

*SCHOOL DAYS – Who do you recognize in this picture of Alice (Graham) McCallum's 1926 class, room 2, at Dutton Public School? Back row, left to right: Isobel McGeachie, Jennie McKillop, Muriel Hodder, Ted Moyer, Jack Jacques, Duncan Paton, Cecil Waite, Guy Saunders, Lester Keck, Dunc Leitch, unknown, unknown. Second row: Jean Ross, Jean McCallum, Lillian Hull, unknown, Alice*

*Johnston, Annie Sutton, Daisy Burslem, Mary McCallum, unknown, Catherine McCaffery, unknown, unknown, unknown, Alice McGeachie, Maxine Mulder. Front row: Louis Burns, John Hodder, Earl Waite, Les Gibson, Burslem, Harley Waite, unknown, Jack Cook.*



C  
O  
M  
M  
U  
N  
I  
T  
Y.

S  
E  
R  
V  
I  
C  
E  
S.



# Dutton-Dunwich Adult Club

by Will Lamont  
Co-Op Student

Television constantly bombards viewers with hundreds of images each day. Presented, are idealized portraits of men and women who are in the prime of their lives. The elderly is one age category which is grossly under-represented in our youth-oriented culture, when in fact, they are the fastest growing. Groups like the Dutton-Dunwich Adult Club are geared towards keeping mature adults active, appreciated and involved.

For the past 20 years, the Dutton-Dunwich Adult Club has been providing an avenue for seniors to develop friendships and pursue activities which interest them. The Club, which, last February, moved to a new location at 185 Main Street, now boasts a 100 member roster. Throughout the year, the group has numerous activities planned. There is something for everyone, whether it be bridge, quilting or simply enjoying a morning cup of coffee with friends.

## Quilting

Every Monday and Friday at 1:00 p.m., a dozen or more ladies gather for an afternoon of quilting. "We all have a good time here," explains one participant as to why she is involved. The women are willing to create a quilt upon request, and all proceeds go towards covering club expenses. At the upcoming "Dutton Days" at the Fanshawe Pioneer Village, London, members of the D.D. Adult Club will be giving a quilting demonstration. A quilt which they are presently making with a Scottish Thistle pattern will be raffled off at the Pioneer Village. Half of the monies raised through ticket sales will be received by the D.D. Adult Club.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - On the first Wednesday of every month, club members enjoy a Birthday Party with cake and tea, after having their monthly Travelogue.

## Cards

Bridge, one of the most successful programs, is held Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. A fair number of people gather for an enjoyable time of card-playing. Thursday - euchre never caught on as well, and was thus discontinued. Beginning the first Thursday in May, the group is hoping to recommence the euchre parties. Another activity being investigated as a possible addition to the weekly schedule is darts.

## Eventful Wednesdays

Wednesdays at the D.D. Adult Club are usually very full days. In the mornings from 9 - 11:30 a.m., the Clubroom is open for Coffee Break. A mere 15¢ is the cost for a bottomless cup of tasty brew. "It's one of the best deals in town." Along with the coffee, people can also enjoy cookies. Coffee Break is a time when members can come out and enjoy a morning of talking, sharing and of course, great coffee.

In the afternoon of the first

Wednesday of every month, members are invited to voyage to distant locals while remaining in the confines of the Club room. It is called Travelogue, and with the aid of a slide presentation, viewers are able to learn about regions around the globe. Following the interesting visual excursions, the Birthday Party is held, celebrating the birthdays of members born in that month. The ladies of the D.D. Adult Club all take turns preparing the cake and refreshments. The second Wednesday of each month is geared at encouraging a healthier lifestyle for older adults, called the Wonders of Wellness. The visiting Public Health Nurse speaks about different topics and issues which are related to the lives of the area's elderly.

## Other Activities

Along with the regularly scheduled activities, there are many other well-attended events throughout the year. To kick-off and close each season, the club hosts a pot luck lunch in both September and June.

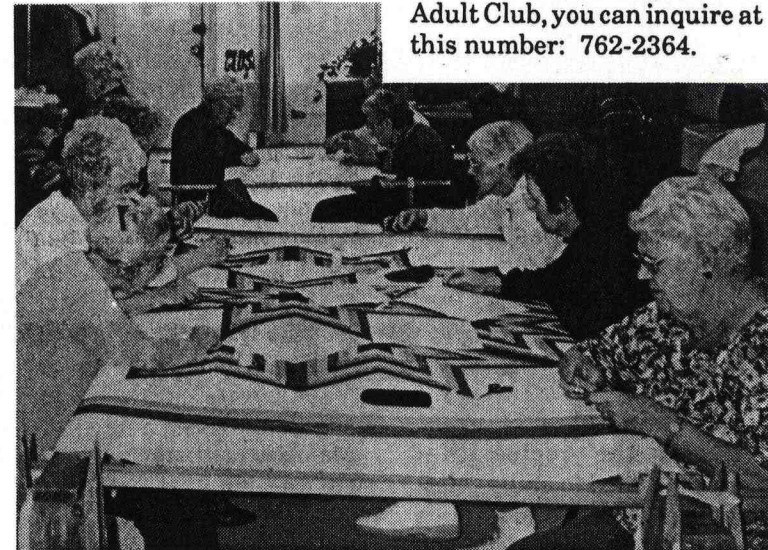
There is a bazaar in November at which the Adult Club sells Christmas items and crafts, baked goods and serves tea. A catered Christmas dinner followed by entertainment during the noon hour is another warmly received annual festivity. In addition, the group usually organizes one or two day trips, including a July picnic at Port Glasgow.

## Involvement in the Community

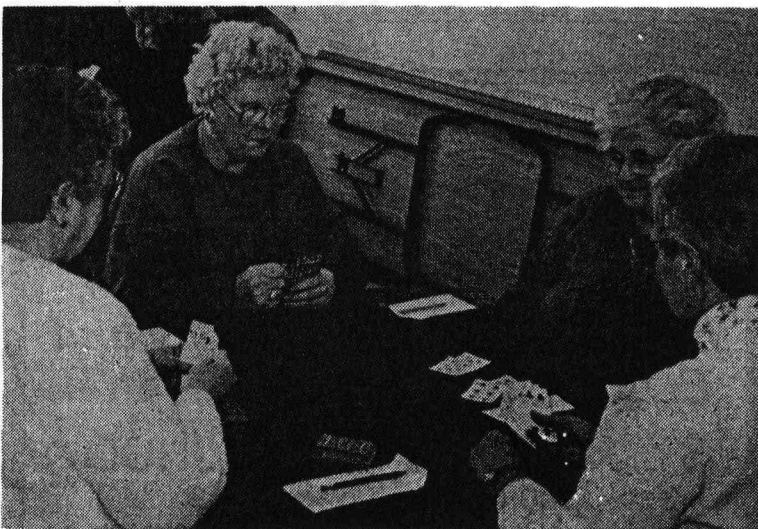
Although the Club focuses mainly on the interests of the older adult population, they are nevertheless involved with the community at large.

The dedicated members stuffed envelopes for the March of Dimes, and have collected \$800.00 plus in donations from the area. On two previous occasions, the Adult Club has provided and served the refreshments for two 8-night runs of WEDS productions.

President Louie Lackey says that they are "here to serve the community" and "any suggestions are welcomed." The rooms are available for a rental fee of \$25.00 per event. If you have any comments or questions concerning the D.D. Adult Club, you can inquire at this number: 762-2364.



**AN AFTERNOON OF QUILTING** - Ladies of the D.D. Adult Club are pictured above quilting, as they do every Monday and Friday beginning at 1:00 p.m.



**BRIDGE ANYONE?** - These ladies are only four of the many D.D. Adult Club members who come out every Tuesday.



# Wallacetown Creamery Becomes Extinct When Sold to New Dutton Operator

This is the third and final instalment of a history of Wallacetown Creamery and cheese factory presented in a paper delivered by Mrs. Irmyn Lucas at a meeting of Wallacetown Women's Institute.

The cheese making did not last the year 'round. The season was over early in November and did not open until spring. Dad spent the winter cutting wood for the furnace which ate up many, many cords for summer work. He always held an annual meeting with his patrons in the old town hall.

## Town Hall

In case some of you won't know about the hall, it was situated directly across from the old school which stood for so many years. This is now the property and lovely home of the Martelles. It was on this ground called "The Commons" where bands of gypsies arrived in the spring to camp for a few days. It was a great day for the school youngsters. They would sit on the fence and watch the proceedings.

The hall was used also for business meetings, patent medicine concerts, literary society and debates. It was also the place to cast votes at election time and for dances. It also had a lock-up with its barred window and was used occasionally. It was later moved to the fair grounds to be used as a lunch hall.

## Annual Report Presented

At this annual meeting in the hall, father gave his yearly report—how many pounds of cheese were made during the summer, and price of cheese sold. At that time it was 8, 8½, 9c a pound, the price paid to patrons, but retailed at the store for 15 cents.

At one of these meetings, the subject was brought up about cream separators that were just coming in, and the farmers thought there would be more money in cows if they made butter, and the matter was voted on. The patrons won out. Dad was always anxious to please his patrons, so he went to Strathroy Dairy School that winter and took a course in butter-making, and that spring bought a churn and other necessities to make butter. The milk vats could still be used to hold cream, so instead of a cheese factory, the old building was now a creamery.

It did away with so many people drawing cream to the factory, as the cream had to be tested and weighed at the farm, and everybody's cream dumped into one large

can. Cream was collected less often than milk, once a week in the winter, more often in summer. The family did the gathering and also bought farmers' eggs at the same time. Dad used a light democrat with a single horse to gather. Later, he bought a Ford car, which the boys called "Buttermilk Special."

## Dutton Creamery Built

It was about 1914 that Mr. Downham from Strathroy built a new creamery in Dutton. Dad was a little worried because he felt there was not room enough for two creameries in the township and we were so close to the lake. The new owner wanted dad to split the territory at Clay Street and they would take Hogg Street. So it ended up that dad sold the Wallacetown Creamery to the newcomer. The next year dad built a hen house and went into chickens on a small scale and liked it. I think it was the following year that one of the brothers obtained his B.S.A. at Guelph and came home, set up an incubator and equipment in the old factory rooms, and the "Keillor Hatchery" was born. Dad carried on for a few years with the hens, but was getting very tired, and at the age of 80 years passed on to his reward.

Later on, the hatchery closed down as there were so many hatcheries popping up in surrounding places, and the old cheese factory stood silent for a number of years. Now, a new industry has been set up. I wish it every success. As Sir Arthur Ford says in his articles, "So the world wags on."

I would like to add, there is a poem in one of the old public school readers that begins: "Among the beautiful pictures that hang on memory's wall, is one of the dim old forest, that seemeth best of all," but to me the memories of the old cheese factory and the family there that grew up together, worked together, played together, dreamed dreams together "seemeth best of all." I remember, too, the wonderfully kind neighbors and the little white Methodist Church where we all went to Sunday School and church together.