

GUELPH-WELLINGTON MEN'S CLUB  
**BULLETIN**

*Opportunities for learning and fellowship through weekly meetings, social and sporting events*



**President: Jim Sanders**  
**Vice President: John Hart**  
**Treasurer: Keith Devolin**  
**Secretary: Ron Dolynchuk**

**GWMC Website:**  
[www.guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca](http://www.guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca)

**September 2020**

**Program** (September speakers arranged by Ross Knechtel )

**25 August**

**Speaker:** Ross Davidson-Pilon  
 Documentary Photographer



**“Voyages of discovery ...a brief journey with documentary photographer Ross Davidson-Pilon”**

**Anthem** John Holt  
**Thought for the day:** Paul Truex

**Introduction:** Art Cutten  
**Thanks:** Dan Waterston

**1 September**

**Speaker:** Libby Pease  
 ACC ECPC, Clairvoyant Coach



**“Gratitude – A Path to Healing”**

**Anthem** Ross Rowat  
**Thought for the day:** Tony Moran

**Introduction:** Ross Knechtel  
**Thanks:** Ivor Wright

**8 September**

**Speaker:** Robin Smart  
 Public Education Co-ordinator, Alzheimer Society  
 Waterloo Wellington



**“Dementia – The Things You Might Not Know”**

**Anthem** Ken Woodside  
**Thought for the day:** John Prescott

**Introduction:** Jim Mottin  
**Thanks:** Ralph Sykes

**15 September**

**Speaker:** Nicole Fantin  
 Art Therapist, Hospice Wellington



**“Art Therapy and the Process of Healing”**

**Anthem** Malcolm Coutts  
**Thought for the day:** Jonathon Webb

**Introduction:** Ross Knechtel  
**Thanks:** Bill Greenaway

**22 September**

**Speaker:** Debbie Bodkin  
 Speaker and Mental Health Instructor



**“Sit & Stay - Training your Mind to Be in a Good Space”**

**Anthem** Jack Findlay  
**Thought for the day:** Craig Cornell

**Introduction:** Jim Thompson  
**Thanks:** John Core

**29 September**

**Speaker:** Tim Boulton  
 Registered Psychotherapist: Grief and Loss  
 Specialist



**“Is My Guilt Truly Regrettable?”**

**Anthem** Ivor Wright  
**Thought for the day:** Wally Piech

**Introduction:** George Hughes  
**Thanks:** Ted Pritchard

## President's Greeting

President Jim Howse will formally pass the gavel at our August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting with the New Board assuming responsibility on September 1<sup>st</sup>. As incoming President, at the August 4<sup>th</sup> Board, I extended on your behalf our appreciation for President Jim's leadership which began in 2017-18 and will conclude August 31, 2021 when he completes his duties as Immediate Past President. Jim will be presented with his Past President's badge when we resume our meetings at the ICC.

To say that Jim's Presidential year has been unusual would be an understatement. He chaired the meetings during Dale Lockie's absence which puts President Jim in the Club's record book as chairing the most meetings of any previous member. President Jim chaired the first meeting of the Club via video-teleconference and the first meeting of a speaker not only addressing us from outside Guelph but outside Canada.

At the Board's request, Past President, David Bain chaired a Task Force to review and recommend changes to the Board's structure and also recommend changes and additions to the Board's duties and responsibilities. In the coming months, you will be hearing about outcomes from this "Ad Hoc Committee Report". An immediate requirement has been an update in the Club's Bylaws which was undertaken under the leadership of our Club Secretary, Ron Dolynchuk. The draft of the proposed Bylaws will be circulated for your approval at a special General Meeting.

The 2020-21 budget includes a one-time reduction in Club's fees due primarily to fewer months of ICC room rental fees. Since we are not meeting in person, you kindly are requested to send your membership fee by mail. A separate notice with details is included in this Bulletin.

The Board will also be developing a plan for returning to face-to-face meetings. It is too early to anticipate when we will be able to recommence our meetings at the ICC. You will be kept up to date through our Club Bulletin. We will continue to offer Zoom access throughout the transition. Many of you have pointed out that video-teleconference access does provide members who are unable to attend the meeting in person with this option. As we have already experienced, Zoom also provides a wider scope in recruiting our weekly guest speakers.

Jim Sanders

## Revving Up with the Rev

Late summer greetings to all!

A few days ago, in one of those moments when my mind had little else to do—in this continuing covid cycle those moments have been frequent—it shot this question at me: How do you square the circle?

What got me all revved up about it was that I recalled hearing the question asked at a Men's Club meeting—it was sometime before March because we were still meeting in person. We had all listened attentively to a speaker. Then, in a question time following the speech, one member asked, "You have said...but how do you square the circle so that...?"

I can't remember the full question but the exact details aren't important. The member was inviting the speaker to explain something he had said that seemed to be...let's just say, not wholly logical.

The interesting aspect of that question is that it can't be done. You just can't square a circle!

Not that it hasn't been tried. In fact, they tried for centuries. Ancient geometers tried it to no avail. Hippocrates (460 BC – 370 BC) was the first. He tried by using a plane construction to find a square with area equal to a figure with circular sides. He squared certain lunes (arcs) but found that not every lune can be squared.

Persistent to the core, they kept trying, by fits and starts, until in 1882—more than 2,000 years after Hippocrates died—it was finally proven that the task was impossible.

Since then the expression "squaring the circle" has been used as a metaphor for trying to do the impossible.

So be aware that, if you're giving a talk of some kind and, at the end of it, some bloke stands up and asks you to "square the circle" with respect to something you've said, you have two choices:

1. Be quick with an answer that makes total sense, and cut the questioner off at the pass.
2. Realize that the bloke has found a colossal chink in your armour.

If the choice is #2 above, you can still get out without egg all over your face by using one of these answers given by politicians when they realize they've sunk themselves into a circle that can't be squared:

1. Start by saying, "That's a very important question." Then go on to talk about a matter you can pretend to know something about...maybe the price of rhubarb in Tanzania, or something else equally irrelevant.
2. "I don't have all the information. I'll get back to you."
3. "We're still working on that."

Otherwise...well, I guess there's nothing much to do but pack up your ol' kit bag and hurry on home, because rather than asking, "How do you square the circle?" the questioner might as well have said, "Gotcha!"

Keep smiling, guys!  
Tom Watson

## From the Board

### Membership Changes

At the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board the Membership Secretary Rob Lindsay reported that there were no changes.

### Membership Profile

Membership Secretary Rob Lindsay, at the August 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, indicated the membership profile as:

Active Members	290
Associate Members	21
Pending	1
Life Members	3
Wait List	0

### Member Fees for 2020-2021

**Active Member \$80.00**

**Associate Member \$30.00**

**Dues are payable September 1, 2020**

**Please mail you cheque to the following address:**

**GUELPH-WELLINGTON MEN'S CLUB  
Box 197  
3-304 Stone Road W.,  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1G 4W4**

### COMMITTEE 2020-2021 DIRECTOR

PROGRAM HOUSE	Graham Ford Phil Alt
AUDIO/VISUAL	Steve Scadding
REFRESHMENTS/BADGE	Wynne Wright
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	Jim Mottin
AED/CPR	Ivor Wright
COLOUR PARTY	Bill Irving
CONDUCT OF MEETINGS	Rick Light
GREETERS	Art Cutten
ANTHEMS	Dan Waterston
THOUGHT FOR THE DAY	Fred Dawkins
HEALTH/CELEBRATION	Harley Nicholson
FINANCE	Jim Mottin
MEMBERSHIP/ROST	Rob Lindsay
COMMUNICATIONS	Ken Jeffrey
MEMBER RECRUITMENT	Tom Watson
CHRISTMAS LUNCH	Ken Le Lacheur
SPRING LUNCH	Bob Keleher
SPORTING EVENTS	Jim Tsujita
BRIDGE and EUCHRE	Dave Ireland
LUNCHEs and TOURS	Brian Magee
THEATER and RACES	Brian Magee
AWARDS	Jim Howse
ARCHIVES and HIST	Jim Sanders
CHOIR	Dan Waterston
NOMINATIONS	Jim Howse
STRATEGIC PLANNING	Dale Schenk

## September Birthdays

DUTHIE	CAM	Sept 2	86
PENNOCK	PAUL	Sept 4	90
McCALLUM	MAC	Sept 5	85
KROEGER	KEN	Sept 10	80
CHURCHILL	DAVE	Sept 12	85
HOY	JIM	Sept 12	86
ANDERSON	JIM	Sept 14	87
HUNTER	NORM	Sept 21	80
RANKIN	JIM	Sept 21	84
JOHNSON	BILL	Sept 22	88
STONE	BRUCE	Sept 23	90
CUMMINS	JIM	Sept 24	82
GIBBONS	JIM	Sept 28	89

## September Anniversaries

LYON DON and DOROTHY	Sept 1	64 years
SIMPSON HOWARD and BONNA	Sept 2	59 years
BLADON MICHAEL and ELAINE	Sept 3	54 years
HAGARTY JACK and JOAN	Sept 3	60 years
LEHMAN HUGH and BARBARA	Sept 6	62 years
YARMEY DAN and JUDY	Sept 7	57 years
TABOREK RON and ELIZABETH	Sept 10	60 years
CHRISTIE GARY and WYNNE	Sept 11	66 years
BLACKBURN DON and JOYCE	Sept 14	65 years
WRIGHT IVOR and LENORE	Sept 14	52 years
McCALLUM MAC and PATRICIA	Sept 15	60 years
LEFNESKI ROY and MARILYN	Sept 19	67 years
WEBB DON and MARY LOU	Sept 19	56 years
BOULD BOB and JESSIE	Sept 22	69 years
RYAN STU and MARY ANN	Sept 22	64 years
MOORE AB and ALICE	Sept 23	67 years
STONEHOUSE PETER and ALISON	Sept 26	56 years
MORRIS BOB and SHARON	Sept 26	55 years

### Health and Celebrations of Members

Contact John Holt at 519-824-6113  
or [jholt@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jholt@uoguelph.ca)  
to report on the health of members for September 2020

### Items for the October 2020 Bulletin

Contact **Ken Jeffrey** at 519-820-0798  
or [krjeffre@uoguelph.ca](mailto:krjeffre@uoguelph.ca) by September 22.

## **Message from The Chair of the Member Recruitment Committee**

### **What Will Strengthen Us?**

Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, once wrote: "When something bad happens you have three choices. You can let it define you, let it destroy you, or you can let it strengthen you."

The Guelph Wellington Men's Club was doing well, meeting regularly at the Italian Canadian Club with somewhere approaching 200 attending every Tuesday morning. Then, in early March, "something bad" happened—the Covid-19 pandemic—and it threw us off stride. Our last in-person meeting was on March 10.

But the Board refused to let the virus define us. Our Club regrouped and, beginning on May 26, we started meeting on Zoom. Since then the weekly attendance has been good. The high, I believe, was 141. The average is around 112.

Yes, there have been changes, but what hasn't changed is (1) the over-all feeling of togetherness and (2) the quality of the weekly speakers. Interestingly enough, having to hold meetings by virtual means has opened up brand new possibilities for speakers—they no longer have to live in the Guelph area...they can be from anywhere in the world. Two recent speakers have been from South Africa. That would have been totally impossible had we been meeting in person.

So we haven't let the "something bad" define us, nor have we let it destroy us. We met the challenge.

Now for the third leg of the quote: What will strengthen us?

What will strengthen us the most, going forward, is new members. For that, we need both an internal and external push. The internal push is the more promising, and it's something in which we can all play a part. So, here's an invitation for all members to consider:

- You have friends and neighbours. Invite somebody, or two or three somebodies, to join as a guest at one of our Zoom meetings. Expose them to our amazing speakers. They will come to value the Club the same as all of us do.
- Here's a thought: 25 of us get one new member each between now and the end of the year—that's only 6 new members per month. Maybe we should take that on as a goal.

There's another aspect to this. We not only need to get new members, we need to maintain our existing membership. This past year has seen an erosion of around 50 members. The reasons vary, I'm sure. The point is that we need to do what we can to retain the membership we now have.

My sense is that the reason people join and stay with the Guelph Wellington Men's Club is based largely on relationships formed. So here are some thoughts in that regard:

- When you haven't seen a member online for a bit, call and check and see how he's doing.
- You know several members. So you are in a position to know when they're going through a rough patch. Call and tell him we're thinking about him.
- Offer words of encouragement. A word of praise carries a fella a country mile.
- Find ways to show, on a very personal level, that we value each other, and care about each other.

It takes all of us to make this Club work. We can do it. I'm convinced we can!

Tom Watson