

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE | whathappeninginhowick@gmail.com

in Howick

accessible emergency response

The Howick Township Fire Department would like to recognize Rolling Acres Grain Inc. and the Renwick Family for their generous donation toward the purchase of all-season tracks for the department's UTV. This contribution followed a very successful snowmobile poker run hosted by Rolling Acres in 2025 and reflects their continued support of local emergency services.

The UTV was originally purchased in 2019 using Provincial grant funding. In 2025, the Township of Howick funded a custom pump and stretcher unit for the rear of the UTV, significantly expanding its operational capabilities. The new all-season tracks were made possible through the \$4,000 donation from Rolling Acres Grain Inc., combined with \$2,500 raised through fundraising breakfasts hosted by the Howick Firefighters Association.

This UTV is an invaluable tool for responding to snowmobile accidents and fires, patient extractions, field fires, and incidents where access by conventional fire apparatus is not possible. There are only two units of this type in service within Huron County, and the Howick Township



Photo L-R: Josh Kestner – Fire Chief, Doug Harkes – Deputy Fire Chief, Scott Price – Captain / Firefighter's Association President, Evan Renwick – Owner, Rolling Acres Grain. Photo by Nicole Beswitherick.

Fire Department is proud to provide this enhanced level of service to the residents of Howick and surrounding municipalities.

The department is currently fundraising for an enclosed trailer to transport the UTV and is hopeful that this final phase of the project can be completed in 2026. For more information on this initiative, please contact us at howickfire@howick.ca or 519-335-3202.

Community Calendar

CHILLI COOK-OFF - Super Bowl fun on Feb. 8 at the Wroxeter Hall. Chilli must be in a crock pot and arrive by 4pm. (Get your tag # for the pot). Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places.

"COME SEW WITH US" is sewing at the Howick Community Centre from 10am-3pm on Mondays Feb. 9 & 23. \$5. 519-335-3755.

HOWICK BLOOMERS will meet Feb. 9 at 2pm at the Howick Community Centre.

FAMILY DAY FESTIVAL at the Howick Community Centre, Sat. Feb. 14. See back page for details, and watch the Township Facebook page for a schedule of events.

POOL & EUCHRE TOURNAMENT at Wroxeter Hall, Sun. Feb. 15 at 1pm.

FAMILY DAY FREE SKATING PARTY - Mon. Feb. 16 from 12 - 2pm at the Howick Community Centre. See page 7.

PUB NIGHT at the Wroxeter Hall, Fri. Feb. 20. Doors open at 4, dinner at 6pm.

INFO NIGHT at Cornerstone Christian Academy Feb. 24, 7-9pm at Gorrie Bible Fellowship. See page 13.

BELMORE WING NIGHT - Fri. Feb. 27 at the Belmore Community Centre. Food served from 6-10pm. See page 7.

SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON by the Masons on Fri. Feb. 27 at the Wroxeter Community Hall. Come for warm soup, fresh sandwiches, and tasty desserts. 11am - 1pm.

RECIPE SWAP & SOCIAL - Sat. Feb. 28 from 11:30am-1pm at the Howick Library. Registration required. See page 6.

FORDWICH WINTER OLYMPICS - Sat. Mar. 7 at the Fordwich Ball Park, 1pm. Registration info on page 9.



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9		7	6	4	2	3	8	
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Administrative Clerk: Amanda.W@fordwichvillage.ca

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mind over matter

The snow and winds keep coming and coming. Buses continually cancelled, roads closed – it feels like a classic winter, though we're not accustomed to those anymore. I still see things I had meant to take care of outside before winter arrived early (and hasn't left), however those tasks will now have to wait for spring. My timeline isn't God's timeline. Something that I'm not always keen to accept.

My daughter is taking piano lessons, and we've had battles about how much time she should be practicing for. When I ask her to set a timer for five minutes, she moans and groans. But when I ask her to just play and I'll run a stopwatch on my phone, she tends to carry on for ten minutes

without a fuss. She loves to play piano but doesn't like to be told for how long. It's all about the mind set.

We can be a bit like that sometimes too. We want to do things our own way, without expectations or following rules. Sometimes it's good to do your own thing, while other times it might mean things don't get done, or not done correctly. Usually there is a reason why rules exist. I guess it depends on what you're doing – creativity and thinking outside the box is important too... lots of inventions wouldn't exist if people were afraid to try to do things differently. It's about finding the balance...

Here's to getting things done, whether traditionally or in a different way.

Angie Koersen



Deadline for the next issue is February 20.

whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com

519.292.0878

46075 Creamery Rd, Fordwich, N0G1V0



"How do you spell love? You don't spell it. You feel it"
– Winnie the Pooh

COUNCIL MEETING AND HOLIDAY

Please be advised that the Township of Howick Municipal Office will be closed on Family Day, **Monday, February 16, 2026**, and will re-open on **Tuesday, February 17 at 8:30a.m.** There is a mail slot located to the right of the front entrance for your convenience if you need it outside of our regular business hours.

February Council meetings are scheduled for **Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. and Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** Both meetings will take place in the Council Chambers at the Township Office. The 2026 Schedule of Regular Council Meetings can be found on our website.

INTERIM TAX BILL

The 2026 Interim Tax Bills will be mailed out this month. If you do not receive your bill by the beginning of March, please contact Finance staff at the Township office. Your interim bill calculation is based on 50% of your 2025 final tax billing. The due dates for this bill are **March 21st and May 23rd.**

FAMILY DAY SKATE

Enjoy **FREE** Public Skating this Family Day Monday, February 16th, 2026, at the Howick Community Centre from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. sponsored by the Howick Women's Institute.

MARCH BREAK DAY CAMP

Thinking ahead to March Break? Registration is now open for our March Break Day Camp! Learn about the Elements with themed days and a PJ & "Elemental" Movie day on Friday. **Cost is \$32 per child per day (\$160/week).** Early drop-off and late pick-up available, extra fees apply. Visit our website or email recreation@howick.ca for more information.

HOWICK OPTIMIST POOL SEASONAL POSITIONS - APPLY NOW!!

The Township of Howick Recreation Department is seeking energetic, outgoing and responsible applicants to assist with the operations of the Howick Optimist Pool for Summer 2026. We are looking for motivated individuals to fill the following seasonal positions:

Head Lifeguard

Assistant Head Lifeguard

Aquatic Instructors/Lifeguards

Lifeguards-in-Training/Aquatic Assistants

See page 18 for more information.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES –

Application Deadline February 19, 2026

Wroxeter Hall Board

The Wroxeter Hall Board is responsible for overseeing the operation and use of the hall on behalf of the municipality. Acting in an advisory role to Council and municipal staff

Fordwich Cemetery Board – Two (2) Positions Available

The Fordwich Cemetery Board is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Fordwich Cemetery, on behalf of the Township of Howick. While this is a volunteer position a small stipend is offered to acknowledge the time and commitment involved.

More details are available on page 5 or on our website.

CURBSIDE GARBAGE AND RECYCLING - MISSED COLLECTIONS

As we continue to navigate the Province's new producer-led recycling system and the ongoing service disruptions being experienced with Waste Management, we would like to sincerely apologize for any missed collections. We understand how frustrating these disruptions are, and please know that Township staff share in that frustration. Our priority is ensuring residents receive the reliable waste and recycling services they are paying for.

Township staff are actively working with Waste Management to improve consistency and reliability in curbside collection for all residents. **To help ensure successful collection, all garbage and recycling must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.** If materials are not curbside when the truck passes, this is not considered a missed collection. Waste Management collection vehicles are equipped with GPS technology and will soon include onboard cameras to further monitor and verify curbside pickups.

If you experience a missed collection, we ask that you first contact Waste Management at 1-800-561-1655, and then notify the Howick Township Office 519-335-3208. Township staff are closely tracking missed collections and using this information to work with the contractor to address service gaps.

Looking ahead, Howick Township will be transitioning to an
WWW.HOWICK.CA/WHIH

automated waste and recycling curbside collection system beginning in 2026. Waste Management Canada is currently awaiting delivery of new automated dual-collection trucks, anticipated to arrive between May and July. Once the new fleet is operational, 64-gallon waste carts will be delivered to all Howick properties, including residential, business, industrial, commercial, and institutional properties. In addition, 95-gallon recycling carts will be provided to all eligible residential properties.

We strongly encourage residents to make full use of the curbside collection service provided. The new cart system will help keep garbage and recycling securely contained, reducing issues with animals, wind, and scattered debris, while also supporting more efficient and consistent collection.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work through these challenges and toward a more reliable and modern waste collection system for our community.

BURN PERMITS

2026 Open-Air Burn Permits are now available for purchase through the Municipal Office, or at howick.burnpermits.com

- There are 2 types of permits available to rural (outside village boundaries) residents ONLY: an Open-Air Burn Permit, which is valid for 1 calendar year, and a Special Exemption Burn Permit, valid only when approved by the Fire Chief.
- The price for Open-Air Burn Permits remains the same at \$50.00 annually.
- Permit holders are required to report any active burning. Reporting fires to howick.burnpermits.com can be done through a toll-free number (located on your permit) or through the online portal. The Fire Department staff will be automatically notified of your active burning.

Residents who purchased a 2025 Open-Air Burn Permit and wish to renew for 2026 can do so by contacting the Operations Administrative Assistant Jess Miller at 519-357-8451, via email at howickfire@howick.ca or jmiller@howick.ca or online at howick.burnpermits.com

CANINE CONTROL

A reminder to all dog owners that all dogs residing in Howick Township must be registered with the Township annually on or before March 31st. 2026 dog registration invoices were mailed out in January to all currently registered dog owners.



Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

WROXETER HALL BOARD MEMBERS

The Wroxeter Hall Board is responsible for overseeing the operation and use of the hall on behalf of the municipality. Acting in an advisory role to Council and municipal staff.

Responsibilities typically include providing input on rentals, usage policies, and fees; identifying maintenance or capital improvement needs; supporting community events and programming.

FORDWICH CEMETERY BOARD MEMBERS (2) POSITIONS

The Fordwich Cemetery Board is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Fordwich Cemetery, on behalf of the Township of Howick.

Duties include scheduling regular maintenance, sales of plots/niches and arranging for interments.

Board members ensure the Fordwich Cemetery is a peaceful, serene place for past and current community members while visiting.

While this is a volunteer position a small stipend is offered to acknowledge the time and commitment involved.

Application Deadline - February 19, 2026
form available on our website www.howick.ca




If you received an invoice and no longer have a dog, or the number of dogs has changed, please contact the Operations Administrative Assistant Jess Miller 519-357-8451. It is the responsibility of dog owner(s) to ensure that all dog(s) are licenced and to contact the Township if there are any changes in ownership.

2025 Dog Registration prices are as follows:

1st dog - \$30.00

2nd dog - (an additional) \$50.00

3rd dog - (an additional) \$100.00.

Kennel Licence - \$200.00 for 4-10 dogs, plus \$25 per dog for more than 10.

Kennel operators are required to book an inspection prior to the issuance of a license.

On March 31st 2026 Dog Tag Fees increase to 2x the original fee will be applied to your account.

Lost Dog Tag? No problem! Replacement Dog Tags can be purchased at the Township Office for \$5 each and do not need replaced annually.

2026 HOWICK TOWNSHIP DOG REGISTRATION

Name of Dog Owner(s) _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Mailing Address of Owner _____

1. Dog's Name _____ Breed _____ Age ____ Sex ____ Neutered/Spayed (circle)

2. Dog's Name _____ Breed _____ Age ____ Sex ____ Neutered/Spayed (circle)

3. Dog's Name _____ Breed _____ Age ____ Sex ____ Neutered/Spayed (circle)

Colours/Markings: Dog 1: _____

Dog 2: _____

Dog 3: _____

FEE ENCLOSED _____ (1st - \$30, 2nd - \$50, 3rd - \$100, Replacement Tag \$5)

All fields must be completed to be processed

Return to Howick Township Office with payment enclosed

Payment by Cash, Cheque or Interac at Township Office

Cheques made payable to: Township of Howick.

Pay by debit, credit or e-transfer online via www.howick.ca (service fees apply)

Though your sins
are like scarlet,
they shall be as
white as snow

ISAIAH 1:18

PHOTO BY LIZ ALLAN

REGISTRATION OPEN

January 16 - March 20, 2026
for KK - U12

Please contact us if you are
interested in being a
coach or referee!

HOWICK HUSTLE

howickminorsoccer.ca

Thank You

We would like to express our wholehearted gratitude to our home community and to all those who have shown us such incredible love, care, support, and encouragement over the past month and a half since our daughter's brain cancer diagnosis. It has been a truly humbling experience to witness the depth of kindness and thoughtfulness that has been extended to our family.

There are honestly too many people to thank individually. We think of our families, close friends, colleagues, our wider community, our church family, and even people we have never met, who have reached out in meaningful ways. Thank you for every message, prayer, kind word, thoughtful gesture, offer of help, and generous act of support. Each one has carried us through moments that felt overwhelming.

We hope this message reaches all those who have been there for us and who have so graciously given their time, effort, love, and resources to support our family. Please know that your kindness has not gone unnoticed. We are deeply grateful and continue to trust God as we walk this journey, knowing we are not alone.

With thankful hearts,
Adam and Laurissa Boonstra
(Madilyn, Patrick, and Josie)



HOWICK LIBRARY

*February
Announcements*

SKIP THE LINES! Looking for a new/popular book, but don't want to wait? Drop into any Huron Public Library branch to borrow one of our Skip the Lines books. We have a great selection of "no holds allowed" items and you can check them out for a week.

The **EarlyON PROGRAM** comes to Howick Library **every Monday from 10-11:30am**. Bring your 0-6 year old child and come play together!

RECIPE SWAP & SOCIAL, **Saturday February 28th** from 11:30am - 1pm at the Howick branch. Share a favourite recipe and pick up a new one to try. Bring tasty snack-sized samples. Ages 13+.

Registration required, please contact the library to register 519-335-6899 or howicklibrary@huroncounty.ca.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL Huron County Library branches will be closed on Monday February 16, for Family Day. Come in beforehand and check out some fun things to share with your family!

BELMORE WING NIGHT

Friday
Feb. 27



AT THE BELMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE

FOOD SERVED FROM 6:00 - 10:00 PM, REFRESHMENTS UNTIL 1:00 AM

Join us for one of Belmore's favourite community nights — Wing Night is back! We'll be serving wings, fries, and poutine, with cold refreshments flowing all night.

Bring your friends, family, and your appetite!

Snowmobile parking and entrance available behind the community centre.
In-person orders only. Take-out available

FAMILY DAY FREE SKATING PARTY

MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 16
12 NOON - 2PM

HOT DOGS

COOKIES

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COMMUNITY
CENTRE

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3.5 ton Mini Excavator
4.8 ton Mini Excavator
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65 Hp Track Skid Steer
75 Hp Track Skid Steer
97 Hp Track Skid Steer

SKID STEER

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Stump Grinder
Tree Spade
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Post Pounder
Concrete Breaker
Turbine Leaf Blower
Powered Landscape Rake
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FORDWICH Winter Olympics

Sat. March 7, 2026

AT THE
Fordwich Ball Park

Starts at 1:00pm Sharp

Registration Fee:
\$100/team of 4-6

To register, text Sam at 519.291.0069

and e-transfer the registration fee to

Margie at magmcc45@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/fordwichparks

Please register by Feb. 20, 2026

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Maitland Valley camera CLUB

Our first meeting was held on Thursday, January 8th. We were very pleased to have photographers Gary Moon and Mark Robinson at our meeting. A very informative session was presented by Gary. He brought a large variety of his enlarged printed photos for display. He gave many suggestions when looking through the view finder or at a scene. Here are a few.... Is it eye catching? Is there a WOW factor? Do I see a photo within the photo? What is the final use for the photo? You need to leave room to crop to the desired size! Also consider better use of composition, colour balance/design, lightning and point of view, you need to move up and down to take higher and lowers photos. Does your photo engage the viewer? Gary gave an excellent slide show presentation! We thank Gary.

Want to know more? Come to our next meeting! This meeting will be a presentation by Mark Robinson. It will be held on Thursday, February 5th at 7pm in the Meeting Room of the Brussels Library.

December to March we meet the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Brussels Library Meeting Room. April to November the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Come join us and have some fun!



DEB GRIFFEY

GIFTS & GRATITUDE

On December 17, 2025 the Fordwich Village Nursing Home held their annual Family and Resident Christmas Party with music provided by The Hayward's. Afterwards, Santa paid them a surprise visit complete with gifts that reflected each individual Resident's likes. Everyone was so thrilled with this afternoon of fun and frolic! Thank you to

everyone who helped to organize and those who were a Secret Santa for the Residents at Christmas time. What an amazing and generous community we live in! A true example of how our Fordwich Family is part of a larger family.



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Homecoming Kickoff was just a little taste of all the fun ahead as we celebrate 170 years of heritage, harvest, and heart in Howick.

SAVE THE DATE! July 3-5, 2026

Join us for a weekend filled with community pride, celebration, and homegrown fun – with events and experiences for all ages.



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR:

- Event registration details
- Pop-up events throughout the year
- Weekend pass purchases
- Sponsorship opportunities

This is just the beginning – Homegrown in Howick 2026 is going to be something special.

www.howickhomecoming2026.com

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Info Night



24th February 2026



7:00PM- 9:00PM



Gorrie Bible Fellowship
87917 Gorrie Line, Gorrie



Includes a presentation about classical education



CCA distinctives &



Enrolment Information (tuition, deadlines, etc.)

If you have any interest in the school, we invite you to come out!

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PHOTO BY LIZ ALLAN

DONATION RESULTS

Nora, Keith, McKinley Orr and Jeff Hawkins presented a cheque to the Fordwich Village Nursing Home Resident's Council from the collection of the pop cans. The cheque was for \$911.44. This is approximately 17,000 pop cans. Thank you to all who donated the pop cans.



PHOTOS BY LIZ ALLAN

The Wroxeter Community Hall Board currently has two opportunities on the board. The first is a **Chairman** for the board and the second is a **Treasurer**. If you would like to be part of a thriving hall, please contact any board member. An ideal way to be part of the community.

Want to keep up to date on the events at the hall? We're on Facebook! Wroxeter Community Hall.

The hall is available for you to book for your special event. Contact Carol Edgar.

The Coffee is on!! Weekday mornings from 6am to 10am, the hall is open for coffee. The Coffee Club welcomes you!

The next **Pool and Euchre Tournament** will be on Sunday, February 15th, 2026 at 1:00pm.

What are you doing Friday, February 20th? Leave the couch and the TV and join us for **Pub Night!** Doors are open at 4:00pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm. Hope you can make it!

The Masonic Lodge is hosting a **Masonic Soup and Sandwich Luncheon** on Friday, February 27, 2026. Fresh sandwiches, delicious soup and yummy desserts on the menu! Soup is on from 11:00am to 1:00pm. The Masons give back and support our local community. The doors open at 4:00pm and at 6:00pm, delicious farmers sausage, baked potatoes, vegetables and desserts are served. All for \$7. A great Pub Night.

Thanks goes to the volunteers for cooking the tasty dinner and to the people who were able to make it on the snowy and blowing night.

Thanks to everyone who joined in for some fun at the Pool and Euchre Tournament on Sunday, January 18th. The games began at 1:00pm.

The members of the hall board appreciate your continued support. Thank you!

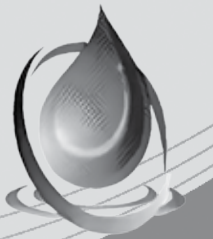
PHOTOS BY LIZ ALLAN



WROXETER HALL NEWS

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HOWICK OPTIMIST CLUB
"Friend of Youth"

**Thank you all for your continued support over all
the years in Howick Township.**

Donations are focused in many ways to help the young people of the community. Contributions go towards various sports leagues, The Howick Optimist Pool, Howick Arena, Local Food Banks and Hospitals & More. We could not do this without the generosity of our volunteers and club members and the community as a whole.

Obituaries

In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still,
In our hearts you hold a place
That no one could ever fill.

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN



DINSMORE, Peter. At Wingham & District Hospital on Friday, December 26th, 2025, Peter Dinsmore of Gorrie passed away at the age of 74. Devoted husband of Linda (Watson) Dinsmore. Loving dad of Sheldon & Bethany Dinsmore, Kristen & Steve Beyersbergen and Adam & Lindsay Dinsmore. Cherished grandpa of Ryan and Gillian (Blake) Dinsmore, Liam, Aiden and Ethan Beyersbergen and Avery, Gavin and Reid Dinsmore. Dear son of Irene (Bell) Dinsmore & the late Carl Dinsmore. Brother of Carol & Don Taylor. Brother-in-law of John Lennon, Don & Donna Watson, Jack & Lynne Watson, Murray & Tania Watson, Carol & Doug Kopp and Norm & Sheri Watson. Peter will be missed by his many nieces and nephews and their families. Predeceased by his sister Gail Lennon, brother Jerry Dinsmore in infancy, parents-in-law Wilma & Earl Williamson and Lyle Watson and brother-in-law Garry Watson. A private funeral service was held in the funeral home chapel on Saturday, January 3rd, 2026. A Celebration of Peter's life will be held in the spring at the family farm. Final resting place, Wroxeter Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Wingham & District Hospital Foundation would be appreciated.



COOK, Marjorie. Peacefully at Wingham & District Hospital on Friday, January 9, 2026, Marjorie Cook of Wingham passed away at the age of 88. Cherished mother of Leesa & Allan Kerr of Wroxeter. Loving grandma of Brandon & Shelley Kerr, Justin Kerr, Travis & Bev Kerr and Matthew & Samantha Kerr and adored great-grandma of Adelyn, James, Deklan, Jevyn, Rory, Bishop, Ellis, Peyton and Nolyn. Marjorie will be deeply missed by her beloved friend Verna Steffler and her family, whose bond with Marjorie was that of sisters. Predeceased by her parents Harvey & Dorothy (Flynn) Cook and brother Robert Cook. Visitation was held at McBurney Funeral Home, Wingham on Thursday, January 15, 2026 from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 12:00 noon. Reception followed at the Wingham Columbus Centre. Interment will take place in the spring at Mount Zion Cemetery, Chatsworth. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Wingham Horticultural Society (cheques only), St. Paul's Trinity Anglican Church or the North Huron Food Share would be appreciated.

Community CHURCHES

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The Regional Ministry of Hope

519-357-4883

Gorrie Bible Fellowship

www.gbfbchurch.net

Find us on Facebook

Join us for Sunday morning services at **10:00am**. All are welcome.

Sunday evening services begin at **6:30pm**.

519.335.3500 | gorriebible@gmail.com

MCINTOSH & MILD MAY UNITED CHURCHES

**Worship will take place at
Mildmay United Church during
Jan, Feb & Mar 2026,
Sundays at 10am.
All are welcome as always.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Dave - 519.392.6710 or Deanne - 519.418.9748



GOODKEY, Gary. The family is heartbroken to announce the unexpected passing of Gary on Sunday, January 18, 2026 at the age of 50 years. Loving husband and best friend of Diane (Service) Goodkey for 26 years. Devoted father of Kaleb, Grace, Liam, Alana, and Joel. Cherished son of Jerry and Betty Goodkey and son-in-law of the late Ian and Helen Service. Dear

brother of Janice (Marc), Kim, Pam, and brother-in-law of Andrew (Jen), Alan (Gaby), and Dave (Carol). Will be deeply missed by many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his grandfather Fleming Goodkey. Gary loved Jesus and was a gifted preacher. He had the rare ability to teach truth clearly and humbly, always with pastoral care and compassion and a call to action. He was a true shepherd who was able to capture a crowd as well as connect with an individual. Gary's impact will continue to be felt by the many communities he served. Visitation took place on Monday, January 26, 2026 from 1-3 and 6-8 p.m. at Wallenstein Bible Chapel, 4522 Herrgott Rd., Wallenstein. A celebration of life was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at Wallenstein Bible Chapel with a reception to follow. A private family interment will take place at a later date. As expressions of sympathy, donations to Compassion Canada would be appreciated and may be made through the Dreisinger Funeral Home, Elmira. www.dreisingerfuneralhome.com

WWW.HOWICK.CA/WHIH

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PASTOR KURT E. REINHARDT

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Sunday Divine Service 11am

519.291.1165 - trinity1874@gmail.com

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carel.grundlingh@gmail.com

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7 CLARKE ST. N., CLIFFORD

Rev. J. Rinas as Pastor

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Sunday Divine Service at 10am

stjohnsoffice@wightman.ca

Office: 519.327.8298

Church Basement: 519.327.8262

FORDWICH BIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

Family Worship Sundays 10:30 - 11:45

ROOTS & WINGS Sundays 11 - 11:45

Children: ages 3-10 years

Questions? Contact Pastor Mike or Terri

519.335.3479 - pastorbicfordwich@outlook.com

Facebook: "Fordwich BIC Community Church"

CLASSIFIEDS

POP CANS: will be picked up the first Saturday of each month. You may leave your pop cans in clear plastic bags at the end of your laneway. Monies from the pop cans will go to the Resident's Council of the Fordwich Nursing Home. We thank you for your donation.

WEIGHT WATCHERS meets Tuesday evenings in Hot Stove Lounge, North Huron Westcast Community Centre, Wingham. Check in starts at 5:30pm, meeting starts at 6pm.

IS YOUR DRINKING A PROBLEM OR CONCERN? Help is available. Please call Alcoholics Anonymous for information and local meeting times. All calls are private and confidential. 519-500-0278

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) meets at the Salvation Army Building at 205 Josephine St. in Wingham Thursdays at 9:40am. Come join us on our healthy weight loss journey. Everyone welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ONE CARE is a non-profit agency that supports individuals to stay in their home longer. We need Volunteer Transportation Drivers in the Fordwich, Gorrie and Wroxeter areas to assist clients to Medical Appointments, Adult Day Program and Social Outings. All volunteers receive training and mileage is reimbursed. Call for more info, 1-877-502-8277 or email volunteering@onecaresupport.ca.

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Amanda.W@fordwichvillage.ca

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whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com



HOWICK OPTIMIST POOL SEASONAL POSITIONS

The Township of Howick Recreation Department is seeking energetic, outgoing and responsible applicants to assist with the operations of the Howick Optimist Pool for Summer 2026. We are looking for motivated individuals to fill the following seasonal positions:

Head Lifeguard

Assistant Head Lifeguard

Aquatic Instructors/Lifeguards

Lifeguards-in-Training/Aquatic Assistants

In any of the above positions, you will be responsible for providing aquatic supervision through water safety prevention and emergency response, as well as providing a fun and creative aquatics environment for participants to learn and develop lifesaving skills.

- Previous lifeguarding experience is an asset
- Prior experience working with children is an asset
- Candidates applying for Aquatic Instructor/Lifeguard must be 15+ years of age and possess their Bronze Cross and Standard First Aid/CPR C Certificate with current NLS, LSS certifications or willing to enroll in future course offerings (Employment is conditional upon certification prior to start date. Any related costs are the sole responsibility of the applicant)
- Candidates for Lifeguard in Training/Aquatic Assistant must be 14+ years of age and possess their Bronze Cross and Standard First Aid/CPR C (Employment is conditional upon certification prior to start date. Any related costs are the sole responsibility of the applicant)
- Satisfactory Police Reference Check - Vulnerable Sector (Age 16+)
- All positions at the Howick Optimist Pool have varying hours which may include daytime, weeknights and weekends.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a cover letter, resume and photocopy of any qualifications/certifications that are required for employment before 12:00pm on Friday, February 20, 2026 to:

Township of Howick

**Attention: Brady Ropp, Manager of Recreation
44816 Harriston Road, Gorrie, ON N0G 1X0
Via email: recreation@howick.ca**

Please specify on your cover letter which position(s) you are applying for. Detailed Job descriptions are available on the Township of Howick website at: howick.ca/township-services/employment-opportunities-in-howick

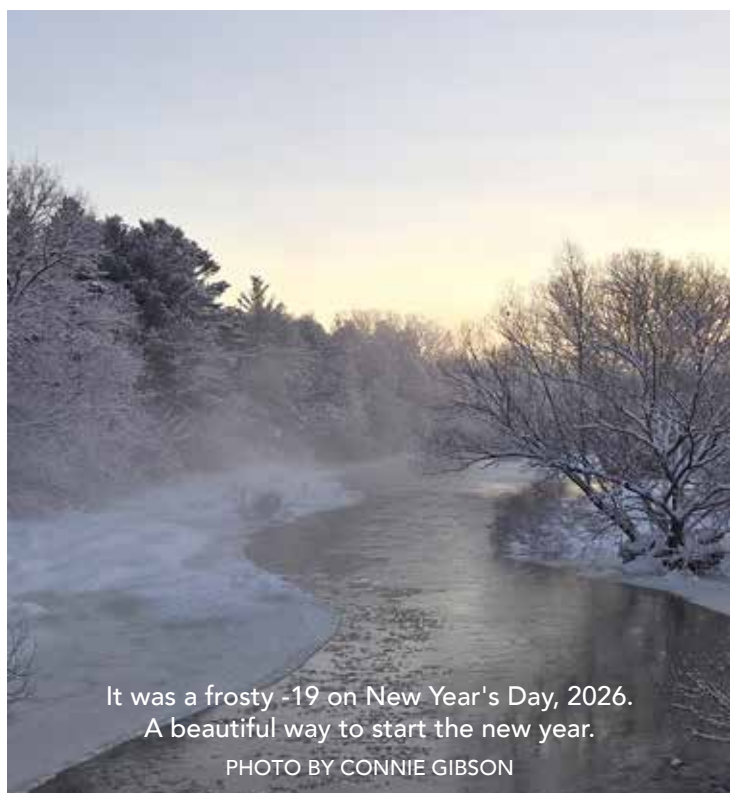


community spirit

Hockey Day was a huge success, bringing our community together for a full day of local hockey. It was great to see the arena packed with fans and happy kids on and off the ice. A sincere thank you to all the volunteers and organizers who helped make the day run smoothly, and to everyone who came out to support. The strong turnout and positive energy truly showcased the spirit of our community.

Thank You

Thanks to all our plow operators for continuing to clear the way as we've experienced snow upon snow upon snow this winter.



It was a frosty -19 on New Year's Day, 2026.
A beautiful way to start the new year.

PHOTO BY CONNIE GIBSON



**HOWICK
BLOOMERS**

**JANUARY
UPDATE**



1

In the December issue of "What's Happening in Howick," readers of this column were challenged to identify ten different white flowers. As promised, here are the answers:



2

1. **LILY TREE**, variety 'Pretty woman'. Bulbs for those lilies average \$6 each.



3

2. **BRIDAL WREATH SPIREA**. This hardy shrub puts on a great show in early spring.



4

3. **QUEEN ANNE'S LACE**. Although often regarded as a weed the umbel shaped flowers truly resemble lace. There are several look alike plants including the herb Sweet Cicely.



5

4. **CANDYTUFT** a low growing ground cover. Virtually evergreen, spreads slowly.



6

5. A young **CHERRY TREE** in full bloom, followed by hundreds of cherries always picked by birds before humans get a chance, variety Cupid, companion dwarf cherries are Romeo and Juliet rounding out the Shakespeare trio.



7

6. **CLEMATIS**, variety 'Toki'. Clematis are available in a rainbow of colours.



8

7. **PEONY**. Variety unknown. Peonies are very long lived and are also available in a wide range of colours and flower forms, from single to double.



9

8. **SWEET WILLIAM**, a member of the Dianthus family. Like many other plants the flowers come in a variety of colours. A cottage garden favourite, easy to raise from seed but they don't flower until the second year



10

9. **PHLOX**, variety 'David', a fairly tall variety, best at the back of a border flower bed.

10. **HYDRANGEA**, variety 'Annabelle.' One of the older varieties but very reliable with dozens of large (30cm) flowers that last for weeks. The blooms dry well for winter arrangements.

Well done if you named every plant correctly.

The Bloomers will meet on **February 9th at 2pm**, Howick Community Centre.



45088 Harriston Rd Gorrie, ON

FAMILY DAY *Festival*

FEBRUARY 14TH 2026

Come out for some family day fun with a public
Glow skate to start the event off at **5**,
hockey games to watch,
Optimist chicken wings,
Draw being held for *side by side*
and *Fireworks* to wrap up a fun day!

Watch the Township of Howick Facebook page for a schedule of events.