

Candlelit Christmas

Christmas is over, but here is one last look at a local tradition, a candlelit carolling tour through Old Oakville organized by Francine Landry, Sara Martel and Susan Jamieson. It began with Landry, left, dressed as Mary Jane MacDougald, reading *Red Ranger Come Calling*, at St. Jude's Church with the characters projected behind her. Kent Chambers, 5, seems to have colourful 'magic dust' coming out of his candle – actually its Christmas lights; Don Morrison and Jane Hawkkrigg came dressed as a couple of characters from Landry's story; a gentle snowfall created atmosphere for the 200 invited guests; and no Christmas event would be complete without Santa Claus. The tour, led by Sara Martel, dressed as a snow fairy, took carollers on a journey through Oakville's past and present, with stops at the Thomas House in Lakeside Park to meet costumed characters from *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, the David Patterson House where Agnes Patterson and her daughter Mathilda Jane played by Susan Jamieson and seven-year-old Olivia Martel Fauteux greeted guests with cookies, the Captain R. Wilson House to welcome a slave who arrived via the Underground Railroad, the Erchless Museum where musician Jamie Drayton performed *Christmas in Oakville*, the Market Square to greet Santa, and George Sumner's house to deliver a thank you letter to him for preserving Oakville's history in his journal.

