceans delivered to an RCMP plane that would soon be returning to her area.

The lively book, which is well illustrated with photos and maps, has sold an amazing 1,700 copies, and the publishers are

expecting another print run in the near future. Editor J. Karen Scott notes that every nurse is caught with that all-encompassing line, "and other related duties", in his or her job description. Whether they need to substitute for the veterinarian, plumber, interpreter or social worker, the nurse is it. If they are lucky, they'll have someone else with whom they can work; if not, they do the best they can with what they have. Contrary to popular belief, nursing in the north is not just emergency situations and birthing. It's trying to yank out the oversized dentures that get stuck with too much adhesive, or teaching sex education and contemplating the misinterpretation of the word rubber. Both humorous and heartbreaking, *Northern Nurses* is so full of human voices that readers can't help but be drawn into the wealth of experiences.

NORTHERN NURSES: TRUE NURSING ADVENTURES FROM CANADA'S



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