

Simon Wilson's photography featured in butterfly Book

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

A former Acton man is the photographer behind a new book on butterflies.

Lorimer Publishing has just released a book on the Niagara Parks Commission's butterfly conservancy. Brian McAndrew authored the book while Simon Wilson took the photographs to illustrate his text.

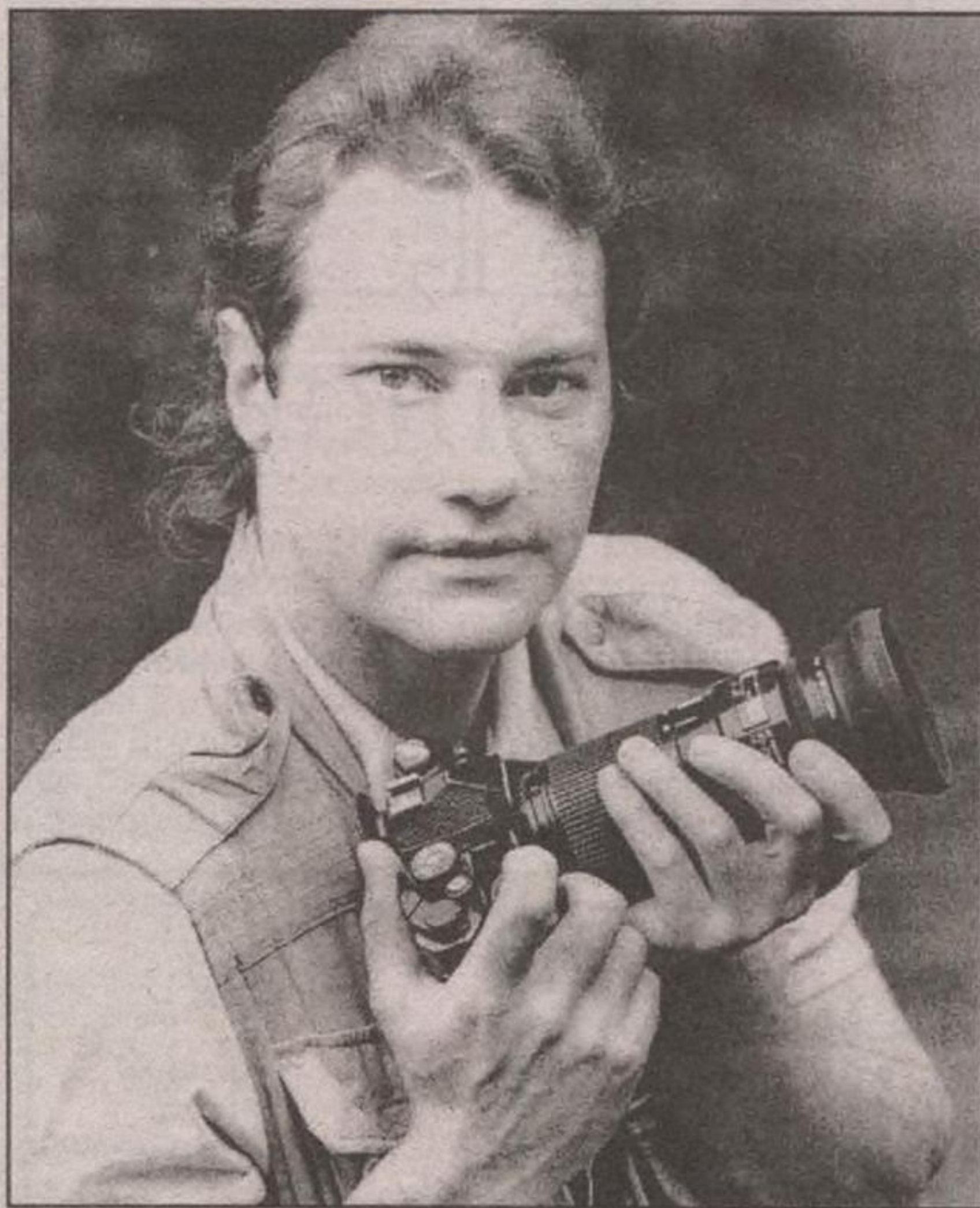
Wilson began taking the pictures in the Conservatory in late July of 1999 and finished by September. He worked early mornings and left about the time the tourists showed up in mid morning.

"It was like meditation for me," he says. "It was just the butterflies and me. The biggest disappointment was when I knew the job was over."

The book deals with the butterflies, but also with the people operating the conservatory, the conservatory's breeding program, etcetera.

The book was the publisher's brainchild but the Parks Commission went along with the idea. It was the publishers who approached McAndrew and he came to Wilson to illustrate the book, Wilson says.

The book is available at Home Hardware in Acton, but



Simon Wilson of Hamilton did the photographs for Butterflies. - Photo supplied

was also placed in the tourist spots along the Niagara Parkway and large bookstores like Chapters.

Wilson received his bachelor of science degree but never got the opportunity to work in his field because of government cuts to various nature-related ministries.

Since nature photography

was always an interest and a hobby, when he graduated he started off as a freelance photographer working weekends with local weekly papers. From there his portfolio grew until he now works free lance for the Toronto Star.

Wilson is on the executive of the Eastern Canadian News Photographers' Association.



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