

COMING UP

The week ahead in
Whitchurch-Stouffville
EDITOR'S PICK



STAFF FILE PHOTO/BILL ROBERTS

Richmond Hill Live Steamers will host another open house at their Ballantrae miniature railroad this weekend.

Ride the mini rails at Ballantrae facility

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS

All aboard, Whitchurch-Stouffville!

The Richmond Hill Live Steamers train club is holding an open house Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. both days at its Ballantrae track and facility.

Don't let the name fool you.

The beautiful, wooded property, just west of the York Regional Forest, is all Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The name stuck because the original members, some 40 years ago, lived in Richmond Hill.

"It's a family club," said Sybil Clothier, secretary for the club. She and her husband, Bill, have been involved with the 40-member club since 1984. Her husband has built two trains, one diesel and one steam.

"Members build and run their own locomotives," Mrs. Clothier said. "It's quite a unique hobby as the trains actually run on train tracks."

The non-profit train operation, at the corner of St. John's Sideroad and

McCowan Road, two kilometres north of Aurora Road, will offer train rides on scale model steam and diesel locomotives to the public, as well as sell souvenirs.

When the weather is good, many members of the diverse group head up to the track every weekend, she said.

"We have some retired folk and some younger people."

Variety among its members isn't the only things the club encourages.

"It's a family club," she said. "Spouses are all considered full members. The children are also involved and always welcome."

She encourages families to come out to see the trains as it provides a unique experience for all ages.

"It's fun to see other people having fun," she said.

A snack bar will also be on site.

Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

For more information, call Sybil or Bill Clothier at 905-277-0969 or visit www.geocities.com/richmondhill_livesteam/

MONDAY
JULY

7

LIFE SAVERS

A Standard First Aid/ CPR C Course for those 13 and older is being taught July 7, 9, 14 and 16 from 6-10 p.m. at the Lebovic Leisure Centre. Cost is \$95. Call 905-642-7529 ext. 0.

TUESDAY
JULY

8

ENGLISH ASSISTANCE

Interested in improving your English skills? ESL classes are taught Tuesdays from July 8 to Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. noon at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library. Cost is \$40. Pre-register by calling 905-642-7323 ext. 230.

FRIDAY
JULY

11

GIVE BLOOD

You can donate blood from 1:30-7:30 p.m. at Latcham Hall, Park Drive in Stouffville. For more information, call 1-888 2 DONATE.

For more community events, visit yorkregion.com and click on POP personal online planner.

To add an event to this listing, e-mail Jim Mason at jmason@yrmg.com. Event organizers can also register with POP at yorkregion.com to have events listed free online.

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