



FRIENDS OF FINTRY

APRIL 2025

THE OCTAGON

Greetings Friends,

Welcome to our April newsletter! As spring blooms around us, we are excited to share dates, updates and stories from the Fintry Estate.

With Fintry Provincial Park campground now opening for the season on April 4th it will be wonderful to see people strolling around the grounds enjoying the spring sunshine. Opening day for the Manor House will be Sunday, May 11th when we hold our Fintry Spring Fair. (More on this below).

Already the signs of Spring are all around us with Marmots making their presence known, Northern Flickers declaring their territory and chickadees calling for a mate as nature awakens after a long winter's sleep.

Fintry Spring Clean-up day is on Saturday, May 3rd from 10-2pm. This is the day when our volunteers gather at the Manor House to get the place in tip-top shape both inside and out, for another busy season of tours.

So, whether you are passionate about history and heritage, loving the history of Dun-Waters' Fintry or just want to make a positive impact, this is a great opportunity to get involved, meet our dedicated volunteers and be a part of the Fintry family. (Dusters and brooms provided!)

Mark your calendars! Our first Fair of the year will be held on Sunday, May 11th (Mother's Day) and we are delighted to report that we already have all our vendors signed up and ready to showcase their wares. Do come and join us for a day of live music, bagpipes, food, tours and kid's entertainment....all the fun of the Fair on the front lawn of the Manor House.

Our afternoon teas to be held on May 25th and June 1st are all sold out but do not despair because there may be another opportunity to partake of this unique experience in September. Keep your eyes on our website Fintry.ca for updates on this and other events throughout the year.



Happy Spring!

Kathy



THE CURATOR'S CORNER

with **DAN BRUCE** *FRIENDS OF FINTRY
MANOR HOUSE CURATOR*

The curtains in Mrs. Dun-Waters' sitting room are made of new fabric, but the floral pattern was created in 1924.

John Sylvester Wheelwright was born in England in 1885. He attended Berkhamstead Public School, where he won several prizes for art. He continued this aspect of his education, making good use of the study collections at the South Kensington Museum, now better known as the "Victoria and Albert Museum". In 1920 he was appointed Chief Designer and Art Advisor at the firm of Sandersons Fabrics and Wallpapers and continued to produce designs for both products from the early 1920's to the mid 1950's. He died, aged 76 in 1962. His designs are still in production, with both wallpapers and fabrics being available today. In 1992, the Kelowna Museum held a special exhibition of his original design paintings which at that time were the property of his direct descendants then living in West Kelowna. While working on that exhibition, I recognized a design from a bedspread I had as a child... I never imagined that one day I would handle the original painting!

When work began on re-furnishing the Manor House at Fintry, I approached the Wheelwright family with the suggestion that part of a roll of new fabric that they had might be donated and used to make the curtains in the small sitting room. The idea was taken up with enthusiasm, as the roll was of the "Nasturtiums" designed and first produced in 1924, the year that the Fintry Manor burned, and was re-built.



The late Mrs. Hazel Bruce agreed to undertake the project in 2003. That was the year of the Okanagan Mountain fire. The home here in Lake Country was the temporary refuge of about fifteen small cages with people's pets that had been evacuated. These took up floor space which made laying out of curtain fabric challenging. The Indian tortoise was not accustomed to being in any enclosure, so had the free 'run' of the lower floor, an added hazard. Being a British household, the term used for these items would normally have been 'curtains' and not 'drapes'

Find in Alice's Sitting Room at the Fintry Manor House



2025 Membership

Your membership directly contributes to the preservation of Fintry Estate

Activate a Membership before April 30th, at midnight to be automatically entered to **WIN the ULTIMATE Fintry Prize Pack**

- Laird T-Shirt
- 2025 Calendar
- "The Fintry Estate"
- "Lives, Loves and Dreams"
- Set of Collection Card
- Heavy duty Magnet
- Locally made Spurtle

OVER
\$100
IN RETAIL
VALUE

Let's work together to protect our heritage
Select your Membership and Join today at

FINTRY.CA

7655 Fintry Delta Road, Kelowna BC, V1Z 3V2

SINGLE

\$20

COUPLE

\$35

FAMILY

\$50

BUSINESS

\$100

WINNER WILL BE DRAWN AT THE FOF AGM IN JUNE 2025. IF WINNER IS NOT PRESENT; WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY EMAIL
ONE (1) ENTRY PER SINGLE. TWO (2) ENTRIES PER COUPLE. FOUR (4) ENTRIES PER FAMILY. ONE (1) ENTRY PER BUSINESS

Mother's DAY FAIR



SUNDAY

MAY

11

10 - 4

Live music including bagpipers, Evan the Juggler, fun for kids in the kidzone, Manor House tours and a Curators feature tent. Dogs on leash are welcome.



**Fintry
Fusion**

Art Show and Sale

Saturday June 21 10 - 4

Sunday June 22 10 - 4

Strawberry Cream Tea

Soup & a Bun

Live Music & Artist Demos

BC Parks Manor House at Fintry Estate, Fintry Provincial Park



EVENTS SCHEDULE 2025

7655 Fintry Delta Road, Kelowna BC, V1Z 3V2



MAY 11 SUNDAY	Fintry Mother's Day Fair All ages welcome and entry is by donation		MAY
JUNE 21/22 SAT & SUN	Fintry Fusion Art Show & Sale Meet the artists behind their works		JUNE
JULY 19 SATURDAY	Fintry Bat Festival All about the bats and conservation		JULY
AUGUST 17 SUNDAY	Fintry Bear Affair Festival Celebrate the bears and the heritage		AUG

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Discover the Fintry Manor House with early season tours beginning on May 24th, available on weekends

SUMMER SEASON TOUR SCHEDULE



Wednesdays to Sundays. Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

MANOR HOUSE TOURS RUN FROM JULY 2 - SEPT 3

Scheduled Start Times: **1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm**

OCTAGONAL BARN TOURS RUN FROM JULY 2 - AUG 17

Scheduled Tour Times: **10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

  Wheel Chair Accessible WI-FI

VISIT WWW.FINTRY.CA FOR DETAILS ON AFTERNOON TEA AND CURATOR TALKS



How your support helps Friends

The Friends of Fintry Provincial Park Society has been a registered non-profit society since 2000. The members want to see Dun-Waters' legacy restored, protected – and shared with the public. There are over 200 Friends, mostly from the Okanagan Valley but some from as far away as California and Scotland.

The Friends are involved in research, restoration of buildings and grounds, building the Fintry archives, work bees, fund-raising, and recovering as many of Dun-Waters' belongings as possible.

Donations are always welcome and a great way to share "Dun-Waters' Dream". All donations go directly to the maintenance of the Fintry Estate and the Dun-Waters collection.

Update your membership! Not a member yet? Sign up!

Mail in registration form provided on the next page or sign up and secure pay online at www.fintry.ca/membership



Manor House Spring Cleaning

Many hands with friends make it fun



SUNDAY, MAY 3 —————> 10AM

RSVP if you can lend a hand to kathdin@shaw.ca or info@FINTRY.CA

BC Annual Bat Count Dates

Participate in the BC Annual Bat Count.
Join the Okanagan Community Bat Program on the evenings of:

June 3, 2025
June 13, 2025
July 11, 2025
July 19, 2025

If you are interested in participating in the bat count, please email okanagan@bcbats.ca to sign up.

Got Bats?
1-855-922-2287
www.bcbats.ca

