

# THE GAZETTE



GOWARD HOUSE

March Gazette 2026 *Editor: Marlene Abney*

General Manager: Heidi Hodgins  
Assistant Administrators: Marlene Abney & Tara Jackson  
Janitor: Russ Saunders Custodians: Leslie Hall & Brandi Ennis

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## President's Message

Well March is upon us and it is a month when we welcome spring, daylight saving time, lengthening daylight hours and of course Spring Break for our school children. With spring weather approaching, we can also look forward to our gardens coming into bloom -- we have some lovely daffodils at the front of the House to welcome spring!

March is a busy month at Goward House, as we host the Vintage Fashion Show & Tea on March 5, welcome the Rt. Honourable Joe Clark to speak on March 9, and then Kevin Scott of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation on March 30 to discuss surgical innovation in our hospitals. Don't forget to sign up! Spots for the Vintage Tea are selling out fast!

All our activities are going full swing - including our new Puzzle Club, and additional Tai Chi classes on some Mondays. Also NEW, we can now take payments for membership renewals over the phone with a credit card. Give us a call and our front desk volunteer will confirm a good call-back time from a staff member. Please note that at this time, all other transactions still need to be done in person.

As always, please also enjoy our Tea Room with delicious snacks, soup and sandwiches, always featuring a special hot meal every Wednesday!

Of course, we are always looking for members who would like to volunteer in various ways - either on a regular basis at the Front Desk or in the Kitchen, or just for special occasions like Barbecues, Music in the Park or our famous Craft Fair.

And if you would like to chat sometime, do come and visit me at my President's Corner in the Living Room, with the next one being Tuesday, March 3 at 1pm.

Finally, I would just like to thank all our members who participate in our many activities - you make Goward House such a special place, full of life and laughter!

All the best,

Mary Collins, President

## SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> - 1:00 pm - President's Corner with **Mary Collins** in the Living Room.

Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - **Vintage Fashion Showcase**. Please reserve and pay at the Front Desk by **February 27**. Seating is limited and all seats at each table will be sold.

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - **SPECIAL GUEST - THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOE CLARK**. A Conversation with the Right Honourable Joe Clark in which he will share some of the highlights of his time in public life as well as his views on the challenges we currently face both domestically and internationally. FREE for members, \$10.00 for non members.

Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 pm - Guided Walk of Haro Woods with **Deborah Dickson**. FREE

Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - Money Matters with **Pam Katunar**. The topic is Estate Planning - Tax Considerations. Guest speaker is Dan Giesbrecht. FREE.

Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - **Kevin Scott**, Victoria Hospitals Foundation. Mr. Scott will discuss advances in surgical innovation. FREE.

Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - Saanich Mayor **Dean Murdock**. Mayor Murdock will discuss current issues facing Saanich. FREE.

Monday April 27<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm - **Michael Leyland**, author and Vancouver Island historian. Mr. Leyland will discuss "My Publishing Pathway". FREE for members, \$10.00 for non members.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking for members to add to our roster of volunteers and for special events. If you are able to help or want more information, please email Marlene at [marlene@gowardhouse.com](mailto:marlene@gowardhouse.com) or call 250 477-4401.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We are looking for a Front Desk volunteer every other Thursday morning from 10:00 - noon, as well as Fridays from 10:00 - noon and noon - 2:00 pm every other week. Please let us know if this interests you.

**HOT LUNCH & PANTRY PROGRAM** - Chefs and bakers needed! We need cooks who want to share their culinary talents with our membership. Meals are first served as hot lunches, then fill our freezers with take-home suppers and baking.

*Want to find out about Volunteering on the Front Desk or in the Kitchen?*

Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - **Kitchen Volunteer Meeting**.

Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - **Front Desk Volunteer Meeting**.



## **Purdy's Easter Chocolate Fundraiser**

Everyone loves Easter chocolates, especially the little ones in your life! Help raise more funds for Goward House and expand your order by reaching out to your friends and family.

Due date for all orders (online and paper) is Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>. Pick up will begin March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for participating!

# Goward House Portrait Painters **EXHIBITION**

Weekdays: March 2 to 27



## **Portrait Exhibition and Sale**

Goward House Gallery  
2459 Arbutus Road, Victoria

The Goward House Portrait Painters are a friendly, ongoing collective of artists based at Goward House in Victoria who meet weekly to paint portraits from life – a group rooted in shared practice, artistic growth, and community engagement. Models from the community are invited to participate and often take home a portrait painted by one of the artists after a session.

Visit Goward House for the Portrait Painters Exhibition and Sale, running weekdays, March 2 to 27. Enjoy a vibrant collection of original portraits created from live sittings by local artists. Browse at your leisure, appreciate a wide range of styles and interpretations, and support community art. We hope you'll stop by and take in this special show.



Set your clocks 1 hour  
ahead before bedtime  
Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Goward House would like to extend a very warm welcome to new members:

Anne Anderson, Jim Anderson, Gary Badgley, Cynthia Chelle, Michelle Hoekstra, Deborah Kinsinger,  
Shelley Koorbatoff, Alison MacKinnon, Paul McGroarty, Maria Tilde and Harry Torno.

Special Guest

SPECIAL GUEST - THE RT. HONOURABLE JOE CLARK



Please join us in conversation with  
**Former Prime Minister Joe Clark**  
Past and current National and International  
challenges!

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> 2026 2:00 pm Lower Hall

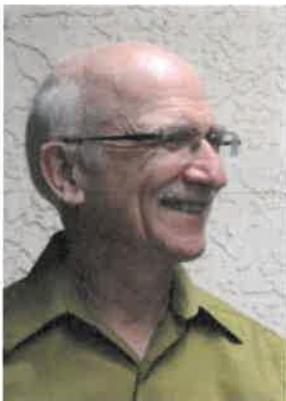
FREE for members non members \$10.00

Please pre-register at the front desk or by calling 250 477-4401 or email  
administration@gowardhouse.com

The Right Honourable Joe Clark served as Canada's Prime Minister in 1979-80, then Leader of the Opposition, Foreign Minister, and Minister of Constitutional Affairs in the 1980s and 90s. He played key roles in Canada's response to the "boat people" in Vietnam/Cambodia/Laos; the campaign against apartheid; the end of the Cold War, the Canada-US trade agreement, and the negotiation of the Charlottetown Accord. He was the Member of Parliament from 1972-1993 for Rocky Mountain, then for Yellowhead; for Kings Hants in 2000; then for Calgary Centre from 2000-2004.

Mr. Clark has served recently on the boards of Meridiam Infrastructure, Meridiam Africa (as board chair), and GlobeScan. He is a member of the Global Leadership Foundation, and Chair of the National Advisory Board of the Canadian International Council.

He is a bestselling author of 'Canada: A Nation Too Good to Lose' and 'How We Lead: Canada in a Century of Change'. Mr. Clark is a Companion of the Order of Canada, a member of the Alberta Order of Excellence, and a Commandeur of l'Ordre de la Pléiade. He has led international Election and Governance missions in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East through The Carter Center and the National Democratic Institute.



### Bridge Lessons - "Defense"

Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 - 11:30 am

**Jim Brackenbury** will teach this nine-week course at Goward House on Thursday mornings. The course will be aimed at players familiar with bidding and play of the hand, using the most recently updated textbook from the American Contract Bridge League. Jim is an accredited ACBL bridge teacher and club director.

Registration for the course begins **Tuesday March 3rd at 10:00 am**. Fees are \$90 for Goward House members and \$120 for non-members. The required textbook can be purchased directly from the instructor. (Please let the front desk know if you require the textbook "Defense in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at registration.)

(Sorry, no refunds!)

## MONEY MATTERS with Pam Katunar

The March session of *Money Matters* is Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm

The topic is using insurance products for investing.

Hosted and presented by Heart Wealth Management of Raymond James.

Money Matters is **FREE**. Please pre-register at the front desk.



### WEDNESDAY LUNCH SPECIALS

March

Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup> - Mac & Cheese

Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> - Hawaiian Chicken

Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup> - Butter Chicken

Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup> - Thai Curry Pork



*(Lunch specials are available while supply lasts. Items not sold day of may be available for take - out.)*



## PUZZLE CLUB

Seeking members interested in putting together puzzles and meeting other members. All skill levels welcome!

When: first and third Wednesday of each month. Next meet up is March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 am

Where: Sun Room

Fee: blue ticket (first time free)



### MONTHLY DRAW FOR A FREE BEVERAGE PUNCH CARD

Submit any of your used punch cards for a chance to win a FREE beverage card in our monthly draw. Simply write your name and phone number on the back of your card and give it to a kitchen volunteer or a staff member. Draws are done the last day of each month. **GOOD LUCK!**

Our February punch card draw winner was **Tricia Bowden** Congratulations!



### **NEW:** Over the Phone DUES Payments

As requested, members can now renew their dues over the phone! Leave your name and number with a Front Desk volunteer, and staff will call you back to facilitate payment.

*Please note: as over-the-phone payments are costly, and require a staff person, we are currently limiting these kinds of payments to DUES renewals only.*



## Nenagh (Simpson) Molson

1936 - 2025

Goward House lost a beloved member and teacher at the end of December 2025. Nenagh Molson was a professional artist specialising in Chinese Brush Painting and Calligraphy. She originally trained in art and design at the Vancouver School of Art and then studied at the Cunningham School of Art in California and Beaux Arts in Montreal, Quebec. In 1964 she was commissioned to design the commemorative seal and stamp for the McGill University Medical Expedition to Easter Island and designed and painted sets for numerous theatre and ballet productions.

After living and travelling in Europe, Nenagh returned to Victoria in 1967 where she continued to paint and was introduced to Chinese Brush Painting by teacher Stephen Sham. Under his guidance over the next eight years, she learned the traditional disciplines of ink and brush on rice paper, mounting techniques and aesthetics.

Since 1985, Nenagh's Chinese paintings have been exhibited in various galleries throughout Victoria and a few pieces are featured in private collections in Hong Kong, London, Montreal, Calgary and Hawaii.

Starting in the 1980s she turned to teaching Chinese Brush Painting classes and workshops at the Victoria Art Gallery, the Canadian College for Chinese Studies, and Camosun College. When the Art Gallery discontinued art classes for adults, Nenagh moved her classes to Goward House.

Her students learned to expect expert tuition, support and encouragement. She inspired her students to set up a formal group which she named "The Studio of Harmonious Endeavours". It is in fact a harmonious group that still meets weekly and puts on a show and sale in December each year. Nenagh continued to oversee the show for over 25 years, contributing her own work and advising on the placement of exhibits.

Her 'happy place' was a specially built gazebo overlooking the ocean, surrounded by the flowers and greenery she loved to paint and often visited by wildlife.

Nenagh will be greatly missed.

In addition to her Goward House 'family' Nenagh is survived by son Glenn, daughters Hilaire, Oonagh and Robyn, her 11 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Her husband of 66 years, Robert "Bob" Molson passed away in 2023.

Celebration of Life will be held at Goward House Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 1:00 pm

## FUNDRAISING - How Can You help?

We received \$110.65 from our Fairways fundraising this quarter. You can help raise money for Goward House by loading a **Fairways** or **Pepper's** card. Fairways cards are available at the Front Desk. Once you have your card assigned, please visit customer service at a Fairway Market and have it loaded with any amount you would like. For Pepper's, please see a cashier and ask them to load a card for you and always mention that you would like the charitable portion going to Goward House. 5% percentage of the value of the cards will go to Goward House! Thank you to all the members who help raise these funds by participating.

**Barry's Bottle Recycling** donated \$300.00 for January and February. Barry asks that you hold on to your returnable containers for him at your home (until mid March) as he is way until then. Please do not leave them on the Goward House porch. We do not have room for them. Thank you, Barry for your continued support volunteering for Goward House! If you have returnable containers you'd like to donate, please call Barry at 250 888-9963. Proceeds to Goward House!



**fairwaymarket**





**THURSDAY MARCH 5, 2026**

**2:00PM LOWER HALL**



Guests will enjoy a selection of sweets and fruit, along with your choice of Coffee or Tea. Enjoy a parade of vintage fashions with live music accompaniment. Reserve a table of 4 with your friends. Please see the front desk to purchase your seats.

*"Our predecessor, Heritage Productions, conducted vintage fashion shows in the Greater Victoria area for the past thirty years, and Vintage Fashion Showcase will be carrying on this very worthwhile community activity. We enjoy researching, collecting, reproducing and showcasing vintage garments in the context of social history. We model fashions from the 1860s to the 1980s".*

Please reserve and pay at the Front Desk by Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Due to limited seating, all seats at each table will be sold.

**MEMBERS \$25    NON-MEMBERS \$30**

[www.gowardhouse.com](http://www.gowardhouse.com)    (250)477-4401



## Activity Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Strength & Balance 9:00 – 10:00	Line Dancing 9:30 – 11:00	Drop in Art 8:00 – 11:30	Qigong & Mobility 9:00 – 9:30 Tai Ch Form 9:30 – 10:15 <b>March 5<sup>th</sup> ONLY</b>	Yoga 9:30 – 10:30
Quillers 10:00 - noon	French Conversation Adv. 1:00 – 3:00	Chinese Brush Painters 9:30 – 1:00	Strength & Balance 12:00 – 1:00	Spanish Conversation Adv. 10:30 – noon
iPad & iPhone Club 10:00 – 11:30	Mah Jong 1:00 – 4:00	Puzzle Club 9:30 – 11:30 <b>(1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks)</b>	Social Bridge 12:30 – 4:00	Choir 1:15 – 3:15
Qigong & Mobility 10:15 – 10:45 Tai Chi Form 10:45 – 11:15 <b>March 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 30<sup>th</sup> ONLY</b>	Portrait Painters 1:15 – 4:00	Duplicate Bridge 12:15 – 4:00	Book Club 1:30 – 3:00	
Social Bridge 12:30 – 4:00		Crafters 1:30 – 3:30		
Meditation 2:30 – 4:00				

### **GOWARD HOUSE SOCIETY**

Board of Directors: 2025-26 Committees

COMMITTEE	DIRECTORS
<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>Allan Davies, Lee Frank, Mary Collins</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>	<b>Mary Collins, Lee Frank, Allan Davies (&amp; Heidi Hodgins)</b>
<b>KITCHEN</b>	<b>Barbara Sawyer, Joy Olesky</b>
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<b>Gail Branton, Lee Frank, Mary Collins</b>
<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>Mary Collins, Barbara Turner, Barbara Sawyer, Joy Olesky</b>
<b>PUBLICITY &amp; OUTREACH</b>	<b>Barbara Turner, Mary Collins</b>
<b>VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERSHIP &amp; FRONT DESK</b>	<b>Gail Branton, Joy Olesky, Lee Frank</b>
<b>President: Mary Collins</b>	<b>Vice-President: Barbara Turner</b>
	<b>Secretary: Gail Branton</b>
	<b>Treasurer: Lee Frank</b>

*We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the neighbourhood of Cadboro Bay lies, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

## Pantry Program - Come Join Us!

Are you interested in cooking hot lunches for our Tea Room, but unsure how to begin? Our team of chefs are quite happy to have a shadow assistant while they cook, and always happy to talk about the program!

If you would like to book a no-obligation “shadow” session, please contact Marlene at [administration@gowardhouse.com](mailto:administration@gowardhouse.com)



## **PARKING** at Goward House

- 1) Please refrain from parking on the grass by the sidewalk, as well as in the garden bed by the bus stop.  
These are sensitive areas easily damaged by cars.
- 2) We respectfully ask you to park straight in your parking spot.  
We know the stall lines are not always easy to see – focus on the concrete header. (We lose spots when multiple drivers park on a slant.)

We have 45 spots available between our two parking lots, which is more than ample most of the time.  
When we have large groups at the House, carpooling is strongly advised.

*On behalf of the Staff, THANK YOU!*

## “Scene” Around Goward House



Chris Kilford, President, Canadian International Council, Victoria Branch, presented a very interesting talk on geopolitical challenges facing us today.



Cliff and Diana Cunningham present travelogues to several seniors' homes and organizations and enjoy reliving their travels this way. Goward House members continue to enjoy our vast variety of guest speakers - Many more to come!