



*Tom Stormonth of Dragon Records will be happy to help fulfill your dreams on vinyl*

# WAXING NOSTALGIA

## at Dragon Records Gananoque

By Lorraine Payette

Listen up, all you audiophiles, great music on vinyl has come to Gananoque courtesy of Dragon Records. Located in the back of Beggars Banquet Books (BBB) at 126 King Street East, it specializes in high quality vintage sound at reasonable prices.

“We opened our Vintage Vinyl and CD area (the Dragon Records store-in-a-store) in Beggars Banquet Books in November 2016, and carry cleaned and tested used vinyl LPs, 45’s, CDs and some DVDs,” said Tom Stormonth, co-owner and proprietor of BBB.

Stormonth and his wife, Alison, opened the bookstore in Gananoque on May 22, 2015.

“We loved the area, and had stopped here many times on our way to visit family in Quebec,” he said. “We found a lovely home on Howe Island and decided to make Gananoque our hometown.”

It wasn’t long before they had opened BBB, selling all kinds of books – new and publisher overstock, which are new books at cheap prices, as well as over 75,000 previously loved volumes. In addition, they made Marley organic fair-trade coffee (both beans and freshly brewed), as well as all-natural sodas available to their customers.

“We love the fact that we now have regular customers – locals and tourists – for new, used and trade books as well as records,” he said. “Every week, readers come in specifically to talk books with us, and help them choose their next great read.”

“Alison, my wife, had never worked a retail job in her life and has blossomed into one of the main reasons customers frequent our store; her lovely demeanour and great

knowledge of books and authors, as well as her uncanny ability to match a great book with a customer’s wants and needs.”

But something was missing – they wanted more soul. So in November, 2016, they opened Dragon Records, a vintage vinyl and CD “store-in-a-store”.

“Our selection of over 3000 vinyl LPs includes Classic Rock, Heavy Metal, Blues, Jazz, Folk, Classical, Country, Spoken Word, Easy Listening, International, Soundtracks, Disco and House,” said Stormonth. “We cater to the music aficionado but also have some records for beginners and kids.”

As music has wound its way into the store, so has all that goes with it. In addition to the recordings, they are starting to bring in turntables on which to play them, and occasional musical instruments for those who wish to make their own music or to play along. Every item is carefully tested and checked before being put on the shelf, and quality is guaranteed!

“We would love to add new release records and CDs, turntables, stereo equipment, new guitars and accessories to the mix and we are making inroads in those areas,” he said.

With some of the older music labels starting to press vinyl again, Dragon Records is hoping to bring it in at reasonable prices to a new and hungry marketplace. The younger generations have discovered that the great vinyl LPs in their parents’ and grandparents’ collections vastly surpass the sound they get from CDs and MP3s. They have decided they want that quality in their lives, and are willing to search for it. When added to the joys of the bookstore, it is a dream come true for Stormonth. Be sure to pop in and hear what’s playing – you are bound to love the sound. **LH**



*Dragon Records, located at the rear of Beggars Banquet Books, carries all kinds of items to meet your listening needs*