Arts Entertainment

Chorus celebrates decade of song and laughs

By STEPHANIE THIESSEN

The Champion

Ince you've met 68-year-old Jack White and some of the other men in the Song Spinners Chorus, it's not hard to believe they'll be donning tutus for their upcoming concert.

"We're their dress-up dolls," said Mr. White good-naturedly, referring to the choir's largely women membership.

But the men love it, confirmed Mr. White, the choir's president.

"We have a fella here who dresses up in drag every year."

The handful of affable men who are willing to go to great lengths for a laugh are one of the Spinners' drawing points, said choir member Margaret Benton.

After all, nobody wants to miss seeing what they'll do next.

"People like to come for a good laugh," Ms Benton said, taking a break from Wednesday morning's rehearsal at St. Paul's United Church.

Now recognizing their 10th anniversary, the choir — made up of seniors 55 and older — is celebrating 10 years of music along with a decade of laughs. In fact, after talking with members, it's hard to tell which they hold more important.

"We're like a bunch of kids," Ms Benton said of the group, raising her voice to be heard above the group's laughter at the other end of the church. "Get us together and we're like a kindergarten class."

The choir's next concert takes place June 4 at



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

The Song Spinners Chorus rehearses at St. Paul's United Church in preparation for its next concert.

the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs
Dr., at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$7, which includes

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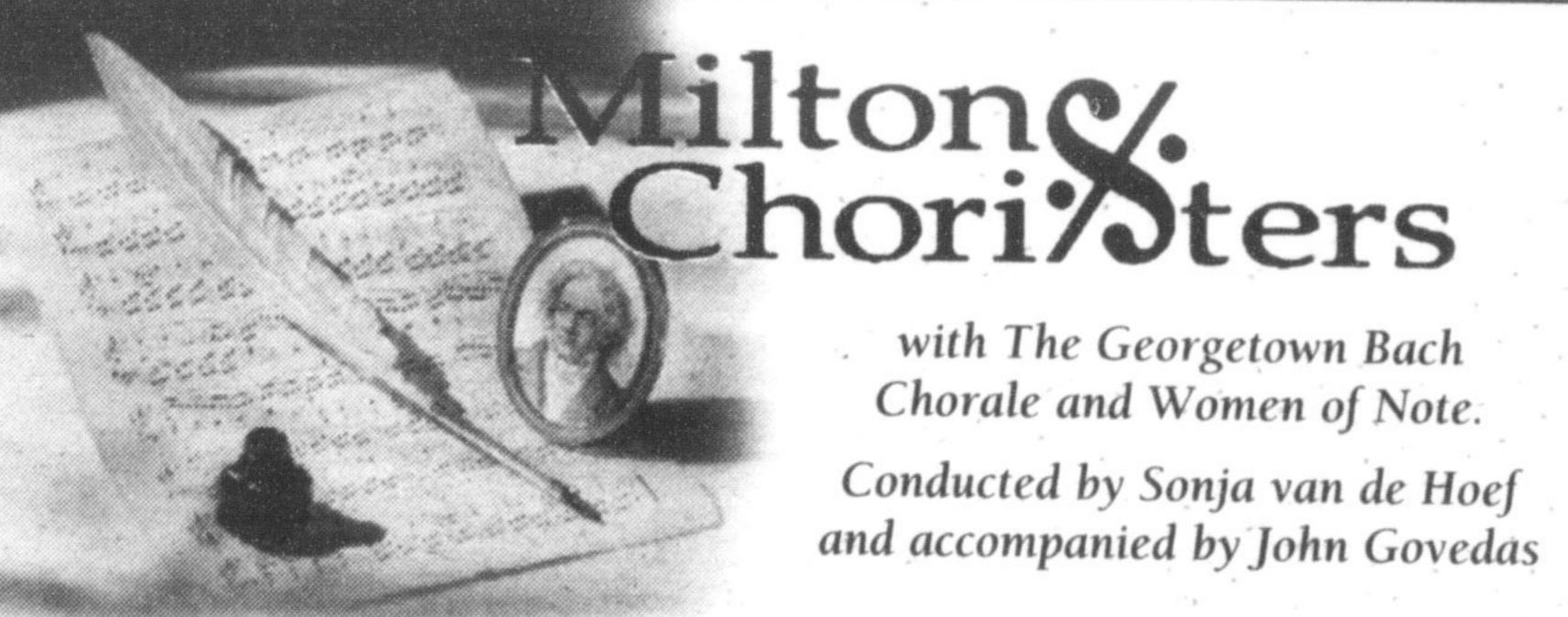
light refreshments.

It will feature music that appeals to all ages — not just seniors, Mr. White said.

The Song Spinners Chorus is a non-auditioned group made up of seniors who simply love to make music. Besides their twice yearly concerts at the seniors' centre, the Song Spinners also holds sing-alongs for members of the seniors'

centre throughout the year. "Singing is good for your health — it's a scientific fact. It just gives me a warm feeling to be able to get up there," Mr. White said.

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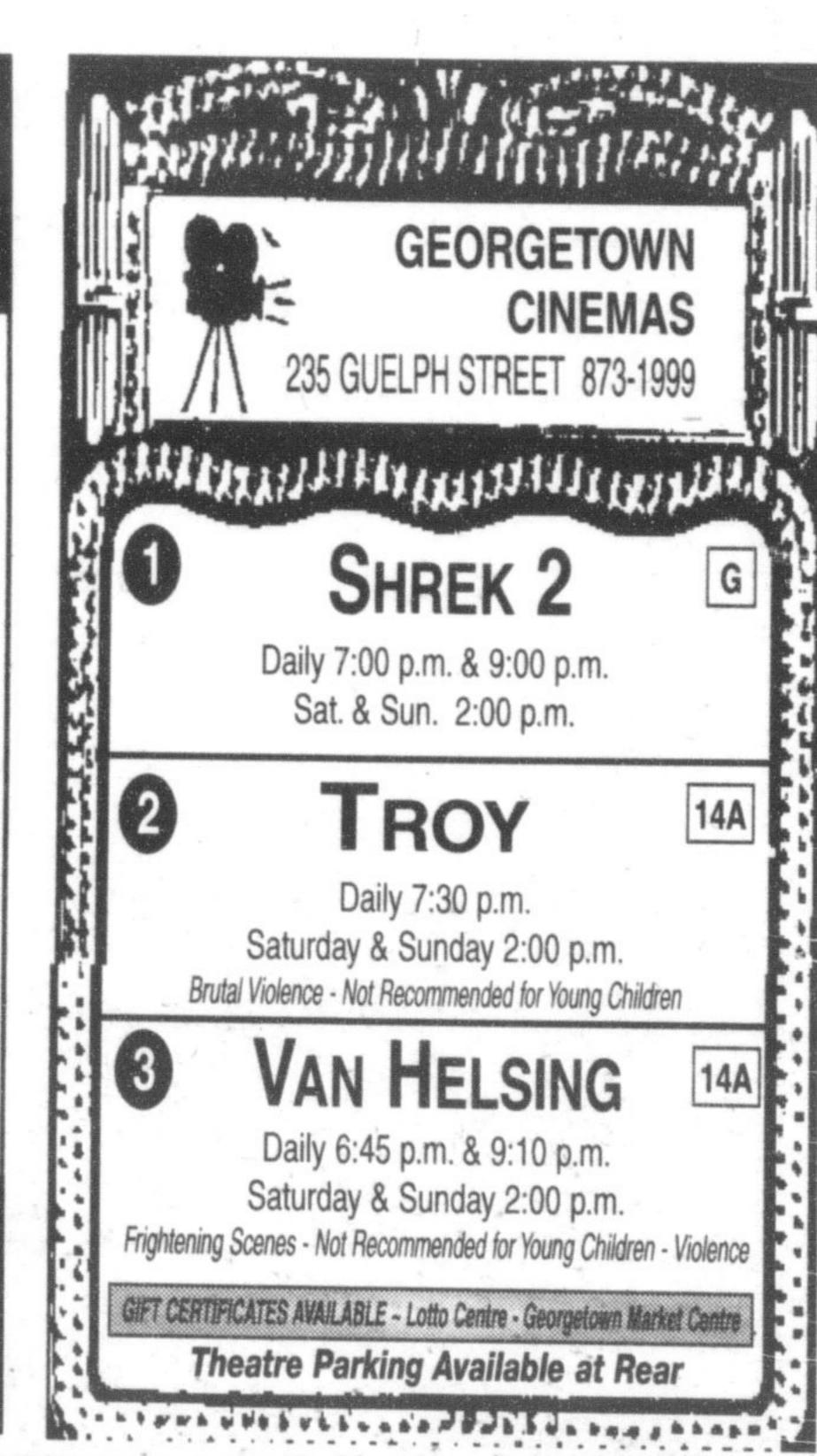
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