



GORGE TILLICUM

*Neighbourhood* NEWS**Born, Raised, Lived, Worked, and Retired.  
All in the Gorge Tillicum Neighbourhood!**

*Bob Comerford has been a Canada Post letter carrier, predominantly in the Gorge area, for the last 25 years and probably knows the area more intimately than nearly anyone. Bob was born and raised on Arnot Ave. He and his wife Kathy still live in the area, where they raised their two daughters.*

“As young as five or six years old I’d be sent on errands by my mother to visit both Mr. Wheeley’s Meat Market and Bud’s Grocery Stores on Tillicum Rd.” This was in the mid- to late 1950s, and Bob would hand over a list to Mr. Wheeley or Mr. Crosby, and they would pick out the items for him from behind the counter. “My reward for an errand well-run might’ve been a five-cent Oh Henry! bar or a bag of penny candies.”

In those days, nearly everyone went to church. Bob recalls, “My family, being Catholic, attended services temporarily in the indoor-viewing area at the Tillicum Outdoor Theatre,” the old drive-in theatre. “This was while Saint Joseph the Worker Church was being built on Burnside Rd. West. I distinctly remember listening to the sermons while smelling the wonderful aroma of popcorn and looking at the posters of movie stars.”

Bob recalls life along the Gorge Waterway with fondness. “I remember learning to swim at Kinsmen (Esquimalt Gorge) Park and our family outings to Rockwell Beach to swim off the wharf. And in the spring, fishing for herring was always a great adventure!” Equipped with long bamboo poles, herring-jigs and pails, Bob and his young friends would join the ‘old timers’ on the wharf beside the Gorge Bridge below the rapids. “Herring were very plentiful, and we were excited to take our catch home to be cooked for dinner by our mothers. The unmistakable aroma of fried herring would remain in the house for many days!”



Image Courtesy  
Bob Comerford  
1980

Later on as a young teen, Bob built himself a speedboat and purchased a 25-horsepower motor for \$50 — paid for by picking strawberries at Saanich farms. “I would roar up and down the Gorge, each trip made more thrilling by defying the six-mph speed limit!” Bob and his friends would often water ski off Curtis Point. What a sight that would be these days!

Much of Bob’s youth was spent biking freely around the neighbourhood. “A world of adventure awaited our group of boys biking along the Gorge Waterway and taking trips to the woods at the Tillicum Outdoor Theatre,” now Cuthbert Holmes Park. “A regular stop was getting air in our tires down at Baran’s Station, at the

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## Calling our neighborhood youth!

We want to hear your perspective on our community.

If you are you are interested in submitting some original content, please contact Christine Fedoruk at [christine.fedoruk@gmail.com](mailto:christine.fedoruk@gmail.com)



### Neighbourhood News

We welcome comments—please let us know what you think of your newsletter!

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#### Unsolicited Articles Welcome.

The deadline for submissions & advertising for the next issue is April 30, 2014

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#### Distribution:

All 4,000 copies of this newsletter are delivered by volunteers, and we could always use more help. Please contact Ray Farmer 382-1122.

Additional articles posted online at:  
[www.gorgetillicum.ca](http://www.gorgetillicum.ca)

Newsletter delivery help needed on Portage Rd.  
Contact Ray Farmer

# GTCA Annual General Meeting

*Date: Thursday, April 10th, 7 p.m.*

*Location: Pearkes Recreation Centre*

*Theme: "Heritage in the 'hood"*

Please plan to attend the AGM, where we will be electing a new board and executive for 2014/15. We welcome anyone interested in serving on the new board to contact our president, Rob Wickson, for further information ([wickson@telus.net](mailto:wickson@telus.net)). A reminder that only members in good standing are able to vote at the AGM, so renew now, or at the meeting.

The theme for this year's meeting is "Heritage in the 'hood." There has been a surge of interest, via our Facebook site, in old photos of the neighbourhood, researched by our vice president, Scott Karpes; we'd like to build on this interest with updates on some recent developments, plus presentation and discussion about planning for the future. Please come along, and join the conversation.



2013 Annual General Meeting

## Gorge Tillicum Community Association [www.gorgetillicum.ca](http://www.gorgetillicum.ca)



### GTCA Board of Directors 2013/14

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The Gorge Tillicum Community Association is a non-profit organization that advocates for the Gorge Tillicum community. The Board meets at 7pm the first Thursday of each month from September to June at Pearkes Recreation Centre. You are welcome to attend. Please email us at least one week prior to the board meeting for any additions to the agenda.

# *a word from the* **president**

The drive to communicate with our members and neighbours has been and will continue to be our primary objective. From the very beginning we have understood the need to find ways to inform and listen to you. We needed to be the piece that connects all the elements that make up a community. That is why we created this newsletter and printed enough copies to be hand delivered to every household and business in the neighbourhood. But that was just the beginning.

From the Canada Day Picnic to neighbourhood-planning charettes, we have continued to seek ways to engage our community in discussions about where we live and how we can embrace change in a way that provides benefits to everyone.

*To learn at every opportunity about who we are, to better understand where we are going and the choices we have: this very basic premise is the foundation of the GTCA. We can see this reflected in the participation of not only a great board of directors but our members, who ask the questions that push for action.*

This brings me to a form of communication which begins as a personal email message through our [info@gorgetillicum.ca](mailto:info@gorgetillicum.ca) address and becomes part of a greater message to all of us. For example, we have received many emails asking questions about traffic, traffic by-laws, land use rules around traffic, and car storage. We receive emails about how to solve traffic issues, especially during the past year or so. At this point it is important to note that while we are often unable to answer every email we get, we do take your message to appropriate board members or committees, and these emails help us to raise and discuss issues that concern all of us.

This is but one example of how technology has opened up the options for building our community. Our website, Facebook, Twitter, the next innovation around the corner: all are valuable tools, and we are privileged to have members of our team that contribute significant efforts to managing all of our communications.

Even with all these options, I still think the best communication is one on one. Some of the conversations I enjoy the most come when I am meeting folks from the hood. At our membership drive in February I spoke to neighbours who have yet to understand what we do on behalf of the community and are looking for ways to get involved. I had opportunities to reconnect with old friends who continue to offer support.

Our recent neighbourhood initiatives, such as the Gorge Park Community Garden, will lead to further conversations that I am looking forward to. And of course, our annual general meeting on April 10, 2014, is one of the premier opportunities to meet your board directors and help us take the temperature of the community. This is an exciting time in an exciting neighborhood, and I am proud to be part of it.

**Rob Wickson, President**

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# Celebrating Local Arts

Our neighbourhood's landscapes and growing potential inspire local artists. Here we share a collection of thoughts and images reflecting the potential of our community to bring arts, gardens and people together — beautifully.

## *Our Gardens on the Gorge*

Oh, the wonderful things a garden can do,  
It inspires your thoughts and your energy too.  
You take up your plot with your neighbours all there  
Knowing later on, there'll be plenty to share.

Oh, the joy of putting a seed in the ground  
Then seeing it sprout and a miracle's found.  
Both children, parents and grandparents too  
Will rush to the garden to see what's new.

While classes, projects and workshops abound  
Even people will visit from out-of-town.  
As word gets around, as it surely will  
More people will come, to sow and to till.

It's exercise, it's healthy, it's organically sound,  
Your ideas and mine, will put feet on the ground.  
So bring your tea cups, your band and your art,  
We're meeting today in "Our Community Park".

The disabled will come with wheelchairs or canes,  
In a welcoming garden, there's much to be gained.  
So to wide open spaces, we say adieu,  
Should we share one plot next year? or maybe two?

The community is for it, some can hardly wait  
To see "Gorge Park Community Gardens" above the gate.  
Let's start this spring, while the weather is clear  
Then we'll garden together, throughout the year!

--Eileen Wiedeman

## *Vegetable Kingdom*

Alas for the vegetable kingdom,  
the root and branch who fall  
to your appetites: the grey  
mushroom cowering in its stall;  
the leaf turning on a stem  
in its last green afternoon;  
the carrot in its soft earth burrow, thinly  
rooted to this place; or the moons  
of squash, harbouring their future,  
so many white rows, tender  
within their bodies. Pity the corn,  
whose summer husk and silk surrender  
sunny teeth; or broad beans  
in their cushioned pods, so pale  
and smooth with tiny chins,  
and wistful smiles; the kale  
in all its toughened frills. Understand  
the artichoke's sharp defences; heed  
the fierce seclusion of the cauliflower, veiling  
its lobes and fissures. The potato may not bleed  
when forked from its mound, but it mourns  
its nubbled young, the pearl-like  
orphans clinging to its threads. Harvest is a cruel  
time; so much is wrenched from hiding;  
so much is severed from its heart.  
When you tear these living, breathing things  
from earth, red carnage has its counterpart.

-- Rhona McAdam,  
from *Cartography* (Oolichan, 2006)

<b>WALK-IN+</b>	<b>EXTENDED HOURS</b>	
 <b>BURNSIDE FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC</b>	Mon. to Fri. <b>7:30am to 9:00pm</b> Sat., Sun. & Hol. <b>9:00am to 6:00pm</b> 101 Burnside Rd. West (between Tillicum and Harriet)	
<b>NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED</b>	<a href="http://www.burnsideclinic.ca">www.burnsideclinic.ca</a>	<b>ALSO ON-SITE: X-RAY • LAB • PHARMACY • PHYSIO</b>

## Imagining the Garden

A community garden proposed for Gorge Park!  
I imagine the sweeping curves of fence  
and berry patches at the top of the hill,  
an ornamental gate, and, stepping down  
the gentle slope, beds for the food bank,  
for children, for seniors, for individuals,  
co-existing in fruitful heterogeneity,  
while six plane trees watch from the side.  
I imagine what these six old trees have seen:  
farm land, cottages, an auto court,  
pleasure seekers trooping down to a bath-house.  
And back before these trees took root,  
aboriginal people harvested duck, herring,  
clams, oysters from the shores of the Gorge,  
such rich food that Haylas the Transformer  
froze the girl Camossung and her grandfather  
into stone to guard these food supplies forever.

But there is no forever. This Gorge, this gift,  
this long ribbon of sea water reaching  
far into the land with powerful tidal flows  
reminds us that life too spools out  
as a long ribbon of appearance and disappearance.  
Tribes no longer gather their food here;  
the bath-houses and diving towers have gone;  
the Gorge has been polluted and cleaned again.

So much change. Yet something stays.  
There is a statue of Camossung close to here,  
and I imagine her spirit as close too, imagine  
her passion to enjoy the fruits of water  
and earth still burning, preserved in stone,  
imagine her blessing this garden as it arises,  
bed by bed, path by path, bush by bush, alongside  
this stretch of water flowing forever in her heart.

--Chris Bullock

## "Camossung" by Fred Dobbs

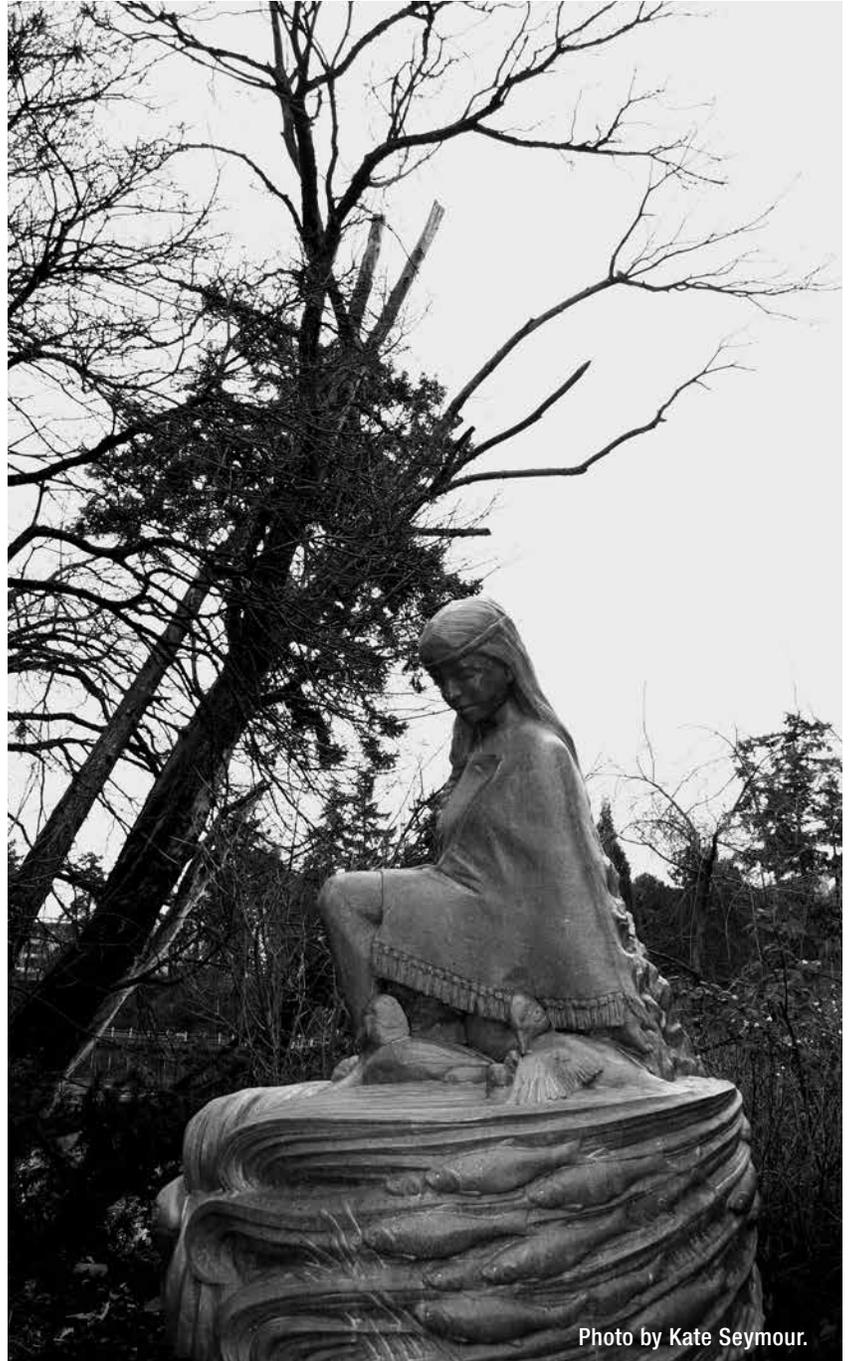


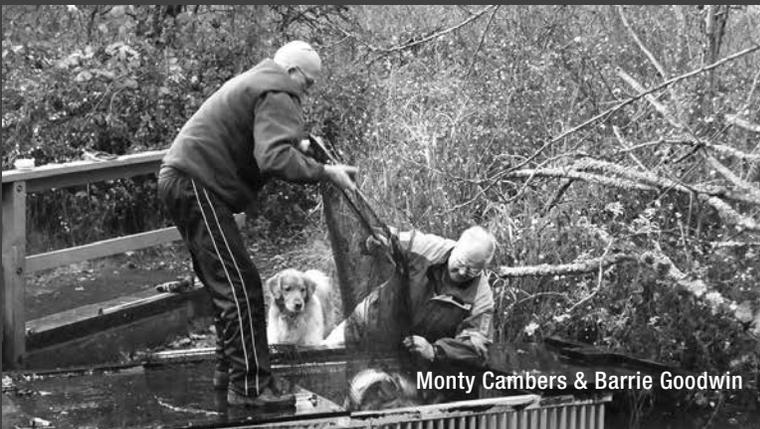
Photo by Kate Seymour.

Eileen Wiedeman is in love with the magical process by which plants spring from the earth. She lives in the Cedar Shores complex on Gorge Road. Chris Bullock, famous for his local artist articles, also lives in Cedar Shores. Rhona McAdam is the author of a number of books, including *Digging the City: An Urban Agriculture Manifesto*, and *Ex-ville*, a volume of poetry forthcoming next October from Oolichan Books.

# Colquitz River Fish Fence in Review



**1,404** Fish in Total



**450**  
Best Single-Day Count



**1820+** Visitors

**350+**  
Volunteer  
Hours



The GTCA would like to acknowledge the following volunteers who make this program possible:

Chris Bos  
Barrie Goodwin  
Dorothy Chambers  
Monty Chambers  
Sara Stallard  
John Vu

# The Green Space

## “What’s Different about Gorge Park Community Gardens?”

Gorge Park Community Gardens (GPCG) is about more than growing food. It’s also about being a community resource — a place the community can gather in, be involved in, and help develop.

The model that’s been developed — based on research and hard work — is one in which Garden members, rather than allotment renters, form the backbone of the Community Garden.

In this model:

- Membership will be open to anyone 15 years of age or older living in Saanich or in other municipalities. Groups, businesses or organizations could also become members.
- Eight members will be elected by the full GPCG membership to fill various leadership roles. Two will be appointed by the Gorge Tillicum Community Association (GTCA).
- Members will be responsible for the overall well-being of the garden — making, reviewing and implementing policies and practices, and shaping the Garden’s future.
- Members will be able to apply for an allotment plot for personal use on a “first come, first served” basis. Applicants won’t have to be GPCG members to be on the allotment waiting list but will become members when they are allocated a plot.
- Members — in one way or another, based on their abilities, interests and circumstances — will be responsible for maintaining all the common areas of the garden and for deciding how they’ll be used — growing food for donation, workshops, art, etc.
- Some members may support the Garden in ways other than through gardening — through their membership fees and ideas; by planning workshops or cultural events; by helping with fundraising or communication; or through some other activity, small or large, ongoing or occasional.
- Members will pay an annual membership fee — with, if funds are available, financial assistance where needed.

The benefits of membership will be both personal and shared. Besides getting access to space to grow food and flowers, members will be able to meet people from all parts of the community; share information, skills, seeds, plants and food in various ways; promote responsible environmental, recreational, educational and cultural use of the Garden and the park; and, in general, contribute to the strengthening of our communities.

Membership policies and practices will be guided by agreements between the District of Saanich and the GTCA (the registered society accountable to Saanich for the Garden) and between the GTCA and Garden members.

If you want more information, or you want to be added to the interim Member and/or Allotment Lists, please contact Gabe Epstein at [belle.leon1@gmail.com](mailto:belle.leon1@gmail.com) or 250-382-1328.

Also, please visit the GTCA website at <http://www.gorgetillicum.ca/site/index.php/community-initiatives> and read the Who We Are informational document.

--Gabe Epstein

# Born, Raised, Lived, Worked, and Retired. All in the Gorge Tillicum Neighbourhood!

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



Image courtesy of Saanich Archives

Baran's Garage, 'Tillicum Service', 1967, now the site of Chevron Gas.

corner of Gorge and Tillicum," where Chevron now is.

Bob remembers the proprietors, brothers Walter and Alec Baran, as a real "Mutt and Jeff" team. "Walter was a tall fellow with a booming voice that could be heard a block away. He did most of the talking, while Alec, the shorter of the two, did most of the work. Walter would address me as 'Kelly's boy', as my father's name was Kelly."

The air hose was on the left-hand side of the garage, and Bob and his friends always felt welcome there. Alec would often repair something on their bikes if the kids needed it. Bob also recalled Baran's as the place to find out what was happening around the neighbourhood. "In those days the pumps worked a lot slower, and you were expected to talk it up with the attendant."

In 1967, when Bob turned 17, he acquired his driver's license. "It was big step to pull up to Baran's in my parents' '57 Plymouth to purchase some gas. In

those days gas used to run in the 38- to 50-cents-a-gallon range, so a dollar might've given me a quarter tank!"

Later on, Bob got a job with Canada Post, got married and wanted to raise a family of his own on the Gorge. "Housing was relatively affordable, and I could see the many advantages of living in the area. My roots in the area were strong."

When I ask Bob of if he has any special memories of working in the Gorge area, I prompt him with a question about the blizzard of '96. "The year of the big snow in '96, the post office was shut down. I do remember how beautiful it was walking with everyone on a path in the middle of Gorge Rd. to go to Fairways to buy groceries. Not a sound of a motor vehicle anywhere."

Bob reflects: "Sometimes, being a letter carrier involves more than just delivering mail. As a Postman you are looked at as a person of trust. I have never been in a rush to finish my route and have always allowed time to talk

with customers or people on the street.

*"People in the community like to see and chat with the mail carrier. I regret that this time is now passing and the neighbourhoods will be the poorer for it."*

After 40 years of work, Bob is set to retire at the end of March. "I think the most special times are when children look at you with a big smile, point and say, 'Is that the Mailman?' It has been a great career for me." If you happen to see Bob out there in his last days on the job, please take a moment to congratulate him.

**--Scott Karpes**

# Craigflower Bridge Progress

Have you noticed? The replacement Craigflower Bridge is getting closer to completion. If you are part of the construction crew, you can actually walk across to the other side. In February the concrete deck was being poured, and you can now see how the approaches are going to connect. The design work on the Craigflower-school side is becoming clear, with trees being planted and the intersection now painted.

Saanich engineering staff has told us they are hoping to have the bridge open to traffic in late May this year, with final completion set for mid-June.

We continue to be involved in discussions about the landscaping around the bridge approaches as well as art to enhance the bridge itself and to recognize the rich heritage and history of the area. Stay tuned.



Newly installed streetscaping on the approach to the Craigflower Bridge

## VICTORIA CARSHARE

### Could Car-Sharing be Around the Corner (Literally)?

Do you want to save money, protect the environment, build a stronger community, and enhance your personal mobility? If you do, you might want to join the Victoria Car Share Co-op.

Membership in the Car Share offers a number of benefits:

- You get access to a large fleet of different kinds of vehicles, so you can drive one of those cute Fiats one day and use the pickup truck for hauling furniture the next.
- Rather than paying for large “sunk costs” like insurance and registration, only to leave your car parked most of the day, with car sharing you only pay for the cars when you're using them. This can reduce your costs by thousands of dollars a year.
- By encouraging you to use more sustainable transportation options more of the time, while allowing you to use a car when you really need to, car sharing can help reduce your greenhouse gas emissions.
- Because members spend more time walking in our neighbourhood and cooperating to provide public goods, car sharing can help enhance our community well-being.

Since car sharing also tends to benefit other drivers by reducing congestion, it's in everyone's interest to have a co-op car in the neighbourhood. Getting a car in the neighbourhood, preferably in a central location near Pearkes Arena, is a goal supported by the GTCA Board. It would also help support the Sustainable Saanich Official Community Plan (<http://bit.ly/1eu5ACB>), which includes encouragement for Co-op cars.

Because each car has to be self-supporting through members' use fees, there has to be a sufficient density of members in a neighbourhood before the Co-op will consider placing a car here. Unfortunately, there aren't enough members of the Co-op living in Gorge-Tillicum for them to justify placing a car here. It's the old “chicken-and-the-egg” problem – without enough members, there will be no Co-op car in the neighbourhood; without a Co-op car in the neighbourhood, there are fewer people who are willing to join the Co-op.

There are a couple of ways you can help:

If you're interested in joining the Co-op, you can find out how to do so at [VictoriaCarShare.ca](http://VictoriaCarShare.ca). There are a number of low-cost membership options that you might qualify for.

If you're not ready to join right away, but think that having a car in the neighbourhood would benefit the community or make it easier for you to join later, you can fill in the Car Request Form at <http://bit.ly/1gXcLW>. That will let the Co-op know that there are people interested in having a car nearby.

--Vincent Gornall

# New Chair for Gorge Canada Day Picnic

After 15 years as the chair of the Gorge Canada Day Picnic Committee, Harry Lewis has passed the reins to the new chair, Chris Kask. Harry has been part of a small group of dedicated volunteers who have brought this massively successful event to our neighbourhood year after successful year. While certainly it has taken a lot of work by many people who have also been volunteering for 15 years, make no mistake that Harry has been the glue and the impetus each and every year. He is staying on the Committee and will be a key player this year as ever.

Chris was elected to the GTCA Board as Treasurer in March 2010 and so began helping with the Picnic that summer, taking over cash and finance duties for the Picnic. The following year, he also took over and formalized the organization of Picnic food vendors. After four years on the Picnic Committee, he has now agreed to, perhaps naively, relieve Harry.

The happy faces and huge turnout each year stand as testimonial to Harry's efforts. Thank you so much, Harry, for being such an important piece of our social fabric! The 16th annual Gorge Canada Day Picnic returns this year on, of course, Tuesday, July 1st. See you there!

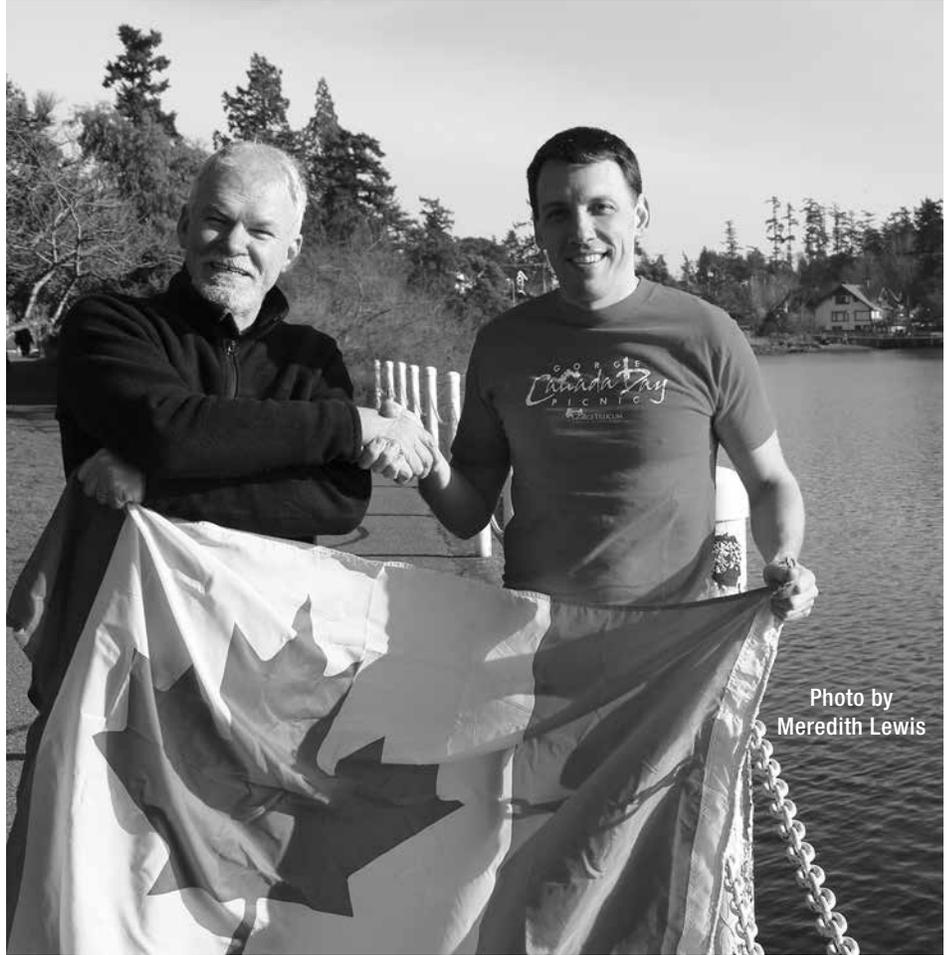


Photo by  
Meredith Lewis

Harry Lewis & Chris Kask

**For information about Canada Day check out  
[www.gorgecanadaday.ca](http://www.gorgecanadaday.ca)**

## Events Springing Up at Saanich Centennial Library

Saanich Centennial Library is gearing up for lots of great spring events. In partnership with LifeCycles, the library will be launching a seed bank in March. Have you seen the art installations from the Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria? Fabulous! We are also pleased to host the Island Illustrators in April. Programs? Story times run four mornings a week, in addition to special programs for kids. Got a craft on the go? Bring it and join fellow crafters the last Thursday night of every month at the drop-in Craft Circle. There is lots more going on at [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) and on our Facebook page. Check us out – and get more details on these events on the next page of this newsletter.

--Olivia Anderson

+NDP

### Supporting safe, sustainable communities

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[Randall.Garrison@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Randall.Garrison@parl.gc.ca)  
[www.RandallGarrison.ndp.ca](http://www.RandallGarrison.ndp.ca)

# Upcoming Events

**Gentle Walk & Talk – Colquitz Park to Hyacinth:** Thursday, March 20, 9:30 am – 11:00 am. Meet at the Colquitz Creek Park sign near Silver City Theatre at Tillicum Mall. Suitable for all walking abilities. No fee or registration required. For details call 250-475-5408.

**Gorge Tillicum Urban Farmers Meeting – Soil, Amendments, etc.:** Sunday, March 23, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**Craft Circle:** Thursday, March 27, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. Would you like to meet new people and have a chance to work on your own craft projects? All craft forms are welcome! Bring your project, and join us for a monthly craft circle in the library. No registration required.

**Gorge Tillicum Urban Farmers Meeting – Speaker: Linda Gilkeson plus Potluck:** Sunday, April 13, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**Gorge Tillicum Community Association AGM:** Thursday, April 10, 2014, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**Craft Circle:** Thursday, April 24, 7:00 – 8:30 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. See details above.

**Annual Earth Day Gorge Park Clean-Up:** Saturday, April 26, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Gorge Park East, across from the Fairway Market on Gorge Road. Free coffee and refreshments.

**Mobile Skate Jam:** Thursday, May 1, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre. Check out our Fresh Park mobile skate park, as we celebrate Youth Week 2014! Free. More info at [www.teen.saanich.ca](http://www.teen.saanich.ca) or at 250-475-5427.

**Jane's Walk:** Early May. Check the GTCA website for details.

**How to Save Seed: How to Know:** Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. Learn about the biology and genetics of seed production, including different methods of pollination, and hear about LifeCycles' and GVPL's new seed library. Register online at [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) or at 250-477-9030.

**Preschoolers in the Park – Meadow Park:** Friday, May 9, 10:00 am – 11:30 am. No fee or registration required.

**Seed Library Member Orientation:** Saturday, May 10, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. Community members will receive an introduction on how to check out and return seeds, as well as an opportunity to connect with other seed savers and share resources, tips and techniques for backyard growing. Register online at [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) or at 250-477-9030.

**Royal BC Museum Science and Nature Storytime:** Wednesday, May 14, 10:30 am – 11:15 am at Saanich Centennial Branch. Visit the library for a special storytime with Chris from the Royal BC Museum. For ages 3-5. Register online at [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) or at 250-477-9030.

**Gorge Tillicum Urban Farmers Meeting – Spring Bedding Plant Swap and What to Do in the Garden:** Thursday, May 22, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**Vancouver Island Pet Expo:** Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25, Pearkes Recreation Centre. The fun-filled family event will feature pet-related vendors along with interesting and unique entertainment. More info at [www.vancouverislandpet-expo.com](http://www.vancouverislandpet-expo.com)

**Bike to Work Week 2014:** Monday, May 26 – Sunday, June 1. Get on your bike and celebrate cycling and the health, wellness and fun benefits that go along with it. Check out [www.biketo-workvictoria.ca](http://www.biketo-workvictoria.ca) for a detailed schedule of fun and free events to be held throughout Greater Victoria and for information on how to register a Bike to Work Week team.

**Craft Circle:** Thursday, May 29, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. Would you like to meet new people and have a chance to work on your own craft projects? All craft forms are welcome! Bring your project, and join us for a monthly craft circle in the library. No registration required.

**Kids Mega Sale:** Saturday, June 7, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**Gorge Tillicum Urban Farmers Meeting – "Appies and Dessert"** Pot-luck with Discussion/Questions: Thursday, June 12, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

**"Just Me and My Dad" Storytime and Craft:** Saturday, June 14, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm at Saanich Centennial Branch. For dads, stepdads, granddads or uncles and children aged newborn to 5. Bring the kids you love for a storytime in honour of Father's Day and enjoy fingerplays, puppets, stories and songs and a special craft. Register online at [www.gvpl.ca](http://www.gvpl.ca) or at 250-477-9030.

**Gentle Walk & Talk – Gorge Waterway:** Thursday, June 19, 9:30 am – 11:00 am. Meet at Gorge Waterway Park, near Canoe Club at Tillicum Road. Suitable for all walking abilities. No fee or registration required. For details call 250-475-5408.

**Preschoolers in the Park – Gorge Waterway Park:** Friday, June 20, 10:00 am – 11:30 am, at 300 Gorge Road at Tillicum. No fee or registration required.



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## Membership Application

Join us for our Annual General Meeting, 7 pm, April 10 at Pearkes Rec Centre. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, you can do so in person at the AGM. Membership is required to vote at the AGM and to run for board positions. Please help us reach our ambitious goal of 500 members this year. Thank you to all GTCA members: you have helped make our neighbourhood a better place to live.

- New Membership(s) or  
 Renewing Membership(s)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

\*EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\*This will be added to our distribution list for occasional emails regarding upcoming events or community issues.

If you are paying for other members of your household, please list the other Members' names:

\_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT:

Please enclose payment and mail to above address

Individual: \$5/each x \_\_\_\_\_ memberships = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Couples: \$10/each x \_\_\_\_\_ memberships = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Business: \$25/each x \_\_\_\_\_ memberships = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: Your extra support helps offset Newsletter and other costs. Thank-you! + \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILS:

Per GTCA By-law #3: Membership is open to any resident or property owner who is 19 years old or older living within the area defined in Article 5 of the Constitution, and persons engaged in business within the Association territory.

Per GTCA By-law #5: Membership is from January 1 to December 31 of the year. New membership shall be valid from the time of payment of membership fees to December 31 of the same year.

Per GTCA By-law #7: Membership is available in two categories:

- Single is open to individuals and carries the right to one vote at meetings.
- Corporate is open to businesses operating in the Association territory as defined in Article 5 and carries the right to one vote at meetings.



## At the Centre G.R. PEARKES RECREATION CENTRE



Tristan Piercey & Matt Irwin

### "A Community Centre"

Tristan and his family moved to the Gorge Tillicum area when he was only a year old. Shortly after, they started attending programs at Neighbourhood House, and coming to skating lessons at Pearkes Arena. Tristan has just turned 18 yrs old and is still participating in daily activities at Pearkes.

Tristan comes to all the Junior Braves hockey games and calls the coach his "boss". He is their number one FAN. He helps out with special events and is a great volunteer with the children; he is patient and helpful. He enjoys spending time at the Flipside Teen Centre and was thrilled to meet Matt Irwin, a former Braves player, who attended a Braves game at Pearkes earlier this season.

Tristan's mom supports his inclusion at Pearkes Recreation Centre because it is a safe walk from his home and gives him an opportunity to be independent and gain confidence without his mom hovering over him. His mom says, "Pearkes is not just a place, but a community...full of wonderful people who accept Tristan for who he is".

Other hobbies enjoyed by Tristan include canoeing, hiking, swimming, social club and leadership. Something not widely known about Tristan is that he calls himself a "good cooker" and can make a mean chocolate chip cookie. Thanks Tristan, for calling Pearkes your second home! If you see Tristan in our recreation centre, say hello, and expect a cheerful story of whatever is going on in the busy life of this inspiring teen.



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