

Merlin's Hollow attracted hundreds

Taking part in Doors Open on Saturday, 15 August, was an incredibly positive day for us.

The weather cooperated and dodged the predicted 30% chance of a storm; people flooded in from all over Ontario ? many different nationalities with their children; hundreds and hundreds of different flowers were showing off in the garden from eight inches to eight feet and people were so pleased to be in Merlin's Hollow, our garden we have had open for four free public days for 34 years now.

We volunteered for Doors Open as well three years ago and this year had 216 visitors on the day, about two-thirds who came here were here for the very first time.

This year, the enjoyment of it all was augmented by Jon Schieck and Lawrence Moule, playing mellow jazz on the deck with guitar, trumpet and some other instruments for four great hours.

Doors Open Aurora is a great event with so many different sites to interest people.

David and I spent our honeymoon on a tiny island, Breyer, off the coast of Cornwall. The population was 80 people and we only saw 10 while there. David told me there was a garden on the next island and we rowed across to it.

As we walked around the garden I told him I loved gardens and he promised me that when we had a place of our own he would build me one. Last year, he said, ?Wish I'd never said that!?. Luckily I enjoy the work it entails.

Dierdre Tomlinson
Aurora