



Issue Twelve

The Bloomin' News



July 2012



Getting to Know Eileen

A very special day for me June 27th.

I will reminisce as brief as possible to another time and as it now appears another place in history. If you wish? I take you back now to World War Two.

1944, the enemy we were fighting was twenty miles from our shore and we were preparing to defend our land and push back the invading forces.

Everyone was doing their part in this war effort. I chose to join the Royal Air Force. I was assigned to the nursing division.

We were given six months intensive training in surgical procedures, the wounded!! And sent to a military hospital one usually adjoining an airfield. The stark reality of suffering and dying was my daily fare. To help us when we were off duty the aircraft hangers were cleared out every Wednesday and a band was brought in for all airmen and airwomen to dance.

Dancing was the usual form of entertainment and relaxation during that period in history. All the famous dance bands were recruited to fill this gap in keeping the morale high. In 1944 at one such event most of the airmen present were from Canada. These men with a strange accent were waiting shipment to the front line which now was on the offensive pushing back the former invaders. Huge military lorries were sent in to the city to bring girls in to a free dance with refreshments, a treat for all of us on war time rations. We the airwomen were in uniform at all times in dress and decorum. We couldn't possibly swing and jive like some city girls in pretty frocks could!! But we enjoyed the dancing and social. On this particular night a Canadian repeatedly found me amongst the thousand who were there to ask me to dance-----He said his name was Jimmie!!

It was a very magical night because we both fell head over heels in love and danced the night away. I remember it in detail still.

The ensuing courtship is another story in my book of memories full of events as my new found love flew to Lille France to join up with the Canadian Artillery who were reclaiming land and people lost for five years.

After my Canadian who called himself "Jimmie" asked my Father permission to marry his daughter and I found out his name was ERNEST which he disliked, we received duplicate copies in writing for our respective commanding officers that we were married in my city Wakefield Yorkshire on this day June 27th 1945.



Missing: My yellow mop is still missing! It really does help me to keep the front entrance steps, tidy. Any one, please leave it in the Strata office. No questions asked.

Wanted: a charger (three volt, three amp), for a Remington electric hair clipper - NOT an electric razor.

Wanted: a violin case for a 3/4 size violin.
submitted by David

The 4Rs Quiz

1 - Glass takes how many years to decompose?

a) one million b) one thousand c) never

2 - The first recycling program was in

a) San Francisco in 1960 b) New York City in 1890 c) Amsterdam in 1948

3 - One recycled can saves enough electricity to operate a TV for how many hours?

a) one b) five c) three

4 - Tin cans were introduced in the early 1960s. One thousand cans weighed 55 pounds.

Through new design the same number of cans now weigh how many pounds?

a) 20 b) 35 c) 40

5 - Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100 watt light bulb for how many hours?

a) four b) one c) ten

submitted by Gloria
answers at bottom of page

Name the Guest Rooms Contest

I would like to invite people to submit names for the north and south guest rooms with the winners of the best voted names getting a free stay in the room with breakfast served to them/ or person of their choice, in the am...I will collaborate with Chef Myklove on brekky ideas for the lucky one[s]...and I/we will prepare!!! I will put up the sheets to submit your entries, on the Strata office window, just like the naming of our 'Bloomin' News' newsletter...

submitted by Roz

Answers to 4Rs Quiz

1 - a; 2 - b; 3 - c; 4 - b; 5 - a.

Community Circle



The Collaborative Living Committee will be hosting the next Community Circle on **July 24th** from 7:00 until 8:15 pm in the dining room.

Within the circle there are four intentions that hold the space together, which when observed, create safety and allow truth and trust to build in this very simple and powerful practice.

'LISTENING FROM THE HEART'

Attentive listening, 'witnessing'. Seeking understanding and accepting others as they are, staying present and centred and when we give full attention, helps another to reach their truth more easily. Beyond ourselves and the other, is the soul of the circle. This is heard from the heart.

'SPEAKING FROM THE HEART'

Speaking our personal story, using "I" statements. Favouring feelings and making as transparent as possible our process. Speaking from the heart doesn't necessarily mean using words – sound, movement, spontaneous expressions from the heart in all forms that are responsibly made are welcome. Even silence itself speaks. Speak what will serve yourself, the circle, the highest good.

'SUCCINCTNESS'

Being of lean expression, helps us to attend to what is important, recognise that our truth need not have to be re-inforced by repetition, since we are being heard, and as there are often many in a circle, allows time for all to share.

'SPONTANEITY'

Surprise yourself by not planning on what or rather how you will speak. Focusing on your own story while others have the talking piece will reduce capacity to 'listen' when they speak. The heart does not plan. Spontaneity encourages playfulness, realness and the "voice" of the moment to be free.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Essential for sake of trust and respect, Confidentiality is the fifth intention held outside of circle times. What is said within the circle, stays within the circle.

Overheard at Soma and Luigi's magic show:

Q. What did the mother bee say to the baby bee?

A. Behave.

Entrance Spruce Up

Every month, people move in and out of this great building of ours. Walls are bumped and cause paint chips.

Some of us would like to spruce up our entrance with vibrant creative energy.

If you have anything, the smallest, littlest something to offer toward this process, feel free to leave a note with Mia.

P.S. Remember! In the Russian folktale "The Enormous Turnip" it was the teeny, tiny tug from the baby that helped pull out the giant turnip so that everyone could eat and have happiness.

Moral of the story; no suggestion is too small.

submitted by Mia

Cards Anyone?

I would like to play Pinochle on a regular basis.

Are you interested in playing?

If you have a love of cards and would like to learn (or you already know how)

Contact Gloria 591-6482



These two visitors enjoyed Nina's birthday party and our organic gardens. In case anyone is wondering, they left behind a voluntary donation!

NVC Practise?

Is anyone interested in forming NVC practise group? I am willing to coordinate a meeting to view the 1st DVD in our NVC workshop series if there is interest.

submitted by Sharon

CCS Team Update

Apologies from the Community Contribution System Team. We are working on getting an up to date tasks list up on the Strata office window as soon as we can. Your patience is appreciated while we work out some kinks in our operations.

Many thanks to those of you who are providing your expected hour a week of community service. The homey cleaning crew is short staffed at the moment so there are lots of cleaning tasks indoors this month. The warmer weather brings with it plenty of outdoor tasks like cutting grass, weeding and sweeping patios and sidewalks.

Special thanks this month to Kendrick, for taking on digging holes with gusto, to Chad for expanding our watering system, to Kaj for building the lovely garden shed, to Mia and Gloria for keeping the recycling room in great shape, and to Richard for all the weeding!

The CCS team is looking for new members. Do you enjoy organising, motivating others or are passionate about working together in community? Consider joining the CCS team. If you have questions about the CCS or your place in it, contact Matt B., Bill, Doris or Sharon.

submitted by Sharon

Group Covenants

The need for behavioral guidelines has been expressed a number of times during the past couple of years. A group covenant is somewhat stronger than guidelines. It is essentially a mutual promise to interact in certain ways with each other, while recognizing that human beings aren't perfect. This could apply to our communication (including e-mail protocol and respectful conversations), behaviour in meetings, interaction with other people's children, and treatment of each other's as well as common property. While the word "covenant" has religious overtones, and group covenants are used in religious organizations, it has application in non-religious contexts. A group covenant can be as simple or as complicated as the participants want. One approach to creating a covenant is to ask participants what they need from others, what they offer, and resolving the differences through discussion.

An example of a group covenant is at: <http://www.uuca.org/us/our-history/our-covenant-together>.

submitted by Bill

Quiet Time

A caring, inclusive community considers the needs of others and avoid actions that will disturb our residents and guests. Note that our quiet time is from 10:00 pm to 7:00 am. People having conversations in the common areas should keep their voices down or move them into a private unit. Please avoid loud noises caused by slamming doors, music, or movies and keep noisy activities to a minimum after 10 pm on balconies, in common rooms, entrances, exits, and the parking-lot.