

## feature

# Great coffee: Where to find it

by Jennifer Roos

It's that dreaded time again when midterms and papers loom ominously over our heads and despite many hours passed in the library, the workload is just as heavy. Let me guess: you're tired, frustrated, and just a little stressed out? Save your sanity, take some time out, and blow off a little of that steam with a cup of coffee at this week's spotlight coffee shops: The Green Bean Coffee House and Trident Booksellers & Café.

Saunter downtown, breathe in some of that refreshingly cool fall air, then warm yourself with a hot drink at The Green Bean Coffee House. Located on Blowers Street, just down the road from pizza corner, The Green Bean offers a warm, welcoming environment; it's brightly lit and there are lots of places to sit, relax, and read the newspaper. You can chat with friends while enjoying a cappuccino, café au lait, café chocolat, or another variety of the many specialty coffees that are served.

Perhaps you would like to sip on some flavoured coffee? You're in luck, as The Green Bean has a number of flavours to choose from, and since it's roasted daily on the premises, it's always fresh!

If your tummy's rumbling after an invigorating walk, there are assorted sandwiches, bagels, soup of the day, and samosas to fill that hunger gap. Should your sweet tooth be acting up, try a danish, cinnamon bun, muffin, or some of the other desserts on display. The Green Bean also has many cold drinks to quench your thirst, and among them are homemade ice tea, ice coffee, and milkshakes (they claim to be Halifax's best).

There's lots to eat and drink at The Green Bean, so come down and join the regulars for a relaxing, no-hurry atmosphere and a great cup of coffee. The Green Bean Coffee House is open from 8am-11pm, Monday through Thursday, 8am-midnight on

Friday and Saturday, and on Sunday from 8am-11pm. If these hours aren't enough for you, there are many blends of coffee beans for sale so you can brew a pot any time you like.

Our next stop on this week's café tour of Halifax, located on Argyle Street, is not your average coffee shop. In fact, Trident Booksellers & Café is a coffee shop and bookstore all in one.

Entering, you'll find to your left a wonderful little bookstore with both new and used books that range in topic from history to science fiction. You can browse around, pick up some reading material and then take a seat in either one of the two rooms that make up the café portion of the shop. The flowers at each table, the artwork that hangs for sale on the walls, and the variety of people reading, writing, and chatting makes the Trident a warm, friendly, cosy place to be.

At Trident Booksellers & Café you can enjoy a cup of their own unique blend of coffee with one refill absolutely free, or choose from a long list of specialty coffees that includes Doppio Espressos, Makkiettos, or Double Cappuccinos. Trident also serves up a long list of black teas, herb teas, and several chocolate drinks such as Florentine Hot Chocolate. If you want something cool and refreshing, why not try an Iced Latte, Iced Florentine, or an Iced Chocolate. To appeal to your palate, Trident Booksellers & Café have a variety of pastries available every day - just check the pastry case.

Break away from studying or bring it with you to an entirely smoke-free environment where you can enjoy the stay-awhile atmosphere, friendly service, and hot coffee.

Trident Booksellers & Café is open seven days a week, Monday through Saturday from 8:30am until 9pm, and Sundays from 10am until 9pm.

For more coffee talk, join me next week for the fourth and final episode of the café tour of Halifax.

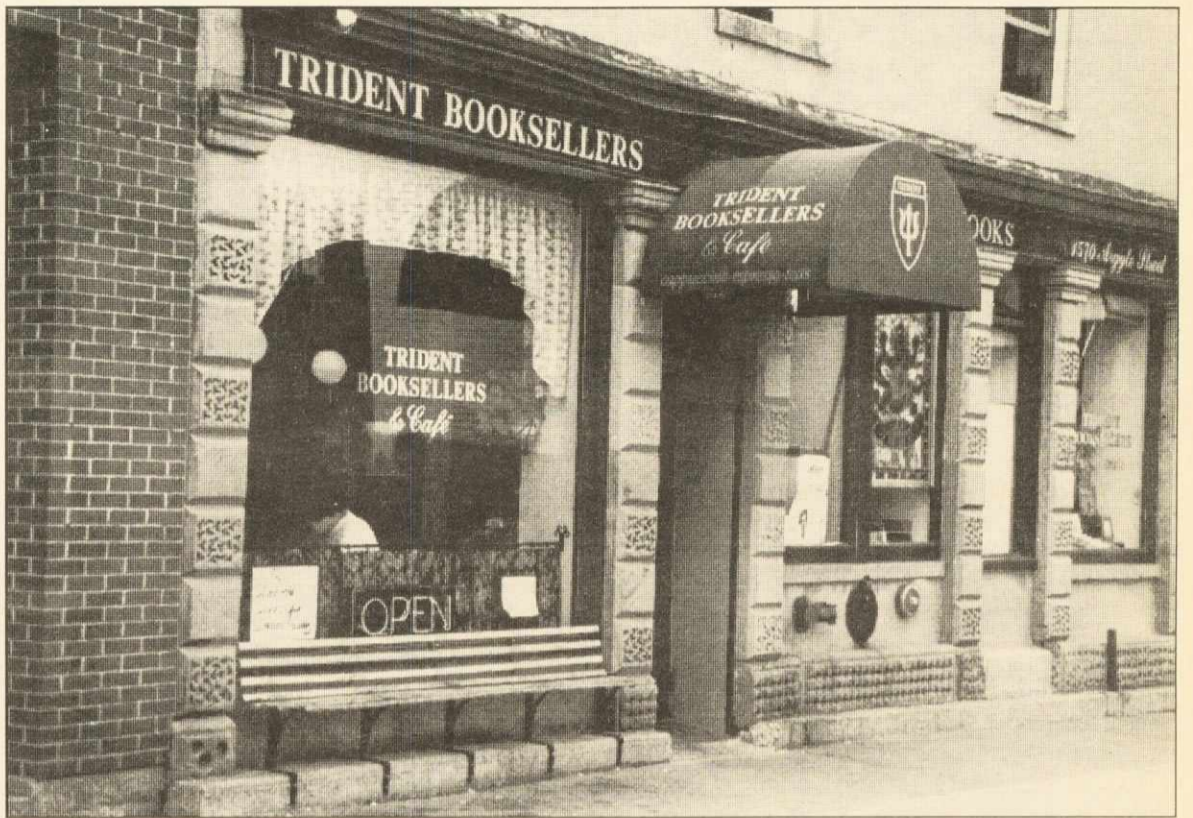


PHOTO: MIKE GRAHAM

## Changing attitudes on homeless youth

by Christy-Ann Conlin

"Well kid, if you hadn't fucked up you wouldn't be here..."

I ran into this attitude over and over again this summer while doing a research project on homeless youth in Halifax for the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG) at Dalhousie. And hearing this began to evoke in me...

### Anger

I felt angry when I heard people tell me that kids who are homeless, "just want to have a good time all the time and won't obey the rules." Ever spent time in a group home or a shelter? Kids who leave home often end up in one or the other, where rules can be much tougher. Compared to group homes or shelters, just having a curfew, household chores and homework seems like anarchy.

It is easy to be judgmental and form opinions from the Lazy Boy in the suburbs. Sometimes I want to scream that the '50s are gone... so are the '60s, the '70s and the '80s. We are full swing into the '90s and the times have changed. Watching MuchMusic doesn't make anyone an expert on youth culture.

### Sorrow

It broke my heart to talk to countless young people who don't belong anywhere — whom no one wants. One sunny afternoon, I sat beside one young woman on a bench and we ate ice cream cones together and I knew when she left she would not be going home to the "nice family home".

No one tucks her in at night or even checks to see if she is in. No one tells her to go the doctor if she is sick. She is 16. Her fingers are burned from being so stoned she forgot she was holding a joint one night. I tell her to see a doctor but I know she won't go. She is homeless.

This is worlds away from my own

recent student teaching experience in the Annapolis Valley. Around me in the halls, mill clusters of children who have homes and are surrounded by teachers that care, who notice if things don't seem right.

Youth who leave rural areas and come to the city in hope of finding pieces of their dreams on downtown streets often find themselves supportless.

Is it any wonder that in desperation, they turn to harmful and often illegal elements when there is nothing else to turn to?

### Watching

MuchMusic doesn't make anyone an expert on youth culture

### Helplessness

I am only one person and I do what I can. There is only so much time and there are so many issues. We have reduced people, to groups to categories. The help they receive depends on where they rank on the issues list. Where they lie in the "trendy file".

Part of doing this research repulsed me. No matter how much I tried to be sensitive and sincere, and no matter how much this issue has personally affected my own life, I was still coming in and packaging human beings into a report.

When they found out about the sort of work I was doing people would

often say to me: "Well, don't a lot of kids out there like it like that?" "Don't they like being wild and crazy on the streets?" "Kids these days have no respect."

### Misinformation

I cannot believe how misinformed the general population is (I include myself in this population) concerning a multitude of issues. I ask myself how this can be and the only answer I come up with is that it is easier to form opinions based on what we hear, often haphazardly, than to do research and find out for ourselves.

We base our ideas on emotion and opinions, not facts. We rely on the media and various agencies to make reports to us. We have become chronically lazy. I am not saying we should be rushing out to do primary research on all issues we feel are important. Dependency on information suppliers is unavoidable. However, I do feel we need to carefully examine the source and yes, at times, put in extra energy to discover information first hand for ourselves.

I found this summer that most homeless youths had been screwed over both in the home and by the system. They felt distrustful and unwanted as a result. And I, the big researcher, had nothing really to offer them except to say honestly that I was more interested in them as people than as objects.

In a world linked so closely through technology we have never been so isolated from the people and the issues on our streets.

If you are interested in activating change in the lives of metro's homeless people, there is a working group of NSPIRG (Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group) wanting your input and help. For more information on becoming a member of HART (Homeless Action Research Team), contact the PIRG office in room 310A on the third floor of the SUB or call 494-6662.

## Week of Reflection

On November 17, the *Gazette* will be printing a Week of Reflection supplement to commemorate the fourteen women killed in Montreal on December 6, 1989.

We welcome photos, poems, drawings, opinions and your help in creating this supplement.

Please drop off submissions at the Enquiry Desk or at the *Gazette* office in room 312, Dalhousie SUB.

For more information, call 494-2507.

Submissions deadline:  
Thursday, November 10