

Be a part of it...



Get to the Heart of it...



In February of 1982, my brother Ted and I opened Surplus Plus at 288 King Street. In the beginning, we were going to be an army surplus store but due to a lack of a reliable supplier we decided to become a general store. The first year was full of ups and downs. On December the first, 1983, we moved to 282 King Street and changed the name to E and R (Ed and Rob) Discount. The move to larger quarters allowed us to expand into sporting goods, movie rentals and custom hats and uniforms. My brother Ted decided to pursue other interests in late 1984 and he is now employed by Royal LePage Real Estate.

The business progressed quite satisfactorily until August of 1986 when we found out our building was sold and the new owner wanted the building empty. On November the first we moved into 244 King Street next to Municipal Savings and Loan. There is almost always a drop in business following a move but now we are in our new location with bigger, better bargains for you, our valued friends and customers.

We now feature giftware, tools, sporting goods, novelties, toys, sportswear, footwear and much more. We are the

local Asics Tiger dealer for Tiger shoes and sportswear. For all your custom hockey, baseball, or volleyball uniforms, check us out. We also do all sizes of orders of custom hats for groups, clubs, teams or organizations.

For all our reading enthusiasts, you can now get used pocket books for all your reading tastes. This is a new venture which has been received quite favourably so far. Please feel free to drop in and browse or have a chat with myself (Rob) or my mother who is an invaluable help in the store.

"A Little Bit of Everything"



The Crow's Nest was opened in 1982 at its present location, the corner of Dominion Avenue and King Street. The owners Geb and Sue Robinson say that "previous antique shop experience gave us some of the knowledge we needed to open a business of this type in Midland. It seemed that Midland was a prime area for an antique, gift and stained glass shop. The lack and unavailability of these products and services in the Midland and surrounding area encouraged us", says Sue.

The Crow's Nest carries antiques, brass, gold and silver jewellery - both new and estate and the ever popular "1928" collection as well as furniture, wicker, Hummel figurines and stained glass supplies. There is also a shoe

they also plan to carry a full line of topographical maps. Along with Geb and Sue are full-time staff members Kay, Caroline and Fred.

Sue also teaches stained glass classes which are held on the premises and will be starting again in mid-September. The class is once a week for an eight week course. Sue said, "the most ambitious student in one of our classes was Leo, who produced more glass projects in our eight week course than the other 19 students put together. The most amusing student was a dental hygienist who wore surgical gloves for protection while cutting glass."

"The most important goal in our lives at this point is to

create as interesting a shop as possible and to put out the best product for the most reasonable price."

"By being open 7 days a week and approximately 11 (eleven) hours a day, on average, makes it extremely difficult to become involved with anything other than business," said Sue.

"In the future we would like to raise birds and only work five days a week but for now, most of our time is spent trying to gain additional knowledge of the products we sell, either by research or correspondence courses."

Please feel free to come in and see us at the "Crow's Nest".

Downtown Memos:

A lot of downtown merchants have us turning "green with envy" on this St. Patrick's Day. Don't forget to give the "Gift of Life" at the Blood Donors' Clinic at the Civic Centre on Wednesday, March 18 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. The sunny weather and warmer temperatures have many of our downtown stores looking brighter these days. Spring will be here on Saturday, March 21 and very shortly we'll be seeing flowers blooming in our planters in King Street.

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