

# The ghosts of Halloween

October is really only good for four things: colourful foliage, the start of the NHL season, the end of the baseball season (this year excluded) and Halloween.

Of all the pseudo-holidays like Groundhog Day and Valentine's Day, Halloween has always been my favourite. Skeletons, monsters, goblins and ghouls always held my interest as a child.

Halloween was the one day of the year where a little of the evil that lurks in all of us was allowed to spill out.

Surprisingly, however, I can't recall ever dressing up as creature particularly frightening.

I recall trick or treating dressed as a hockey goalie and getting totally bummed out that the 20-something girl next door (who I had a huge crush on) recognized me right away despite my \$6 Fibreglas Canadian Tire mask.

(It never occurred to me that she knew who I was because I would spend 40 hours a week dressed in the same get-up tramping over her parents' flowers in search of wayward tennis balls during our many road hockey games.)

The only other costume I recall wearing was the year I dressed up (down?) as a tramp. Come to think of it, a lot of kids went Halloweening decked out in tramp gear when I was young, yet I've never seen a youngster come to my door dressed as a homeless person. I suppose somewhere along the way political correctness crept into Halloween.

My final year of trick or treating was the most memorable. I believe I was about 14 and my pal "Splash Gordon" and I were more interested in tricks than treats. We were determined to soap the front windows of any home that wasn't partaking in the candy-giving ritual.

Our costumes consisted of simple masks and capes.

When we found our first unlit house we crept up to the large picture window and

THIS  
'N  
THAT



John McGhie

began to liberally scribble with our bars of Ivory. That was, until we heard someone coming to the front door.

Faster than you could say, vandals, we beat a retreat into the nighttime darkness that Donovan Bailey would be hard-pressed to match. That is, until I ran face-first into a steel wire running from a hydro pole to the ground.

Splash, looking back at his prone partner in crime, bravely returned, gathered me up and off we escaped.

After recovering from that "thrill" we opted for an easier target— an old car in an empty lot.

The lot was separated from the nearest house by a large hedge, so Splash and I, thinking we couldn't possibly be detected, went through two bars of soap and were just about to begin bar three when we heard a booming voice behind us.

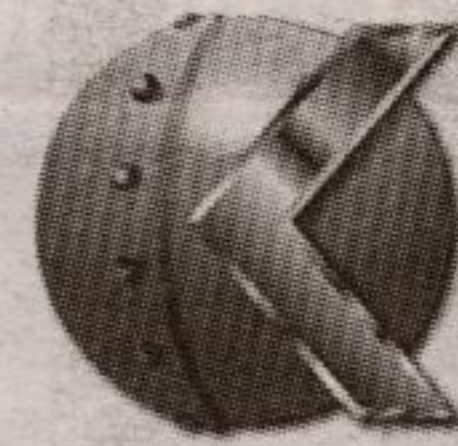
"What the hell do you think you're doing."

I wheeled around to look directly into the navel of the largest man I ever met.

Frozen with fear, the car's owner made Splash and I remove the soap with the clothes we were wearing— not an easy feat.

Some time later we trudged home smelling like a couple of newborns— a fine film covering us from head to toe.

That brought an end to my days of trick or treating— and as a criminal.



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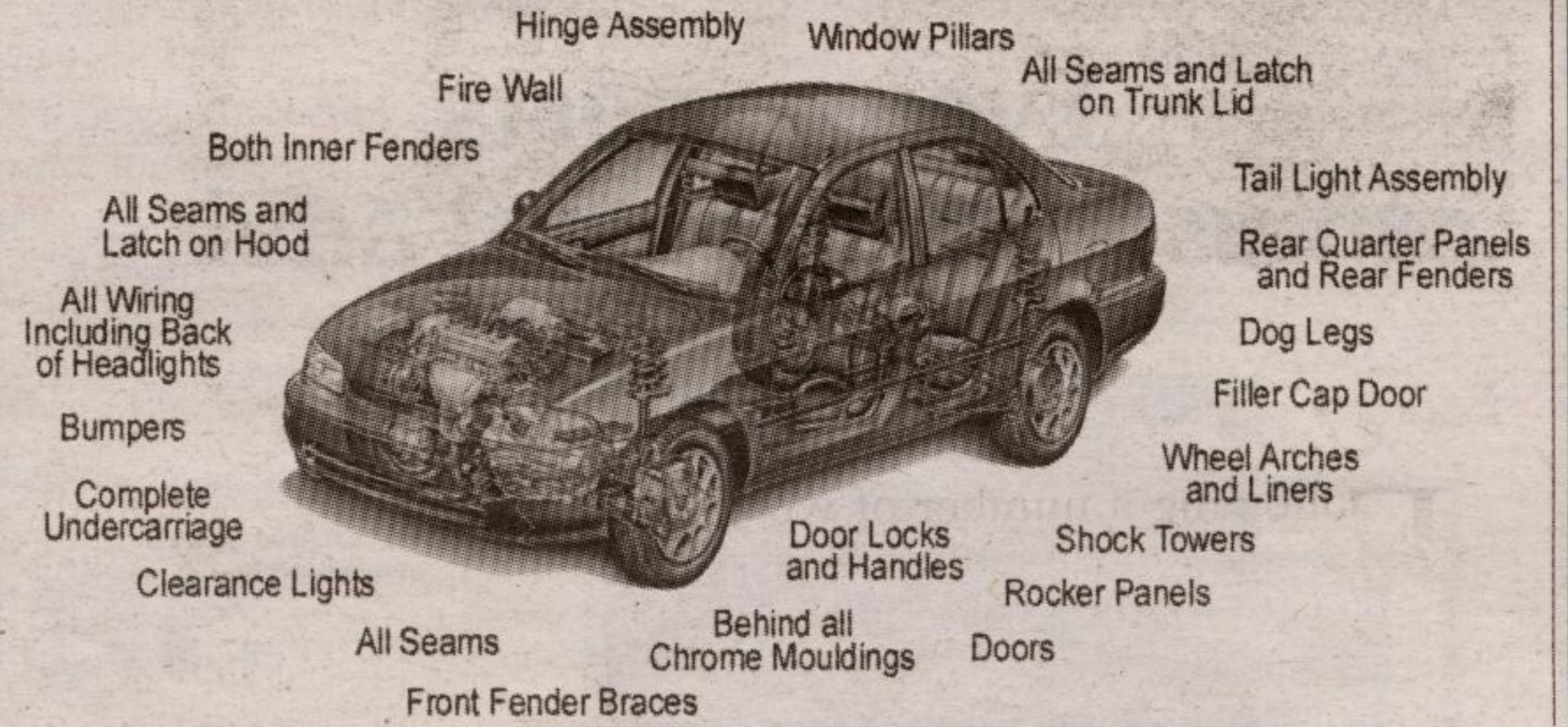


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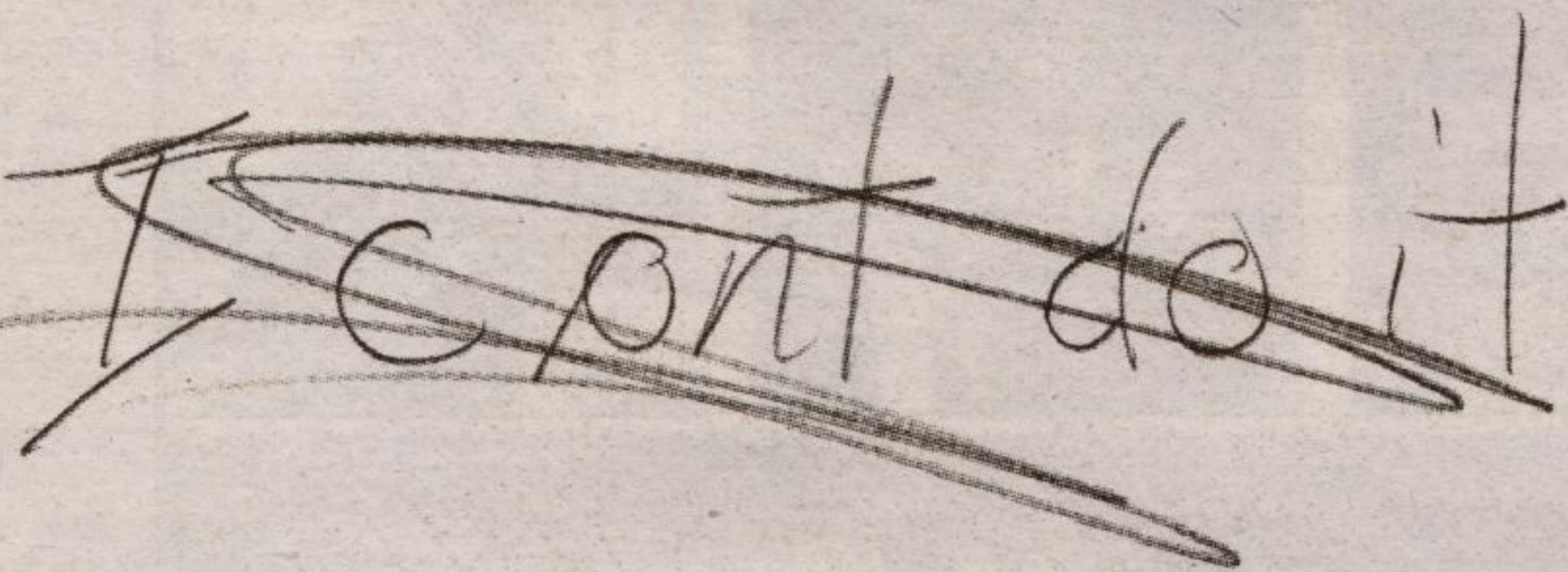
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# WHICH CRAFT

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**\*\*\*REMINDER - 30 Nov. is a PD Day - We have a Camp Day planned from 9:30 to 3:30 (extended hours available) - Camp fills fast - call and book now to avoid disappointment - A safe, fun-packed day for your kids - we will be doing Christmas Crafts!!!**

**\*Kidz Art Instruction - registration has begun for November - Classes are two hours long, one night a week for three weeks. Cartooning, drawing in perspective and proportion and water colour painting. Small class size - Call early to book! Start your child on a life long love of art and creativity in a friendly, fun environment!**

**\*Weekend Craft Workshops have now resumed for the fall and winter session. Each Sunday afternoon from 1 to 3 pm we run a workshop. Every weekend features a different craft and theme. You must reserve space - a great afternoon!**

**\*Sunday Kids Workshops in November**  
**4th - Make a Santa and Rudolph Christmas decoration.**  
**11th - Create a winter bird feeder**  
**18th - Make a stuffed animal and Bead a Christmas craft**  
**25th - Come and make your own advent calendar**

**\*Birthday Parties continue to be a HUGE success at Which Craft Studio. We have a wide variety of themes and crafts for you child's next birthday. Our package is all inclusive - and a good time is guaranteed. Book ahead as dates fill quickly!**

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