

• Curb appeal!!
Be part of our landscaping project for the front of the church. New landscaping fund set up.

Our church is in critical need of roof and window repairs. A "Home and Garden" fund has been established. Can you help by making a donation?

- See the special tribute to Alex Ingram, also known as "Mr. Woodroffe".

• The WUC Uniter is published 3 times per year, Autumn, Winter and Spring. If you have articles to contribute please drop them in Box 46 or send them via e-mail to wuch@woodroffeunited.org

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I am deep into a P.D. James mystery novel so my soul thinks that summer has already arrived. Nothing could be finer than sitting on the dock with a novel drinking my morning coffee and watching the world awake from its slumber. And, by God's grace, I should have that opportunity this summer to take in the wilds of north-western Ontario and hear the cry of the loon, and watch the fish jump, and admire the ducklings as they swim past the dock.

The creativeness of God to endow us with four different magnificent seasons is truly a gift in our northern climate. We are not afflicted with endless summer or a rainy season that

never ends; we enjoy the beauty and the wonder of each unique moment of the year. At times it seems as if we must endure the worst of every season, cold and freezing rain, heat and unbearable humidity, but here in the midst of spring, in the heart of tulip festivals the creation feels like an immense present for us to enjoy and celebrate.

As we ease into summer's green, there is a sense that God has set aside a time for each of us to retreat and renew our souls from the weary pace of life. God invites us into a conversation on a still July night to reminisce about the past and to consult about the future. God asks us to slow the speed deliberately, to

put up our feet, and relax in our favorite chair and see how blessed we are even in those times of great tribulation.

Life has its season, and each one is known to God. The great thanksgiving of our Christian faith is our belief, indeed our resolute hope, that Jesus has walked the way ahead through every season of life's mystery. And now in the summer of our soul, he calls us to join him in the quiet place and to relish the grace which we have received in life and in the world around us. May this season bring you peace,

Brian

"You are the salt of the earth," Jesus told his disciples. I wonder if he knew about garlic? Garlic would have made just as memorable a metaphor as salt. Like salt, garlic adds flavour to food. Like salt, a little bit of garlic goes a long way. In fact, just like salt, too much garlic can make food inedible. Garlic also has some of its own unique qualities. You can add as much salt to your food as you like, no one else will know. However, when you add garlic, everyone knows, particularly those sitting next to you on the bus.

Garlic can be disguised, though, if everyone has some. This makes garlic much more democratic than salt! Garlic also has the ability to reproduce itself. Salt is a mineral; it is lifeless. Salt will never create more salt. But if you plant some garlic cloves, in a few months you will have more garlic.

Like the Christian faith, there is a mystery to garlic. When you first pick up a garlic bud, it looks complete, a tight bud, a complete unit. But when you look closer you realize you can peel off its layers. There is much more inside than you might expect. There are several small cloves. The one is many. A single unity contains much diversity. Yet it is all the same garlic.

Our Christian community has many layers. When we start to peel it away and listen to the stories, thoughts and faith roots that are present within this community, we realize there is much more here than we might expect. A single community overflows with a great and rich diversity. Yet we are all part of the same faith community.

May we be the garlic of the Earth.

Shalom,
(with thanks to James Taylor for his [Everyday Parables](#))

Jan

Thank You Volunteer Painters!

The north entrance and staircase, the hallway between the kitchen and auditorium and the handicap entrance were repaired and painted earlier this year by volunteers from the Congregation. These efforts saved the Church a lot of money and an excellent job was done in all areas. Three coats of paint were the norm after considerable repair to walls. A total of 355 hours of work were donated by the volunteers to these two projects which were led by Lois and Phil Cheetham and Joanne Tuttle. Tom Montgomery is now leading the project to repair and repaint the kitchen.

The following are the volunteers that worked so hard and effectively in the first two painting projects. Thank you to all:

Arnold Hodgins, Bryan Secord, Glen Charron, Christine Armstrong, David Agnew, David Chaplin, Glenn Walker, Joanne Tuttle, John Patton, Lois and Phil Cheetham, Lynn Hampton, Marcia Armstrong, Martin Douma, Matthew Silins, Ralph Curtis, Shirley Hockin, Jenni Walker, Edith Kenney, Hector Jewers, Steve Mairs, Tom Montgomery, and Elwood & Brenda Hodgins.

Keep this date: Strawberry Social Saturday June 24th 2 - 4 p.m.

This year the strawberry social will include an art and craft exhibit and sale. So come and enjoy this taste of summer while viewing the work of Woodroffe's many talented artists and crafters. If you can help pick berries, please call Sandi Bain at 226-1377.

Sandi Bain

Calling all artists, needleworkers and crafters!

The strawberry social organizing committee is hosting an exhibit and sale by our many talented members, to be held during the social. You may exhibit samples of your work, or offer some for sale with a small portion of the proceeds going to the church. So if you have cross stitch, quilting, painting, carving, pottery or needlework we want to see it! We have some artists participating already and hope you will join us. Please call Sandra Copeland at 829-6824 if you can participate.

Sandra Copeland

IN MEMORIAM: ALEX and JEANNE INGRAM

INGRAM, R. Alex Captain RCASC (Retired) In Hospital at Carleton Place, Ontario on Monday, February 6, 2006, at the age of 85 years. Reunited with his beloved Jeanne. Loving father of Graham (Kerry), Bonney Green (John), Rory (Margo-Kenna), Garth (Sue Giddins) Dearest Grampie of Ron (Ana), Karen Valley (Andrew), Deborah Green (Sam), Jennifer Green, Sarah-Marie Ingram, Kenny Ingram, Jennifer Pembleton (Rick) and Jodi Ashley. Great-grampie of Ashley Ingram, Rafiq Awad, Haley, Joshua, Jacob and Catherine Ashley. Survived by his sister Alice O'Donnell, brother-in-law Jack Galloway and sister-in-law Bea Ingram. He will be missed by family "matriarch" Fran Blachford. Predeceased by his son Darrell and one brother and sister. Friends may call at the 19 McArthur Avenue, Carleton Place on Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. and on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until 12:30 thence to Zion-Memorial United Church for the funeral service at 1 p.m. with Reverend Robert Risch officiating. Interment Pinecrest Cemetery. Donations to Ministry of Music at Woodroffe United Church, Ministry of Music at Zion-Memorial United Church, Zion-Memorial Church CARE Fund, Kiwanis Club of Sage or the War Amps of Canada would be appreciated

This past February 6th was a sad day for the extended family of Woodroffe United Church, as we mourned the death of Alex Ingram, known to many of us as "Mr. Woodroffe." Though Alex and his wife Jeanne had moved to Carleton Place a few years ago, to be closer to family and where Jeanne died shortly after, the memory of their four decades here and their remarkable and dedicated service to this congregation is still very fresh in our memory.

Alex and Jeanne had a deeply and humbly-held sense of Christian service and from the time Alex was posted to Ottawa in the late 1950's, they immersed themselves in an incredible breadth and variety of church activities, in both official and informal capacities. As long-time friends Jim and Gwen Woods note, "Few of us ever made Woodroffe as much a part of their lives as he did. It is hard to think of any major or minor activity in our church in which Alex did not play a part."

There is hardly space to even list all of Alex and Jeanne's contributions to Woodroffe, let alone do them the credit they deserve. Before Woodroffe moved to the Council system, Alex served consecutively as Recording Steward and Clerk of Session, combining the responsibilities of all of the current committee chairs. Following the change in structure, he continued on for many years as Chair of Worship and then as Chair of the Special Services subcommittee, responsible particularly for Communion services. In that capacity, subsequent Worship chairs are forever indebted to Alex for his discovery that ginger ale when combined with grape juice prevented staining of the glasses and made post-communion clean-up immeasurably more pleasant. (There is also an urban legend that Alex may, on one occasion, have mistakenly switched prune juice for grape.) For a time, he also chaired the Music Committee. When Dr. Jones introduced Woodroffe to idea of the Cross of Flowers on Christian Family Sunday, Alex became an enthusiastic supporter, helping to build the cross and helping to insert the flowers during worship—Del Hansen filled the top and Alex the bottom.

Perhaps because he once had wished to become a minister, Alex took a special interest and pride in Woodroffe's candidates for the ministry. The Woods family particularly remembers his support and encouragement of Peter as he moved towards ordination. Of course, most folks will remember Alex' most public contribution to worship, his I-o-n-g membership in the choir which involved not only singing at Sunday worship but also in a wide variety of men's choruses at variety nights and men's dinners. During the summer months, when the choir was on 'holiday,' Alex frequently contributed his true tenor as a soloist, most often and enthusiastically, on "How Great Thou Art."

(continued on page 4)

IN MEMORIAM: ALEX and JEANNE INGRAM (Continued from Page 3)

However, Alex' contributions went far beyond worship. He also at one time or another, and often for extended periods, chaired the Ministry and Personnel Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Honorary Elders of whom he and Jeanne were charter members. When the Pastoral Care Team was established in 1980, Alex was among the first members and, for almost two decades, there were few funerals either at Woodroffe or involving Woodroffe members that Alex did not attend, providing his unique gift for condolence. Many in the Woodroffe family have treasured memories of Alex at such times. Sue Bodkin remembers how Alex was in the office one day when a call came in while Sue was out, giving news that her father was critically ill. It was Alex who met her at the door of the church when she returned to gently break the news to her. When the Pastoral Care Team was revived later in the 1980's, despite health concerns, Alex and Jeannie took the training and rejoined the team, Alex continuing his funeral visitation ministry and Jeannie providing pastoral care by telephone.

While these official roles reveal both the depth of Alex' commitment to his church and the significance of that commitment to the life and work of the congregation over 40 years, it is in the informal, quiet, more private interactions that his real gifts and true legacy are revealed. Two examples, separated by many years, illustrate the point. Jean Hansen, a former colleague of Alex in both the choir and worship committee wrote in the May 1981 WUC Newsletter, "[at coffee] I was looking for Alex and asking anyone who would listen if he had seen Alex, and Lloyd MacDonald answered: 'He's probably doing something kind for somebody'." More recently, Sandi Bain remembered Alex "came up to me and said I should join the choir as he listened to my voice as he passed my row each Sunday." It was often difficult to say no to such gentle encouragement to become involved and many who have served and still serve the congregation in one capacity or another owe their initial decision to Alex. Long before we had one, as Jean Hansen noted, "Alex was a membership relations committee of one."

In all of this, Alex was fully and ably supported by Jeanne with her genuine interest in people and her unfailingly positive outlook on life, despite increasingly serious health problems. Over the years, she served as the Chancel Flower Convener and was for many years the Convener of the Westwood Unit of the UCW as well as an Honorary Elder and member of the Pastoral Care Team.

When Alex 'retired' from his official duties at Woodroffe, a few years before they left Ottawa, he was honored by the congregation for his years of service. It was typical of Alex that he was embarrassed by the recognition and insisted on deflecting the credit to others. Nevertheless, at his funeral, the certificate presented to him on that occasion was on prominent display. "Mr. Woodroffe" right to the very end.

John Patton

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"My memory of Alex is that he came up to me and said I should join the choir as he listened to my voice as he passed my row each Sunday". **Sandi Bain**

"We have known and respected the Ingram family for many years. From our earliest days at Woodroffe, Alex Ingram was a friend whom we admired and knew we could rely on. Few of us ever made Woodroffe as much a part of their lives as he did. It is hard to think of any major or minor activity in our church in which Alex did not play a part.

We also have some special memories of him in his later years as his health declined and his memory failed. During those years, Alex always continued to be interested in all things at Woodroffe.

At the Nursing Home in Carleton Place he stayed as active as possible. He participated in church services at the home and often led in the singing, as there were few hymns that he did not know by heart.

We remember him for his continued interest in our son Peter. Peter is a United Church Minister whom Alex had sponsored, encouraged and supported for many years.

Alex was important to many of us and will long be remembered in many public and private ways." **Jim & Gwen Woods**



New friends in the Church

Many of you may have noticed that there are new faces in the church. These are the members of an Ethiopian Evangelical Congregation. This small congregation of about 125 adults and 35 children has been worshipping downtown at an unused Methodist church for the last 3 years. Now, however, as that congregation is re-starting, the Ethiopian congregation has had to find a new church home. They have asked to hold prayer, Sunday school and worship services in our church and in March, Council agreed to their request.

They are scheduled to hold prayer services on Tuesday and Friday evenings and then hold a choir practice and worship services on Saturday afternoon and a formal service on Sunday afternoon. This schedule should ensure that there is no conflict with any of the normal activities of our church. In any case, however, we can feel free to plan the use of Woodroffe facilities to meet our requirements. Their Pastor, Dereje Gebreyesus will also have an office 4 days during the week in Room 26, the old Christian Education office. They are very grateful to the Christian Education and Sunday - School staff for their flexibility in making that room available.

This is a new experience for Woodroffe and we look forward to it and to making them feel welcome.

David Chaplin

THE SNEEZE

They walked in tandem, each of the 93 students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed tears away.

This class would not pray during the commencements – not by choice but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families.

The speeches were nice, but they were routine, until the final speech received a standing ovation. A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment and then suddenly SNEEZED!!!! The student on stage simply looked at the audience and said, 'GOD BLESS YOU each and every one of you!' And he walked off stage. The audience exploded into applause. The graduating class found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future with or without the court's approval.

Isn't this a wonderful story? Pass it on to all your friends ... and GOD BLESS YOU!!!!

From the Church Library

Did you know that our church library has been lending books for 42 Years? It began in the fall of 1963 when books scattered about the church were brought to a central place in the Narthex. Sunday school teachers wanted easy access to material to use in their classes.

By February 12, 1964 Kilgour Construction had built a fine set of oak shelves in the Narthex at a cost of \$165.00. Through the years, two more sections of shelving were added to display the growing collection of books.

A Library Sub-committee of the Christian Education Committee began working in 1963 to establish and maintain the library. The late Grace Shennan, first librarian, devoted 27 years to develop adequate library resources for the church and to promote their use.

The late John Mayne chaired the Subcommittee until September, 1970 when Don Mutch became Chairman. At present, Jacinda Bain and Shirley Sloan assist Don on the Library Sub-committee. In the past decade, other members have been Pat Forsyth, Mary Anne Nicholson and Darlene Patton.

The church library's mandate is to acquire books for all ages on religion (primarily Christianity), the United Church of Canada, Bible study guides, devotional books, Christian family life and education, pastoral care and social justice issues of concern to the congregation. There are materials in non-print form such as the Bible on cassettes, items on DVD and CD's included with some of the new books.

Do take time to browse and see what you could borrow!

With summer and a more relaxed season when most church committees take a break, what better time to slow down, check out those books you've wanted to read all winter and enjoy some leisure time!

Don Mutch, Librarian

YOUR OWN RESERVED SPACE AT WOODROFFE

As our congregation ages, there are more and more of us who cannot drive but still value their Sunday attendance at Woodroffe. For the past year, Membership Relations has been seeking a volunteer driver coordinator. We have drivers. We have clients. We have a need. What we do not have is someone to put this all together. I was told by our last coordinator that she might get one call a month or at most two.

Can you help out the Membership Relations Committee by taking on this task? If so, please call Mary Frances Laughton at 990-4316 or contact Jan Lougheed at the Church.

PLEASE HELP!!!!

Mary Frances Laughton

Ask Joe

Before I answer the questions for this issue, I need to first respond to the challenge that was issued in the last Uniter to 'Yours Truly' regarding a recent Scrabble tournament, held at the Adult Ski weekend at Grey Rocks. First, for those that might not know, I am a very accomplished Scrabble tournament player, with recent victories in a number of tournaments (2005 Western Hemisphere Open, 2005 Eastern Canada Professional Open, and the 2004 Universe As We Know It Open). I also was editor of that famous publication, The Scrabble Babler, for many years. I'm not one to brag but I did graduate with Cum Laude in Masters Scrabble from Pearson University (P U as you know it better).

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Now for this issue's questions.

Question 1

Dear Joe

How long is a **moment**, and is it different from a **jiffy**?

Signed, Clock Watcher

Answer -

Dear Clock

When we use *moment* or *jiffy*, as in "I'll be back in a moment", or "She'll be with you in a jiffy", we usually mean in an undefined but brief period of time – but in fact, both have a precise length. Although lost through time, a moment was an English reference for ninety seconds, while a jiffy is from science and is one-hundredth of a second. So, in other terms, a jiffy is about how long it takes Yours Truly to come up with a word in Scrabble, while a moment is how long it takes to add up my humungous scores during a game.

Signed Joe

It was with great consternation and disbelief when I read that I was afraid to participate in the Grey Rocks tournament. I think not! I wasn't aware that an actual tournament was being planned at that time or I would have definitely been there. And, with my recent accomplishments, no doubt would have fared well. Additionally, after shushing and gliding all day, I was a bit tired, took a bit of a snooze. So, in summary, I apologize for not participating in your event, obviously it would have improved your tournament with me participating, but I give you my word that I will be there next year to take on all comers. Watch your P's and Q's!

.....

Question 2

Dear Joe

Why is a complete list of letters named the 'alphabet'?

Signed, Want-to-be-better

Answer -

Dear Want

The name comes from the first two letters in the Greek alphabet, alpha and beta. And if you want to become an ace Scrabblor, read your dictionary.

Signed, Joe

CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS (of course, not from Woodroffe United)

- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.
- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 p.m. – prayer and medication to follow.

Literary Corner

Where will I spend eternity?
I find it very hard to see,
But by living a good life every day
Will surely help to pick the way,
And if I reach that heavenly shore
I'll hope to stay there evermore.
So if you want to plan for life hereafter
Fill your todays with love and laughter

Lloyd Rintoul

Bulletin Board

(Note - please check the weekly Bulletin to confirm time and place)

May 2006

14 Sunday Christian Family Service 10:00 a.m.
21 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
26 Friday - Strings of St. John's Concert – 8:00
28 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

June 2006

4 Sunday Service 10:a.m.
- Communion, Pentecost, Confirmation
6 – Tuesday – Cubs, Beavers & Scouts windup
BBQ
11 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
followed by BBQ & Baseball
18 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
Followed by Annual Congregational
Program Meeting

HAVE A HAPPY, SAFE SUMMER!!

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New Hospital Wing

Recently, when a Panel of Doctors at our local hospital was asked to vote on adding a new wing, this is what happened ...
The allergists voted to scratch it.
The dermatologists preferred no rash moves.
The gastroenterologists had a gut feeling about it.
The neurologists thought the administration had a lot of nerve.
The obstetricians stated they were laboring under a misconception.
The ophthalmologists considered the idea shortsighted.
The pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!"
The pediatricians said, "Grow up."
The proctologists said, "We are in arrears."
The psychiatrists thought it was madness.
The surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.
The radiologists could see right through it.
The interests thought it was a hard pill to swallow.
The plastic surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."
The podiatrists thought it was a big step forward.
The urologists felt the scheme wouldn't hold water.
The anesthesiologists thought the whole idea was a gas.
And the cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.
The Board of Directors killed it anyway.

Contributed by *Sue Bodkin*



Mission & Service Matters

Our Visitor is Coming! Our Visitor is Coming!

Our visitor is Lei Garcia. Lei lives in Manila, Philippines and she will be Woodroffe United Church's (WUC) guest from September 20 to October 3, 2006. WUC's Council and Mission and Service Committee have arranged Lei's visit, under the auspices of the United Church of Canada's Face to Face Program. The purpose of the Face to Face Program is to enable participants to learn about another country, its culture and how its peoples express their faith and understand the Bible.

Lei is active in many areas and will be a vibrant guest. She is Executive Director of CONTAK Philippines, an ecumenical organization that helps with justice and peace work. She is also Vice-Moderator of the World Council of Churches Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation. In addition to these responsibilities, Lei is Director for Partnerships and Ecumenical Relations at the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. Lei also has a musical side. She is an artist, singer/guitar player and songwriter, and has participated in International Peace concerts around the world.

The Mission and Service Committee, with other members of the congregation, are developing a program for Lei's visit. Our goal is to ensure all members of the Congregation have opportunities to benefit fully from Lei's visit. We would be pleased to have your input to the program (e.g. if you would like Lei to visit your committee, participate in a specific event, invite Lei to your home for dinner, or be her driver for a day). Look for the **Our Visitor is Coming** sign in the Narthex to sign for dinner or to be a driver. Suggestions for Lei's program should be discussed with Judy Chaplin (761-7447) or Muriel McGuinty (728-5325). An outline of Lei's program will be in the next *Uniter*.

Lei's visit will be stimulating and it will be fun to explore and share faith experiences. Please mark the dates on your calendar and plan to fully enjoy her stay with us. At this time Lei's agenda includes meeting WUC's Scouts and Venturers; a pot luck dessert evening with WUC's UCW; and later during her visit a pot luck dinner and musical evening with members of WUC and the Pilipino community. Lei will also participate in WUC's on-site retreat; and visit the Britannia Food Bank; the Theological College of Queen's University in Kingston; and the Ottawa Presbytery and Seaway Valley Presbytery. For more details on her activities and the remainder of her agenda please call Muriel McGuinty 728-5325.

Muriel McGuinty

96th Ottawa Venturers

In February, the Venturers ran one of the stations in the annual Klondike sled derby, and participated in the Scout-Guide service. Throughout the winter and spring, we have been carving our own canoe paddles in anticipation of a canoe trip after school is out. Spring camp was just held, in early May, on the Highland Backpacking trail in Algonquin Park's interior. Twenty kilometers of hiking on Saturday and eight kilometers on Sunday, led us to a great interior lake with beaver, loons, and a moose, and we found a wonderful, high spot from which to watch the sunset, with a panoramic view of the forest & lakes.

Peter Morrison

Woodroffe United Church

*A church at worship
A church in action
A church for youth*

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
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Distribution of the Newsletter – a new procedure

Please note that the WUC Uniter newsletter, which is published three times per year, will be available for pick up after church on each of the appropriate Sundays (announced during Sunday Service) and is also available on the Church's website (www.woodroffeunited.org). Mass mail outs of the newsletter, as has occurred in the past, will be discontinued effective with this newsletter. While this change in procedure is a pilot initiative, it is based on some very sound reasoning.

1. Other churches provide their newsletter for pick up at the church. This is an accepted practice.
2. Woodroffe has a very attractive and well maintained web site which contains the Newsletter; thus keeping in tune with the times.
3. In the past the congregation has been asked if they would like to receive the newsletter directly by e-mail, but only three members of the congregation indicated that they would prefer this method. Therefore, that option has not been pursued further.

Why the change???

1. Budgetary (deficit fighting considerations). Mail outs cost between 90 cents to \$1.00 per envelop. Typically over 260 newsletters are mailed out for each issue of the newsletter. With postal and other costs rising, the price tag could be \$800 or more over the year. Let's turn those costs into savings.
2. Other congregations have seen such cost saving initiatives as genuine attempts to cut back expenses and to promote their web sites which also contain updated information on the church calendar and other activities. Let's embrace this progressive approach.
3. A collection of issues will be made available at the Church. The file will be posted in the Narthex.

Don't have Internet Access???? The Ottawa Public Library has computers with Internet Access in each branch. You can use these computers up to two hours per day free. Many branches also have computer set up for word processing and have printing services (some fees may apply for this service.)

