

**The Official
Newsletter
of**



Show me Your Curves

*Happy
New
Year
2021*



**Volume 12
Number 1**



Editor's message

By Doug Jackson



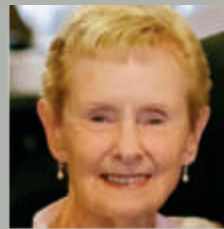
I'm sure that everyone who has wished family and friends a "Happy New Year" in the past few days has been involved in a follow-up conversation that mentions that 2021 has GOT TO BE BETTER than the year that just passed. A year ago, when I was writing an introduction to the newsletter, I had a lot of material to do a "Looking Back" memoir and had lots of things to share regarding the upcoming year, anticipating lots of day cruising, an overnight excursion or two, lots of restaurant meals and visits to places of interest in the pleasant summer weather. Many of us were planning on extended

holidays in warmer countries. And then came the corona virus! Everything changed. All the usual Miata Club activities were put on hold, but we were relieved that restrictions were eased somewhat, allowing us to have some ice cream runs and then some picnic cruises where we could bring our own lawn chairs and picnic lunches. As a result, this final newsletter of the year is different than previous ones, simply because we did not do the wide variety of activities of the past. However, Cal Lander and Michael Topping found some articles that I hope you will enjoy during the next few months of lockdown and restrictions as we wait for COVID-19 to be a thing of the past.

Once again, I want to thank Cal Lander for his expertise in working with his sophisticated printing program. The way he takes routine documents in Word, then embellishes them with seasonal headers or

footers to make them so visually appealing, is very unique and special. I appreciate his hard work!

In addition to the pandemic-induced hardships experienced by all of us, two of our members' families suffered the loss of a loved one. We were saddened to hear of the passing of Carol Holdsworth in August and then the recent passing of David Phillips in December. Our sincere sympathy goes out to Phil and Diane as they face 2021 without their spouses.



Let's bid farewell to the troubles of 2020, and eagerly look forward to a happier 2021



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Show Me Your Curves

is a quarterly publication by a Miata enthusiasts group known as the Miatas of Muskoka... We are a small group that like to explore the twisty back roads and scenic lakes in Canada's premier vacation playground Muskoka.

Visit our Website at

URL:<http://www.miatasofmuskoka.com/>

Fond Memories of David Phillips

We were deeply saddened to receive the message earlier this month announcing the passing of one of our stalwart members, David Phillips.

David and Diane Phillips have been avid supporters of the Miatas of Muskoka Car Club almost since inception. They have participated in many, many club activities over the years, particularly during the years that Diane was our social convener. For the past several years, David has

required a tri-weekly regimen of dialysis treatments to deal with his diminished kidney function. In spite of the time constraints of his treatments, he made every effort to be an active and engaging participant in club functions. Many of us have enjoyed lunches and dinners with David at our table and thoroughly enjoyed his sincere and gentlemanly manner and his ease of conversation. It is no surprise that he was very successful in the hospitality industry, for he always displayed an aura of calm assurance that made everyone around him feel comfortable. He will be greatly missed.

The following is from his obituary, published by Mitchell Funeral Home in Huntsville.

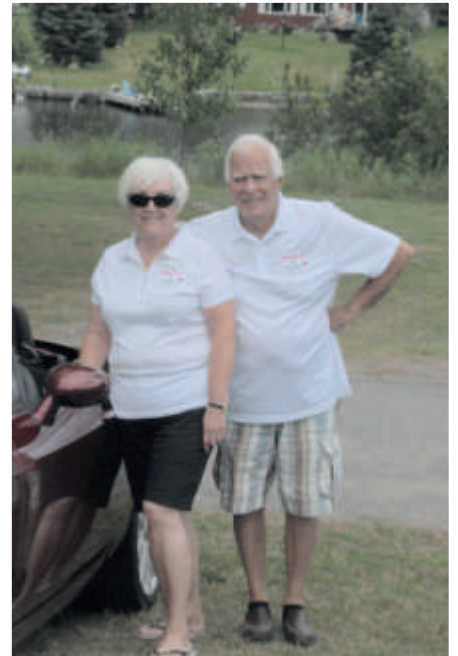
It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of David Phillips of Huntsville, ON, on Wednesday, December 16th, 2020 at the age of 80 years. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 53 years Diane, his son Kevin (Terri) and daughter Kimberley Stephenson (Jay), his grandchildren Jessica and Nicolas Phillips, his sister Helen White (late Merl Bacon), his sister Dianne McKee (Brian), as well as many relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his mother Jessie, father Enoch Roy, and his brother James (Nancy).

He was born in Parry Sound on February 20th, 1940. He began his education in

Parry Sound and completed it in Huntsville. In 1965, while working in Timmins, he met his wife Diane. In 1967 they were married, and returned to Huntsville to raise their family in 1969. David will be remembered for his 33 years employment at Deerhurst Resort. He was also a Chartered member of the Knights of Columbus of Huntsville. One of his favourite pastimes was touring with the Miata Club of Muskoka



*Some photos of David
from the Miata Club archive:*



**Thanks for the
wonderful memories**





Don Nickalls

We have just learned some additional sad news...former MoM member Don Nickalls passed away on Christmas Day. He was 89 years old, and had been stricken with Alzheimer's Disease several years ago.

Don originally joined the Miatas of Muskoka in the very early days of the club, apparently in its second season (2011). His Miata – a 2000 special edition, mahogany in colour, and which he had bought new – was his pride and joy, and he and co-pilot Maureen Newton enjoyed participating in many club events over the years, up to and including the 2016 season. Unfortunately, his deteriorating health required him to sell his beloved Miata after that season. Since then, those of us who knew him have missed his ever-smiling presence at MoM events.



The following is from his obituary, published by Billingsley Funeral Home in Huntsville:

Died peacefully on Christmas morning, at Fairvern Nursing Home, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Predeceased by wife Pat, and sons Gregg and Cam. Deeply loved and will be forever missed by daughter Ann (John) Eastmure, sister CarolAnn Theilman of Saskatoon, SK, his cherished grandchildren, his Nickalls cousins, and many friends.

Don was born and raised in Huntsville, Ontario. He attended Ryerson, majoring in Retail Management, and joined his family's iconic Huntsville retail business Wardell & Company, which he and wife Pat operated for many years. He later went on to work for several more happy years for his cousin Bill Nickalls, at The Huntsville Planing Mill.

Don was known by a great many people as a happy-go-lucky, kind and friendly person. He had a wonderful sense of humour and loved to share a joke or funny story (often about his grandkids' shenanigans) and enjoy a good laugh whenever possible. He loved dogs and dogs loved him.

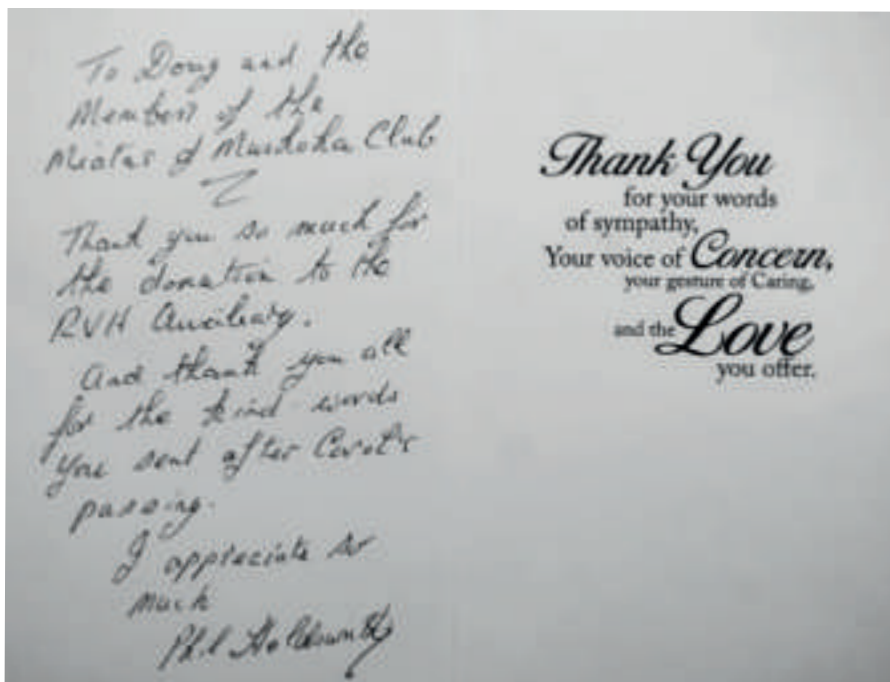
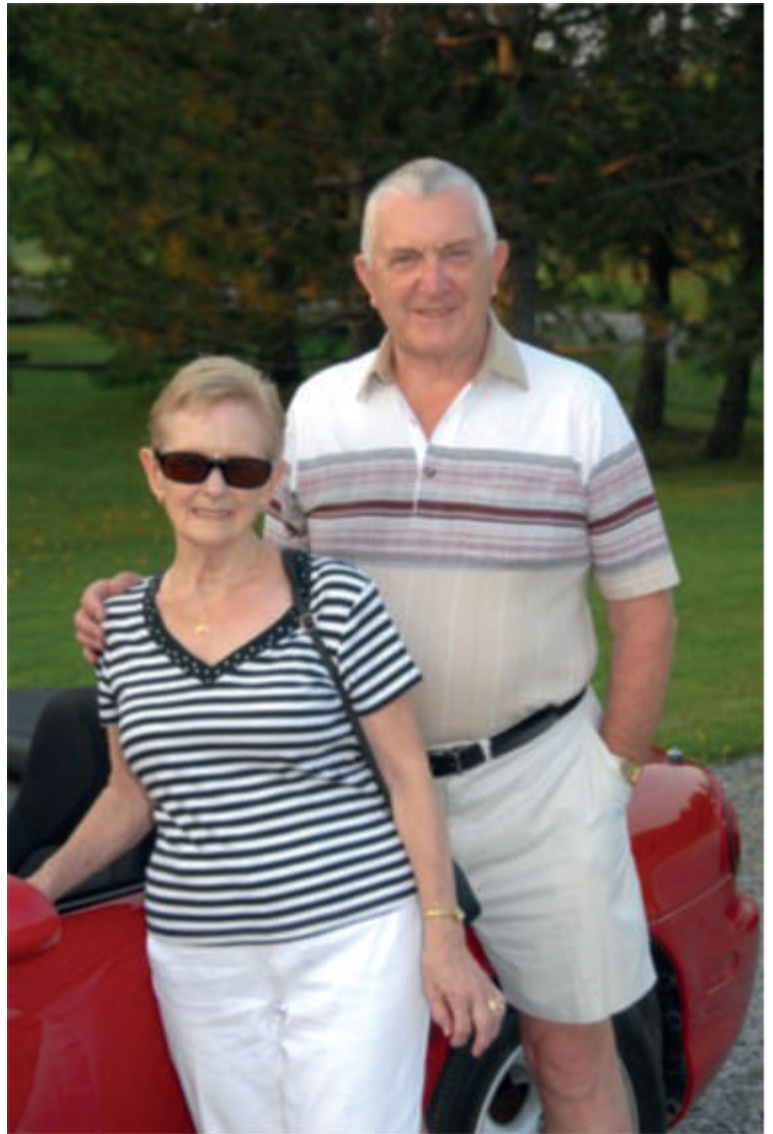
Once retired, Don enjoyed an active lifestyle which included many adventures travelling. He made new friends wherever he went. His favorite hobby was touring around, with co-pilot and companion Maureen, in his prized Miata, licence plate number "FourFun." He lived his life to the fullest.

In memory of Don, please enjoy a butter tart, his favorite treat, which he would fondly say "would put hair on your chest." Have a butter tart and think of Don – he would be "tickled pink!"



Thank You from Phil Holdsworth

In the previous edition of the newsletter, there was an article expressing condolences on the passing of Carol Holdsworth. Since then, Phil has written a note of appreciation to the Miata Club members for their support and that letter is reprinted below.



Thank You
for your words
of sympathy,
Your voice of *Concern*,
your gesture of Caring,
and the *Love*
you offer.





Sponsors:

We are very thankful as a group to be able to have such good friends that are willing to give our organization a helping hand. We strongly urge the membership to give your business to these good folks. They have been a great ongoing support to us throughout the years.



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And dont forget . . .Jack's Auto

Aaron Oliveira, General Manager of Jack's Auto in Huntsville welcomes any Miatas of Muskoka member to his shop offering a 15% discount off all labour as well as offering a "bring your own parts" service. That's right you can source your own Miata parts from specialty vendors and if desired have them installed at Jack's. Jack's Auto Repair was rated one of the three best repair shops in Huntsville.

Please show your support to our most northern Sponsor.

**Jack's Auto Repair
17 Bickley Country Dr,
Huntsville, ON P1H 1Y4**





Report on the Non-Reports

The last publication of the Miata Club's year USUALLY has a summary of the major events of the year. Well, you don't need to be reminded that this was a MOST UNUSUAL year. While there were a few ice cream runs and some day trips, which are reported on later in this newsletter, many of the routine things that are fun and stimulating were cancelled due to the pandemic. Here are some of the things that we have done in bygone years that we were UNABLE to do in 2020. Let's hope that we will be able to participate in some of these things in the near future.

Here's a comment from our Activities Coordinator, Bob Macaulay, in lieu of his regular summary, which in previous years, has run to three or more pages!

"COVID restrictions made it such an unusual, and largely "informal" season -- no AGM, no opportunity to engage in our usual process of membership discussion/consensus on preferred cruise events, no membership renewal/fee process, a very late start to our 2020 club cruise season, no overnight/multi-day cruises, and short notices for those day-cruises which did occur. Accordingly, because this season was so truncated and informal -- with so relatively few events and its short-notice, on-the-fly approach to cruise arranging -- I did not keep any detailed cruise records on which I could base an annual summary of cruise participation"

So ... here are some photos from bygone years to remind you of things that were ...

CANCELLED BY COVID



IN-PERSON PLANNING MEETINGS BY COUNCIL



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SOCIAL RE-CONNECTION



STAYING IN MOTELS ON TWO- AND THREE-DAY EXCURSIONS



EATING IN RESTAURANTS



SHARING SPACES WITH OTHER TRAVELLERS



BIG GATHERINGS IN BIG SPACES



SOCIAL GATHERINGS AT MEMBERS' HOUSES



FEBRUARY BLAHS



POSING FOR GROUP PHOTOS



LADIES CRUISE



GAMES AND CHALLENGES



KING'S WHARF THEATRE PRESENTATIONS



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – GROUP PHOTOS



**CANCELLED
BY COVER**



Who knew at the time when many of us gathered at “The Oar” for our “February Blahs Lunch” that a pandemic would sweep across the world and force us to totally change the way we did things!

When the government announced the lockdown in late March, it appeared doubtful that we would be able to have any club functions at all. In spite of the restrictions forced upon us by government, health units and plain old-fashioned common sense, we were able to hold TWELVE activities this year: six ICR’s (Ice Cream Runs) and six lunch-time Picnic Cruises. Thankfully, our members followed suggested guidelines regarding masks and crowds, allowing us to get out together a

dozen times. Years from now, I hope we will be able to look back at the photos of us wearing our masks and keeping physically distanced from one another and exclaim, “Thank goodness, it was for only one year!”

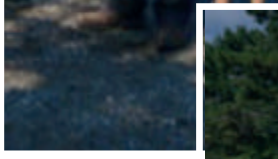
Thanks go out to the picnic cruise organizers and the folks who took on the “lead car” role for the ICR’s for your assistance this year. In sequential order, our events were:

<i>ICR #1, July 7, to Weber’s</i>	<i>14 cars</i>	<i>lead Doug and Sheila Jackson</i>
<i>Picnic Cruise, July 14 to Bass Lake,</i>	<i>15 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Cal and Gail Lander</i>
<i>ICR #2, July 23, to Port Carling</i>	<i>8 cars</i>	<i>lead Bill and Cathy Gilbert</i>
<i>Picnic Cruise, July 30 to Bracebridge</i>	<i>16 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Bill and Cathy Gilbert</i>
<i>ICR #3, Aug 11 to Coldwater</i>	<i>4 cars</i>	<i>lead Cal and Gail Lander</i>
<i>Picnic Cruise, Aug 20 to Orangeville</i>	<i>10 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Richard Murray, Lynda Gigg</i>
<i>ICR #4, Aug 25 to Port Carling</i>	<i>9 cars</i>	<i>Lead Bob and Carol Macaulay</i>
<i>Picnic Cruise, Sept 3 to Haliburton</i>	<i>12 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Mary Anne Love, John Dunn</i>
<i>ICR #5, Sept 9 to Carthew Bay</i>	<i>5 cars</i>	<i>lead Cal and Gail Lander</i>
<i>Picnic Cruise, Sept 17 to Craighleith</i>	<i>10 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Terry and Lindsey Day</i>
<i>ICR # 6, Sept 22 to Gravenhurst</i>	<i>5 cars</i>	<i>lead Gord and Laurel Bauldry</i>
<i>Fall Colours Tour, Oct 1</i>	<i>12 cars</i>	<i>CD’s Gord and Laurel Bauldry</i>



Many other members stepped up to volunteer as 'sweeps' for the events. "Many hands make light work" is certainly a slogan that applies to our volunteer organization. As we look forward to the 2021 cruising year, you are asked to seriously consider taking part in leading or helping to coordinate an event for the benefit of the group. Here is a hodge-podge of photos from some of the events of 2020, in no particular order. Can you figure out which picture or pictures goes with a particular 2020 event?









How Observant Are You?

How Good is Your Memory?

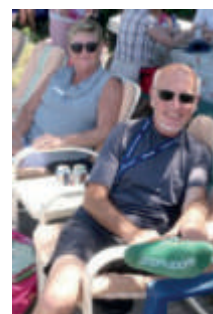
Who Wears this T-Shirt



Sooooo – which one of our club members wore this T-shirt during at least one of our club outings this past summer? Send me your answer.



Several of you knew the answer to a previous Miata Club Member identification quiz (Who wears these socks?) in a previous edition of the newsletter. Those of you who emailed me with the name Gary Helmer were correct!



Here's another one for you. Three parts to this quiz. Who is the owner/ driver of the car that sports this license plate? What do these letters represent? What is the model/ year of the MX5 that proudly carries this plate?



Fall Colours Cruise October 1, 2020

*Laurel and Gordon Bauldry,
CD's*



The cruise started off with cool, cloudy weather but 22 hardy people and 12 cars were not dismayed. With our tops down, off we went, with Gordon and I leading, Patty and Garry Walker as incredible sweeps and Cal and Gail Lander as our wonderful middle car, helping with communications. We also must thank our in-house photographer, Doug Jackson. Michael Topping stopped by to see us off, taking pictures up the road as we all passed by. We couldn't have done it without these wonderful helpers.



We left Bracebridge in a northerly direction and meandered through the scenic Muskoka countryside towards our luncheon spot at Rosseau Lakefront Park. After lunch, we continued north through the scenic town of

Rosseau, turning at County Road 632 to proceed down to Port Sandfield and Port Carling. Rain started, after holding off for at least one half of our cruise. Wendy, and her co-pilot Izzy, held out longer than the rest of us by putting their top up last. Quite the ladies!!! Two very nice gentlemen, (Terry and Cal) helped them with their car top when a small problem occurred.



Our final destination was Momma Bear's for ice cream or hot chocolate, depending on how cold everyone was feeling.

This was a wonderful run that I hope everyone enjoyed. Before ice cream we pulled into a parking lot to say goodbye to cars that were leaving sans ice cream. Even with Covid-19 restrictions, we had a very enjoyable cruising season.

Thank you to everyone for such an enjoyable season. I am a proud member of this great Miatas of Muskoka group, as I hope all of you are. Hope to see everyone in the 2021 season, if not sooner.

*Laurel and Gordon Bauldry,
Cruise Directors*





Farther Afield . . .



Michael Topping recently sent through this impressive photograph and said surely we could put this in our newsletter this time around to show an interesting driving road . I have no idea of the location or circumstances. Well here it is but it got me thinking.

I (Cal Lander) had the privilege of visiting China in 2008 and took a trip into the mountains. There I found these roads.



*Anyone
else have
impressive
road
photos??*



Mazda Chooses 50 Heroes To Get Free Special Edition Miata

Here are some of their stories.

A few months ago, Mazda announced a program called 'Mazda Heroes: Honoring The Human Spirit,' giving away 50 examples of the 2020 Mazda MX-5 Miata 100th Anniversary Special Edition to deserving heroes. Mazda asked for submissions of people around the country who selflessly gave back to their communities during the pandemic. After receiving more than 1,000 submissions, Mazda has chosen 50 individuals to receive the special edition Miata, including the Top 10 Mazda Heroes.

Mazda has provided a bit of back story for a few of the winners that show why they truly stand out as heroes. We particularly enjoy the story of Jason Erdreich, a shop teacher who did more than just help his students learn in an online format.

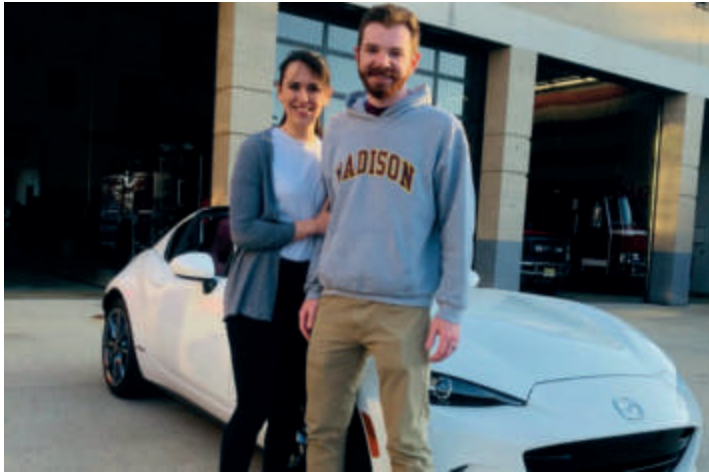
Erdreich gathered 3D printers to help create over 7,000 pieces of PPE equipment such as desk shields to help children return safely to the classroom. Not only did Erdreich dedicate himself to his community, but he also shares his love of Miatas

with the automotive community. In her submission video, Erdreich's wife Carla mentions that he

is the proud owner of an NA generation Miata, which he brings to local car shows. A brand-new white Mazda Miata RF 100th Anniversary Special Edition with a unique red interior now sits in his garage.

Mazda has announced a couple of the other heroes, including Christie Purviance (ICU Nurse) and Triana Davis (teacher). Good





Morning America honored three more this morning, including Michael Starr Thompson (youth football coach), Jennifer Williams (teacher), and Leandro de Araujo Pessoa (Good Samaritan). The other heroes

will be announced and honored through the end of 2020.

All 50 of these heroes will receive the keys to a special piece of Mazda's history as thanks for all that they have done to serve their communities. Mazda hasn't specified how many 100th Anniversary Miatas will be produced, but chances are the production number will be pretty limited.

