



May 2025
Newsletter



Judy Farrell,
WCCL
President
2024 –
2025

Congratulations to these three ladies (*and one man*) that worked so diligently to make the Spring Luncheon and Speaker Event so successful. From L to R below, Nancy Hawkins adorned the ballroom with so many floral bouquets creating a festival of spring on every table in the room - it was quite lovely and certainly gave the event a 'sophisticated' feel; our Immediate Past President and Spring Luncheon Registrar, Sharon Miller, who, along with her husband Bob, organized and coordinated the ticket sales, food selections, the floor plan and seating assignments as well as coordinating all of that with DoubleTree – amazing!; and Pat Skelton, our Treasurer as well as our Technology Committee Chair and our liaison with PA Shop, who ensured all of the details with our technology crew were communicated, and ensured our sound and video needs for the day were met. Thank you to each of these members and volunteers for ensuring the day was so successful.



Photography: Bernarda Norton



But that's not all they did to ensure a wonderful day was had by all. Nancy and her Co-Chair, Irene Butler along with their Social Committee volunteers also organized and hosted the Past Presidents' Reception.



Photography:
Bernarda Norton



Pat Skelton and Eleanor Leatham were also very busy renewing memberships and selling new memberships out in the lobby as well as accepting payment for Silent Auction buys after the presentation was complete, not to mention Coordinating the 50/50 Raffle, ensuring the data was verified and the winning ticket drawn! These ladies cover several functional areas of business for all of us.



Photography: Bernarda Norton

One of our Past Presidents, Cathy Cave (1999–2001) summed up the day ... and I think she sums it up very well.

The Women's Canadian Club London April 24, 2025

"*Oh, what a Party!*" No wonder, with all who were there ...

Over 88 % of our membership were there to shout out "O, Canada" gleefully, when we had finished the song!! I think we all shared a sense of happiness and pride in our Canada, wearing our Canadian flag and maple leaf lapel pins as we enjoyed our April Spring Luncheon Gala. Our Club started in 1910 (yes, way back then!) Since 1981, Women's Canadian Club London has enjoyed our April lunch at the Hilton, originally the Westin! We leave our beautiful ballroom, and the generosity of the Hilton chain with mixed feelings. Did I tell you about our meal? All four choices were delicious! Oh, what a party!

So sorry if you missed it (another reason for joining...everyone is welcome!). Our Silent Auction had great bargains.... from tasty dining spots to golf adventures on prime courses! You wouldn't believe the excitement when we came to the winner of our 50/50 Raffle. A thousand \$ plus flew off to some lucky person!

The cherry on the top was our illustrious speaker, Dr. Rick Quinn. He is a veterinarian ophthalmologist. Dr. Quinn was very interesting and informative in sharing his experiences while he was in parts of Sumatra, Indonesia and Africa showing the veterinarians how to treat the Great Apes in those areas. The Great Apes are in danger of being a lost species. Dr. Quinn is the founder of Docs4GreatApes and the author of the book "*Just Like Us*".

"*Oh, what a party!!*" Did I just hear the Irish Rovers in the air! An inside joke!"

Cathy Cave
Past President
1999 - 2001



Our April Speaker Event

Dr. Rick Quinn

***Veterinarian
Ophthalmologist
Photographer
Author
Founder and
Director of
Docs4GreatApes***



Photography: Bernarda Norton

Dr. Rick Quinn, an avid wildlife photographer, founder of Docs4GreatApes (a Canadian charity) and a Veterinarian Ophthalmologist gave an inspiring presentation about his life endeavours to make a difference to Great Ape conservation in Africa and Indonesia. He clearly admires this species and the people that are taking great risks to try and save them. Sales of his book, "Just Like Us", a tribute to our "not so distant relatives" as he refers to them, go to support the work of his foundation Docs4GreatApes. Thank you to the Speaker Committee, chaired by Sharon Miller and co-chaired by Marie Peden for their work in acquiring Dr. Quinn as the keynote speaker for our April Event – Nicely Done!



Veterinary Purchasing

We thank our Event Sponsor for April's Speaker Event

Our April Silent Auction – and what an auction it was!

***Wendy
Valhoff, Chair***

The April silent auction was our most successful auction of the season, garnering bids that added up to \$1,945.

***Silent Auction
Committee***

All of the items in the auction got multiple bids, but the most sought after was the gift certificate to the Idlewyld Inn. Other favourites were the children's capes that Pat Hammerton made, Parks Blueberry items, and the Marienbad Restaurant gift certificate.

Our members showed great interest, coming back again and again to bid. In the future we will have fewer silent auctions with more items, one in December and a second in April. If one of our donations is particularly valuable, we will consider having a special one item silent auction as we did this year with the TD Box for a Knights game and the year before with a very classy restaurant gift certificate for four.

We appreciate all the interest and support shown by our members and also the great work of the Silent Auction Committee and the WCC London Board members who have solicited amazing gift

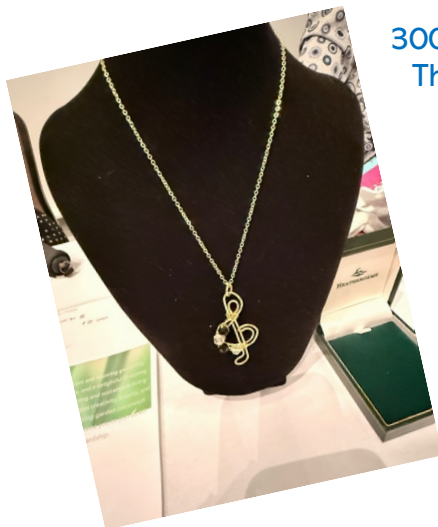
certificates from businesses in and around Southwestern Ontario. Also, we give many thanks to the businesses, artisans and individuals who have donated items for our silent auctions. The community support for the Women's Canadian Club London is amazing!

Here are a few reminders of some of the great Silent Auction Items – Thank you to Wendy and to your committee members for all your work over the past season to acquire and donate so many wonderful items for our membership and guests to bid on and take home.



Silent Auction

DoubleTree by Hilton
300 King Street London ON
Thursday April 24, 2025



Photography: Bernarda Norton

*Women's Canadian Club London 50/50 Raffle
April 24, 2025 Winner!*

Women's Canadian Club London



**50/50
RAFFLE**

Winning Ticket # B-1220

*Winner: Paulette B.
of
London, Ontario
\$1,110*

Women's Canadian Club London's 2nd winner of our 50/50 Raffles was Paulette B. of London. Eleanor Leatham, Pat Skelton and Judy Farrell presented Paulette with her cheque for \$1,110 on April 29th, 2025. Eleanor and Pat organize & coordinate the 50/50 Raffles for the Club.



*Women's Canadian Club London **Spring** 50/50 Raffle tickets are now on sale. Don't miss the chance to be our 3rd Prize Winner on June 23rd.*

This month we celebrated Spring with Three (3) Door Prize Draws

Door Prizes

Celtic Choir Tickets – Two tickets from the Canadian Celtic Choir for its Maritime Magic Concert on Saturday May 24, 2025 at 7:30 PM at St. James Westminster Anglican Church.

The Jeffery Group Gift Certificate – Two tickets for the Jeffery Series Concert: The Chicago Brass Quintet, Friday April 25, 2025 at 7:30 PM at the Wolf Performance Hall.

London Symphonia Tickets – Genevieve Thank you Music – May 3, 2025 at 7:30 PM at Metropolitan United Church.

Congratulations to the winners. We hope you will all enjoy these musical presentations.

Thank You to the London Symphonia, Celtic Choir and the Jeffery Group for generously donating these tickets/gift certificates as door prizes for Women's Canadian Club London at our Spring Luncheon and April Speaker Event on April 24, 2025.

2024-2025 Women's Canadian Club Annual Sponsors

Women's Canadian Club London wishes to thank our Annual Sponsors for their support over the past year. Your sponsorship has been very much appreciated.

Annual Sponsorship



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor

Women's Canadian Club London also thanks other individuals and businesses who continue to support us on an ongoing basis, Including:

- DoubleTree by Hilton
- London Symphonia – Donor of Tickets to all 8 Events
- Rogers TV, Pillar Network, London Economic Development Corporation
- Jack Witmer, Pianist
- Bernarda Norwood - our 2024/2025 Photographer
- Each of our Board and Non-Board Member Volunteers

Women's Canadian Club London Launches its Springtime 50/50 Raffle

Support Women's Canadian Club – all proceeds support 2025/2026 event programming

Women's Canadian Club London



**50/50
RAFFLE**

- **Tickets 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10 or 8 for \$20**
- **Tickets are available for purchase using credit or debit online. Simply scan the QR Code or click on the link www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/wccl to get tickets.**
- **Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase tickets; Tickets sold only in Ontario**
- **Ticket Sales on sale NOW until 11 a.m. Monday June 23rd, 2025**
- **Winning Ticket drawn on June 23rd, 2025 and Winner will be contacted by phone and email.**

Buy Tickets Now!



www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/wccl

2025-2026 Women's Canadian Club Annual Sponsors

Women's Canadian Club London wishes to thank our returning Annual Sponsors and welcome our new Annual Sponsors. We are very appreciative of the continued support of TD, Western and Horizon Place and look forward to working with our new annual Sponsors: Venvi: Windermere on the Mount and Royalcliffe Retirement Residences; and Levante Living Grand Wood Park Retirement Living, over the upcoming year. Your sponsorship is very much appreciated.



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor

Community Service Report - April 2025

"We make a living by what we get. . . but we make a life by what we give. " - Winston Churchill

**Betty Dietrich -
Chair,
Community
Service
on behalf
of the
Community
Service Members**

Happy spring and summer everyone! In my April report I outlined the activities we have completed in the past year. Our collections for The London Food Bank, My Sisters' Place and the Byron Legion were very successful. In addition, we are so grateful for all the aluminum tabs members brought to us.

Due to a few donations at the Spring luncheon our London Food Bank total for the year is now updated to \$3,396.64!

Thank you so much for your tremendous support over the past membership year. We look forward to working with you in 2025-2026!

Have a safe and enjoyable spring and summer!



Photography Credit: Bernarda Norwood

2025-2026 Memberships NOW Available

2025/2026 Memberships Available

Memberships for the 2025-2026 Women's Canadian Club London are now available for purchase and renewal.

The cost is **\$100** for our full season and can be paid by cash, cheque, e-transfer, credit, or debit card. The registration/renewal form is available to be printed from the membership page of our website at www.womenscanadianclublondon.com/membership. A copy of the registration form can also be found on page 9 of this month's newsletter.

For questions regarding registration, please contact wcldnmembership@gmail.com

Your 2025/2026 membership includes:

- Access to seven (7) Speaker Events between September and April as well as the December musical event. *Please Note: access to Spring Luncheon in April 2026 requires the additional purchase of a luncheon ticket,*
- Opportunities to network with other members,
- Free Parking, and
- A subscription to our monthly Newsletter.

Have you seen the line-up of speakers we have scheduled to speak during our 2025-2026 season? The season promises to be fantastic. We look forward to seeing you all out to our new venue – the **Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre** 591 Wellington Rd. London ON - in September 2025. Take another look at the Speaker Series Flyer included in this month's newsletter.

Come and Join Us for a Terrific Year of Fabulous Keynote and Youth Speakers!



Women's Canadian Club, London, Canada

Since 1910 - celebrating 115 years

(a not-for-profit organization)

2025 - 2026 Speaker Series Calendar of Events

Join us at 2:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month (Third Thursday in September, October, January) at the **Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn and Conference Centre, 591 Wellington Rd, London**, to experience a variety of topics presented by entertaining and dynamic speakers. Our program provides an excellent forum which will expand your awareness of local and international subjects.

Members pay an annual fee of \$100.00 to hear seven speakers plus a musical program in December. A Spring Luncheon is held in April for an additional fee. Non-members are invited to hear any single speaker for \$30.00.

Email questions to wcclndnpresident@gmail.com

We welcome everyone!

SEPTEMBER 2025

Thursday September 18, 2025

(*** Note - Third Thursday this month)

PROFESSOR MICHAEL DOVE - Western
"Packaging Fun: London's O-Pee-Chee Company"

- Youth Focus Speaker

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

NOVEMBER 2025

Thursday November 13, 2025

Artisans Holiday Market

DEREK SATNIK - VP of Technology,
Smart Communities (s2e Technologies)
"Top Trends in Housing"
Eve Park London

- Youth Focus Speaker

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

JANUARY 2026

Thursday January 15, 2026

(*** Note - Third Thursday this month)

LORRAINE JARDINE - Hekima Place, Kenya
"Changing the World, One Girl at a Time"

- plus Youth Focus Speaker

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

MARCH 2026

Thursday March 12, 2026

MARK DALEY - Chief AI Officer, Professor in
Computer Science at Western
"Eight Billion Geniuses"

- Youth Focus Speaker

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

OCTOBER 2025

Thursday October 16, 2025

(*** Note - Third Thursday this month)

JILL WILCOX - Jill's Table
"Gathering Around Jill's Table:
A Journey Through Food"

- Emerging Leader Presentations and Awards

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

DECEMBER 2025

Thursday December 11, 2025

Silent Auction

BRASSROOTS QUINTET + SOLOIST
"Seasonal Favorites... & Other Favorites Too"

- Reception to follow

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

FEBRUARY 2026

Thursday February 12, 2026

DR. MICHAEL BORRIE - Aging Brain and
Memory Clinic - St. Joseph's Healthcare
"Alzheimer Disease Biomarkers and New Disease
Modifying Treatments"

- Kiwanis Festival Top Pianist Winner

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

APRIL 2026

Thursday April 9, 2026

Spring Luncheon (at extra cost)
Silent Auction

KELLY DRENNAN - Founder of
Fashion Takes Action, My Clothes, My World
Youth Education School Program
"How Fashion Impacts People and the Planet"

Live at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn

MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE:

Registration form available on the website:

www.womenscanadianclublondon.com/membership

Mail-in or in-person prior to each meeting at the Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn



2025 – 2026 Membership and Membership Renewals

Here is a copy of the Registration Form for next season – both new memberships and renewals. We are now processing 2025/2026 Membership Registrations and Payment of Membership Fees



Women's Canadian Club, London, Canada

Membership Registration 2025-2026



Membership Information

- cost of annual membership **\$100.00** (non-refundable)
- membership includes eight (8) presentations; in-person only
- everyone welcome
- annual memberships may be purchased in the following ways:
 1. by mailing a completed registration form to the Membership Chair
 - **mail-in registrations must be paid by cheque or e-transfer only**
 2. at the membership table prior to each program (please bring a completed registration form)
 - **at the membership table may be paid by cash, cheque, e-transfer, credit or debit card**
 3. at the Spring Luncheon (please bring a completed registration form)
 - **at the Spring Luncheon may be paid by cash, cheque, e-transfer, credit or debit card**
- **No postdated cheques**
 - **make your cheques payable to: Women's Canadian Club, London**

Membership Page: [Membership - Women's Canadian Club London](#)

Website: [Women's Canadian Club London](#)

E-Transfers: wcctreasurer10@gmail.com

To Contact the Membership Chair: wccldnmembership@gmail.com

Mail-in registrations should be sent to the Membership Chair at the address below:

Membership Chair, P.O. Box 24025, London, ON N6H 5C4

Please include a **STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE** to receive your membership card.



WCC London - Membership Registration 2025-2026

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Were you a member 2024-2025? Yes ☐ No ☐

Paying by Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ # _____ E-Transfer ☐ # _____ Credit / Debit Card ☐

A copy of the Registration Form is available for printing on our website at www.womenscanadianclublondon.com/membership.

2025 – 2026 Membership Registrations are now being accepted. Please renew your membership now.

Women's Canadian Club London

APRIL 24TH, 2025

HONOURING OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

1989-1991

CLAIRE FIDLER

1993-1995

AUDREY WELD

1997-1999

SANDRA PEARSON

1999-2001

CATHY CAVE

2001-2003

MARILYN HILL

2003-2005

DEBBIE SCHRAM

2007-2009

ELEANOR LEATHAM

2013-2015

DALE MCEWEN

2015-2017

MICHELLE BARNES-COLPITTS

2017-2018

ELAINE COUGLER

2018-2020

KAREN LOWRY

2020-2024

SHARON MILLER

Thank you for your years of service

Women's Canadian Club London

Spring Luncheon and April Speaker Event Memories 2025

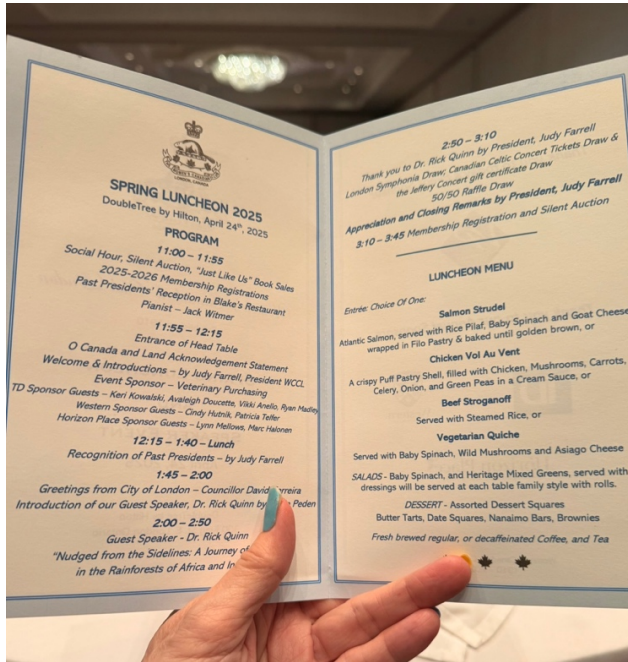


2025 – 2026 Membership Registrations are now being accepted. Please renew your membership now.



Source of Flowers: Anne Rino at La Bella Vita Flora, WFD Market





Photography Credit: Bernarda Norwood

Thank you for reading the newsletter. I hope you have enjoyed it and been able to relive some of the highlights of this year's Spring Luncheon and April Speaker Event 2025.

Judy Farrell, President

2025 – 2026 Membership Registrations are now being accepted. Please renew your membership now.