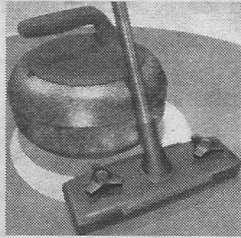


# A bit nippy at the curling club lately

The past week has brought some highs and lows for the Middleton Curling Club. In temperatures, that is. Just as the weather turned particularly frigid last week, the ancient and ailing furnace that heats the ice shed decided it could carry on no longer. While not a full-fledged disaster – the ice shed is supposed to be cold, after all – it did result in some nippy temperatures when the outside weather turned Arctic. The ambient air temperature for players on the ice is usually comfortably above zero, but for a few days it was a little hard on the nose and toes. Luckily the thermometer rose mid-week and kept the inside temperature up as well.

With some timely help from Merit Heating a new furnace should be installed within a week, and things will get back to normal.



## Throwing Rocks

Karen Sotvedt  
Middleton  
Curling Club

The budget took a beating as the installation was not foreseen and everyone who uses the club whether as a member, outside league, or as an occasional curler, is being asked to make a one-time donation, of whatever value, to offset the cost of the sudden expenditure. While the club does have a life-cycle plan, sometimes the best-laid plans.....you know the rest.

However, this did not stop the curling or other activities from carrying on. The Bridgetown Curling Club was hosting the annual Firefighters bonspiel and Middleton hosted teams over a three-day period when there was not enough room in the schedule at Bridgetown. MCC welcomed clubs from around the province as part of this bonspiel. A Big Breakfast was held on

Saturday and while it is always enjoyed by the club and community members, the curlers and families also appreciated having it available. The curling and the breakfast benefit from each other as those who just come to eat cannot help but stop to watch the games in progress. It adds something for the curlers to be playing to an audience, and to have the smell of bacon and coffee greet them when they come off the ice. The next Big Breakfast is to be held on Saturday March 2.

Coming up this weekend is the Annual Valentine's Spiel, organized each year by Nancy and Dave Acker. This funspiel is always a highlight as friends and family often join in and for some of them it is the only time they curl all year. There is plenty of red in evidence, some fancy head-gear, flashing hearts, and other tasteful outfitting. The day-long event includes lunch and prizes for everyone. What could be better! Look for photos on [www.middletoncurlingclub.com](http://www.middletoncurlingclub.com)