

Memories of a grand old building

Early last week, we were all saddened with the loss of Georgetown Little Theatre Studio in Stewarttown when it burned to the ground.

I'm sure everyone who has ever driven north on Trafalgar Road has seen that unique building beside the river in Stewarttown, and enjoyed the sight it provided for more than a century and a half. Its loss will certainly be felt by members of Georgetown Little Theatre (GLT), and all its patrons.

But it goes a lot deeper for me.

You see, that building has been a part of my life, off and on, as I've grown over the years, and seeing the pile of smoking rubble brought back some of those memories.

Of course, since GLT acquired the structure in 1985, I've attended numerous GLT rehearsals, dinners and celebrations at that wonderful old building over the years.

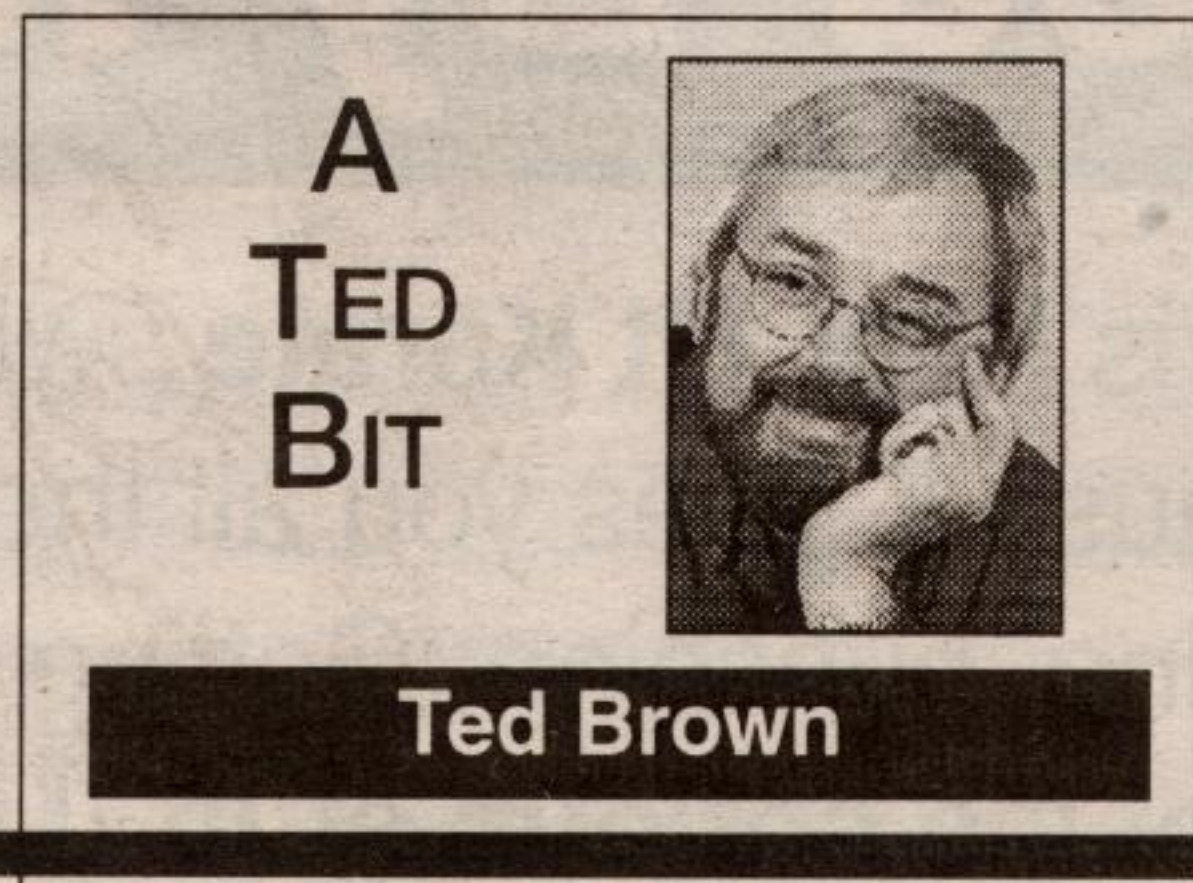
But when I was a child, that building was the Esquesing Township office, the meeting place for township council until its replacement was built on Trafalgar Road, north of Maple Avenue in the early 60s. (For those who don't know, Esquesing Township was the rural area between Acton and Georgetown before regional government was introduced in 1974 which resulted in the formation of the Town of Halton Hills.)

The township works yard was originally located there, and two township graders were stored in the garage at the back of the building.

Stewarttown Hall was also the hub of the township, used as a community hall for social events and a polling station during elections.

I remember sitting at the head table at my sister's wedding reception in July of 1969 in that hall, as I toasted the bridesmaids, and made my sister cry when I told her how nice she looked on her wedding day.

I thought back of attending the golden wedding anniversary celebration of my great aunt and uncle, Agnes and Harry Brown, along with my many cousins in that hall.



My Aunt Marjorie and Uncle Lloyd Fisher celebrated their silver wedding anniversary there as well, as the hall was filled with my many aunts, uncles and cousins.

My wife shares as many memories.

Stewarttown School regularly used the hall for its Christmas concerts, so she has fond memories of Christmases from her past.

Besides, her grandfather, K.C. Lindsay, was clerk of the township for a lifetime, so Cathy often walked down the hill from school to wait patiently for her grandfather to finish work so she could hitch a ride home.

As a kid, I remembered visiting the building with my dad, and watching old K.C. lean back in his chair, smoke curling from his pipe while he worked with township assessor Art Benton and secretary Cathy Bouskill as they went about their day-to-day duties of seeing to the business of the township.

In those days, our church minute books were stored in the vault at the hall for safekeeping.

Standing, looking at the blackened shell of the vault jutting out from the rubble Tuesday morning, it occurred to me how even during its final moments, that same vault provided protection for GLT's archives as fire ravaged the building.

Although the backhoe has since flattened the bricks, and the smoke has stopped curling from the rubble, one thing remains—memories of a grand old building that served its community so very well, for so very long.

SIGNATURE VACATIONS

TRANSATLANTIC PRICE POINTS

London Stansted *Air Only

via Royal Airlines, April 9 - Oct. 31

From \$439. round trip.

BONUS! Complimentary voucher of your choice for round trip rail or coach ticket between Stansted Airport and downtown London OR Norwich, Thetford, Brighton, Heathrow and Gatwick Airports.

London City Pack

Flora International**

Apr. 1 - Oct. 31

2 nights

Includes breakfast plus The Big Bus Company sightseeing tour, admission to Madame Tussaud's Museum & one-way transfer \$279. per person.

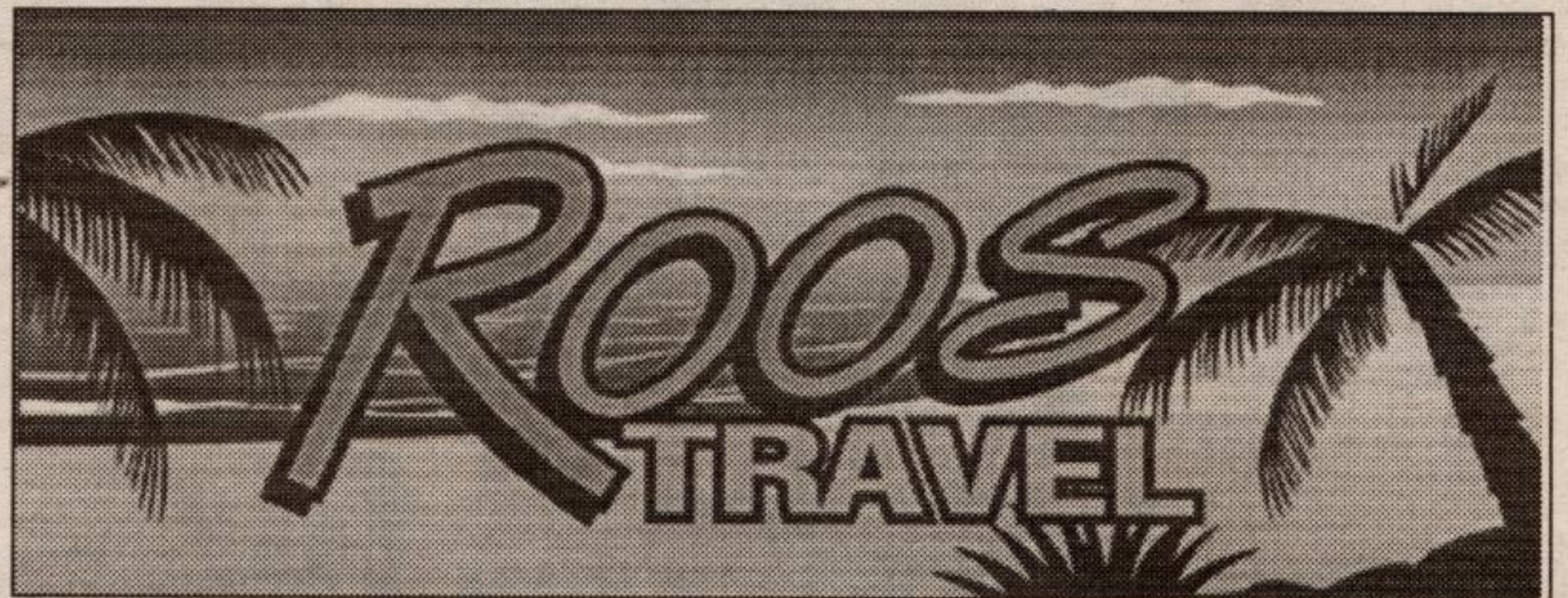
Go-as-you-please in Britain and Ireland!

Combine the convenience of pre-paid accommodation with complete flexibility once you arrive.

Over 2500 bed & breakfast locations throughout Britain and Ireland.

Includes breakfast!

From only \$59 per night.



HOURS: Mon.-Wed. 9 am-5:30 pm; Thurs.-Fri. 9 am-8 pm; Sat. 9 am-4 pm **905-873-2000**



nutrition house™

Keeping you fit and healthy!

at the GEORGETOWN MARKETPLACE
702-8204

"Come in and see why we are Canada's leader in All Natural Health Supplements"

NATURAL FACTORS **Sale Price**
GINKGO BILOBA **\$8.99**
60 caps 60 mg

NAKA **Sale Price**
GLUCOSAMINE SULFATE **\$17.99**
120 caps 500 mg

SISU **Sale Price**
CAL/MAG SHRINK WRAP **\$19.99**
500 mg cal/165 mg mag

SWISS HERBAL **Sale Price**
Echinacea **\$9.99**
60 Capsules plus an extra 20%

QUEST **Sale Price**
KAVA KAVA **\$9.99**
50 Caps

NATURAL FACTORS **Sale Price**
ST. JOHN'S WORT **\$12.99**
500 mg 90 Caps 300 mg

NAKA **Sale Price**
PROMEN **\$9.99** ~~\$21.99~~
60 caps 150 caps

PLATINUM **Sale Price**
GINKGO COMPLEX **\$24.99** ~~\$13.49~~
40 mg extract 120 caps 60 caps

NULIFE **Sale Price**
ENERGIN **\$12.99**
60 Caps

ABUNDANCE **Sale Price**
Proenzi 99 **\$24.99**
90 Tablets

Bring in this coupon and receive **10% OFF** your entire purchase.
(Excluding Sale Items)

All specials are valid from April 1 to April 30

The War Amps THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Cliff Chadderton created the CHAMP Program to provide child amputees with financial assistance for artificial limbs, regional seminars, and more. Now, graduates of CHAMP are carrying on The War Amps tradition of amputees helping amputees.



For more information about CHAMP and other War Amps programs, contact:

The War Amps National Headquarters
2827 Riverside Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1V 0C4
Tel.: (613) 731-3821 (Ottawa)
or E-ZEE ACCESS:
Tel.: 1-800-250-3030
Fax: 1-800-219-8988
Internet: <http://www.waramps.ca>
Charitable Registration Number: 0286831 09

Crown PAVING LTD.



- Specializing in
- ASPHALT PAVING
 - INTERLOCKING
 - CONCRETE
 - RURAL PAVING
 - PARKING LOTS
 - WALWAYS & CURBS
 - GARAGE FLOORS
 - EXCAVATION
 - GRADING
 - DRIVEWAYS

Spring Booking Program Value coupon

NO GST

Limited Time Offer - Expires April 15/98
Present this coupon at end of quotation

QUALITY & SERVICE

We use heavy-duty equipment for better compaction. All work undertaken carries a written warranty. References are proudly available.

HALTON HILLS AND AREA
1-888-695-7283

MILTON/OAKVILLE
(905) 337-7283

TORONTO
783-7283

Members of Consumers Protection Bureau