



**BROCK
HOUSE**
Society

Please note that the House will
be closed December 24 -
January 1 inclusive.

Winter Program registrations
begin January 3

Happy Holidays everyone!

The Gallimaufry

December 2018/January 2019

25 Cents



Brock House/Kerrisdale Handbell Ringers
are presenting their

Annual Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 9, 2:00 p.m.

at the
Kerrisdale Seniors Centre

Admission is by donation, refreshments to follow.
All are welcome to attend.



Brock House/Kerrisdale Choir presents

Inspired to Sing
Good Words to Good Music

Saturday January 26 at 3pm
Marpole United Church
1296-67th Ave at Hudson St.
tickets \$10 – children under 12 free



Brock House Society - 3875 Point Grey Rd, Vancouver BC V6R 1B3 - BrockHouseSociety.com
BrockHouseGallimaufry@gmail.com

Where Seniors Stay *Young*





Deck those halls...and some of you maybe doing just that...with boughs of holly...that you purchased at this years Brock House Christmas Fair.

For those of you who did attend, you had the chance to experience the cozy warmth when entering Brock House and view the Christmas decorations strategically placed inside. In fact you may have gone past the very colourful scene that is on the cover of this year's winter program.

The house is a great place at this time of the year to just linger and catch up with old friends that you haven't seen all summer or to attend the programs and events leading up to Christmas. *(Be aware that we are closed from December 24 to January 1.)*

Then there will be a flurry of activity on January 3 as you sign up for all of the winter programs that you have been researching.

Oh and by the way don't forget to renew your membership. It is still the best deal in town at \$60.00 per year or \$1.25 per week. Less than a cup of coffee at Starbuck's.

So what are we offering in the New Year?

Well, there are our usual no fee based programs such as the **Travel and Lecture series** along with a **Leadership and Women Series starting on January 11** with 3 prominent guest speakers: *MP Joyce Murray, Dr. Patricia Daly and Inspector Colleen Yee.*

Other no fee programs include **The STAR Program on February 6** about *Point of Care technology* and a very topical **Cannabis Talk on March 13** when with our windows wide open Philip May *talks about legalization and other issues.*

There is still room in the following fee based programs but sign up soon and don't be disappointed.

-Fabulous Origins of English words with Graham Forst, January 11

-Meditations class with Kelly Maclean, January 15

-Seattle Art Museum, January 17

-Robbie Burns Celebration, January 24

-Vancouver Opera, La Bohème, February 24

Also as we head into the New Year and extended low light conditions, don't forget the **Walk and Be Seen program**. For those of you who want a WBS kit or more information contact the office.

Now I have made reference to the Brock House Society being good value for money. However as the Finance Committee drew up the budget for 2019 there was some concern expressed as to our ability to finance the upkeep of this Heritage House in the near future and the cost of the programs that we run. This is in spite of a very generous donation

made by a BHS member towards the cost of the expensive elevator upgrade. We are carrying forward some more expensive renovations into the New Year and we are looking at creative ways to finance these. One is to form a Fund Raising Committee that will be struck in early January, so if you do have experience and wish to volunteer in this worthy cause, then please contact the office.

Oh and donations made in order to assist in this endeavour are all very much appreciated.

Oh and by the way we will be returning to our tried and tested format for next year's Summer Fair.

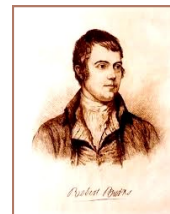
Make a note.

**Brock House Society Summer Fair
Saturday, July 13**

So as we enter the New Year with a sense of cautious optimism may I take this opportunity to wish you all:

A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2019

-Peter Phillips, President



Help celebrate the 260th birthday of Scotland's best loved poet

Robbie Burns

**Thursday, January 24
1:45 - 3:15 p.m.**

There will be a taste of haggis, sweets and savouries, tea, coffee, and more!

Entertainment:

Edward Mornin will Pipe in the Haggis
Peter Scott will give the Address to the Haggis
Enjoy music from members of the **BlackThorn Band!**

Gentlemen, this is a good opportunity to wear your tam-o'-shanter!

Members: \$17.00, Guests: \$20.00

Purchase tickets online or through the office



Titillate your curiosity and tingle your nerves with the *Esther Birney Series*

Red Herrings and Dead Ends

Thursdays, 10:30 - noon, in the Halpern Room

December 6 - The Best of Scandinavian Crime Thrillers & Authors

Lena Karlström teaches Swedish language courses, and Scandinavian literature courses including the summer course in Scandinavian Drama and Film at UBC. Currently she is focusing on her exciting new Scandinavian crime writing course!

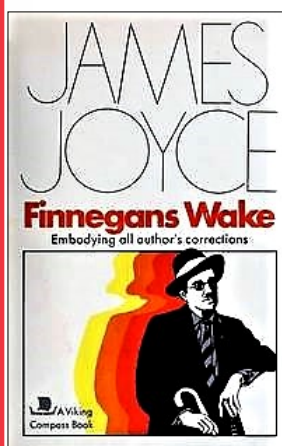
December 13 - YouTube video: *The Strange Case of Dr. Doyle*

The book (in the Society library) by Drs Eugene and Daniel Friedman, gives persuasive evidence that Conan Doyle, the famed author of Sherlock Holmes was actually "Jack the Ripper". The video will be followed by a hilarious group game of solving "Two Minute Mystery Stories". How good are you at sleuthing? **There will be prizes for the winners, with tea and cookies to follow.**

-Glenys Acland, Joan Nazif and Dorothy Simons, Convenors

A Bonus from the Esther Birney Series!

December 20 - 10:30 -11:45 - Halpern Room



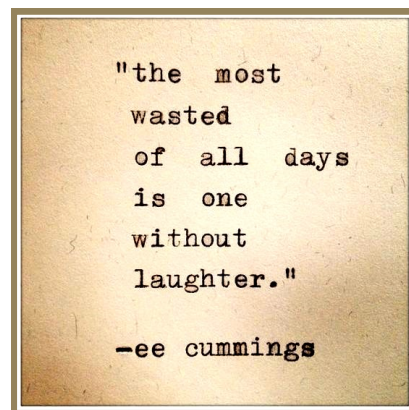
Mary Davison will dazzle us with a recording of James Joyce reading an excerpt from *Finnegans Wake*. It will be a puzzle with words for you to enjoy. Those of us at Brock House are probably the last generation to have been schooled as James Joyce was. Look at the following quotes and recall when and where someone hurled similar remarks at you. Get a laugh out of the tricks he pulls.

"Northmen's thing made southfolks place but howmulty plurators made each one in person? Latin me that, my trinity scholerd."

Now decode this doozy:

"Anna was, Livia is, Plurabelle's to be."

2000 points and a triple A+ if you divine how these words key into the larger narrative. Mary Davison, has taught at Stanford, UC Berkeley, and McGill.



Paul Cech will be the Convenor for the

Laughter is the Best Medicine series, starting in January.

Please send any funny videos/stories/ jokes to

Paul (e-mail: pcechis@gmail.com) and he will coordinate the content.

We hope to have this series once a month.

-Callie Wong, Program Director

The Halpern Committee
for the Performing Arts presents

Onyx Trio

Mark McGregor, *flute*
Joy Yeh, *harp*
Isabelle Roland, *viola*



playing selections from

Debussy, Saint-Saens, Jolivet,
Bax Elgar, and Ravel

December 11

1:45 - 3:15

in the Conservatory

\$8.00 for members

\$10.00 for guests

The **Onyx Trio** was formed in 2014 out of a deep desire to explore and share the repertoire of the last one hundred years. Ever since Claude Debussy composed his remarkable *Sonata for Flute, Viola, and Harp* in 1915, many great composers have tried their hand at this unique and colourful combination of instruments.

All three musicians are fixtures of the BC musical scene and can be frequently heard performing with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Opera Orchestra, Turning Point Ensemble, Aventa Ensemble, and Vancouver New Music Ensemble.

bluemossensemble.ca/mossery/onxy-trio/

If you'd like to receive *The Gallimaufry* by email each month please write to:

brockhousesociety@telus.net

You can also view it on our website:

brockhousesociety.com

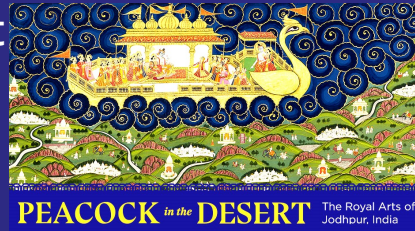
by using the "Newsletters" link on the lower right of the home page.

Our little magazine thrives thanks to the many members who submit material month after month. In addition to articles about activities, we welcome creative content.

-BevAnn Lister Dean, Editor

Seattle Art
Museum

SAM



**Thursday
January 17**

\$129

DAY TOUR TO

Seattle Art Museum (SAM)

Peacock in the Desert

Thursday, January 17th, 7:45 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Pick Up & Drop Off at Brock House Society

Cost: \$129 (members & guests)

Purchase tickets online at www.brockhousesociety.com
or through the Brock House office

The Seattle Art Museum **Package Includes:**

- is proud to present
 - a new exhibition
 - Peacock in the Desert:*
 - The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India.*
 - Imagine yourself in the
 - luxuriant royal spaces of
 - India's historic courtly life.
 - Resplendent with
 - brilliant paintings,
 - lavishly made
 - ceremonial objects,
 - finely crafted arms and
 - armor and sumptuous jewels.
- Bus ride to SAM and back
 - Admission to *Peacock in the Desert*
 - Guided tour (optional)
 - 3.5 hours free time at SAM
 - Dinner at Outback Steakhouse

Other notes:

- Valid passport, enhanced DL or Nexus pass required
- Lunch (on your own at Taste Restaurant or SAM (casual fare)

Services for Seniors

STAR Program - SFU

Wednesday, February 6 - 1:00-3:30

Halpern Room.

Point of care health technology.

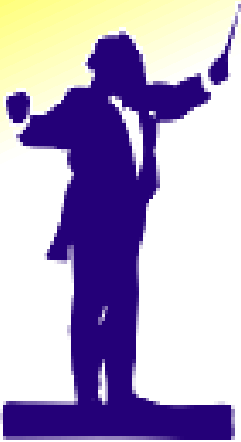
Research forum for older adults and seniors 55+.

Join a group of research trainees from STAR Institute (Scientific Technology Aging Research) from SFU School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering to learn of emerging health technology and research findings.

Refreshments & appetizers served.

Maximum allowed 30 participants.

Brock House Orchestra



The orchestra commenced rehearsals again in September after the summer break. Conductor Jeffrey Tseng has us working hard on our new repertoire which includes a symphony by Mozart and Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* Overture, which is challenging but also exciting to play.

We have welcomed several new players recently and the Begg Room is starting to burst at the seams! However that means we are just getting to know our neighbours a bit better!

Our concert season is under way and by the time you read this, the orchestra will have played at two retirement homes in November, Amica at Arbutus Lodge and Revera-Crofton Manor where we entertained large and enthusiastic audiences. There are no outside play-outs planned for December but we have bookings for January and as far ahead as April of 2019.

The BHO wishes all members a musically happy Holiday Season.

-Phil Neame, Concertmaster

Brock House Chess Club

Many thanks to everyone who came to play a friendly match with the Bonsor Seniors' Chess. We fielded eight players who each played two games. It was an entertaining and enjoyable event. Final score: Bonsor 12 - Brock House 4.

Everyone appreciated Brock House's hospitality with cookies and coffee for all. Many thanks to Brock House for supporting this friendly event.

The Brock House chess players meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Meyer room. All are welcome to come and play or learn and watch or share their experience.

White to move and win in 3



White to move and win in 3



Black to move and win in 2

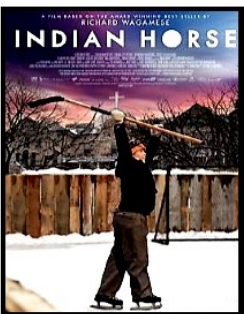


Black to move and win in 3



-Alex Ramirez, Convenor

BROCK HOUSE Society



Friday Flicks

Start time: 1:00 p.m. \$2.00 - Exact change please.

December 7

Wonder

USA - 2017 - 113 Minutes

"Based on the New York Times bestseller, this movie tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters the fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time." - IMDb

December 14

The Man Who Invented Christmas

Ireland/Canada - 2017 - 104 Minutes

"...the film shows how Charles Dickens mixed real life inspirations with his vivid imagination to conjure up unforgettable characters and a timeless tale, forever changing the holiday season into the celebration we know today." - Bleeker Street

January 11

Viceroy's House

Britain/India - 2017 - 107 Minutes

"Taking the viceroy's house as a microcosm of the cultural climate in India during Partition [the film] explores the political and romantic dramas of the government leaders and the house staff, and especially those moments when they bleed into each other in such a close setting." - Chicago Tribune

January 18

Indian Horse

Canada - 2017 - 100 Minutes

From Executive Producer Clint Eastwood, "...a must-see drama based on late Canadian author Richard Wagamese's acclaimed novel about an Ojibwe residential school survivor who faces racism and systemic barriers as he becomes a formidable hockey player." - CTV

January 25

Unfinished Song

Britain/German - 2012 - 93 Minutes

"...a touching and joyous movie with the rare benefit of featuring Vanessa Redgrave and Terence Stamp at the top of their game. It's about facing the inevitable consequences of age with dignity and grace..." - Observer

Reiki Encounters

By

Lisa Anne Smith



I like to consider that I have a fairly open mind and am naturally curious about many things that may seem illogical or downright unbelievable to others. Such has been my foray into the realms of Reiki.

A few years ago, I experienced my first Reiki group training session with a former yoga teacher at Brock House. I recall that the session was very profound. At one point I shed tears. I felt a noticeable tingling in my skull and a distinct feeling of heaviness. That night I slept for nine hours straight, quite possibly the deepest, most relaxing sleep that I have ever known.

Reiki, in the words of a guidebook provided at the session, is “a natural method of energy balancing”. “Rei” can mean spiritual intelligence. “Ki” can mean life energy (the same as “Chi” in Chinese). Thus, Reiki is often described in the west as “spiritually guided life force energy”.

A few weeks ago when my husband Doug casually asked a friend who was retiring what her plans were, she handed him a business card. I was delighted to learn that our dear acquaintance, who I'll call Veronica, is also a Reiki Master, Spiritual Counselor and healer.

I had always intended to follow up on my earlier initiation to Reiki and quickly got in touch with our friend to book a session. I could literally feel Veronica's energy as soon as she came into our house. Our golden retriever Sunny certainly tapped in and was all over her from the start. We retreated to the bedroom where I lay on the bed and breathed an intoxicating scent of rosemary essential oil.

I closed my eyes and soon fell into a deep state of relaxation. No tears this time around, just a very noticeable sense of wellbeing, most welcomed as I have recently been diagnosed with illness. Veronica began with my feet, performing a gentle manipulation called “grounding”. Her hands slowly increased in warmth to the point where it felt as if she had washed and dried them under a hot tap. From my feet it was up to the head, then down through the body gently and slowly, lingering here and there as energy flow needs dictated. I began to notice colours—distinctively bright, pulsating white lights, sometimes so bold I was tempted to squint despite having my eyes shut. At one point I was so enraptured I spontaneously murmured “wow”! Later in the session I experienced two great fields of violet purple—my favourite colour—which slowly filled my entire spectrum. At one point I saw what I can only describe as an entity of sorts—a large, glowing head with a gentle and healing disposition.

I lost all track of time but was vaguely aware that the session must have lasted over an hour. We returned to the living room where I fairly gushed about all that had occurred. I felt better than I had in many days—rejuvenated, optimistic and quite utterly in awe. We finished with an interesting discussion about many things related to Reiki and other universal forces.

Veronica is truly a gifted person. She is genuine in every respect and I will be excited to delve further into Reiki explorations under her guidance. As Veronica says, she is simply the conduit for her “patient” to undertake the healing process. It is said that we all have the capability, but she is truly one of the Masters.

We suspect that many of you may know who “Veronica” is but we aren't able to share details in The Gallimaufry. Lisa and her husband Doug have therefore very kindly offered to answer questions. Please feel free to write to them at:

clansmith@telus.net

Christmas Craft Fair, 2018

Wrap-up

Gifts and Games

On Saturday, Brock House was a beehive of activity as the doors opened to welcome the community to the annual November Fair. The rooms were filled with a variety of shopping options and volunteers were ready to assist in many areas as shoppers made their way throughout the festively decorated interior.

Thank you to all for generously donating items for this occasion.

I send special thanks to the enthusiastic, tireless and fun loving volunteers in the rooms featuring Gifts/Games, and Treasures (new to us this season).....

Our team - Chick B, Rhinda F, Joy Y, Klaus K, Ilsa E, Eileen H, Roberta J, Kathleen H, Emily S, Margaretta S, Virginia O'C, Christine T, Anne H, Val V, Kay L. - much love and huge thanks to all. Lets team up again for the Summer Fair!

*Fondly,
-Joan Krombholz, Convenor*

Thank you

After getting off to a rocky start and delays in organizing some areas, BHS members and volunteers stepped up and we had a very successful Christmas Fair. Visiting with entering guests revealed how much our Point Grey neighbors appreciate and enjoy this event.

All of our Conveners, as always, pulled together and produced a special day, I want to give a special thanks to Joan Krombholz for coming in and rescuing Gifts and Games and one of the best years ever in sales. I also enjoyed working with Polly Spurr in organizing the food for guests and volunteers. I appreciated working with my Co-Chair, Peter Phillips - we do need to work on finding a permanent Chair for the Christmas Fair so we can have the long term planning required.

*-Stan Hohnholz, Co-Chair,
Christmas Fair Committee*

Yarn & Needle Crafts

Our group had a very busy and extremely successful day thanks to all who came out and purchased our products. Special thanks go to our hard working crew for making so many unique items and manning the booth on Saturday. Our much appreciated team members: Maribeth Ruckman, Joanna Walentowicz, Betty Gunter, Dee Loucks, Diane Goodale, Lenore Hampton, and volunteer Dawn Klassen.

*-Carol Jackson and Dorothy Simons,
Convenors*



Photo credit: Peter Phillips

Jewelry



The Jewelry Committee would like to thank all donors who contributed to our success at the Christmas Fair. We could not have done as well without your generosity! Our regular buyers missed browsing at our booth this summer and they showed their interest by buying our stock at an unprecedented rate. We had great volunteers, a massive amount of jewels on hand and by pricing everything reasonably we managed to have our best result ever!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

-Hazel Boxall, Lynn Shaw, Donna Noel, and Patricia Peters

Brock House Woodworkers

Thanks to all the generous and gracious support from Alan M, Alex L, Assefa K, Barry S, Bill F, Bob D, Bob H, Carol C, David M, Eric F, Hannas vS, JJ L, Gordon H, Petrus A, Robin N, Ron N, Steve N, Susan L, Wally M, and Zig H the Brock House Woodworkers had another enjoyable and successful Christmas sale. The overall sales of wooden crafts for the day was around \$2000. The first sale was a large wooden toy truck about two and a half feet long that was suitable for storing many other toys. The second item was a \$25 corner cupboard followed by a \$5 wooden stress ball and a small \$21 table. The final sales were a \$2 bookend and a \$20 coat rack. Most sales were in \$20 to \$40 range. The highest single item was \$120 for a turned wooden bowl, followed by the truck and a strum stik banjo-like musical instrument. The highest listed individual bundle of purchases was \$200 for a mixed assortment that included two balls, two bowls and a table. Bookstands, cutting boards and bookmarks were popular. Wooden pens, wooden boxes, Kleenex box covers, small wine racks, corner cupboards and chop stick holders were successful items. Birdhouses were also good but people were too fearful to make bat houses a popular item even though the bats are renowned for their ability to remove many noxious insects and reduce the risk of insect vectored diseases. Perhaps they would go well at a Halloween Fair.

The four items that I expected to do much better in the sales were the wooden plate covers for electrical switches, the bird feeders, the small riding horse for young toddlers and the dulcimer. We were told that the feeders were a bit heavy but the main limitation seemed to be the condominium by-laws that prevent people from putting up feeders even though the presence of feeders and birds are known to be beneficial for human mental health. The riding toy looks like a rocking horse without legs so many people that might have appreciated it did not see that it had wheels that allowed a toddler to balance and ride it around. The two items that people asked about that were not in the inventory were a tree stand for drying washed plastic bags and a Lazy Susan.

If you have questions about the workshop or just want to ask us about your own special project needs, woodcrafts or a general tour of the shop please contact the Workshop Convener at the Brock House workshop on Thursday morning or e-mail wramey@mail.ubc.ca with "Brock House Projects" in the subject line.

*-Bill Ramey
Brock House Workshop Convener*



Photos credit: Steve Norman

I ❤️ the woodworkers! - Ed.



Christmas Fair at the Cafeteria

A few challenges came up but everyone pulled together really well.

Gratitude and thanks to our team:

1. Activity Room - Special thanks to Karin Gan and Nassrin Farquharson for minding our volunteer snack room
2. Lindsay Salt - Special Thanks for her understanding and comradeship as a team player
3. Dawn Arndt - Special thanks for staying extra and being a trooper
4. Thanks to Diane Kika, Dellie Lidy, Grace Ng, Bettye Knight, Sue Tate-Smith, Katharine Crarer, and Margaret Hunter who all did a great job.

Also thanks to Kaz our wonderful chef and Trudy Yates (who arrived early to help Kaz). Also thanks to Nesa and Stan for overseeing things.

A very special thanks to Tessa Gillespie for organizing the Cafeteria Volunteers while I was away.

For the Cafeteria food:

We had 36 egg and turkey sandwiches; 90 chicken pot pies and 60 quiche.

Mince tart three full trays and hot cider, tea, coffee, and water jugs.

Overall we made \$ 1600+. We had a few challenges such as heat from cups, scheduling, policing.

An extra special thanks for Sabine Bartels-Tolkien and her daughter for providing two cakes - gluten free cheese cake and gluten free apricot homemade jam cake which sold, I am told, almost immediately.

All in all I wish to give thanks to Kaz and all the volunteers for a great job.

-Polly Spurr, Convenor

Photos credit: Stan Hohnholz



Holly and Cedar at the Christmas Craft Fair

Thank you to members Elizabeth Barthel, Bob Boyd, Don Forsyth, Liane Langton, Lorna Romilly and Adele Tremblay for volunteering to help with preparing and manning the Cedar and Holly Booth at this year's Fair! Being the "first face" to visitors, our volunteers offered smiles and cheer to all those who attended. The holly clippings were particularly "berriful" this year and sales went very well. Thank you to Brock House members and guests who supported our sales and got beautiful trimmings for their homes! Thank you to Judy, Lee, Sophie, and Stan for their guidance and support (for my first year as Convenor!) and to all the staff and assistants that day. Thank you to the Vancouver Park Board for dropping off the clippings to enable us to offer this booth at the Fair. Thank you for the extra donation this year of 30 beautiful little poinsettias that were very well received and all sold out! And to the wonderful member who dropped off a little Christmas Cactus that sold almost immediately! All much appreciated!

*-Jo Ann Turner
Convenor, Cedar and Holly*



Photos credit: Peter Phillips

"Job Qualifications"

by Parker O'Brian

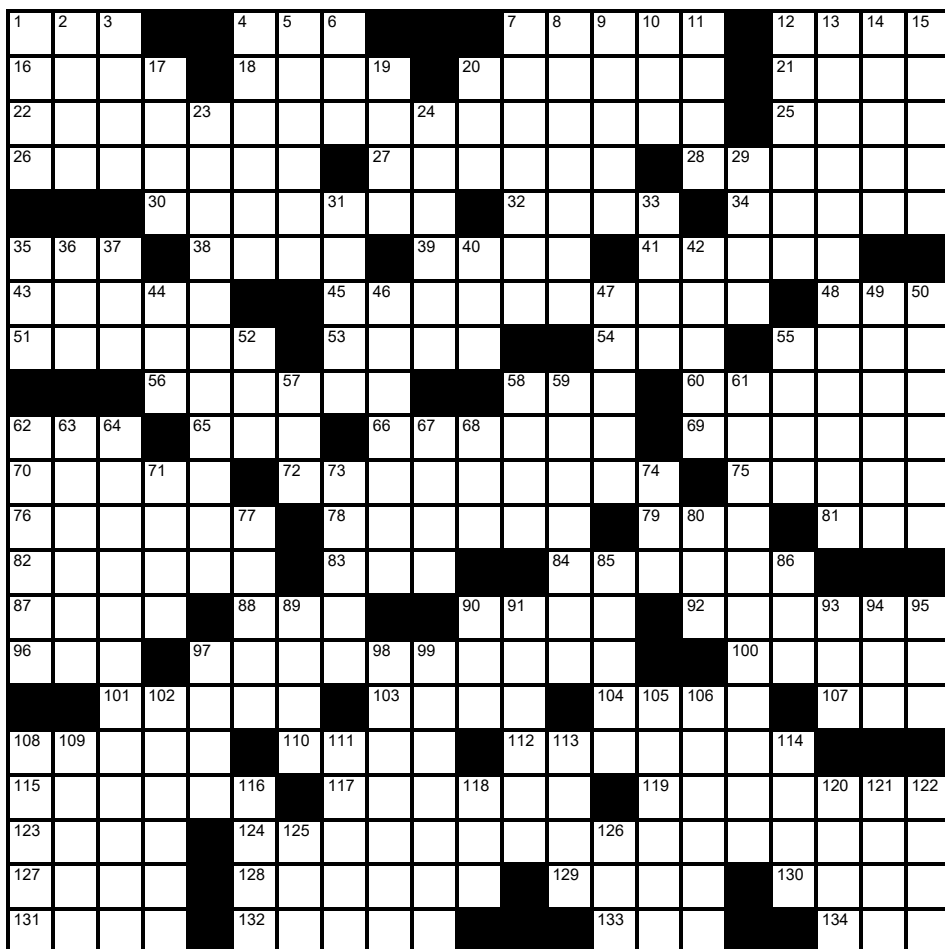
Across

1. Capp and Capone
4. "Masterpiece Theatre" network
7. Say without thinking
12. Do some cutting, maybe
16. Debtor's woe
18. Gospel writer
20. Carpentry tool
21. "Yes ___?"
22. Highly perceptive in the use of an abacus?
25. Hombre's home
26. Repulsive
27. Overthrower of Batista
28. Discharged
30. Mexican shawls (var.)
32. Brass component
34. Togetherness
35. French sea
38. Mystery writer Paretzsky
39. No longer hidden
41. Many times
43. Pass
45. Virtuoso with certain dairy products?
48. Engineered crop, abbr.
51. Modern map subject
53. One way to stand
54. Yahoo! competitor
55. Apple product
56. 1960s dance
58. Early third-century date
60. Pakistani city
62. Record store purchases
65. "Casablanca" pianist
66. Toss again in Yahtzee
69. Shows displeasure
70. Allow to attack
72. Skilled in change management?
75. Fencing needs
76. Conan on TV
78. Furniture wood named after its colour
79. Brouhaha
81. Scandinavian rug
82. Roch Carrier novel, "La _____, Yes Sir!"
83. From ___ Z

84. Forlorn
87. Western Indians
88. Agt.'s take
90. "Jurassic Park" menace
92. Mooring places
96. L.A. clock setting
97. Astute regarding personal grooming products?
100. Leave of absence from a British school
101. Milan's La _____
103. "Time Machine" people
104. "The Thin Man" canine
107. Have a bawl
108. Restrict
110. Letters before "cal" or "ate"
112. Schmooze
115. Pontificates
117. Bert or Ernie
119. Michigan neighbour
123. British Columbia artist
124. Knowledge of sandwich-making techniques?
127. Aleutian island
128. "The Power and the Glory" novelist
129. Multitude
130. Cash register part
131. Not so much
132. Oregon and Alaska once, abbr.
133. Sounds of hesitation
134. Prefix with classical

Down

1. Flatfoot's lack
2. Fifth-century pope who was sainted
3. Tater
4. Membrane around lungs
5. Tuition collector
6. Go downhill fast
7. Gridiron tactics
8. Military facility
9. USSR part
10. Gun, as an engine
11. Uno + dos
12. Epoch when mammals arose
13. Strong ability in art?
14. Atlas feature



15. Sycophant
17. These were replaced by loonies
19. Suffix with exist
20. Abscess fluid
23. Culinary specialist in breakfast food?
24. Fez feature
29. Yiddish fool
31. Agreements
33. Small salmon
35. Ryan of "When Harry Met Sally"
36. Toronto-to-Ottawa dir.
37. Bled
40. Reef dweller
42. Satiates
44. Milk dispenser
46. Kitchen wear, for some
47. Siren sounds
49. Scrooge's business partner
50. Black Sea port
52. Pilot's announcement, briefly
55. Breakfast chain, for short
57. Strike caller
58. Hood
59. One heading for the top

61. Highly accomplished in cardiovascular medicine?
62. Become blocked
63. First appearances
64. Natural ability with road work?
67. Prefix with morph
68. Deli bread
71. They're sometimes put on
73. One of the Muses
74. Musical gift
77. Katmandu's land
80. Drop in the morning
85. An American in Paris, perhaps
86. Word with shelter or break
89. Winter Palace resident
90. E'en if
91. Montreal Expos batting champ, Tim
93. Kind of centre
94. Away's partner
95. Farm area
97. Bank posting
98. One on a successful diet
99. Loafers
102. Type of fruit
105. Rushing sound

108. In the vicinity
109. Livid
111. Yellowish-brown
113. Make an impression
114. Philosopher Immanuel
116. Rank above CPL
118. Vancouver Summer fair, abbr.
120. Curb, with "in"
121. Man, for one
122. 1952 Winter Olympics site
125. Script ending
126. Marker

Puzzle answers on p.16

We first printed this inspirational article 4 years ago and received a request for a reprint. Enjoy!

Harpist Donna Hossack is a long-time Brock House member. She "has enjoyed a long and illustrious career in Canadian music....As a young musician, she freelanced with the National Ballet of Canada and the Canadian Opera Company.

"During the 1950's and '60's Golden Era of Radio and Television, she played on such popular CBC shows as C.G.E Showtime, A Date with Frosia, and O'Keefe Centre Presents, while also enjoying a long gig as the original harpist on CBC's The Friendly Giant." The story below is based in part on Friendly, Rusty and Jerome and, as a huge fan of the show during my childhood, I was delighted to receive it. Thank you for the memories, Donna!

The details of Donna's "varied, prolific and stellar musical career spanning four decades" and "The Harpist and the Harp" appeared in the May 2014 issue of Upbeat, a Vancouver Musicians' Association publication. -Editor

"The Harpist and the Harp"

A story about Donna Hossack by her daughter, Anne Rosenberg

Other kids' parents were teachers, lawyers, engineers; professionals who suited up for work. They were, to my eight-year-old self, interchangeable, all of a piece. They could just as well have typed all day. My mother was different. My mother didn't type; my mother played the harp.

Other kids' parents came home to a six o'clock blur of supper and TV and homework. At six o'clock, my mother sailed from the house, lipsticked and perfumed, black skirts swirling around her, to play an opera, a ballet, a show.

One day, another kid asked, *What's your mom do?*

"Uh..." I paused, licking my lips. *"She's a... harpist."* Blank looks all around.

"She plays the harp," I continued, *"in an orchestra... operas and ballets and... stuff."*

"Oh."

"And she's on The Friendly Giant – the TV show."

A chorus of *"Yeah?"* and *"Really?"* and *"Cool!"* followed. After all, what did they care about operas and ballets? *The Friendly Giant* was her claim to fame.

During a long run of *A Chorus Line* or *Evita* or *Oklahoma*, she'd let me sit in the orchestra pit, perched on a stool beside her. Leaning the harp against her shoulder, her fingers threading through the bronze strings, she seemed to me



*The Friendly Giant Castle Set
CBC Museum*

not my mother, but someone else, another creature entirely. At those moments, I wanted to sound the harp myself, to feel the pull of one of those long, rising glissandos.

Most of the time, the harp presided over the living room, mute, its intricate carvings and gold leaf accompanying the more mundane: chairs, tables, couches. But in the days before a concert, my mother would practice fiendishly, throwing herself into a frenzied marathon of *Carmen* or *Tosca* or some complicated modern piece that lacked any discernible melody. The tick tick of the metronome would drone on, relentless, proceeding through the house and up

to my room, invading my dreams. Occasionally, after many repetitions of a difficult phrase, the trickle of notes would suddenly cease, giving way to a torrent of expletives. From these sessions she would finally emerge, her fingertips cracked and bleeding.

After a concert, she would slip into my room to kiss me goodnight, smelling of faded perfume and, faintly, of cigarettes. *"I played well tonight,"* she'd say. Or, *"It didn't go so well this time. Maybe next time,"* she'd say, her left palm upturned as if to appease the gods of Next Time. *"We had a good conductor,"* she'd explain. Or a lousy one. Either way, it didn't matter to me. She'd welcomed me into her domain, and I, eagerly, stepped inside.

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Sometimes I'd pull open the doors of her closet to reveal her "*blacks*" as she called them: silky black dresses, suspended like noble ladies in waiting, until they could slip away and drape themselves over my mother's graceful lines; black velvet jackets aloft and shimmering, poised for the *Carmen* or *Giselle*.

The harp, but for a few nicks at the base from an unfortunate encounter with a camera dolly, endures; its beveled edges announcing themselves, arousing an electrician's curiosity.

"Is that a ... harp?" he asked.

"Well, yes," she said, allowing herself a small smile.

"Huh." He considered this. "*Can you play that thing?*"

"I used to." She paused to smooth the folds of her skirt.

"Not anymore."

"What did you play?"

"Opera and ballets, mostly. *The Nutcracker*."

"Oh," he said, his shoulders sagging a little.

"I played on *The Friendly Giant*. *The TV show*," she offered, just in case.

"Really?" He set his bag down.

"Can you play that song? You know..."

"*Early One Morning?*" she asked, plunking herself on the harp bench, her skirt billowing over the sides. The bronze strings vibrated softly, the notes faltered and fell away, reluctant, needing to be coaxed forward – then, harp and harpist slowly loosened as the colours of the notes unfolded, filling the room.

"Wow! How about that!"

He exclaimed, fishing his cell phone out of his pocket and dialing frantically.

"Hey Honey, you won't believe it – listen to this," he said, holding the phone alongside the strings.

"It's the *Friendly Giant*!" he continued.

"Yeah ... that old TV show with Rusty and Jerome. It's the *Friendly giant lady*, playing her harp for me right here in her own living room. Ain't it swell?" His voice crept upward in a paroxysm of joy.

Ain't it just.



Yarn and Needle Crafts

We are taking a break till January 7, when we would be happy to receive potential new members in the **Meyer Room between 9:30 and 11:30**. All experience levels, including novices are welcome. As always, we also appreciate donations of unused yarn, especially several balls of the same type to make larger projects. See you in January.

-Carol Jackson and
Dorothy Simons, Convenors



Thank you to the Events Committee for another lovely Remembrance Day Ceremony. I'd like to extend special thanks to **Elizabeth Herejk** for her very moving presentation. - Ed.

Photo credit: Peter Phillips



2019

Brock House Society Harrison Bridge Tour



April 23/24/25

Lessons | Duplicate | Chicago | Fun

\$355 per person double occupancy

\$495 per person single occupancy

- ♦ Transportation (Return coach from Brock House Society)
- ♦ Two nights accommodation at Harrison Hot Springs Resort
- ♦ Two breakfasts and two dinners
- ♦ Use of all hotel amenities

Register online at **www.brockhousesociety.com/harrison**, in person, or call the Brock House Society office 604-228-1461 Mon-Fri 8:45am–3:45pm

Registration opens:

Registration closes: **Mar 11, 2019**

BHS members on Feb 4, 2019

Non-members on Feb 11, 2019



The always uplifting and very entertaining Brock House Big Band members sporting their new banners. Lovely! - Ed.

BrockHouseGallimaufry@gmail.com

So Much to Choose From

Have you ever wonder which programs you should register for so you will be stimulated by interesting programs offered at Brock House Society? To help you make that decision for the upcoming Winter program, the following is some of the evaluations received from your fellow members, who attended several of the very engaging programs Spring and Fall, 2018:

Drink Up! Wine Fundamentals

By Dr. Clinton Lee

Sixteen of the 20 registrants completed the program evaluation form. All participants rated him excellent/good in knowledge, presentation style, covered material clearly and responded well to questions.

'Fantastic course!' 'A very entertaining speaker.' 'Great class.' 'Great Fun.' 'Great teacher - committed to our learning.' 'Loved the class very much.' 'Thoroughly enjoyed the program' 'Informative, entertaining, memorable, theatrical.'

How to Listen to Music

By Nicolas Krusek

Fourteen of the 17 registrants completed the program evaluation form. All participants rated him excellent/good in knowledge, presentation style, covered material clearly and responded well to questions.

'Outstanding lectures' 'Impressive!' 'Engaging and knowledgeable' 'organized clear presenter' 'excellent teacher - responsive to students' 'Very glad to hear that Nicolas is coming back in January 2019' 'Speaker has an encyclopedic knowledge of music which he shared with us in a professional way' 'A wonderful course' 'Very informative, deep penetrating knowledge' 'Loved the course!'

The excitement of learning separates youth from old age.

As long as you're learning you're not old.

--Rosalyn S. Yalow

(Medical physicist and Nobel Prize winner, 1977)

Genealogy

Start or Jump Start Your Search

By BC Genealogical Society

Nine of the 9 registrants completed the program evaluation form. All participants rated the program as excellent/good. They also rated the speakers' excellent/good in knowledge, presentation/style, covered material clearly and responded well to questions.

This is/was an excellent course to present at Brock House' 'This is a very worthwhile course and very encouraging to do one's family research.' 'Very helpful and enjoyable' 'I wish this course just kept going!' 'I appreciate the enthusiasm - it is contagious!' 'Far more detail than required for a beginner but useful in the future' 'Lovely warm, helpful presenters' 'Excellent handouts.' 'Interested in repeating the course'

Art History - Dutch Masters

By Jessa Alston-O'Connor

Twenty of the 29 registrants completed the program evaluation form. All participants rated the program as excellent/good. All 20 rated the speaker as excellent in knowledge, presentation style, covered material clearly and responded well to questions. 'Excellent program and instructor' 'Thoroughly enjoyable and informative' 'Good communicator' 'knows her subject' 'Well done (as usual)' 'Can't wait until the next course in the Fall' 'thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience - a chance to learn from a very talented speaker' 'Excellent explanations on history, city life, art guilds and everyday life of the times' 'I was impressed by the sheer knowledge and enthusiasm brought to the lectures' 'Instructor made the class fun and interesting'

All these programs will be offered again this Winter, with different contents. Other interesting Winter programs are: Constitutional Democracy & Policing; A History of Women's Fashion; Jane Kokan Lecture Series and The Fabulous Origins of English Words.

Please consider registering for these programs in January, 2019.

-Callie Wong, Program Director

"Job Qualifications"

by
Parker O'Brian

Puzzle answers



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Special Events at a Glance

Tuesday, December 11	The <i>Onyx Trio</i> in Concert
Wednesday, December 12	Annual Christmas Luncheon
Thursday, January 17	Tour: Seattle Art Museum
Thursday, January 24	Robbie Burns Celebration
Wednesday, January 30	Chinese New Year Celebration
Friday, February 8	Tour: Vancouver Aquarium
Sunday, February 24	Vancouver Opera: <i>La Bohème</i>
Tuesday, March 5	Q.E. Theatre: <i>Come From Away</i>
Monday, March 11	St. Patrick's Day Social
Wednesday, March 27	Tour: Discover the Mighty Fraser River
Tuesday - Thursday, April 23 - 25	Harrison Hot Springs Bridge Tour

Holiday Closures
@ Brock House
December 24
to January 1 inclusive



LUNCH MENU
Brock House Society
DECEMBER 2018




December 12
Christmas Luncheon
11:00 & 11:30
Tickets still available!
\$35/members, \$40/non-members

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
3 Vegetable Soup Chicken Pie Peas & Salad	4 Potato Leek Turkey Shepherd Pie Mix Vegetables & Salad	5 Won Ton Soup Pineapple Pork Vegetable Stir Fry & Rice	6 Spinach Soup, Spanakopita, Greek Potatoes Salad	7 Carrot Ginger Soup Fish & Chips
10 Beef Barley Soup Beef & Mushroom Pie Mixed Vegetables & Salad	11 Italian Wedding Soup Cheese Canneloni Ceasar Salad & Peas	12 Brock House Society CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON	13 Green Pea Soup Baked Ham Yam Mash & Salad	14 Wonton Soup Fish & Chips
17 Soup & Sandwiches NO HOT ENTREES	18 Soup & Sandwiches NO HOT ENTREES	19 Soup & Sandwiches NO HOT ENTREES	20 Coffee & Sweets	21 Coffee & Sweets
24 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED	25 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED	26 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED	27 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED	28 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED
31 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED				

LUNCH MENU
Brock House Society
JANUARY 2019

Robbie Burns Celebration
 Thursday, January 24
 Members \$17/Non-members \$20

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
 1 BROCK HOUSE CLOSED	2 Coffee & Sweets	3 Coffee & Sweets	4 Winter 2019 Registration Begins! Coffee & Sweets	Coffee & Sweets
7 Potato Leek Soup Veggie Phyllo Pie Mixed Vegetable Salad	8 Fassoulada Moussaka Green Bean & Tomato Soup Salad	9 Napa Cabbage Soup Teriyaki Chicken Legs Carrots Rice	10 Fish Chowder Cod Fish Pie Hash Browns & Salad	11 Italian Wedding Soup Fish & Chips
14 Moroccan Bean Soup Moroccan Chicken Thighs Couscous & Salad	15 Leek Soup Seafood Crepe Rice Pilaf Salad	16 Minestrone Soup Meat Lasagna Rapini & Salad	17 Pea Soup Baked Ham Yam Mash & Salad	18 Won Ton Soup Fish & Chips
21 Tomato Soup Meat Loaf Mash Potato & Salad	22 Shrimp Chowder Cheese Canneloni Rapini & Salad	23 Lemon Chicken Rice Soup Greek Chicken Legs Greek Potato & Salad	24 Borscht Soup Beef Stroganoff Butter Noodles & Salad	25 Boston Clam Chowder Fish & Chips
28 Halibut Chowder Salmon Phyllo Pie Potatoes & Salad	29 Spanish Vegetable Bean Soup Spanish Chicken Thighs Potato & Salad	30 Italian Vegetable Soup Creamy Chicken Pasta Mixed Vegetables & Salad	31 Beef Barley Soup Beef & Mushroom Pie Mash Potato & Salad	