

# Writers love to mingle with writers

You know how you keep coming across annual events and say, "I should really attend that this year"? Well, I've been doing that for countless years with regards to the Eden Mills Writers' Festival. It's held every September in the little hamlet of Eden Mills, just outside Acton.

Originally organized in 1989, Eden Mills resident author Leor Rooke was encouraged by the general store owner, Mark Holman, to launch his then-latest book, *A Good Baby*, on the front steps of the store in October.

Rooke had already won the Governor General's Award for Fiction for *Shakespeare's Dog* in 1983, so he had a respectable following, and the first Eden Mills Writers' Festival was born out of the event that saw more than 350 people attend (a surprise for Rooke, who expected about 50 people.)

Since then, the Sunday after Labour Day, thousands flock to the little village, as Rooke and his organizers hold the festival, 'where new writers are introduced to a large audience, and established writers are newly engaged.'

Okay, that's the capsule history lesson. Back to that annual procrastination of mine—actually attending the festival.

I wasn't alone. Co-worker Cynthia Gamble has also been doing that 'I must attend this year' thing for ages too. Every year, we'd return to work the Monday after the festival asking, "Well, did you get there?"

Like me, she had kept putting it off. Every year I've checked out the lineup of authors who'd be reading excerpts from their new books, as well as signing after the fact.

And every year, I'd give it a pass.

But it finally happened—I came across an author that I couldn't miss seeing.

As a mystery junkie, I encountered a review in *The Toronto Star* some years ago on Toronto-based author Peter Robinson, and his Inspector Alan Banks series of crime novels.

After reading one, I was hooked, and I've been an avid fan of Robinson ever since.

When I learned he was one of the authors at the 2001 Writers' Festival, I was damned well determined to attend.

Arriving bright and early Sunday morning, I smiled as I took stock of the collection of individuals who attend this event.

Everything from kids, teens, university students and conservative grandparents, to even some leftover hippies from my generation are there, making up a crowd that's an interesting cross-section of all those who have an adora-

A  
TED  
BIT



Ted Brown

tion for good literature. Many authors attend, and we all know writers love to mingle with writers.

The festival opened with a town crier, and musical acts were interspersed throughout the day. Best part of all, there were countless books on sale, all by authors featured at the festival.

Robinson was reading at precisely the same time as Pamela Wallin was interviewing Allan Fotheringham. I opted for Robinson, although I was torn to hear The Foth sparing with Pamela.

Hearing the words read by their creator is a rare treat—he KNOWS where he wants the emphasis. Adding Robinson's accent from his native Castleford, Yorkshire was simply the topping on the cake.

I bought two of his books at the festival, and would have purchased more had I brought along a bit more cash (although charge cards were widely accepted.)

I chatted briefly with him as he made his way from his reading to the tables, and was pleased to learn the man behind Inspector Banks was a humble, sensitive individual, who was almost shy to chat about himself.

I now have a few signed books from Peter Robinson, and I'm pleased to have met him. As I read my newest Banks mystery, I can actually sense the mood of the man who wrote it.

Of course, I had to flaunt going to the Festival when I saw Cynthia. I was quick to say how I'd been at Eden Mills.

"So was I," she replied.  
"You were?" I asked incredulously.  
"When?"

"For the opening," she replied.

I guess we were both so engrossed in the event, we failed to see each other. Cynthia watched the Wallin-Fotheringham exchange—and I'm jealous. But if I had to make a choice all over again, Robinson would still win.

And one other thing is certain.  
I'll be sure to attend the 2002 Eden Mills Writers' Festival. As will Cynthia.



WILLIAM  
OSLER  
HEALTH  
CENTRE

Etobicoke Hospital Campus  
Brampton Memorial Hospital Campus  
Georgetown Hospital Campus  
[www.williamoslerhc.on.ca](http://www.williamoslerhc.on.ca)

## We're back!

Join host Joe Coté for another season of the Osler Health Connection on Rogers Television, beginning Tuesday evening, September 25 at 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday's show—After the Darkness—the impact of major catastrophes on our behaviour and coping strategies we can adopt.

Check your local TV listings for times and dates of future episodes.

## Connecting you and your family to health!

e-mail [ohctv@oslerhc.org](mailto:ohctv@oslerhc.org)



TOWN OF  
**HALTON HILLS**

Working Together Working for You!

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Town of Halton Hills requires a PAYROLL COORDINATOR

The Finance Department of the Town of Halton Hills is seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to assist in the administration of the payroll system. The position is one of two payroll positions that reports to the Deputy Director of Finance.

#### Responsibilities

- 4 Prepare payroll for over 400 employees on a bi-weekly basis using a computerized system
- 4 Administer payroll in accordance with legislation and internal policies and verify accuracy of submitted payroll related documents including input and edit listings
- 4 Prepare and submit all payroll related remittances, prepare all union and statutory documentation such as T4's, ROE, HRDC statistics, etc.
- 4 Reconcile payroll accounts in the general ledger

#### Qualifications

- 4 Post secondary education with an accounting background
- 4 Minimum of three years related experience
- 4 Canadian Payroll Association Certificate
- 4 Experience with Microsoft Excel and Word

**Salary Range:** \$35,720 - \$42,524, plus an excellent benefit package. 160

#### Town of Halton Hills requires a TAX ANALYST

The Finance Department of the Town of Halton Hills is seeking a highly motivated and technically experienced individual on a contract basis until **March 31, 2002**, with the possibility of further renewal. The position reports to the Deputy Director of Finance.

#### Responsibilities

- 4 Maintenance and development of Excel models to monitor assessment changes, calculate tax rates and distribute revenues raised
- 4 Manage and develop Access and Excel databases to calculate re-assessment phase-in adjustments to be applied to interim and final tax billings in accordance with Provincial and Regional requirements
- 4 Monitor assessment appeals, supplementaries, write-offs and OPTA's frozen roll records for 1997 and 2000 to identify and re-calculate any applicable re-assessment phase-in adjustments and communicate calculations to ratepayers
- 4 Evaluate eligibility and calculate charity rebates, tax deferrals and new construction phase-in adjustments
- 4 Develop procedures and manage vacant unit tax rebates according to provincial legislation

#### Qualifications

- 4 Post secondary education with an accounting background
- 4 Minimum of five years of related experience
- 4 Proven proficiency with Microsoft Access and Excel
- 4 Completion of the Municipal Tax Administration Program

**Hourly Rate:** \$26.84

161

Qualified candidates may submit a detailed resumé in confidence by **4:30 p.m., October 5, 2001**.

Ms. Jacqueline Bowles  
Manager of Human Resources  
Town of Halton Hills  
1 Halton Hills Drive  
Halton Hills, ON, L7G 5G2

We thank all those who apply, but advise that only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990 Chapter 45 and will be used to select a candidate. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager of Human Resources.

**THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

1 Halton Hills Dr., Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2  
Tel.: 905-873-2600 • Fax: 905-873-2347

## Attention Residents of Georgetown



### HALTON REGION'S WATERMAIN CLEANING PROGRAM FOR 2001

As part of Halton's ongoing watermain maintenance program Regional staff and our contractor will be cleaning the watermains in the Town of Georgetown commencing the week of **SEPTEMBER 23, 2001**. This work will continue for approximately 4 weeks.

Our 2001 Watermain Cleaning Program will cover the areas bounded by Maple Avenue, Guelph Street, and Hall Road, including Norval and Georgetown South, as well as the industrial area north of Guelph Street between Mountainview Road and Delrex Blvd.

There may be some inconveniences to you during our operation. Discoloured water is discharged during cleaning and to avoid having it enter your home/place of business please follow the steps noted below:

- Do not use water between the times indicated on your **BLUE LETTER**, which we will provide to you approximately 2 days prior to working on your street.
- When we are finished for the day on your street (times indicated in the **BLUE LETTER**) please turn on your cold water tap in your basement and let it run until the water is clear.

To keep informed of our progress, check the ads in this newspaper again and look for our **BLUE LETTER** in your mailbox for the dates we'll be working on your street.

**Questions?** Please call the Planning & Public Works Department at 905-825-6000, ext. 7704, 7705 or 7706 or toll free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) Regional staff will be available to answer your questions.



[www.region.halton.on.ca](http://www.region.halton.on.ca)