



Fairbridge Gazette

MAY 1988

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

...Phil Field

On behalf of the Executive, I would like to extend a warm greeting and hello to all members of the Fairbridge Alumni Association.

The Executive have met and have discussed plans which will enable us to meet the goals and objectives set by the Association, and are looking enthusiastically towards a successful term.

Two specific areas which appear to have a fair amount of significance for us are:

- i) the possibility of developing contacts with Australian OF's and
- ii) proceeding with preliminary work on the perpetual scholarship in the name of the old Fairbridgians in Canada.

Those two areas alone will add a new dimension to our organization and will no doubt provide an excellent opportunity for us to focus our collective energy in a meaningful way.

Finally, let me encourage all of you to keep our organization healthy and warm. If you know of OF's who do not belong, spread the word and encourage them to join.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

We need your dues in order to put out the Gazette and to keep our Alumni going. So, come on, get your dues in now! It is so easy to put it off but we really need your support. Please send your dues to Molly Harris, 2143 William Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2S2.

TIDBITS

1. Philip Tipier had his Mom over from England and she attended our last reunion. She was a truly delightful lady to meet. If any of you have a "Mom" over here -- bring her along to our next reunion.
2. Alec and Ray Phillips have found their Mom after 56 years. Sorry, to hear Alec isn't well and hope he has improved. Our best to you both and your Mom.
3. Zoe Hodge (Enrie's wife) was kind enough to pass this news clipping on to us. Thanks, Zoe!

Migrant Kids Sought

A British TV company is making a major documentary about child migrants sent from Britain to Canada before and after the Second World War. It is being made with the help of the Child Migrants Trust, which has been set up to help former child migrants to trace their British roots.

If any of your readers have a story to tell or need help in finding their origins, could they please urgently contact either me, at the address below, or Margaret Humphreys:

Margaret Humphreys
Child Migrants Trust,
8 Kingston Road,
West Bridgford, Nottingham
NG2 7AQ, England.

Joy Melville
Research, Domino Films
75 Tennyson Street
London, SW8 3SX

CORRESPONDENCE

We have received a letter from an old Fairbridgian from the Australian School, they are celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Philip Field has sent a congratulatory telegram on our behalf. John Hardy has sent a letter of congratulations along with a copy of Fairbridge Glimpses, two Fairbridge Posters, a copy of 1984 Long's 75th Anniversary Annual Report, two Fairbridge pins and some newspaper items of our 1987 Reunion. The letter from Australia also makes reference to a book "A woman named Seylla" written by David Gurr. Mr. Gurr makes constant reference to Fairbridge in the book. Can anyone throw any light on this man? Was he a student or just a Fairbridge friend? Anyone interested in learning more about the Australian School can make contact with:

Mr. Dennis Silveer (President O.F.A.)
216 Bobbin Head Road
Turra Murra, 2074
New South Wales, Australia

FAIRBRIDGE ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

. . . . John Hardy

Here's your opportunity to repay the help you received as a child. And to help other children in need as we all once were ourselves.

The London Office informed the Alumni Association Scholarship Committee that there is money available to us in the Old Fairbridgians Grant and Loan Fund. The amount is 8,989 pounds or roughly \$20,000.

Notice of the fund was distributed through the Fall 1986 Gazette, requesting ideas from you for the use of the fund. One proposal, to start a scholarship fund for students in need, was almost unanimously adopted at the AGM last August.

Since then, a scholarship committee has been struck, of John Cowans, Tom Speed and John Hardy. Your executive has determined that we will provide scholarships to young people who have financial need and who are trying to better themselves in some way.

Priority for the scholarships will go to children, or grandchildren of OF's. And, although we use the term "scholarship" we don't necessarily mean "scholars". A recipient need not be going to college, but could be taking a hairdressing course, or welding course, just as long as they are trying to improve themselves.

If a young person is stuck for dollars to buy a few books or pay tuition, then the fund will be useful to him or her.

We plan to lodge the fund in the Vancouver Foundation, a public foundation comprising of 319 funds with aggregated capital of more than 156 million, which will look after the investing of the money for us. Each year, we will use the interest to provide one or more scholarships, and report to the alumni on these.

How can you help? One way is to help identify recipients. Not right away because we are still trying to put the fund together and we will let you know in the Gazette when to go ahead with this part of the operation.

Another way is to keep the scholarship fund in mind for bequests. It will be a perpetual fund in the memory of all of us and truly worth supporting. So let's get it off the ground!

CHAPEL IS OURS AGAIN!

. . . . John Hardy

Good news on the Chapel. John Cowans reports that the Regional District has agreed to turn the Chapel over to us for one dollar.

The Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society has been granted a license as a charitable organization which will allow for tax deductible donations.

Currently, there are 45 members in the Society and the next meeting is May 31st.

John says the only hold up on the Chapel at present is provincial, with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs that has to give its approval. "It takes hours and hours for lawyers to move," he says. But we are nearly there.

John plans to have two committees formed from the Society, one to seek funds, "we need a lot of money" and the other committee to look after the renovations.

Congratulations and appreciation to our hard working Chapel Committee!

HERITAGE

... PAT WEBB

We have had a meeting, committees have been set up, and I have been given a project that I can thoroughly enjoy, and with your help wherever possible, we can generate some interest in our own Fairbridge Heritage.

With some items, we can set them up in the ideal, and I would like to feel a safe surrounding, where they can be viewed on your visits to Fairbridge where they were originally sited.

This comes as a request to those of you who have knowledge of the whereabouts of items of interest to us all eg. the old C.P.R. bell that called us to the routines everyday, the sign that pointed the way to the residential site of Fairbridge, the honour roll plaque, of those who served in the Armed Forces during the War, and there must be other items of interest that come to mind for some of you. Let's hear from you if you feel that you have a lead or a suggestion to further our search for Fairbridge Artifacts.

Our heritage can be a part of our future and should be acted on now while there is still the memory and the time to preserve it. As Pat Dunae our archivist once said, "Fairbridge and its people are an important part of B.C.'s history, a living part of it, with a story to show". Please contact me at #66, 15820 Fraser Highway, Surrey, B.C. V3S 2W5, or call 597-8841 with any information you may have.

COMMITTEES

Phil Field (President) has allocated some projects to the following Directors:

Pete Forrest - Vice-Pres)	
Ann Forrest)	Reunion Committee
Eunice Nickolls)	

If you have any suggestions or requests regarding our next Reunion, please contact Pete at 298-2176 or write him at 6930 Curtis, Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2B1.

Keith Hamblett	Recording Secretary
John Hardy	Bursaries
Molly Harris	Correspondence Secretary Treasurer
Pat Webb (V.P.)	Heritage
Eunice Nickolls	Gazette

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

... Eunice Nickolls

If you have anything you would like me to put in the next Gazette, please call me at 534-9109 or mail it to me at: Eunice Nickolls, 23457 - 34A Avenue, Langley, B.C. V3A 7B9.