John Tatham

'Bobby' often asked, 'Are you real?'

John Tatham has been bringing a little bit of Britain to local events for several years.

Tatham, 60 of Georgetown, can been found decked out in his English bobby costume at events such as the Classics Against Cancer show.

The 27-year-resident of Georgetown has been a collector of police memorabilia for many years. He gathered up pieces of the costume in his native England, and from police officers who have come here from England.

"It's pretty well authentic. It's not authentic to any particular period, but it's all authentic stuff," said Tatham. He said he tried to narrow the costume down to the 1960s.

He enjoys attending events **bobby**. in the costume and said he gets a lot of questions, most often "Are you for real?"

"It's nice interaction with people. I think it promotes interaction with the police."

Tatham, who worked for the Toronto Transit Commission for 30 years, said he always wanted to be a police officer but his eyesight stopped him.

He currently works as an escort officer for Halton Regional Police and



John Tatham of Georgetown, a longtime auxiliary police officer, can often be spotted at events around town dressed as an English bobby.

Photo by Ted Brown

retired late last year from 12 years as a Halton Regional Police auxiliary officer— a position he thoroughly enjoyed.

"I felt it was helping the community and I enjoyed the interaction with police," said Tatham.

He's married to Debbie and has two grown children.

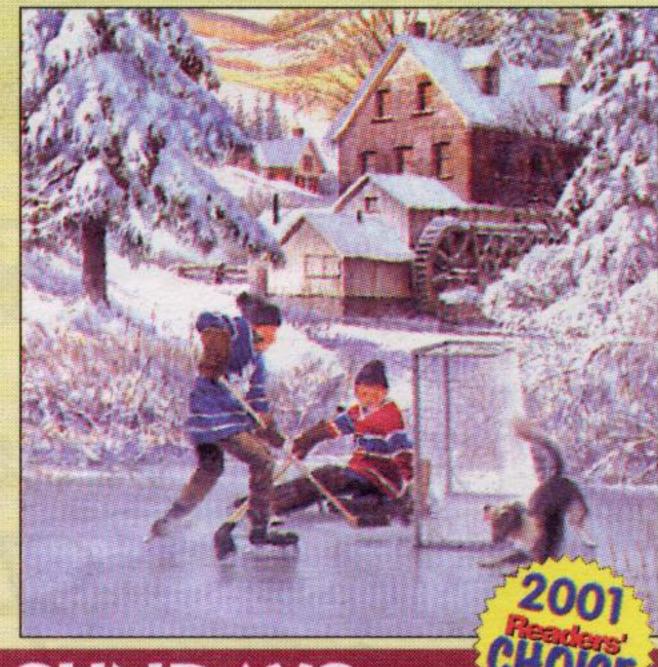
Along with collecting police memorabilia, Tatham also enjoys wood carving, playing guitar and the pan flute.

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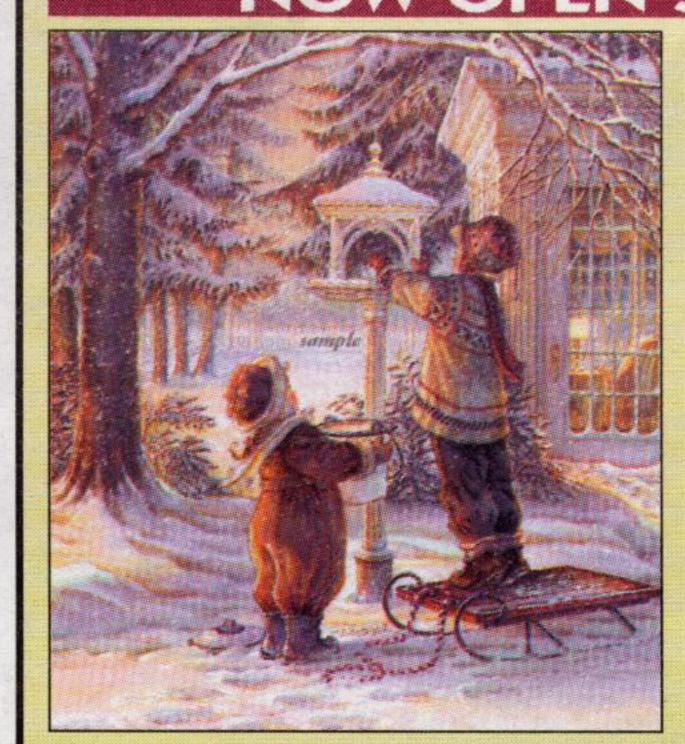
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