

SPOTLIGHT

YOUR GUIDE TO ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2008 B1

Entertainment Calendar

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

Emily Creek Band is playing the Parkway Banquet Hall in Peterborough from 8 - 12 p.m. You can enjoy Emily Creek once a month at the Parkway Banquet Hall until June.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

Public Jam: The Omemee Royal Canadian Legion branch 497 resumes its bi-weekly jam sessions, 2 p.m. Fundraiser for the legion. Bring your instruments, play and join in the fun. For more information please call 799-6912.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Public Jam: The Omemee Royal Canadian Legion branch 497 resumes its bi-weekly jam sessions, 2 p.m. Fundraiser for the legion. Bring your instruments, play and join in the fun. For more information please call 799-6912.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Yelverton United Church Hall, Highway 7a Yelverton, "Emily Creek" Live country music. Lunch provided Dance the night away from 8pm to 12am. \$10.00 per person. Plan to attend monthly dances, Feb. 16, March 15, and April 19. Hope to see you there.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Yelverton United Church fundraising dances featuring the Emily Creek band will be held once a month until the end of April.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Kawartha Lakes Olde Tyme Music Association will be having our January Jam on the 19th at 8 P.M. at the Legion in Fenelon Falls. All musicians are welcome to come and play along all night for the dancers. There is round and square dancing. Admission is \$3.00. Ladies, please bring a little lunch to share. For more information call 705-887-3426.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

The "CARDEN FIDDLE JAM SESSION" will be held at the Carden Recreation Centre (258 Lake Dalrymple Road) from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and participate in the music as well as enjoy an afternoon of old-time square and round dancing. Refreshments will be available. For more information please call Leigh Wishart at (705) 325-0009.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Public Jam: The Omemee Royal Canadian Legion branch 497 resumes its bi-weekly jam sessions, 2 p.m. Fundraiser for the legion. Bring your instruments, play and join in the fun. For more information please call 799-6912.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

The Academy Theatre Proudly Presents On Sat Feb 9th At 7:PM . Canada's Country Music Singing Star "Madison Kozak" With The Award Winning Country Group "South Mountain." Tickets Are Available At The Academy Theatre . Box Office .Call The Academy At 705-324-9111 To Reserve Your Seat.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Public Jam: The Omemee Royal Canadian Legion branch 497 resumes its bi-weekly jam sessions, 2 p.m. Fundraiser for the legion. Bring your instruments, play

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BE THE FIRST
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Exploring the dark side

With 20 published stories already to his credit, Ian Rogers is quickly becoming known for his offerings to the world of horror fiction

JOHN CHAMBERS
Lindsay Post Managing Editor

LINDSAY - By day, 31-year-old Ian Rogers is the webmaster for the City of Kawartha Lakes; but when darkness creeps across the land the soft-spoken Peterborough resident creates worlds filled with demons and damnation, horror and suspense, and heart-pounding thrills.

For the past five years, the aspiring horror writer has been spending every minute of free time perfecting his craft and, to-date, has sold 20 short stories to publications across North America.

Reaching the point where he is at today though has been no easy feat.

"There is a huge time commitment - it's an investment," Rogers said. "You really have to look at writing at a serious level as a job."

Rogers began writing informally in his teens but it wasn't until he turned 26 that he began to focus on his love of writing more seriously.

With about 50 short stories under his belt over the last five years, Rogers said it is a love of writing, of creating characters and connections, and drawing readers in that drives him every day.

Citing 'the king of horror' Stephen King as an example of his own writing style, Rogers said he wants to scare people - though not through the blood and guts shock value (television's equivalent of a slasher flick), but rather through creating imagery and unrelenting forboding; turning everyday situations and scenarios into nightmarish reality.

"There are horror fans that want to be scared and horror fans that want to be grossed out - I like scaring people with subtle horror, not gore," he said.

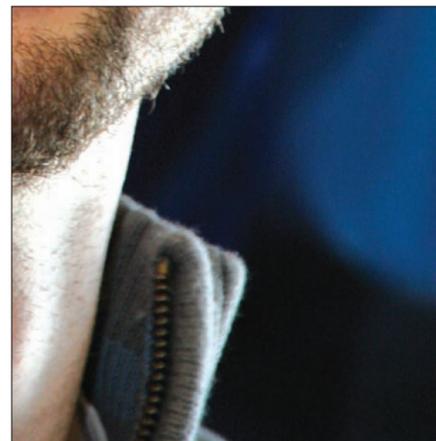
"I write accessible horror," Rogers said. "I try and write in a way that can appeal to a broad market."

Movies have long been an inspiration for how Rogers wants to connect with his readers. In the movie "Jaws" for example, Rogers points out while the shark's fin is seen, the film is more than an hour old before the giant man-eating killer is visible to the viewer.

"The movie was able to connect with the audience because it created characters people could care about, it created suspense before Jaws was even seen."

That is how Rogers tries to connect with his readers.

After publishing several stories in the small press, Rogers made his first professional sale in 2005. Since then he has sold stories to several markets, including Cemetery Dance, Broken Pencil,



(John Chambers/Lindsay Post Managing Editor)

City of Kawartha Lakes webmaster Ian Rogers is currently working on his first novel, which he hopes to have completed before the end of the year.

Writers Post Journal, Dark Wisdom, All Hallows, and Bare Bone. His stories have also appeared in several anthologies.

One common thread through all of Rogers work is its local feel.

"My stories are Canadian," he said. "I try and find a little piece in every story that relates somehow to where I am."

Among the references are Peterborough-based stores, Toronto, and small towns and villages along Highway 7 as well as areas in Northern Ontario.

With several short story credits to his name, Rogers is hoping his early success in the horror, suspense writing genre will continue with his first novel, expected before the end of the year.

While rejection is familiar territory for most writers - Rogers has received about 250 over the last five years - it has only served to strengthen his resolve.

"You have to have pretty thick skin," he said. "As soon as I receive a rejection I send it back out to other publishers though."

As Rogers points out rejections aren't a critique of the work as much as the timing and publication aren't right.

"It really is a lot of luck and timing," he said. "There is no easy way - you have to get your enjoyment from the writing, not seeing your book on a shelf somewhere."

With work and research currently underway for his first novel, Rogers can

be found tucked in his home office during the evening hours diligently banging away at his keyboard while the things that go bump in the night run rampant through the mind of the local author.

"I love scaring people; I love writing, this is what I want to do," he said.

Born in Toronto in 1976, Rogers grew up with a mother that loved movies and a father that has encouraged him every step of the way. Now married, it is the constant support and encouragement of family and friends that has enabled Rogers to keep pursuing his dream.

For links to Roger's work and and to follow his progress visit his website at www.ianrogers.ca

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Intervention": Published November 2007 in Shred of Evidence.

"Relaxed Best": Published October 2007 in issue #38 of Not One of Us.

"The Man from The Currents": Published October 2007 in Touched by Wonder.

"Autumn Burns": Published September 2007 in The Writers Post Journal.

"Wood": Published September 2007 in issue #2 of Black Ink Horror.

"Twillingate": Published August 2007 in Salt.

"Winter Hammock": Published August 2007 in issue 4:1 of Revelation.

"Charlotte's Frequency": Published March 2007 in Horror Library - Volume 2.

"Everything Gets Bigger After Nuclear War": Published March 2007 in Fall and Rise.

"The Black Tree": Published January 2007 in 55 Words.

"The Tattletail": Published May 2006 in Issue #9 of Dark Wisdom.

FORTHCOMING

"Inheritor": To be published in issue #58 of Cemetery Dance.

"The Kid Pool": Forthcoming in late 2007. To be published in The Written Word.

"The House on Ashley Avenue": Forthcoming in late 2007. To be published in All Hallows.

"A Night in the Library with the Gods": Forthcoming in late 2007. To be published in Bare Bone #11.

"The Candle": Forthcoming in late 2007. To be published in All Hallows.

"The Dark and the Young": Forthcoming in March 2008. To be published in Bound for Evil.

"Camp Zombie": Forthcoming in 2008. To be published in Broken Pencil.

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