

News Release

Shelburne Rotary Club
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Shelburne Celebrates 60 Years With Third Female Open Champion

For Immediate Release

The 60th Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship just finished in Shelburne, Ontario was a great success. This year's Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Champion, Julie Fitzgerald of Bancroft, Ontario, was crowned at the finals on Saturday, August 7. This was Julie's first Championship. Julie is only the third woman to be crowned Champion in the contest's history - following in the footsteps of Eleanor Townsend (1979) and April Verch (1998). Award results for all of the competition classes are attached and will also be available at www.shelburnefiddlecontest.on.ca.

Julie's sister, Kerry Fitzgerald, won the Canadian Tune of Choice trophy and award with *Karen's March* by Brian Pickell, as well as placing sixth in the open class.

With close to 100 contestants registered from as far away as Boston, Massachusetts, and over 2,000 audience members joining us over the course of the event, another successful edition of Canada's premier fiddle championship has passed into the history books. Canadian Old Time Fiddle Music is alive and well in Shelburne!

Bill Waite, Chair of the Shelburne Rotary Club's contest organizing committee, said, "It was wonderful to be able to put on such a great show for the 60th contest. The calibre of playing in all the classes was unprecedented this year." The Shelburne Rotary Club would like to thank all of its supporters, volunteers, and sponsors for their dedication in making the 60th Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship such a success.

A number of the contestants were also featured as part of the fiddling and stepdancing Saturday night entertainment, which included performances by the Jenish Sisters, the Third Degree, and Rittmai. The Saturday night entertainment also included a clear audience favourite - the Judges' Showcase, giving Web Acheson, Karen Reed, and Gerry Smith a chance to demonstrate their fiddling skills.

The youngest competitor this year was four year old Paul-Jacob Lemelin (son of contestants Melika and Paul Lemelin), and the oldest was 82 year old Alf Leno.

The tradition of the last several years continued with the most hotly contested Class being the Junior Championship (13 - 18 year olds), which had 18 competitors (almost double of most of the other classes) and was won by Tom Fitzgerald of Bancroft, Ontario for the second year in a row. The level of play in the 10-12 year old class bodes well for the future of the Junior Championship.

New this year was a Saturday afternoon show (following the parade) at Grace Tipling Hall - Rittmai (Amanda MacInnis, Sarah Robinson, Eric Provencher, Jake Charron, Steven Gore, and Erika Wieler) played, sang, and stepdanced to a delighted sold out crowd.

Scott Woods Wins Over Shelburne!

On Thursday night, Scott Woods wowed the crowd of close to 700 with his exceptional fiddling and dynamic personality

Get Your Tickets Now for 2011!

Tickets for the 2011 Fiddle Championship are available now by calling 519-925-8620. We are looking forward to another year of amazing competition and entertainment, along with special features to celebrate the 60th Fiddle Championship!

Ticket Prices and Information for 2011

Event Package (Thurs. evening, Fri. all day, Sat. evening)	Adults: \$40	Children: \$20 (12 Years and Under)
Thursday Night Show Thurs. Aug. 4, 7:30 pm	Adults: \$20	Children: \$10 (12 Years and Under)
Competition Playdowns Fri. Aug 5, 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm	Adults: \$10	Children: \$3 (12 Years and Under)
Fiddle Championship Sat. Aug. 6, 6:30 pm	Adults: \$20	Children: \$10 (12 Years and Under)

Tickets: By phone at 519-925-8620.

For more information visit www.shelburnefiddlecontest.on.ca.