



MARGARET GOVAN 14 DEANBANK DRIVE PHONE 889-5374

Sir Robert Watson-Watt The announcement of the death of Sir Robert Watson-Watt reminds many Thornhillites of the years when he and his wife lived in Thornhill. Actually Mrs. Drew-Smith as she was then, came to Thornhill before her marriage to Sir Robert. She was an attractive, vivid, interesting person. Her maiden name was Jean Wilkinson. She had grown up in Parkdale and had taken her training for nursing at Wellesley Hospital when Dr. Bruce was administrator. She received a gold medal when she graduated.

When Mrs. Drew-Smith first moved to Thornhill she took an apartment on Yonge Street overlooking the park. She went over to Britain and she and Sir Robert were married in London. They returned to Canada and settled in Montreal where Sir Robert had business interests. But they were both drawn to Thornhill.

They came here and built a delightful house at the end of Church Lane, at the top of the ravine with the Toronto Ladies' Golf Course beneath them. The boards of the oldest hospital in Montreal, which was being demolished at that time, were rescued and brought here. Michael Wade built the house. The outside has been stained cranberry color and it is very effective.

The second story was one huge and lovely room. Lady Watson-Watt set to work to collect French-Canadian antiques with which to furnish the new home. She had exceptionally good taste and had learned about antiques. One of her pieces was featured in "Early Furniture of French Canada." The house became the loveliest of museums. It was opened several times to raise money for certain charities such as the Retarded Children, some special work for Thornhill Presbyterian Church, etc.

Later they built another charming house on Deanbank Drive, with a view across the valley. The first house was bought by the J. H. Whartons and the second by Mrs. Helen Russell. Lady Watson-Watt died very suddenly in 1964 while they were living in Sterling Forest, New York. She was buried here in Thornhill Cemetery.

Neighborhood Notes Mr. and Mrs. Richard Neill have moved from Colborne Street to one of the new apartments on Bayview at Steeles Avenue. So Thornhill has not really lost them! Mr. and Mrs. William Cocker have also moved. They have gone to Unionville. They have both been very active in the horticultural society, and I asked them about their garden space. They are very pleased with it, and the bulbs are in for next year.

The Markham Public Libraries, Thornhill Branch, announce "Talk-in", an informal book discussion group.

NORTH YORK LIBRARIES

FREE FILM SHOWS THIS WEEK

Thursday Black Creek Library, 2141 Jane Street 1:30 p.m.—Senior Citizens Films: Bighorn; Birds of the Forest; Black Pirates
Friday Amesbury Park Library, 1565 Lawrence Ave. W. 7:30 p.m.—Family Films: Christmas on Grandfather's Farm; Barber Shop; Come Clean
Willowdale Library, 5126 Yonge Street 2 p.m.—Senior Citizens Films: Assignment North-west; London Ride; Suddenly the Channel is Half as Wide; Carpets in the Making
Woodview Park Library, 16-18 Bradstock Road 7 p.m.—Family Films: Sons of the Desert

Saturday Amesbury Park Library, 1565 Lawrence Ave. W. 11 a.m.—Children's Films: The Moonbeam Princess; Horses
Black Creek Library, 2141 Jane Street 11:15 a.m.—Children's Films: Palle Alone in the World; The Paper Kite
Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Ave. E. 2 p.m.—Children's Films: A Christmas Carol; The Shape and Color Game; Joy of Winter

Saturday Downsview Library, 2793 Keele Street 2 p.m.—Children's Films: Christmas Fantasy; Elsa and Her Cubs
Willowdale Library, 5126 Yonge Street 2:15 p.m.—Children's Films: A Balloon Grew Up; The Little Girl and the Gunniwolf; Amelia and the Angel
Woodview Park Library, 16-18 Bradstock Road 2 p.m.—Children's Films: The Steadfast Tin Soldier; The Moonbeam Princess; Caps for Sale
York Woods Library, 1785 Finch Avenue West 11 a.m.—Children's Films: Christmas—a Time of and 2 p.m. Happiness; Christmas Cards

Tuesday Black Creek Library, 2141 Jane Street 2 p.m.—Junior Films: Christmas Rhapsody
Wednesday Amesbury Park Library, 1565 Lawrence Ave. W. 1:30 p.m.—Senior Citizens Films: Ancient Africans; Delta of the Orinoco

It will be led by Anthony Lewis of Markham and will meet on alternate Mondays, January 7 to May 27 at 8 pm in the Thornhill Library. The fee for these discussions is \$10. Each member receives and keeps his own paperback edition of the book being discussed.

The subject for this term is the Third World as seen through the eyes of its own writers. He believes such a study would increase understanding of other cultures, and further understanding of the Canadian variety. Registrations are being received now. Pick up a form at the Library, 10 Colborne Street.

The Heintzman House Auxiliary opened Heintzman House after Councillor Charles Stewart's funeral two weeks ago. St. Gabriel's Anglican Church ACW supplied the refreshments.

Mother's Break The Mother's Break Program has carried on all this last term with two sessions. There has been a more formal one on Tuesday mornings with exercise, talks and discussion, a parent effectiveness course, and batik. On the Thursdays there is coffee, conversation and crafts. At both sessions there is nursery care for children, and a pre-school program for the four-year-olds.

Registration for the winter-spring session will be taken on January 15. A new course on parent effectiveness will be started. The Thursday morning group hopes to add broding to its agenda!

There is a need for help in the nursery and somebody to take over the pre-school program. Any volunteers?

Cantabile Chorale There is another treat in store for Thornhill people (others are welcome too). At 8:15 pm on December 18 at Thornhill Presbyterian Church the Cantabile Choir will present "The Joy of Christmas". There will be carols, an anthem, carol singing by the audience as well, and a Christmas Cantata.

The soloists are: Norma Martin, Dave Truman, Jean Johnston, Marilyn McCorrister, Elaine DaCosta and Elizabeth Davis, as well as a group of others who love music and who can sing. They have already proved this at other concerts and given everybody great enjoyment!

But carols are always special! Talent and Clothing Mrs. Vera Tomlinson moved to Clark Street South Thornhill with her son, her daughter-in-law and her grandson, about three years ago. She has made herself a very important place in the Thornhill community.

Mrs. Tomlinson is a professional dressmaker and knitter — not that she calls herself that. She does it as a hobby.

In 1921 her mother, her sister and herself, came from London to live in Toronto. Her mother was a professional

dressmaker and she taught both her daughters how to sew, including all the tricks and short cuts. "I got into trouble with my teachers," she confessed with a grin. "They insisted that I sew in the old fashioned way."

Judging by the results of her methods of sewing I think she was just too good for her teachers. Oddly enough Mrs. Tomlinson did not take up dressmaking as her work. She married instead, and took a course in welding to help out with the war effort. But married welders are not wanted. So she served as a chaperone for welders, going on the various shifts. Later she worked at Eaton's on the telephone. There was a group of employees sewing for refugees, war victims, etc. They were supplied by Eaton's with left over materials from the factories. Mrs. Tomlinson threw herself into this spare time work.

A neighbor who belonged to a group at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Toronto introduced her to the group who were sewing for the Salvation Army. She worked with them. And now she is here, working for the clothing depot which uses a large sized cupboard at Thornhill United Church as its distribution point. Mrs. Tomlinson makes over clothes. She has a touch and flair and anybody would be proud to wear them. She also takes old sweaters, un-

ravels them, washes the wool, and re-knits baby things, mitts, sweaters, whatever the wool can be used for. She and her daughter-in-law have knitted 10 sweaters and 20 pairs of mitts this fall. What a talent, and what a wonderful way to use it

Church News At the morning service on December 9, Holy Trinity Anglican held a Youth Carol Service. Canon Reginald Howden wishes to thank Captain Bateman, Philip Townsend-Carter, Barbara Priestman, Graham Upcraft and the choir, Mr. Hartland, and all the boys and girls who helped.

Do you like to sing carols? You are invited to the carol service at 5 pm on December 16. This is a very special way of celebrating Christmas at Holy Trinity. On December 2 at the evening service in Thornhill Presbyterian Church the Presbyterians presented a play for Advent. "The Bride." Kenneth Thatcher directed it. The Bride was played by Alison Boyd, Her Mother: Helen Gregg; and Her Aunt: Julie Manchester.

A new stained glass window, depicting the Boy Christ in the Temple, was dedicated, in Thornhill United Church to the memory of Nathan D. Adams, 1904-1968, by his wife and family Sunday.

Hospital where he spent almost a month and a half. He was released following surgery and about a month's hospitalization and was home only about 24 hours when he had to be rushed back for another two week stay. His wife Jean reports he will require a cautious recuperation period at home.

The barbershop at 138 Henderson Avenue, which has been closed for about a year, has finally been reopened. The new proprietor is Bill Fotopoulos of Toronto and he reports that his hours of business will be similar to those in the past.

Church News Mrs. Muriel Shaw asks help in providing Christmas hampers to those in need in this area. There will be a basket for your gifts at the back of Holy Trinity Anglican Church December 16, so please help. For further information call 889-3035.

A Christmas treat! The Cantabile Chorale presents the Geoffrey Bush Christmas Cantata and a carol sing at Thornhill Presbyterian Church December 18 at 8 pm. For tickets call Mrs. Jackie Neun, 889-3974.

The Luke's United Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a youth trip by bus in the winter break to Washington, DC, and Frederick, Maryland. At 5 pm this Sunday Holy Trinity Anglican will hold its annual candlelight carol service. Following the service the Trinity Teens will again go carolling.

Henderson Avenue Public hys' gym club meets every Tuesday and Wednesday. Today in the afternoon, Mrs. Ursula Stewart's grade 3 class and Mrs. Susan Shepa's grade 2 class are to tour the Town of Markham Fire Station on John Street.

Neighborhood Notes Birthday congratulations are in order for Brad Maxwell, 23 Daffodil Avenue, who will be nine years old Saturday; and to Susanne Rae, 20 Morgan Avenue, who will mark her 14th birthday Sunday.

Friends and neighbors of Arthur Watling, Clark Avenue, are happy to learn that he is home from Wellesley

Obituary

HUGH MACDONNELL

Hugh W. Macdonnell who died very suddenly recently, was an old resident of Thornhill. He and his family moved into this area in 1938, onto the north side of Steeles Avenue, a very different Steeles Avenue from today's.

He grew up in Kingston and attended the collegiate there. Then he went to Queen's University for one year. He followed this up with three years at Balliol College, Oxford where he obtained his degree. Next he returned to Canada and went to Osgoode Hall for his law course.

By this time it was war time. He enlisted in the Princess Pat's Light Infantry and fought in the first Great War. He was wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans, but was later transferred to Switzerland where two hotels had been set aside for such cases: one for the Germans and one for the Allies. It was in Switzerland that he met his future wife. They were married in June 1918, and he was invalided home shortly before the war ended.

The Macdonnells settled in Toronto and in a few years he was on the staff of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association as their legal adviser. He also worked with their industrial relations department. He remained with them until he retired.

He was interested in golf and belonged to the Toronto Golf Club. He was a staunch Presbyterian and an elder in St. Andrews on King Street.

After he moved to Thornhill he was associated with Thornhill Presbyterian Church, Dr. Ramsay Armitage of Mable and the Dr. Dillwyn Evans conducted the funeral service.

He leaves his wife, a son Michael, who lives in Thornhill, and a daughter, Sheila (Mrs. C. F. T. Rounthwaite) of Toronto. There are seven grandchildren. Miss May Macdonnell lives in Kingston. She taught Latin at Queen's. His brother lived in Ottawa and predeceased him last July.



(Photo by Ron Fawn)

Thornhill United CGIT Vesper Service

Members of the Thornhill United Church CGIT group Sunday were finishing up a month of rehearsals for the annual Vesper Service to be held at 7:30 o'clock last night (Wednesday) at the church. The collection at this event is for national office finance. The girls in this group are mostly aged 12-13 years and are led by Mrs. June Abbott of Grandview Avenue and Mrs. Heather Thompson of Dudley Avenue. The service was to include the junior and senior choirs with a 60 candle closing

procession. Shown kneeling (left to right) are Denise Ward, Martha McAlister, Ruth McEachern, Fran Walker. Standing are Mary-Catharine Russell, Patti Ward, Linda Powell (who played Joseph) Sharon Ford (Mary), Cathy Wilson, Donna Clark and Lorri Clark as they stopped during the rehearsal of the Nativity scene of the service which included Bible readings and three dialogues.

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SATURDAY BUS SERVICE TOWN OF MARKHAM Thornhill - Unionville - Markham Areas

The Town of Markham commencing Saturday, December the 15th, 1973, will start a Saturday bus service in the Thornhill-Unionville-Markham areas from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Routes and frequency of service will be the same as the Monday to Friday service.

SATURDAY SERVICE MARKHAM TRANSIT EFFECTIVE DECEMER 15/73

Table with bus routes and schedules: Route 1 60-Minute Service, Route 2 40-Minute Service, Route 3 80-Minute Service

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