

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BULLETIN



March 2023

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# Co-Presidents' Message

Since March is here can spring be far behind? We never know exactly when spring will arrive, but we do know March brings many opportunities for learning, socializing and working together at the club. This Bulletin contains information about our recognition of **International Women's Day with a special speaker** on Friday, March 10th, the continuation of the Sunday afternoon Power of Art series, and many other interesting and enjoyable events and activities.

The next time you are at Ralph Connor House take a moment to look at the **Centennial Organization Award** on the piano in the drawing room which we received from Dan Furlan, President of the Manitoba Historical Society at the General Meeting in February. It is an award granted to non-profit and not-for-profit organizations that have operated continuously for 100 years or more and have contributed to their community in a variety of ways.

We look forward to seeing you soon at the club.

Carolynne and Ellen

## The University Women's Club of Winnipeg receives Centennial Organization Award from the Manitoba Historical Society.

On Monday, February 13th, the University Women's Club of Winnipeg (UWC) was honoured to welcome Dan Furlan, President of the Manitoba Historical Society (MHS) for the presentation of the Centennial Organization Award after a more than two-year delay due to Covid. This award is granted to non-profit and not-for-profit groups that have operated continuously in Manitoba for 100 years or more and who have contributed to their communities in the areas of culture, economic development, education, health, heritage, labour, politics, recreation and sport, religion, and social reform. UWC can tick off a number of those boxes!

The University Women's Club of Winnipeg was founded in 1909 as a vehicle for the new outgoing professional woman. Its early membership included such activists as Lillian Benyon Thomas and Dr. Mary Crawford. Besides the lighter aspects of social and literary functions, UWC sponsored meetings with such figures as J.S. Woodsworth, Nellie McClung, and the famous British suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst. This was an organization of a different nature to most other womens' groups at the time. In the struggle for the vote and prohibition, middle-class women banded together for strength and discovered the rewards of joint action. That legacy continues to this day, with a major part of UWC's membership activities focused on advocacy, continued education, and scholarship.

"As we close in on our 114th year, this is a wonderful opportunity to take a moment of reflection and recognize that we stand on the shoulders of women who came before us and this award is a tribute to those women who fought very hard so that we as women could be in this place now... for our rights under the law, and our right to choose our place in the workplace, in the home, in education, in medicine, in politics, in fact our place in the world. Thank you to those women. And thank you to the Manitoba Historical Society." – Shelagh Marchenski, UWC Current Issues and Actions Committee Chair

We were very excited to have Cody Sellers from the Free Press Community Review provide a write-up covering the honour of this award. Read the article online [HERE](#).

## In Memory of Velma Motheral

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Though you may have read the obituary of our late member I would like to add more to the account by adding some references to her many years as a member of the University Women's club.

When Velma applied for membership in 1961 (Annual Fees - \$9.00) the club had a thriving membership of over two hundred ranging from those who were already long time members to fairly recent graduates. They had all lived through WW2 and were in various stages of life experience – many employed in various professions, some as young brides and/or mothers and others nearing the empty nest situation but all affected by the recent loss of loved ones.



*Velma Adell Motheral*

July 16, 1923 ~ February 10, 2023 (age 99)

The club was a hive of activities with residents and staff living on the upper floors of the building. Velma had many memories to share from that era and did so with her unique blend of good nature and homespun humour. The pictures she shared were of very different period which held little resemblance to our present situation.

She recalled the “Young Grads” group who planned and shared gourmet dinners, “Green Thumbs” who cared for the grounds and gardens, “Handicrafts” whose efforts were sold as fund raising and others who toiled to paint and redecorate when space became available on the second floor. She told of the 80's convention when the club brought Margaret Mead as a visiting speaker to Winnipeg and of the 90's presentation of “The Metis Suite”.

After the Handicrafts group aged and changed into the Sunroom Group, Velma and her late sister Elva cherished the time they spent with this special cluster of friends. Sadly its numbers shrank over time and every effort has been made to keep it active. Velma's part in keeping the past fresh has been a highlight of Thursday afternoons. We will miss her greatly.

## Scholarship Corner

By now you should have received your receipts for your 2022 contributions to the Scholarship Fund. We, and the students who most benefit from them, are most grateful for all funds received.

Scholarship and bursary recipients in the various post-secondary institutions and arts organizations are gradually being identified and receiving their scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee is re-examining the terms of reference and the histories of some of our scholarships in order to increase the value and impact of each scholarship. This is a lengthy process that requires an in-depth look at the information in our files and in the files already submitted to the Manitoba Archives. We hope to clarify the number of years each scholarship has existed, records of commitments made in the past, and then make recommendations for combining some scholarships and increasing the value of others. The financial needs of our recipients are uppermost in our minds.



UNIVERSITY  
**WOMEN'S  
CLUB**

54 WEST GATE

# LUNCH AND SPEAKER

## Celebrating International Women's Day

### My Story, My Journey!

Join us **Friday March 10th**, as we celebrate International Women's Day with our guest Social Justice Advocate Wilma Derksen. Wilma, a recipient of the Order of Manitoba, will tell us her compelling story of how the murder of her daughter Candace completely changed her identity and the direction of her life to one of advocacy for families impacted by violent crimes. Cost is **\$30** for members and non-members, with proceeds directed to UWC's Scholarship Trust Fund. We will also have a special door prize.



Strength, conviction, grit, compassion and forgiveness are words used to describe Wilma Derksen.

In November 1984 Wilma and Cliff Derksen's 13-year-old daughter, Candace, went missing on her way home from school in Winnipeg, Canada. It wasn't until 22 years later that Mark Grant was charged with her murder and received a 25 year life sentence. However in 2017, Grant was found 'not guilty' in a second trial and released.

**Bar Opens: 11:30 Lunch: 12:00 Speaker: 1:15 pm**

**Menu:** Chicken Breast stuffed with Goat Cheese and Red Pepper, Pear William Potatoes, Green Beans, and Cheesecake garnished with Fresh Berries (Substitutions available instead if requested in advance)

**Register** for this event by signing up [online](https://mymts.net), by emailing [uwcadmin@mymts.net](mailto:uwcadmin@mymts.net), calling 204-954-7880, or in person at UWC.

Payment upon registration is preferred but may be received at the door by cash or cheque. Refunds will be provided with a minimum 24 hour notice. Registrations without payment in advance will be charged the full fee if not cancelled 24 hours before the event (some exceptions apply).



## DINNER AND SPEAKER

### Building Age Friendly Communities

On Wednesday, **March 22nd**, Connie Newman, Executive Director of Manitoba Association of Senior Centres and Age Friendly Manitoba Initiative will share information about the organization she represents. Connie is an advocate for older adults in Manitoba, encouraging active aging and community development. Keeping our minds and bodies active helps to assist those in need of information and support as we all age together. Please join us for what promises to be a very informative evening!



**Connie Newman,**  
Executive Director of  
Manitoba Association of  
Senior Centres and Age  
Friendly Manitoba  
Initiative

**AGE FRIENDLY**  
Manitoba

Creating communities committed to  
healthy, active aging.

**Bar Opens: 5 pm Dinner: 6 pm Presentation: 7:15 pm**  
**\$35 for Members and Non-Members**

**Menu:** Pickerel Almondine, Rice, Balsamic Roasted Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Strawberry Shortcake. (Substitutions available if requested in advance).

**Register** for this event by signing up [online](#), by emailing [uwcadmin@mymts.net](mailto:uwcadmin@mymts.net), calling 204-954-7880, or in person at UWC.

Payment upon registration is preferred but may be received at the door by cash or cheque. Refunds will be provided with a minimum 24 hour notice. Registrations without payment in advance will be charged the full fee if not cancelled 24 hours before the event (some exceptions apply).

# Continuing Education presents its Spring 2023 Lecture Series:

## Power of Print: Powerful Women in Print

**Tuesday mornings from April 11 until May 16, 9:45-11:45am**

Cost: Members: \$65 Non-members: \$80

Registration Dates: Wednesday March 1 (Members),  
& Wednesday March 8 (Non-members)



We have a stellar line-up of distinguished local speakers whose topics will take us from contemporary Manitoban publishing back to the time of Queen Elizabeth I. Join us on our literary journey!

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| April 11: <b>Charlene Diehl</b>    | Women Talking, Women Writing: A Manitoba Perspective                          |
| April 18: <b>Mavis Reimer</b>      | That Anne-Girl: L.M. Montgomery's Iconic Character in the Context of Her Time |
| April 25: <b>Valerie Chelangat</b> | Have You Read...? Voices from Africa and beyond                               |
| May 2: <b>Michelle Faubert</b>     | The Marriage Market in Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility                    |
| May 9: <b>Vanessa Warne</b>        | A Woman at Work: Bram Stoker's Dracula and the Marvellous Mina Harker         |
| May 16: <b>Judith Owens</b>        | Writings by and about Queen Elizabeth I                                       |

Starting Wednesday, March 8th, non-members can sign up [online](https://www.uwcadmin@mymts.net), at the club, by email to [uwcadmin@mymts.net](mailto:uwcadmin@mymts.net), by phoning the office at (204) 954-7880. For Continuing Education courses, payment in advance is appreciated!

Coffee / tea will be available at 9:30 and at the break. Lunch after the lecture is always an option, so sign up in advance as usual to stay and chat about what you've learned.

Refunds will be provided with a minimum 24 hour notice. Registrations without payment in advance will be charged the full fee if not cancelled 24 hours before the start of the series (some exceptions apply).

## Welcome March and International Women's Day!

The CIA committee has continued to follow up on its identified priorities.

Our letter to Rochelle Squires, Minister of Families, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, has been the first step in supporting CFUW's resolution advocating for changes to bail conditions in situations of intimate partner violence. **One of CFUW's guiding principles has always been the protection of women and this resolution to tighten bail laws would provide further protection for victims of intimate partner violence.**

Is this a pervasive problem? Quoting Minister Squires: "Manitoba has some of the highest rates of intimate partner violence and family violence in Canada". A study by the federal Department of Justice revealed that 50% of partners charged with intimate partner assault violate their bail conditions.

**Our commitment to supporting the CFUW resolution regarding single-use plastics and packaging has made us more conscious of other environmental issues.**

## February 18 was National Battery Day.

Did you know that used batteries make up less than 1% of all waste found in municipal landfills. But that 1% is responsible for 88% of all the toxic heavy metal found in the landfill. The elements in a battery can be completely recycled. Learn more at:

<https://www.rawmaterials.com/page/education/battery-inside/>

To assist in the recycling of batteries we are making it possible for you to drop off any used household batteries at the club. We will make sure that they are taken to an appropriate recycling collection site. So when the eveready bunny dies, bring him to the club for a second life!

Follow UWC on Facebook and  
Instagram!



CFUW is active in so many ways – it is a challenge to share all that is going on. But of note, here are a few items:

- A special thank you from the Canadian Women 4 Women in Afghanistan: *CW4WAfghan would like to thank the Canadian Federation of University Women for making our DD Library (Digital/Remote) their National Service Project for 2022/23. This initiative has raised approximately \$12,000 for our DD Library! We are honored and thankful for your ongoing support and collaboration in enabling the human right to education for Afghan women, girls, and their families.*
- **International Women's Day** is coming up, and CFUW reminds of the many activities across the country, and resources available. (**Note UWCW's event March 10th**).
- **The CFUW Meet and Greet (February 16) was definitely a positive event** – 12 of us shared the time (along with soup and sandwich). There were over 102 on the call, with President Joy Hurst chairing the meeting, and I thought she did a superb job.
- CFUW is on Parliament Hill with several Ontario clubs coming together to present a petition regarding CFUW Resolution on Strengthening Bail Laws to Protect Victims of IPV.
- CFUW is playing an active role in the upcoming meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, at the United Nations from March 6 to March 17.



## Calendar Collection 2023

We recently received a **thank you to everyone who contributed calendars this past year**. The total count was 646 calendars, which were divided among Deer Lodge Centre, the Misericordia, the Victoria Hospital, and Health Sciences Centre. Calendars came from Winnipeg and various towns in southeast, southern, and western. Manitoba.

Without your help, this project would not be possible. And, judging from the responses received from the hospitals, the calendars do make a difference.



# House and Grounds

A good time was had by all at our recent Silver Polishing Bee.

Many thanks to our hardworking volunteers who restored these beautiful pieces to their lustrous glory.

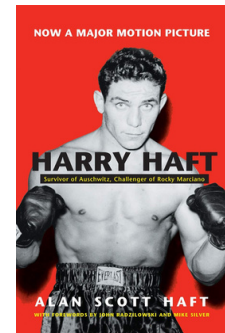


## Monday Afternoon Book club

We meet the first Monday of the month from October until June (excluding January).

On **March 6th**: Harry Haft: Survivor of Auschwitz, Challenger of Rocky Marciano by Alan Scott Haft.

On **April 3**: Hamnet and Judith by Maggie O'Farrell.

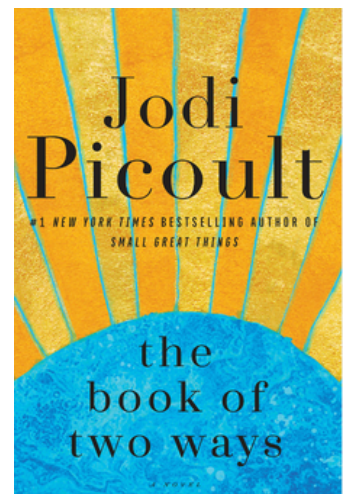


**Club members are welcome to attend any of our presentations.**

## Contemporary Literature Book club

The Contemporary Literature Book club is open to all members of the UWCW. The book club **meets on the first Tuesday of the month**. We also encourage members to sign up for lunch each week.

On **March 7th** we will be discussing Jodi Picoult's novel The Book of Two Ways. What an interesting way of welcoming the month of March... this month always has a possibility of two ways of ending... lamb or lion!



# Writing Group

A pen, paper, and an idea.

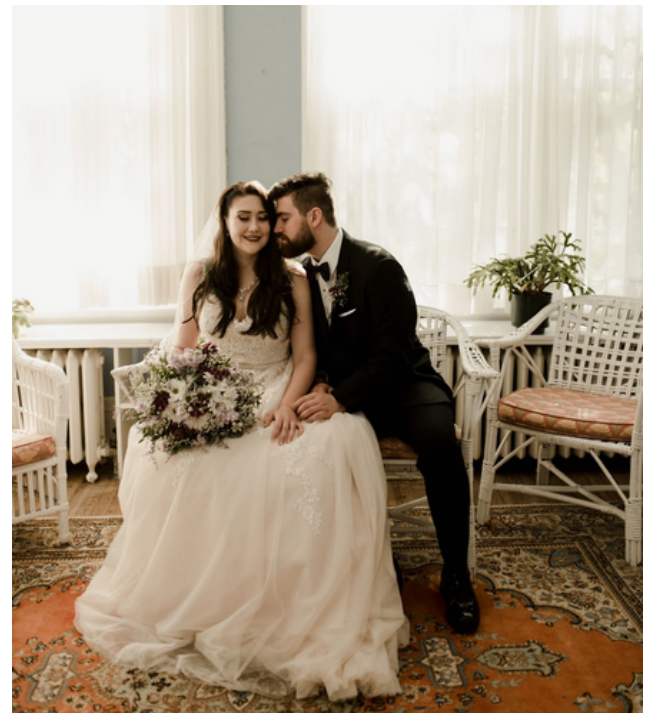
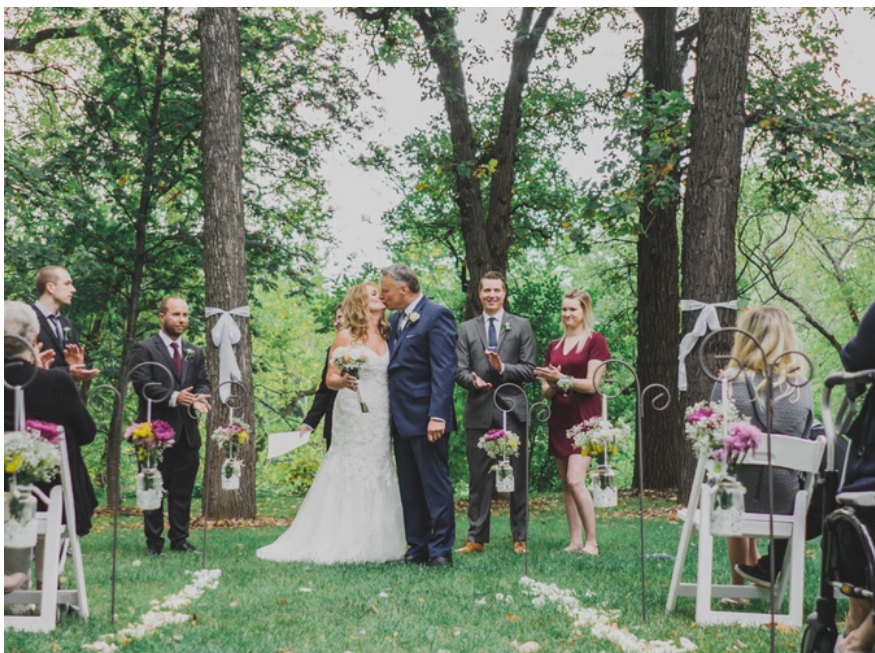
That is all you need to join the UWC writing group. If you have been curious about writing or ready to put pen to paper, you may enjoy joining our group. While writing is a solitary activity, writing and sharing in a group is a great motivator. We welcome anyone who would like to join us whether you are just starting to explore your writing or have journals full of stories.



We all have a unique story that only each of us can tell. Writing in the group is also a chance to share your writing with a group of supportive, non-judgemental women as we all attempt to tell our thoughts and tales. **We usually meet on the third Thursday every month all members are welcome to join.**

## MAKE ANY OCCASION A HISTORIC EVENT

Ralph Connor House National Historic Site has been a venue of choice for a range of occasions including business meetings, seminars, graduation parties, memorials, and photoshoots - not to mention countless theatre and film productions. Whatever you're planning, our event specialist will ensure it exceeds your expectations.



If you are interested in booking a private event at Ralph Connor House, you can reach our Events Manager Jan Otto at [uwcevents@mymts.net](mailto:uwcevents@mymts.net).





# March Menus

All Tuesday lunches are \$23.00. The cash bar opens at 11:30 and lunch is served at noon. Dinners are \$35, with the cash bar opening at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00. Meal costs include buns, coffee/ tea, taxes, and gratuity.

**Reservations are a must** and should be made at least 48 hours in advance by signing up at UWC, by phone, or by email. **Cancellations require 24 hours notice to avoid penalty.** Menu substitutions are available if requested in advance.

## Tuesday club Lunches

March 7th	Chicken Quesadillas, Sour Cream, Broccoli Salad, Mini Cupcakes
14th	Irish Beef Stew, Soda Bread, Spinach Salad, Sticky Toffee Pudding
21st	Pasta Primavera (Chicken and Vegetables), Apple Pie
28th	Shepherds Pie, Strawberry Almond Salad, Lemon Meringue Pie

## Program Lunch - \$23

Friday, March 10th: Chicken Breast stuffed with Goat Cheese and Red Pepper, Pear William Potatoes, Green Beans, and Cheesecake garnished with Fresh Berries

## Program Dinner - \$35

Wednesday, March 22nd: Pickerel Almandine, Rice, Balsamic Roasted Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Strawberry Shortcake.



**Reservations are required for all meals** and can be made by signing up at 54 West Gate, emailing [uwcadmin@mymts.net](mailto:uwcadmin@mymts.net), or calling 204-954-7880. Menu substitutions are available if requested in advance. **Please indicate any special preferences (seating, parking, etc.) at the time of reservation.**

Ellen Peel



# March 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong, it's about changing the way the world perceives that strength." G.D. Anderson			1 Out to Lunch at Bellamy's Restaurant  Mystery Readers	2 House and Grounds Meeting  Sunroom Group	3 Mahjong	4
5 1:00 - Continuing Ed. Power of Art - FINAL WEEK	6 Program Committee Meeting  Monday Afternoon Book club	7 Continuing Ed. Meeting  11:30 - Lunch  Contemporary Lit Book club	8  International Women's Day Walking Group at Assiniboine Forest  CIA Committee Meeting	9 Archives  Sunroom Group	10 Scholarship Committee Meeting 11 - Bar Opens 12 - Program Lunch 1:15 - Speaker <b>Wilma            Derksen</b>	11
12	13 Membership / Communications Committee Meeting	14 11:30 - Lunch  Social Bridge  Food Services Committee Meeting	15	16 Writing Group  Sunroom Group	17  St. Patrick's Day Mahjong	18
19	20	21 11:30 - Lunch  Board Meeting	22 Walking Group at RRC 5:30 - Bar Opens 6:00 - Program Dinner 7:15 - Speaker <b>Connie            Newman</b>	23 Archives  Sunroom Group	24 Scrabble	25
26	27	28 11:30 - Lunch  Social Bridge	29	30	31	

The University Women's club acknowledges that we are on Treaty 1 Territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota and the Dene peoples and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We acknowledge that our water is sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. As treaty people we seek to live in respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with all our relations.