

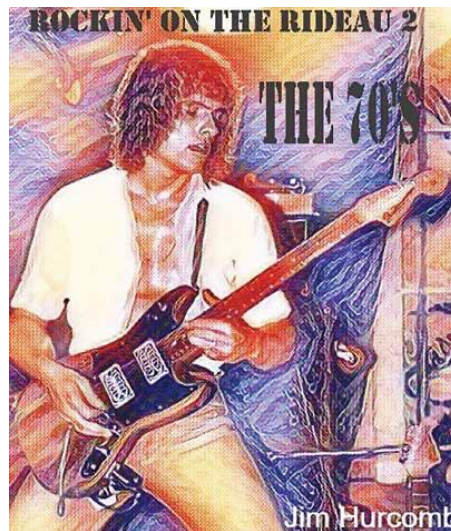
BOOK REVIEWS

Rockin' on the Rideau 2 - Here come the 70's!

If you're looking for a snapshot into the music and radio scene in Ottawa in the 1970's, this is it. Jim Hurcomb's second book, *Rockin' on the Rideau 2: The 70's*, is packed with stories about Ottawa bands that made it big. Think Les Emmerson and Five Man Electrical Band, The Cooper Brothers, who got plenty of airtime south of the border, and Octavian, who became the first Canadian band to sign with MCA records in 1974. "I ended the first

book with the spectacular success of Five Man Electrical Band and their hit 'Signs,' says Hurcomb. "It kind of paved the way for other Canadian bands to follow." And follow they did. With a little help from the new broadcasting rules from the CRTC, more Canadian bands were making it onto the charts.

There were still several local bands playing in Ottawa. Many were made up of members of successful former bands like The Esquires, Don Norman and the Other Four, and The Townsman. Canada Goose was one of those bands. Harvey Glatt of Treble Clef and CHEZ 106 fame got Canada Goose to do a demo in the States. Their tune 'Higher and Higher' not only charted in



Author's OOS upbringing informs new children's book



Author Lindsay Angus with her new book *Nothing You Can't Do*.

By Harry Hodge

Playing at Windsor Park. Looking for caterpillars on the banks of the Rideau River.

Lindsay Angus led your typical, idyllic childhood growing up in Old Ottawa South, which leads her to wax nostalgic about those days when asked about what led her to write *Nothing You Can't Do*.

"So much of who I am is from growing up in the Old Ottawa South," she recalled. "Being around the amazing families, nature and a strong sense of community have all been an inspiration for me."

In fact, there's nothing Angus herself can't do, pulling double duty writing and illustrating, making use of art skills that were first nurtured learning how to paint at the Old Firehall. The Glebe C.I. graduate has been in Toronto for more than a decade working in various media positions, but her interest in storytelling and children's literature was never far from her mind.

While uplifting, the story itself was inspired from the time when her son, Chet, suffered third-degree

burns overturning steaming hot gravy onto his arm. Chet was treated at SickKids Hospital in Toronto, where mom Lindsay remembered Dr. Joel Fish, who was treating her son, telling her that his mobility would be fine and emotionally he would be all right. But there would be a scar.

"He then said, 'you know what though, there's nothing you can't do with a scar,'" Angus remembered. "Those words - *Nothing You Can't Do* - stuck with me."

The colourful book features bright illustrations of children doing all kinds of fantastic things, proving anything is within their reach. Angus herself is also proving there's nothing you can't write, with two more books, *Stuck Like Glue* and *Born to Be Alive* set for release in fall 2022.

For further information or to secure a copy of *Nothing You Can't Do*, visit the author's website at www.lindsayjlangus.com

Harry Hodge grew up in Old Ottawa South and now lives in Vietnam.

the U.S., but it also resulted in the band performing for then President Richard Nixon. Sadly, the band split up. There were new musical influences on the horizon and some new Ottawa bands as well.

"Once the Beatles and the British Invasion diminished," says Hurcomb, "musical influences came from all over the place. Heaven's Radio had a distinctive reggae feel. Avalon was kind of Queen inspired and progressive. And Larkspur and Red Hot with Pat Travers were blowing the doors off the club scene." Even Punk Rock had a small but devoted following thanks to The Rotter's Club started by comedian Mike McDonald. And local bands were being supported by local FM radio. CKCU-FM was granted an FM license in 1975 and two years later, in March of 1977, CHEZ-106 hit the airwaves. "CKCU played way more Canadian content than required," says Hurcomb, "and played plenty of local bands tunes too. But the bands were so busy playing that they didn't record anything, so local content kind of disappeared."

Peter Fredette, Brian Sim, Steve

Hollingsworth, the Eagles concert, Bolt Upright, the first Supertramp concert at Ottawa Technical High School, The 'Chaud' (the Chaudiere Club in Aylmer) - it's all there and more. And Hurcomb lists over fifty local bands at the end of the book that were playing during the 1970's. It's a great stroll down a musical memory lane. And as a fitting end to a decade of great music, in 1980, The Cooper Brother's 'The Dream Never Dies' was honoured as one of the top-played songs on U.S. radio.

Rockin' on the Rideau 2: The 70's is available through Friesen Press at www.friesenpress.com.

Sheryl Bennett-Wilson is a long-time Old Ottawa South resident. She was the first female Music Director at CKCU-FM. And the first person hired from CKCU to CHEZ-106 as full-time mid-day announcer and Co-Music Director.

Rockin' On The Rideau 2
By Jim Hurcomb
www.friesenpress.com and
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