

# Wallacetown Women's Institute enjoy train ride at Port Stanley

On Wednesday, August 11th, the Wallacetown Women's Institute visited Port Stanley for a ride on the terminal rail train. Eight members were present and guests included Don Lackey, Pat Waite, Matthew and Steven Minnema.

An hour and a half ride from Port Stanley to Parkside High School was very entertaining. Three students are hired during the summer season along with a licensed engineer year-round. There are 3 trips every day, 7 days a week during July and August. The train runs Sun-

day afternoons year-round and Saturdays from May to November, rain or shine. The train travels the L & PS tracks.

The newest bridge was built in 1908 and the oldest in 1896. There are many interesting sites along the way. The Port Stanley Boat Graveyard, the Applesauce Field, the Turtle Pond view, the Tree Family "Sue & Mac", 1937 coaches, the Whyte House and the Port Stanley Dome Stadium. The bridges all have a 100-year guarantee and then some. Many homeowners along the

tracks take pride in displaying their properties.

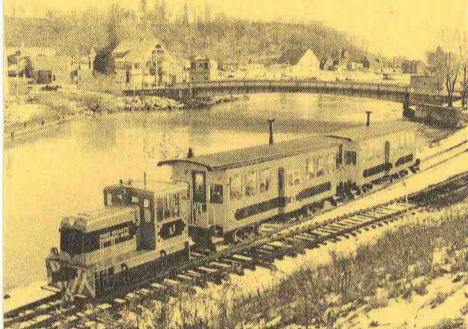
There are special charters available such as the Easter Bunny Train, Easter weekend; Teddy Bear Lovers special, late April; Halloween Special, October; Ho-Ho-

Ho Santa Train, and Little Red Birthday Caboose.

After the ride everyone had time to browse around the unique shops before dinner at Lakeview Restaurant. Convenor for the day was Sally McIntyre.

*Sept 8/99*

PORT STANLEY TERMINAL RAIL INC.




**1 ADULT FARE**  
Round Trip Ticket Between  
**PORT STANLEY**  
AND  
**ST. THOMAS**  
TICKET SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS  
ON REVERSE SIDE  
**No 14405**

**Draw Winner**  
Congratulations to Susanne Mauer of R.R. 2, Wallacetown, winner of the Wallacetown Women's Institute quilt draw. The W.I. members would like to thank Ruby McGugan for her donation of material and her time towards the making of the quilt.

*Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1999.*

WALLACETOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE  
**QUILT DRAW**



To be drawn at  
Christmas Meeting  
December 9th, 1999

Proceeds to Community Book

Tickets: \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00

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**No 77**



Wallacetown W. I. Members. from (L to R)  
1 Ruby M<sup>c</sup>Gugan, 2 Joan Johnston  
3 Kay Lilley, 4 Louie Lackey  
5 Sally M<sup>c</sup>Intyre, 6 Kathy Minnema



1999.



Wallacetown W.I Members. from (L)

1 Helen Van Boenk, 2 Kay Lilley, 3 Ruby  
 McEugan, 4 Sally McIntyre, 5 Joan Johnston,  
 6 Louie Lackey 7 Kathy Minnema & 2 sons  
 8 Kay Waite.

1998 1999.  
**TRAIN RIDE**

**SCHEDULE**

From **Port Stanley Ontario**

**Jan. Feb. March**

Sundays @ 2:30

Come Ride the L&PS Special Mar. 29th

> Mar. 29th 1/2 price fares <

**The Easter Bunny Express**

Come look for the eggs and meet the Bunny  
 Easter weekend April 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th

@ 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 pm

Sundays **April** 5th & 19th

@ 1:30 & 2:45

**The Teddy Bear Lovers Train**

Come meet Buddy Bear & Win a prize  
 Bring your favorite Teddy Bear for a Ride

Sat. & Sun. **April** 25th & 26th

@ 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00

**May & June Spring Flowers**

Weekends @ 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00\*

*See the spring flowers from the train.*

Mom's day May 10th, Pop's June 21st.

Also Victoria day May 18th

**July & August Every day**

Every day @ 1:00, 2:00, 3:00\*

Vacation time family fun train ride

**Sept. & Oct. Fall Colors**

Weekends @ 1:00, 2:00, 3:00\*

Also Labour day Sept. 7th

Thanksgiving day Oct 12th

**The Halloween Pumpkin Special**

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Dec 15/1999

# Wallacetown WI honours oldest member

As part of the International Year of Older Persons, Women's Institute branches across the province are honouring their oldest members. The Wallacetown Women's Institute paid tribute to Marjorie Ripley at their recent Christmas Dinner.

As part of the presentation, Mrs. Ripley had to prepare "A Grandmother's Legacy," a story of her life and the branch which will be added to the Tweedsmuir History.

She noted that the Wallacetown W.I. was formed in 1912 so that women could have their own organization as the men had "The Farmers' Union."

One of the objectives of the Women's Institute was "to help women acquire sound and approved home-making skills. Its enterprises should make the community a better place in which

to live and promote a happy, wholesome social life," she stated.

The history of the

branch was outlined including the first president and secretary-treasurer, when

and where meetings were to be held and the W.I.'s role in the community.

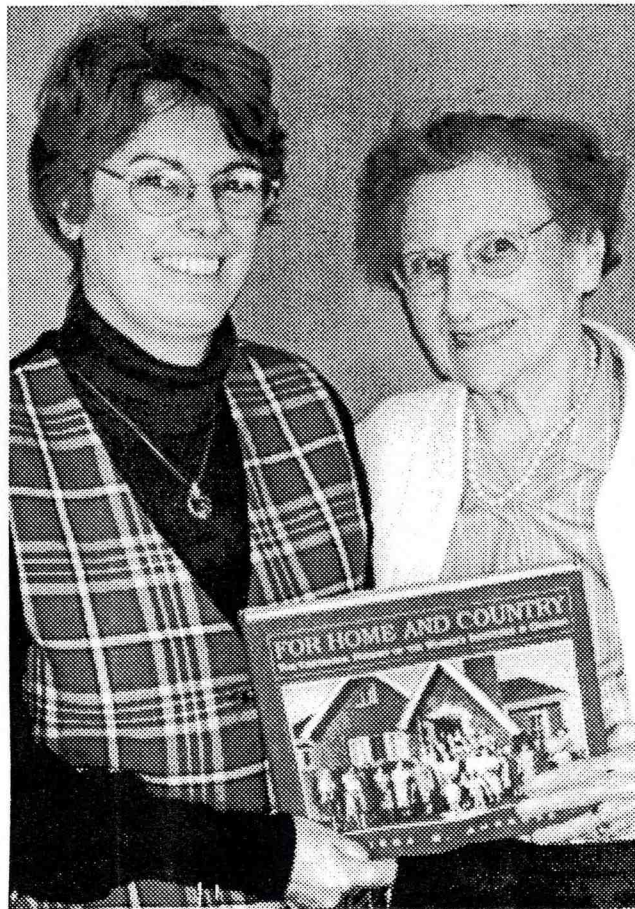
In commenting on the various aspects of the community the branch has supported or been involved in she asked, "What would Wallacetown do without the Institute?"

Her "Grandmother's Legacy" story concludes with "As we approach the New Century 2000, we look forward with anticipation and hope for the continuance of the Wallacetown Women's Institute."

Mrs. Ripley was presented with a copy of "For Home and Country: The Centennial History of the Women's Institutes in Ontario."

"Through the years many interesting and worthwhile meetings and projects have been carried out. One can look back to two world wars, 1914-1918 and

1939-1945. The Institute was there - knitting socks and sending boxes to our soldiers overseas. They were on hand again to welcome them home. At this time, one cannot forget the Sifton Family, World War I, and others who did not return home. We also recollect the times when a family would lose their home and belongings, the Institute Women would be right there. One can go on remembering the times the Women's Institute was on hand when the need arose in the community," Mrs. Ripley wrote.



**HONOUR OLDEST MEMBER** - In celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, Wallacetown Women's Institute Assistant Tweedsmuir Curator Kathy Minnema, left, presents Marjorie Ripley with a copy of the FWIO history book, in honour of being the oldest member of the branch.



## WALLACETOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Wallacetown Women's Institute. What is it, and who are they? In the year 1912 Wallacetown and District had a group of women interested in rural and cultural activities. The men had their own organization, "The Farmers' Union," which did not include women, who took a wide interest in farm activities, but were not included. Thus, the "Women's Institute" was started in Wallacetown.

One of the objectives of the Women's Institute is to help women acquire sound and approved homemaking skills. Its enterprises should make the Community a better place in which to live and promote a happy, wholesome social life.

The first Women's Institute was organized February 19, 1897 at Stoney Creek, with emphasis placed on "Family."

Wallacetown Women's Institute had its beginning July 3, 1912 with the first meeting being held in the hall on September 6, 1912 with an attendance of 36 ladies. The first President was Mrs. D.W. Graham, and the Secretary/Treasurer Miss Maud Robb. Through the years, the monthly meetings have mainly been held in the hall, usually with two members planning the meeting and program for the month, which is both educational and enjoyable. Speakers and projects have been the basis of their programs. But the needs and concerns of the Community were very much a part of their agenda.

Women's Institutes have always encouraged women to play a part in the development of their own community, but it is important that one must be aware of the changes that take place. Competent skills are important to improve the structure of the Institute. It holds the key to the achievement of a worthwhile goal through volunteering. Our desire should be to provide an opportunity to allow women to do their best.

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For years, the Women's Institute supported Wallacetown Fair, also the School Fair. It was always a pride and joy when the Institute Exhibit, at the Fair, would have a prize ticket on it. For years the Women's Institute have provided meals for the Fair and also for many other occasions. What would Wallacetown do without the Institute?

Sometimes, the membership may have been low, but the spark of enthusiasm was always there, and members saw a need for an Institute. As one looks back at the projects and accomplishments undertaken by the Women's Institute, we can be proud to be a member.

There have been many Presidents during the many past years, each doing their best with their talents, in their own way. The last President in the year 1999 is Mrs. Helen Van Brenk, and the Secretary Mrs. Joan McLandress. There is a membership of 16 members.

As we approach the New Century 2000, we look forward with anticipation and hope for the continuance of the Wallacetown Women's Institute.

*Marjorie Ripley*  
Marjorie Ripley  
December 9, 1999



# Wallacetown W.I. views Elgin County Council

Warden Rien Van Breuk welcomed Wallacetown W.I. members and guest to the Elgin County Council meeting on October 19th at the 9 a.m. meeting which continues throughout the day.

There were 8 councillors present, plus the warden, chief administration officer and deputy clerk, and representatives from various departments throughout the county. Everyone was wearing the county tartan tie along with a dark suit coat and grey dress pants or skirt. Many of the W.I. members commented on how impressive they looked.

Each council member is given a complete report on all the topics to be discussed at the day-long meeting, four or five days in advance; they must be prepared when they come to the council meetings because of so many topics to be covered during that day. Usually they have two meetings in a month, and working with a \$40,000,000.00 budget is no simple task.

The topics covered include support for the seniors picnic for the year 2000, which was granted; library service report - Warden Van Breuk commented that Dutton/Dunwich, which is the smallest township, is the second busiest library in the county next to Aylmer library. Also the archives report was very interesting to W.I. President Helen Van Breuk who is Tweedsmuir Curator. Other reports were from the Elgin Manor Redevelopment, the building architect and the fund-

raising committee. The United Way also reported on the progress of their fundraising for this year.

Warden Van Breuk then called for a 10 minute coffee break and the Institute members could have a look around the chambers and ask questions. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the time spent at the county council meeting, and were amazed at how smoothly everything was covered in a short period of time.

Members then carried on to the Talbot Trail Tea Room for the monthly meeting over tea, coffee and muffins. Nine members and five guests were present.

President Helen Van Breuk opened the meeting and welcomed the guests. Sally McIntyre gave the treasurer's report and the secretary's report was approved. A thank you letter was read from Elaine Brown. Wallacetown W.I. won second place in the Institute display at Wallacetown Fair. Special thanks went to Kay Waite and Louie Lackey for all the hard work they put into this display. Sally gave the report for the Bobier Villa Auxiliary. Appreciation went to the volunteers for serving tea at the Bobier Villa on September 19th.

Helen reported on the district meeting held August 8th for the Tweedsmuir History Workshop which was held at Springfield Community Hall. Middlesex East have the workshop for 2000. Daffodil Tea took place on October 16th at Crinan Church when Helen, Kay and Kathy Minnema attended.

Winter Picnic is Wednesday, February 16th at Fingal United Church with the theme of 'health issues'. Honouring an older member - Marjorie Ripley's name was sent in. Sally gave a report on the upcoming Wardens Dinner on November 13th. Kay Lilley will man the tuck shop, November 25th at Elgin Manor. Warm thoughts go out to member Marjorie Ripley who has spent some time in hospital. Members were given their Christmas Dinner list for December 9th.

Helen was the convener for the meeting and the roll call, answered by everyone, was name a bird that visits your feeder. Answers included robins, blue jays, finches, red and yellow cardinals, red-headed woodpecker, hummingbirds and in Australia the Redsilas. The meeting adjourned.



Back Row - (1) Kay Waite & Kathy Minnema, 3 Sally M'INTYRE, 4 Rien Van Breuk (Warden of Elgin County), 5 Helen Van Breuk, 6 Louie Lackey.

Front Row - (1) Dorothea Monteith & Gladys Graham, 3 Dorothy Lamb



1 Rien Van Breuk with 2 Carole Brown from Brisbane Australia for the Nov meeting of our W.I.