



Friends of the Meaford Library



AMONG FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

- *It Has Been a Good Year*
- *2019 Plant Sale*
- *The New Library Fundraising Campaign*
- *Sunday Concert Series 2019*
- *News at the Net Shed*
- *Changes to the Interlibrary Loan*
- *Harry Potter Day 2019*

It Has Been A Good Year

The Friends of the Meaford Library (FOML) has had a good 2019 year. This is in addition to the successes realized by the Meaford Public Library Fundraising Committee. The Net Shed and the Summer Sunday Concert Series continue to receive the



Photo courtesy of Bob Buckton

support of our community. We are thankful for all the contributions made, both financial and in volunteer time, from Friends members and the community.

During 2019 the Friends of the Meaford Library was able to live up to its commitment to the Library Building Fund. The FOML was able to give a cheque to the Library for more than \$80,000 toward the new Library Building. It is because of our patrons continued support over the years that the Friends have been able to provide these funds. Many thanks to all.

Major activities have ended for the season but we are planning ahead for the 2020 season. This will be the year that the new library is scheduled to be completed. The Friends look forward to supporting the Meaford Public Library in its new location.

2019 Plant Sale



The Friends, in conjunction with the Meaford Public Library Fundraising Committee, had a very successful plant sale this year.

Sincerest thanks to Linda Squires for all her work in organizing, collecting and

nursing the plants for the sale.

This was held on Friday August 30 at the Meaford Farmer's Market and on August 31 at the Net Shed.

The sale was popular and well attended. On Friday October 4 a bulb sale was also held at the



Meaford Farmer's Market.

The weather cooperated and a good time was had. All in all the plant sale raised nearly \$2400!

This is a great addition to the funds that are put aside to build our new library.



The New Library Fundraising Campaign

The Numbers So Far

The Fundraising Campaign has been progressing steadily since we last reported in the Spring of this year. The Campaign recently passed its \$525,000 threshold on the way to the target of \$750,000 to support the



building of the new Meaford Public Library.

A number of events and activities have taken place in aid of the fundraising campaign.

The Rotary Club hosted another Trivia Night on Friday October 18. The FOML fielded two teams



FOML Trivia Winners "The Bookworms"

Continued on Page 3

Sunday Concert Series 2019

Thanks to supporters of the Library and the Friends of the Meaford Library, the FOML had a successful year.



Our opening in June was greeted by some great weather—a good kick-off to the season. Proceeds from the Concert Series increased by over 30% from last year, raising more than \$4000.

With the concert by Wayne Fennell on Sunday the 1st of September, the Friends of the Meaford Library Sunday Evening Concerts came to a close for this very successful year.

Special thanks go to all those performers who so generously donated their time and talents to make these evenings a great success. In particular, special thanks go to those who have supported the Friends with their time and talents over many years. This year we had a return show by Wayne Fennell and a surprise addition to the series with Amanda Dorey.

And again, we also have to remember that the people who actually make the evenings a success are those who come to enjoy the entertainment and dig so

deeply into their pockets to support the Library. Their gifts go a long way towards allowing the Library to have materials and run programs which ordinarily would not be possible.

And this year, all proceeds will as promised go towards setting up equipment and programs in the new library.

Planning has begun for the 2020 season. Watch for it in the spring at:

www.friendsofmeafordlibrary.ca

News At The Net Shed

During this past summer of 2019 the Net Shed saw the usual keen support of its invaluable volunteer staff members. Our staff regularly fielded book donations of several boxes at a time and always sorted and shelved them in a timely manner, keeping the shop tidy and appealing for our customers.

Over the course of the season we can keep about 30% of what's donated to us, the rest being unsuitable for the Shed, usually because of condition or age. We have, at any given time, about 10,000 books on our shelves.

Since last spring, the Net Shed has had its own Facebook page, with regular posts, some original, some being shares from Meaford Public Library. The latter posts help our FB page keep up a presence during the winter.

An off-season way to support the Net Shed and fund-raising for the new library is to shop our earrings at This N That vintage shop, 25 Sykes St. N, in Meaford, across the corner from the library itself. One of the Friends of the Library volunteers makes earrings with

book (and other) themes for us. All the proceeds go to the library.



Changes to the Interlibrary Loan System

In April 2019, the provincial government cut the operating budget of the Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS) by 51%. SOLS maintains the provincial interlibrary loan book service, and, due to these cuts, had to disband the courier system which transported books from library to library throughout southern Ontario. It was a blow to a very efficient system that SOLS had created and maintained over 20 years. As a result, interlibrary loan books are now moved throughout the province via Canada Post at a cost now paid for by each library. The Meaford Public Library had not budgeted this

extra expense for 2019. We want to take this opportunity to thank the Friends of the Meaford Library for stepping in and sponsoring the extra postage expenses incurred since the resumption of the interlibrary loan service on July 2, 2019. The Meaford Public Library patrons and staff thank you!

Submitted by Lynne Fascinato – Acting CEO, Meaford Public Library



The Numbers So Far (cont'd from P.1)

and the "Book Worms" won first prize at the event. The proceeds of the win were donated back to the library capital campaign.

Again this year, the Campaign hosted a Harry Potter day. More on this below.

Recently a *Marvel Trivia Night* was held at the Community Centre.

During December the Committee is joining the United Church's *Raise the Roof Campaign* to host a reading of *A Christmas Carol*. This is taking place Friday December 6 2019 at the Meaford United Church. Tickets are \$10 and available at the library.

The Committee is also selling *Meaford: Then and Now* calendars to support the building campaign. Thanks to Laura Sparling for compiling photos of past Meaford scenes and incorporating them into modern day photos to create this calendar. The 2020 calendars can be purchased at the Library for \$20. They will also be available at the Meaford Christmas Market at the Meaford & St. Vincent Community Centre Nov. 30, Dec.7 and Dec. 14.

The Committee has sent a year end mail-out to homes in Meaford reminding residents that they can take advantage of year-end giving and receive a charitable tax receipt. Watch for this in the mail.



The way we were ...



Harry Potter Day 2019

The Fundraising Committee hosted the Harry Potter Day event again this year on Saturday September 14 and it was a great success. Long before the library doors opened at 10 am many hands worked together to transform the Library into a magical world for witches and wizards.



Starting off downstairs with Wand making, Dueling and a Patronus wheel you



followed the spiders up through the library being engaged at every turn.

Young witches and wizards could purchase a sweet from Honeydukes Sweet Shop and take their photo at Hogwarts.

On the top floor we had the Owlery and the ever-popular Potions class where young Potter fans used creativity to concoct amazing potions of their own. There was a steady flow of youngsters throughout the day walking about with smiles of pure joy on their faces.

This year the magic didn't stop at the front doors of the library, there were 4



Care of Magical Creatures sold out shows at Meaford Hall and a Scavenger Hunt for fantastic beasts that took folks into a variety of stores and restaurants looking for such creatures as a dragon or a Niffler.

Looking out at the downtown core it wasn't uncommon to see a witch or wizard walking past as they hurried along on their way to see the show, or find the next item on the scavenger hunt.



The feedback from the day was nothing short of fantastic, even the volunteers are keen to be a part of the magic next year. The event raised \$2000.

