

# FAIRBRIDGE GAZETTE

Newsletter of the Fairbridge Canada Association



Ian Hall shovelling snow at the  
Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School in SHORTS!

*(Photo courtesy of Ken Armstrong)*

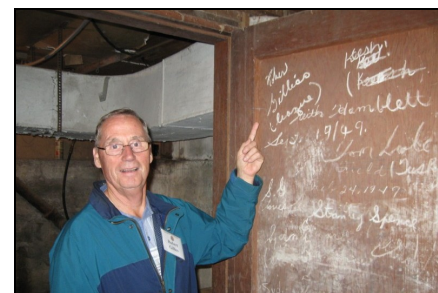
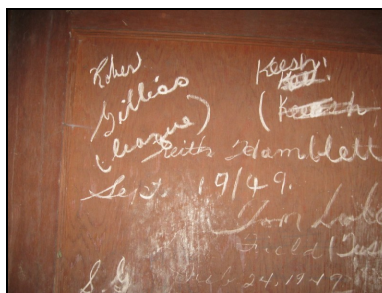
# Christmas 2011



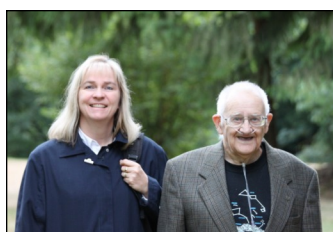
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## *Reunion Photos by Bob Gillies*



## *Reunion Photos by Guy LaPointe*



Pat Skidmore Photos



## **Fairbridge Canada Association Membership** **Fees are due January 2012—\$30.00 year**

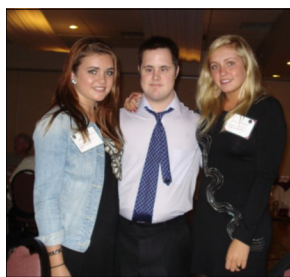
Membership forms can be found at the end of this Gazette and on the FCA website at: <http://fairbridgecanada.com>



## Committee Members—your new and returning executive:

President	Roddy Mackay	<a href="mailto:roddymc@comcast.net">roddymc@comcast.net</a>
Past President	John Hardy	<a href="mailto:jkhardy@shaw.ca">jkhardy@shaw.ca</a> (250-701-0447)
Vice President	Doreen Hagen	<a href="mailto:dbhagen@shaw.ca">dbhagen@shaw.ca</a> (250-751-2086)
2nd Vice President	Jean Conlon	<a href="mailto:jconlon@shaw.ca">jconlon@shaw.ca</a>
Treasurer/Memberships	Barry Hagen	<a href="mailto:dbhagen@shaw.ca">dbhagen@shaw.ca</a> (250-751-2086)
Minute Recorder, Correspondence Person & Fairbridge Gazette Editor:	Pat Skidmore	<a href="mailto:patskidmore@shaw.ca">patskidmore@shaw.ca</a> (778-888-6614)
<b>FCA Directors:</b>	Jock Bennett	<a href="mailto:jockbennett@dccnet.com">jockbennett@dccnet.com</a>
	Stan Blake	
	Chris Brookshaw	<a href="mailto:Chris.Brookshaw@Power-Health.co.uk">Chris.Brookshaw@Power-Health.co.uk</a>

*Gayle & Jock Bennett photos*



## Let's Keep Current

*Send in your change of address and/or change of email address.*

**NOTE:** Barry Hagen is now the Treasurer of both the FCA and FABS accounts—but they have two separate accounting systems. If you are sending a donation to the Fairbridge Alumni Bursary Society, please clarify that and send them to Barry Hagen, addressed FABS Treasurer. If you are sending donations or FCA Membership fees, please send them to Barry Hagen, addressed FCA Treasurer.

Send material for the Fairbridge Gazette and correspondence to:  
**Pat Skidmore**  
 1101 651 Nootka Way,  
 Port Moody, BC  
 Canada V3H 0A1  
[patskidmore@shaw.ca](mailto:patskidmore@shaw.ca)

**Fairbridge Canada Association Membership Fees should be sent to:**  
**Barry Hagen**  
**FCA Treasurer**  
 5549 Clipper Drive  
 Nanaimo, BC  
 V9T 5M7  
[dbhagen@shaw.ca](mailto:dbhagen@shaw.ca)

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 V9T 5M7  
[dbhagen@shaw.ca](mailto:dbhagen@shaw.ca)

**DONATIONS to the Fairbridge Chapel should be sent to:**  
**Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society**  
 4791 Fairbridge Drive  
 Duncan, BC  
 V9L 6N9



*Please include a return address so we can send you an income tax receipt.*



### ***Roddy Mackay: FCA President***

With Christmas just around the corner many of us at our age would wish for a new year with fewer aches, so we can enjoy life, our family and friends. So that is my Christmas wish for you all. You may have heard the rumour that someone not too bright actually volunteered to become your new president. The only reason I volunteered for the position was (a) no one else wanted the position (b) having survived ten years at Fairbridge I figured the job would be a “breeze.” In 1951, I actually signed up to the army using that same logic. Being a canny Scot I also figured there might be a few perks attached to this prestigious position, thus far that is a negative. Well, I can hear some of the ‘senior boys,’ saying, “Come on Mackay let's get serious.”

In September, we had what I and many others who attended considered a real fun Reunion. It was good to see an excellent turn out for the reunion; we had 77 members/guests for the banquet. Mucho Kudos deservedly goes to former President John Hardy, Doreen & Barry Hagen, Pat Skidmore, Jean Conlon. Oops almost forgot my wife Betty, who prepared the delicious hors d'oeuvres for the Meet & Greet. The music was provided by Ray Phillip's Band; the music was toe tapping good and had many up dancing and really enjoying the evening. That my friends make it all worthwhile, and I look forward to serving as your President. If any members have fresh ideas on how best the FCA board can serve you, I would look forward to hearing from you. May you all have a wonderful Christmas, and if you know of a former school mate who is alone at this special time of the year please give them a call. Finally, here's a Scottish toast for the Hogmanay (the New Year) “Lang may your Lum Reek.”

*Roddy*



***Reunion photos  
from the Mackays***







### ***John Hardy: FCA Past President: Thoughts on the September 16-18 Reunion***

This last reunion was for me the best reunion I've been to, and I've attended all of them since we started the biannual gigs. There was a good feeling among people there and some good moments we will remember.

From the usual Friday evening 'meet and greet' to the closing moments Sunday in the Chapel, we all just seemed to be happy to be together, part of the Fairbridge family. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends.

We shifted the location for this reunion to the Silver Bridge Inn. The rooms were nice and clean and well furnished. The access to the meeting rooms easy as it was just across the courtyard from the rooms.

During the Saturday morning business meeting, members got caught up on events of the past two years from board members who gave reports. Barry Hagen gave the treasurers report on our finances. Pat Skidmore gave reports on the Gazette and Bursary Society.

Two other people gave reports: Ron Smith, a representative for the Fairbridge Chapel, handed out an excellent summary of events and concerns about the future. (See page 17-18) And Phil Field presented a marvelous report analyzing the relationship of FABS to the FCA. We thank both of these people for their good work. (Editor's note—See the FCA Website at: <http://fairbridgecanada.com/> for the Minutes of the BGM—the minutes includes the various reports given that day.)

Saturday afternoon, we were hosted by the strata council at the Fairbridge grounds with tea and cakes. Our members walked the familiar cottage routes.

Then in the evening came the banquet with 65 people attending for a first class meal. Roddy Mackay showed a video, "Nobodys Child" produced in Eastern Canada about the early child migrants to Ontario and Quebec. We all, guests and Fairbridgians, were taken by the information on those early child migration years.

If you have read the excellent book "Empty Cradles" by Margaret Humphries, you will be familiar with the longing for family of those early child migrants, alone in a strange land.

Following the video presentation, we were entertained by a band led by former Fairbridgian, Ray Phillips. We had a sing-a-long and we had dancing. It was great.

The Sunday morning Chapel Service closed this reunion in a marvelous way. We were piped into the chapel by a husband and wife team, Jim and Cecily Barry. Ivan Jespersen, a retired United Church minister, gave a creative talk enjoyed by all. Then we were piped out to the tune of Amazing Grace, a very emotional ending for the weekend.

May our next one go as well!

John Hardy



### ***Pat Skidmore: FCA Gazette Editor***

***Christmas Greetings to all and I wish you all the best in the New Year.***

Many thanks to all who sent in FCA Reunion photos—I have included as many as possible throughout the Gazette.

The *Fairbridge Glimpses* has been reproduced. I have copies for sale for \$10.00 per copy and it includes postage. Write or email me if you want to order one.

We are working to keep the Fairbridge Gazette as is—but present FCA finances might force us to go back to a smaller version for the mailout. We will keep you posted.



## *Corresponding Secretary News—Highlights are below:*

### *August*

- Cowichan Valley Museum & Archives [cvmuseum.archives@shaw.ca] regarding displaying the Memorial Quilt. See next page for photos from Kathryn.
- Royal BC Museum regarding displaying the Memorial Quilt.
- Courtenay Little Theatre regarding displaying the Memorial Quilt and their production of the

Homechild Play. (Editor's note—I went to see the play in October and it was well worth the drive to Courtenay—if this production comes to a theatre near you—considering going to see it.

- Several Rhodesian Fairbridgians wrote in regarding the Fairbridge Summer Gazette.
- John Sayers with the news that Dennis Harmer had died on 25 January, 2011 at Mission, BC. Dennis told me some time ago that being sent to Canada was the best thing that ever happened to him. He was born in Cookley, Worcestershire, England on 25 Nov. 1928. He came over in 1941. (See page 17) . He also mentioned that: "We are in the process of putting an index to the Barnardo Ups and Downs magazine on the Library and Archives Canada website. So maybe one day we should do the same for the Fairbridge Gazette, have you any thoughts on that?" I responded with a YES!
- Georgina Montgomery (lives in one of the former Fairbridge cottages) about a friend of theirs who has expressed interest in doing a film piece about the reunion and, more broadly, about Fairbridge.
- Hazel and Ernie Todd keep in touch sending news bits and jokes.
- Jean Conlon had some wonderful news to share: "Hi!! everyone had my ct scan last Friday results yesterday. I am now cancer free, the hair is coming back its just baby fuzz right now, but it is great to get back to a normal life, it has been a long year. Love Jean"

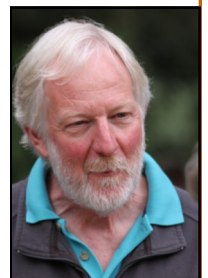
### *September*

- Many emails went back and forth between the Directors as the Reunion details were put into place.
- Guy LaPointe Social Coordinator Fairbridge Strata sent a link to some of his Reunion Photos. See page 2 for a few of his photos. Thanks Guy.
- Jock and Gayle Bennett sent some of their Reunion Photos. See page 3 for a sample. Thanks Jock and Gayle.
- Bob Gilles with some photos and request for information about his Fairbridge records. See page 2 for a sampling. Thanks Bob.

### *October*

- Norman Richards thought this might be of interest to some old Fairbridgians who were at Fintry. It is good to know that Fintry is thriving as a park and that Friends of Fintry are doing a good job of keeping the name alive but also that of Fairbridge.
- Royal BC Museum regarding the displaying of the British Home Child Quilt. (The Quilt is presently displayed until January 12, 2012)
- Gail Collins, British Home Child Descendant and originator of the Quilt— regarding the display tour of the British Home Child Quilt.
- Chinami Hancock regarding Ron Hancock
- Alan Walton re filming the reunion
- Steve and Wendy Turnbull seeking information.
- Will Garnett, son of Bill Garnett a former Duties Master and Principal of the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School, wrote: *A quick note to say how much I enjoyed meeting you all and to thank you for your generosity and kindness. I had a ball at the Reunion and have learned so much from listening and from seeing Fairbridge and the Cowichan Valley... I'll keep you in touch with progress; and hope you will feel free to let me have any further thoughts you'd like to share.*

*Will Garnett, photo by  
Guy LaPointe*





- Joan Martin: Happy Thanksgiving email
- Molly Harris & her English relatives keep in regular touch via my email. Molly & Marge Skidmore taken → during a summer visit.
- Dianne and Brent Colley and Mitch Foster regarding ordering the Fairbridge Glimpses. (Editor's note—copies are available at \$10.00 a copy.)
- Amber Goldie—regarding the tour dates for the British Home Child Memorial Quilt and with information on a new book, which has a Home Child as one of the main characters. →



## November

- Bill Stoker, with an account of his recent trip to England via the Family Restoration Fund, see page 13 and also see page 9 for an story about his friendship with Norm Richards.
- Newsletter of the Old Fairbridgian's Association from the Fairbridge Farm School at Molong, Australia. They are holding their 74th Reunion next March, 2012 in Orange, NSW. (this is not far from the site of the Molong Fairbridge Farm School.)
- Woody Reimer. Fairbridge Carols program organizer with the date of the Fairbridge Carols 2011 strata social and concert event - Sunday afternoon, Nov. 27, 2011
- Kathryn Gagnon, Curator/Manager, Cowichan Valley Museum and Archives—I just learned that a desk that belonged the headmaster will be donated to our collection - it comes from an old Duncan pioneer family...I'll definitely need a larger museum soon! I would love to have a whole permanent exhibit dedicated to the



Fairbridge School.

Kathryn sent this photo she took of the suitcases donated by Fred Harding. They were on display during the Reunion.

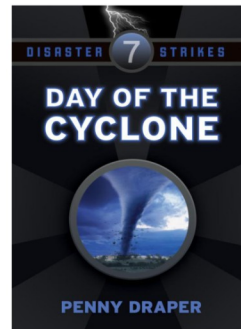
And the photo of the British Home Child Quilt—also on Display in September. It is presently on display at the Royal BC Museum—third floor—until January 12, 2012.



## Book News



### media release



#### Day of the Cyclone

Disaster Strikes! Book 7  
Penny Draper

**RELEASE DATE: April 2012**

"Disaster Queen" Penny Draper is back – on the centenary of the cyclone that devastated the city of Regina.

June, 1912. 12-year-old Ella is surprised by an unusual birthday gift from her father: a Brownie camera and the advice to seek pictures of things that 'don't belong'. This is how Ella first notices Billy, a boy at her school. They become good friends, although Ella is sure Billy is keeping something from her.

Ella soon realizes there are others to whom the 'don't belong' tag applies. They include herself! Helping out at her mother's IODE group, Ella finds out about women's rights – or the lack of them.

When Ella's mother's purse is raided, suspicion falls on Billy. Then, just as Ella is learning surprising things about both her mother and her mysterious friend, the cyclone arrives. The substandard housing of the poor is worst-hit. How can Ella, armed only with her camera, help her friend?

**Praise for Ice Storm (Disaster Strikes! 7):** "Draper covers the terror and impact of the storm. She also weaves in a subtle environmental message about overreliance on electricity...an unusual story of survival." – *Kirkus Reviews*

**Praise for Graveyard of the Sea (Disaster Strikes! 6):** "the author makes the setting of her Newfoundland tale as satisfying as the smell of seafood chowder"; "readers are...sensually and emotionally embedded in 12-year-old Murphy's life in the outpost." – *Canadian Children's Book News*

Penny Draper's novels for young readers have been finalists in Young Readers' Choice Awards across Canada. She has won the Bolen Book Prize and a Gold Medal in the Moonbeam Awards. Penny is an author, bookseller and professional storyteller who lives in Victoria, BC.

Day of the Cyclone: Disaster Strikes! 7  
April 2012  
\$8.95  
ISBN 13: 9781550504811 ISBN 10: 1550504819  
Juvenile fiction • 5" x 7" Trade Paper •



for more information contact **Amber Goldie**, marketing manager, Coteau Books  
e: [marketing@coteaubooks.com](mailto:marketing@coteaubooks.com) t: 306.777.0174  
f: 306.522.5152 [www.coteaubooks.com](http://www.coteaubooks.com)

Coteau Books will be publishing a children's book in April 2012 in which one of the two main characters is a Home Child who has run away from ill treatment, and is trying to get by on his own. I would very much like to bring out the importance of this part of our history when the author, Penny Draper, a writer living in Victoria BC, will do her book events at schools, libraries, museums, and book-stores, next year.

For more information contact: Amber Goldie, Marketing Manager, [marketing@coteaubooks.com](mailto:marketing@coteaubooks.com), (306) 777-0174

Peter Gould, a Rhodesian Fairbridgian living in New Zealand sent this in:

A chap wanted to buy some life insurance and being 'smart' asked a sales rep from each of 3 life companies to call at his house at 7.00pm one evening... one from AMP, one from MLC, and me from NZI.

When we had all duly arrived he turned to the AMP rep and said, "Why should I buy your Policy?" The rep replied, "No good reason not to because our Policy goes 'From the Cradle to the Grave.'"

"Fair enough" says the man who then turns to the MLC rep saying, "Can you beat that?" The rep replies, "Absolutely, because our Policy goes 'From the Womb to the Tomb!'" "Very Good" responds the man, who then faces me saying, "How can you possibly beat that?" I let out a big chuckle and smugly reply, "No problem at all because our Policy goes 'From Erection to Resurrection'!!!"

## ***Doreen Hagen: FCA Vice President: Reunion Report***

FAIRBRIDGE CANADA ASSOCIATION  
REUNION, 2011, DUNCAN, B.C.

The Fairbridge Canada Association 2011 reunion was held on September 16 – 18, 2011 at the Travelodge Duncan, Silver Bridge Inn.

On Friday evening 65 members and guests got together to renew friendships and talk about life at Fairbridge. Food and beverages were served in the banquet room. Tables were set up so groups could sit and talk comfortably. There was no bar set up, but you could go and get an alcoholic beverage from the nearby bar.

Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. the BGM was also held in the banquet room. There were about 50 members and guests present, which was a fantastic turnout. Reports were given by John Hardy, President; Barry Hagen, Treasurer; Pat Skidmore, Secretary and editor of the Gazette. Phil Field gave a report on what was happening with FABS, and Ron Smith reported on the Chapel. It was a very lively meeting with much discussed.

The rain held off on Saturday afternoon for about 50 members and guests who attended the Fairbridge Strata's afternoon tea. This is always enjoyed by all as memories abound in the surroundings of our young lives. The Strata and their families always make us welcome and serve a large selection of sandwiches and goodies.

At 5:30 p.m., members and guests gathered in the banquet room to enjoy a delicious deluxe buffet. After dinner, we were entertained by Roy Phillips and his band. We happily joined together for an old time sing-a-long and dancing until about 11:00 p.m. The 50/50 raffle of \$86.50 was won by Marjorie Skidmore. A number of door prizes, donated by members, were drawn at the close of the evening.

Sunday morning, we gathered together at the Chapel for our farewell service. Many thanks to retired Reverend Ivan Jespersen, John Hardy's brother-in-law, for leading us in prayer and song during the service. The music was provided by Roy Phillips on guitar and Myra on keyboards. This really added a nice homey touch to the service. Many thanks. We departed afterwards to return to our homes, many from afar.

Many thanks to John Hardy, Roddy Mackay, Pat Skidmore and Jean Conlon for their contribution to a very successful reunion.

Doreen Hagen  
Vice President

### FAIRBRIDGE CANADA ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT - REUNION, 2011

Prepared by Barry V. Hagen, Treasurer, E&OE

#### REVENUES

Receipts	\$4,010.00
Refunds	(300.00)
50/50 Raffle	86.50
Poster Revenue	<u>20.00</u>
	<u>\$3,816.50</u>

#### EXPENSES

Banquet Expenses	\$2,821.70
Meet and Greet Food Platters	176.44
Printing	69.14
Room for FCA Board Meeting	<u>140.00</u>
	<u>\$3,207.28</u>

<u><b>Profit</b></u>	<u><b>\$609.22</b></u>
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**2011 FCA Membership List**

1. Armstrong, Ken	25. Ford, Irene	50. Preece, Mollie
2. Ayer, John	26. Frazer, Kerry	51. Reynolds, Pamela
3. Bennett, John	27. Friends of Fintry Prov Park Society	52. Roberts, John
4. Blake, Stanley	28. Glentworth, Cyprian	53. Robinson, Corinne
5. Bordeleau, Nancy	29. Goldie, May	54. Sandwith, Sheila
6. Brookshaw, Christine	30. Gray, Clement	55. Sharp, Henry
7. Brown, Pam	31. Hagen, Barry	56. Sherlock, Irene
8. Bulcock, Fred	32. Hagen, Doreen	57. Skidmore, Joan
9. Bulcock, Jeff	33. Hancock, Ronald	58. Skidmore, Marjorie
10. Carver, Jessie	34. Hanson, Alfred	59. Skidmore, Pat
11. Ceriko, Grace	35. Harding, Fred	60. Smith, Rudy
12. Cockburn, William	36. Harris, Molly	61. Speed, Maureen
13. Collins, Frank	37. Hewitt, Andrew	62. Speed, Richard
14. Conlon, Jean	38. Hodge, Ernie	63. Spence, Stanley
15. Crellin, Brenda	39. Hughes, Alfred	64. Stoker, William
16. Danks, Frank	40. Lisle, Tom	65. Strawbridge, Brian
17. Darrell, Michael	41. Mackay, Roddy	66. Taylor, Hugh
18. Davies, Kathleen	42. Martin, Joan	67. Timbrell, Peter
19. Dean, Lily	43. McIver, Michael	68. Todd, Ernest
20. Dewhirst, Gordon	44. Millman, Dennis	69. Turnbull, Ken
21. Duffy, Ellen	45. Montgomery, Georgina	70. Wallace, Ellinor
22. Emmerson, William	46. Myhill, Roy	71. West, Patricia
23. Fairbridge, Stephen	47. Nichols, Mary	72. Westdorp, Rosemary
24. Field, Phillip	48. Nickolls, Eunice	73. Wheeldon, Celina
	49. Phillips, Raymond	74. Whittaker, Sybil

**Friends for Life.** Norman Richards and I came to Canada in September 1937 on the Duchess of Athol. On arrival at FFS we were both assigned to K Cottage. However, due to some medical problem, we spent our initial time at the school in the hospital cottage. That really cemented our relationship.

In 1946 Norman was paid off from the Merchant Navy, after service delivering essential oil supplies for Allied Forces. By late 1946 I was back in Vancouver after 40 months with the CA(A). Somehow we reconnected and found part time employment while batching together near Standly Park and later in Kitsalino was a great time for newly liberated young bucks! We dined (occasionally) in China Town but mostly ate some awful stew we had concocted, Despite the odds we never suffered from food poisoning!

The BC School of Pharmacy and Science was our next stop to up-grade our education.

Female companionship was, of course, essential to our needs for that undisputed refinement to our life-style. Alas! Perhaps wonderfully! Norm- on one of our sorties saw Frieda. Now married for 62 years they have 5 children, 12 grand children and 3 great grand children.

Norm and I occasionally reconnect via e-mail. Frieda is often surprised how I have overcome the shyness I had when we first encountered.

Cherished memories of my best friend and thanks to FFS  
Bill Stoker

A little addition: Frieda and I have been married for 62 years, we have 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. It's a great life. *Norm Richards*



2007 FCA Reunion: l-r—James & Lily Dean, Frieda & Norm Richards, Bill & Beryl Stoker

*Pat Skidmore photo*

## Seventh Annual Cowichan District Schoolboy **BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*Sent in by Ron Smith*

*The following two stories are from  
Cowichan Leader, Duncan, Vancouver Island, B.C.*

**Thursday, April 5, 1945**

### **Boxing**

#### ***Schoolboy Tournament Will Provide Excellent Contests***

A promising list of entries for the seventh annual Kinsmen schoolboy boxing tournament, which takes place on Saturday, indicates some tip-top bouts in store for fans. Duncan Olympic entry, Doug Cleogh, and Footbridge's Albert Bettonie, whose stirring battle last year high-spotted the programme, have been training seriously.

Entering the 141-150 lb. class is Donald Codville, son of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. F.H.M. Codville, Maple Bay. One of the grandest bouts ever witnessed in boy's boxing in Duncan was fought several years ago by Donald's brother James, who has since been killed in action.

Among the younger boys, well known competitors such as Malcolm Macdonald, Ernie Todd and Billy Meers, Fairbridge, will vie with Earl Vance, Douglas Jung and Joe Harrison, equally familiar contestants from Duncan. It is hoped that the popular Wilkinson boys from Cobble Hill will be among the entries.

Duncan Kinsmen committee in charge of the tournament is busy this week building a ring and making final preparations. Proceeds will go to the Milk for Britain Fund.

**Thursday, April 12, 1945**

### **Fairbridge Wins 6 of 9 Cups**

#### **Keen, Colourful Contests In Kin Schoolboy Boxing**

Thunderous applause followed the last bout on a varied card at Duncan Kinsmen Club annual boxing tournament in the school gymnasium on Saturday night. Although not so large as last year's exceptional crowd, a vociferous partisan, thoroughly representative turn-out showed keen community interest in schoolboy boxing.

Supporters were treated to a display of plucky, sportsmanlike, leather-slinging as contestants sparred on dancing feet or slugged it out, toe-to-toe.

Fairbridge contestants (denoted "F") making up two-thirds of the total entry, carried off cups in six of the nine classes. Fighting in the 71-80 class were Fair-

## Seventh Annual Cowichan District Schoolboy **BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**High School Gym-Duncan  
SAT., APRIL 7, 7:30 p.m.**

Sponsored By Duncan Kinsmen Club  
PROCEEDS FOR  
**Milk for Britain Fund**

**General Admission 50c  
Students 25c**

PRINTED BY THE COWICHAN LEADER

bridge's pugnacious Field brothers, Leon, Louis and Phillip, of whom the latter two had to fight an elimination bout.

After several last-minute withdrawals, 10 contestants

only represented Duncan area. This may have been due to lack of training facilities available for the youthful devotees of the sport. Bruce and Don Codville,

Maple Bay, at present attending North Shore College carried off cups in their respective weights.

### **Top Bouts**

Top bout of the evening was Don Codville's thrilling three-round mix-up with Fairbridge's Albert Bettonie, in the 141-150 class. Going from the handshake into a two-fisted, slugging attack Codville as held by Bettonie, who gave blow for blow. After a short-arm, pummeling attack Bettonie began forcing the fight and drew blood from his opponent's nose.

Although he appeared tiring before the first bell, Codville was right out and mixing it in a stand-up socking contest as the second round opened. Bettonie's face was visibly marked, and one eye appeared to be closing. In-fighting by Bettonie was driven off by Codville, and a fast, two-fisted exchange was stopped by the bell.

### **Wins "Best Loser" Prize**

Bettonie eliminated Olympic's Doug Cleough, whom he defeated in the 131-140 finals last year, in an earlier bout. Marked by some hard hitting slowed by frequent clinches, the elimination bout proved Bettonie to be in better condition than the Olympic's powerfully-fisted, but quickly tiring entry. For his performance in the fi-

**Fairbridge contestants carried off cups  
in six of the nine classes.**

**...well known Fairbridge competitors  
attend such as Malcolm Macdonald,  
Ernie Todd and Billy Meers.**



nals, Bettonie was awarded the well deserved "Best Loser" prize.

In the 61-70 pound class, Roddy Mackay (F), eliminated Dick Toews, only Koksilah entry, and went into the finals with Brian Tibbles (F), who had a bye. McKay again defeated his opponent in a bout of light dancing interchanges, interspersed with hard-hitting, two-fisted exchanges.

The 71-80 pound class had most entries. Olympic's miniature whirlwind offensive, Alex Johnstone, eliminated nimble-footed Hugh Taylor (F). Louis Field (F) eliminated Clifford Cooper (F) in a weaving fluid fight. Phillip Field (F) eliminated Eric Foster (F) in a series of swift exchanges marked by Field's light footwork.

### Whirlwind Round

In the semi-finals of the eliminations Ales Johnston's deadly southpaw carried him through against a steadily more scientific fighter, Leon Field (F). In a whirlwind second round Johnstone went down twice, as much from his own impetus as his opponent's blows.

Shaking his head, he was later forced to withdraw, leaving the finals to Phillip Field, who fought his second elimination bout against his brother Louis. Both boys are light, swift fighters, neither appeared to put much heart into the family feud.

Earl Vance, Duncan, eliminated Gordon Tonks (F) in the first bout of the 91-100 pound class. Vance a hard, two-fister fighter, pushed the fight against a weaving opponent.

Joe Harrison, Duncan, drew blows from Clement Gray (F), who he defeated in three hard, deadly rounds. Gray put up a game fight, but tired towards the end.

In the semi-finals, Vance defeated Kenny Dobbs, in a fine bout between two aggressive fighters. Harrison and Vance then met in the finals, which Harrison took in a close decision. A more solid fighter, Harrison had a powerful left, while Vance used more ring craft and light footwork. One long, two-fisted exchange, had the crowd on its feet, but both fighters slowed towards the end.

### Natural Fighter

One of the best fights of the evening Leon Mendoza (F) and Ernie Todd (F) was marred by two unintentional fouls by Todd. A dynamic, natural fighter, Todd carried

himself around the ring with swift, leaping steps. Mendoza, bleeding, put up a great defensive fight, breaking through in quick one-two attacks.

He dropped the finals to Billy Meers who came in on a bye, and again fought a spirited, defensive bout. Meers, favouring a left-right-left attack, drew blood from his opponent and the last round was an all-out effort by both fighters.

Bruce Codville, a calm, measured fighter, took Scotty Milne (F), a tempestuous fighter with a two-fisted boring attack, in an elimination round of the 111-120 pound class. He was downed in the first round of the finals by Kenny Turnbull (F), but leapt in with piston-rod blows to the face and drew blood from Turnbull's nose. Hard fighting all the way, Codville almost went down before the final bell, but his unruffled defence quickly turned to attack and he took the decision.

Lawrence McCarty (F), and Frank Danks (F) were the only entries in 121-130 class, and after fighting a cagey first two rounds, began mixing it in the final round. Heavy blows were exchanged and the crowd rose to the final spurt before the bell. Danks took the close decision.

### Draws Blood

One of the goriest mix-ups was an elimination bout in the 131-140 pound class between Barry Hodges (F) and Jimmy Cain (Olympics). Hodges bored in, aggressively two-fisted, while Cain used short-armed jabs to face and body drawing blood. Fighting furiously, Hodges did not hear the first bell, and landed a blow after time.

Going down in the second round, Hodges began to look badly mauled, and tried to cover up. The referee called a technical knockout for Cain. Cain himself was not able to go into the finals due to a weak heart and Rudoff Smith (F) took the cup in default.

As the only entry in the 81-90 pound class, Macdonald (F) was awarded the cup in default. Trophies were awarded as follows:--

- Arthur Mann Trophy, 61-70 pounds—R. McKay (F); runner-up, B. Tibbles (F).
- Atkins Cup, 71-80—P. Field (F); runner-up, A. Johns-



**Phillip Field fought his second elimination bout against his brother Louis. Both boys are light, swift fighters, neither appeared to put much heart into the family feud.**



## Roddy Mackay eliminated Dick Toews, and went into the finals with Brian Tibbles.

tone (Olympics).

- Duncan Garage Cup, 81-90—M. MacDonald (F), in default.
- Greenhaven Cup, 91-100—J. Harrison (Duncan); runner-up, E. Vance (Duncan)
- Kinsmen's Trophy, 101-110—B. Meers (F); runner-up L. Mendoza (F)
- Martin Trophy, 111-120—B. Codville, (D); runner-up, K. Turnbull (F)
- Captain J.D. Groves Challenge Cup 121-130—F. Danks (F); runner-up, L. McCarty (F)
- Suddaby Cup, 131-140—R. Smith (F); runner-up, Jimmie Cain (O)
- Cowichan Branch, Canadian Legion Cup, 141-150—Don Codville (D); runner-up, Albert Bettonie (F)

### Presents Awards

Mayor George H. Savage presented awards to the winning boxers, and said that the splendid exhibition witnessed that evening was part of the good work done by Kinsmen among boys. Loud cheers responded to his request for a tribute to the organizers, who were also backing the new recreation centre project, he added. "One of the best things about tonight," concluded Mayor Savage, "is that winners or losers, the boys are all good friends."

Mr. V.R. "Buckie" Kennett was in charge of the tournament, assisted by Mr. Jock Gillatt, Fairbridge. A grand job in a strenuous position was done by Bill Noyes, Vancouver, who again came over to referee. Maj. L. C. Rattray and Mr. Kennett were judges and Mr. C.F. Davis, K.C., was timekeeper.

Mr. O. T. Smythe did a good job at announcer in the quieter moments of the spectators and Mr. Ed. Mould was recorder. The familiar face of Mr. George Sander-son, in charge of the finances, appeared at the pay box, and seating was arranged by Messrs. Norman Martin and E. A. Goddard.

Seconds in the blue corner were Mr. Ted Heppell and Olympic trainer, Mr. Denis Hogan, Pte. Alfred White, on leave from Camp Borden, a Fairbridge contestant about five years ago, seconded in the red corner, assisted by Mr. Harry Sharp and Johnny Cowans. Mr. H. Whan had charge of Kinsmen volunteers who built the ring and later dismantled it.

## Top bout of the evening was Don Codville's thrilling three-round mix-up with Fairbridge's Albert Bettonie.



### Wins Championship

L. - Cpl. "Andy" Anderson, winner of the Canadian Army featherweight boxing title in England, is pictured here at Fairbridge with his sisters, LAW Lavinia Anderson, left, and the late Ethel Anderson. Andy's public appearances in the ring started here in the Kinsmen schoolboy boxing tournaments, in which he did very well. He also starred in soccer here and in Victoria.

### Boxing Champion

## ANDY ANDERSON BRINGS FAME TO FAIRBRIDGE SCHOOL

A former Fairbridge Farm School student, L.-Cpl. "Andy" Anderson, is 1945 featherweight boxing champion of the Canadian Army in the United Kingdom. As reported in The Leader last week, L.-Cpl. Anderson wrote, while training for the championship: "It will be for Fairbridge I am boxing."

At present a physical training instructor with an armoured corps reinforcement unit in England, L.-Cpl. Anderson gave a good account of himself when he took part in Duncan at the annual Kinsmen schoolboy boxing tournaments while at Fairbridge. He had been training for this bout in England for some time.

"Boy, that was awful tough going," he said in his dressing room. "I'll be satisfied to stick with my army physical training instruction job." A measure of L.-Cpl. Anderson's achievement may be taken from the fact that his opponent, 26-year-old infantry lieutenant, Joe Gagnon, of Montreal, was three years Canadian flyweight champion, and finalist at the British Empire Games in Sydney, Australia, in 1938. Andy was 21 yesterday.

It was the outstanding bout of seven championships decided before a crowd of more than 2,000 Canadian servicemen.

"Andy" Anderson was born in Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, in 1924, and came to Vancouver Island at the age of 12. A member of an athletic family—his father and two sisters were both good athletes—he received his early athletic training at Fairbridge from Mr. W. J. Garnett, now a lieutenant in the R.C.N.V.R. Andy was, according to Mr. Harry T. Logan, principal, a first-class pupil.

As a member of the Victoria soccer team, Saanich Thistles, Andy's effective and polished performance earned him renown. A sister, LAW Lavinia Anderson, is serving with the R.C.A.F. (W.D.), at Macdonald, Man.



Saturday, November 22, 1946

Cowichan News Leader Photo 7

## No homecoming party for Cowichan's favourite pugilist

Big Fight: Promoter blames onerous contract at Island Savings Centre

Mike Pomeroy  
News Leader Photo 1

A local fight promoter is accusing North Cowichan of a low blow as powerful it caused him to cancel a title fight that would have featured Don Codville and world champion, Jeanette Gamble.

"In all the years I've put on fights, I've never run into something like this—I'd have to mortgage my house to give them what they're asking for," said Willy Petrovic, owner of Duncan's Final Round Martial Arts Centre.

Petrovic has promoted three fight cards during the past 12 months—one at St. Mary's Gym and a third at Fuller Lake Arena—and every event has drawn more fans than the one before.

He was planning a fourth when he had a gift dropped in his lap. "Jeanette is a hometown girl and wanted to defend her title in front of a hometown crowd," said Petrovic.

Anticipating a record crowd for the fight, the promoter said he needed to find a larger venue and believed he found it at the Cowichan Arena.

Petrovic said he was knocked for a loop

when he saw what the Island Savings Centre Commission wanted from him.

"They want TV rights, a piece of the merchandising, a portion of the gate and other things, like if the building should suffer lightning damage during my card, they want me to pay for the repairs."

Now Gamble is scheduled to defend her title in Bessie.

"I couldn't keep her on hold forever," said Petrovic, who said he believes the Cowichan Arena is a community facility paid for with taxpayers' money.

"But they want me to take all the risks and they want to take half."

Ron Austen, general manager of the Island Savings Centre, said he recalls the conversation, but Petrovic's version isn't the way he remembers the details.

"What I said to him is we have a standard rental contract that the commission has brought in over the years because we've brought in some major events," Austen said.

"It's not like renting the community hall, we have some standard processes and procedures just like any other major venues on Vancouver Island, Vancouver and places right across the country have."

Austen said he invited Petrovic to talk about the contract. "I invited him to come down so we could look at all of these terms and we can discuss them," he said.



A planned bout in Cowichan Arena featuring Jeanette Gamble is off. The Duncan-raised boxer will now defend her title in Bessie.

"If there are valid reasons, the commission from time to time makes those changes, but that's our standard contract."

Meanwhile, Petrovic said he's looking to find a venue in Nanaimo and hopes Gamble—who recently lost a 10-round decision in Korea—agrees to a fight there.

It or leave it. "I asked to meet with him and he said 'No, that's our standard contract.'"

Meanwhile, Petrovic said he's looking to find a venue in Nanaimo and hopes Gamble—who recently lost a 10-round decision in Korea—agrees to a fight there.



## From Bill Stoker

It was nice to be at the reunion. I do appreciate all the work and time you people devote to the FCA.

I visited the UK from 1-11 August after a funding OK from the CMT. So here are a few words about the process and my trip.

### **FAMILY RESTORATION FUND**

*Reuniting former child migrants with their families*

About April of this year I received an information package from the UK which also included a DVD, "Stolen Childhoods, Families Restored". With some degree of interest, I played the disc and read the package. I felt that the whole

program was a sincere attempt to make amends with child migrants and their feelings of loss.

While at the reunion, I heard some members expressing disinterest in the CMT travel offer. I held a similar view when first in receipt of the CMT package. Recent Ancestry research had put me in contact with several relatives that I had not previously known and who had expressed a desire to meet with me. Consequently, I felt the CMT project was designed for such a purpose and decided to make an application.

Because of the Canada Post situation in March 2011, e-mail was utilized to forward my application. To my amazement, I received from a CMT Australia office, a very prompt response. A telephone call to the Nottingham office put me on the right track by furnishing their e-mail address [cmtnottingham@aol.co.uk](mailto:cmtnottingham@aol.co.uk). From that point on, I received prompt and helpful service and advice in the travel approval process. The reimbursement process was simple and all costs claimed were paid without question.

**...nineteen connections  
were made with relatives  
together with a number  
of their friends.**

My trip was hugely successful. After an overnight stay in London, I went by train to Beccles, Norfolk. Due to late arrival at Ipswich, the train for Beccles had already left and another was not due for quite some time. At British Railway expense, I was put into a taxi and sent on a one hour ride to Beccles. What a lovely trip! This kindness and hospitality and good weather set the tone for the entire UK visit. Cambridge, Nantwich, Durham, Newcastle, Gateshead, Wickham, Jesmond were visited, as well as nineteen connections made with relatives together with a number of their friends. Now home again in Peterborough, Ontario I continue to enjoy the memory of those eleven

days in August. I now cannot believe that, out of hand, I almost dismissed the CMT offer!

Come on OF's go for it! As they used to say, "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth!"

*Sincerely, Bill*



*Photos and story by Bill Stoker*



The forms can also be found on the Fairbridge Canada website at: [fairbridgecanada.com/](http://fairbridgecanada.com/)

**For further information and for the necessary forms see the CMT Website at:**  
**<http://www.childmigrantstrust.com/services/family-restoration-fund>**

**1940 Group**  
**ACCOUNT OF THE TRIP OUT**  
**FROM ENGLAND**  
**VIA CANADA AND THE PACIFIC**  
*By Miss Belinda Dawson*

*Sent in by Ron Smith Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society*

1940 came. The snow fell and skates were brought out. In London the buses still roared and the chimneys went on smoking; only now you fell over sandbags to look in shop windows, you invariably forgot your gas mask, you bumped into passer-by in the blackout, workmen dug air-raid shelters in the parks, while above the city the barrage balloons kept continual guard.

One day I was asked if I would like to go to Australia with a party for Fairbridge. I naturally said, "Very much!" Three days later it was all settled. I left London without having heard one air-raid warning, but it was not until I reached Liverpool, not until I stepped on board, not until next evening when we at last left the Mersey, that I could really believe we were off.

Next day how I wished we weren't. Gasps and groans reached me from every side. On deck the sky was grey, the sea was grey, our fellow passengers were green. Mr. McIntyre carried objects in every stage of collapse up and down from cabins. Out of thirty-one, Frank Drury alone did not succumb!

Five days of misery—arctic winds and icebergs—then two glorious days sailing up the St. Lawrence. Twenty-two flannel suits are extracted from suitcases, thirty-one kit bags stuffed for the train journey, and we land in Montreal. That night we are heading for the West. Fred and Jim, our cooks, produce the most delicious food from the tiny kitchen, even a supply of ice creams for the long afternoons. At night the bunks are let down, the beds made up, and two scramble into each (except Harford, whose legs are too long, and Doreen, who talks too much, who get one each!). The khakis get blacker and blacker from the smut and dirt; some little grubs have to wear their shirts inside out! On the fourth morning we reach Vancouver. Col. Logan is on the platform to meet us. Another two hours on the sea to Nanaimo and we arrive at the Prince of Wales Farm School for tea. The first stage of our journey over.

A month on Vancouver Island, where we leave three of the party, and we set sail on the Aorangi. Next day fifteen appear for lunch, five finish it and it isn't really rough! Even Frank SEEMS to have had too much

**One day I was asked if I would like to go to Australia with a party for Fairbridge.**

sweets the day before! This time we suffered from the heat, not the cold. One day a message came down from the bridge that if we didn't want the children to fall overboard or break their necks, would we keep them from climbing on the top of the awning. Needless to day, Jackie Roughley was the culprit. After three long weeks, with three short stops, we at last reached our destination.

At Honolulu we had a bitter disappointment—no one without a visa might land. In Victoria the American Consul had looked at the passport for 28 in amazement and said he must write to Washington. We had left before he got the reply. Our stop in Suva was much more amusing—natives crowded the dock, but seemed very unconcerned about our arrival; some even sat on the ground with their backs to the ship, a few policemen patrolled up and down in their white sarongs with ragged edges. We motored round the island and saw fields of cocoanuts, sugar cane, bananas, paw paws, and pineapples growing on every side. Cocoanuts and green bananas were smuggled back to the cabins!

In Auckland Sir Ernest David, the Mayor, was on the quay by 9 o'clock. A wonderful day followed: a bus tour of the town, lunch and the cinema followed, with ice creams all round in the interval.

We left New Zealand in terror of a rough crossing, but our fears were in vain. We woke in Sydney Harbour on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, to be met by Mr. Heath and Mr. Dodd. We were the first of the passengers to step on shore, but of course there was a hitch over the luggage. When we finally left the dock there were five minutes in which to catch the train. We caught it.

**...we were off. Next day how I wished we weren't. Gasps and groans reached me from every side. On deck the sky was grey, the sea was grey, our fellow passengers were green.**



*Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett*



This was Australia. No hedges or beech woods, no black towns or clustered villages, just miles and miles of open country, and scattered gum trees with a cloudless blue sky overhead.

It was almost dark when we reached Orange; here 72 pieces of luggage were piled into the truck. Our first glimpse of Fairbridge was the distant lights twinkling from the cottages. Twenty-eight weary travellers were counted out of the bus for the last time, into the waiting throng.

After travelling over eleven and a half thousand miles we had arrived.

#### Notes:: Ron Smith

This was the 10<sup>th</sup> Party, arriving on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1940, to the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School. The three who remained at the Vancouver Island school were: Peter Garland, Peter Tearle, and Arthur Newbery. The other 28, as mentioned in the story went to Molong and were the 6<sup>th</sup> Party to that farm school. They sailed from Liverpool to Montreal on the *Duchess of Richmond* (20,022 Gross Tons), built in 1929. It had actually begun service as a troopship on January 7, 1940 re-entering Canadian Pacific service on July 16, 1947 as the *Empress of Canada*.

There was no date on the article, but it was likely published in the *London Times* and may have been reprinted in a Fairbridge Society Annual Report.

There were two articles in the *Cowichan Leader* about this Party, of which 28 children carried on to the Molong Fairbridge Farm School. (Editor's note—the Molong Fairbridge Farm School records show 30 children arriving with that group.)

#### July 18, 1940, page 4, Fairbridge News

Thirty-one children arrived at the school from England on Thursday. Twenty-eight of them are here temporarily, the other three permanently. One of them, Arthur J. Newberry, is a younger brother of Stanley Newberry and the two are living in Dulverton Cottage. None of the children had to endure any terrifying war experience, either before leaving England or on their way to Canada.

Accompanying the children were Mr. Shaw, the C.P.R. conductor; Miss D.M. Williamson, who came with the last party in May; Miss Belinda Dawson, daughter of Mr. Geoffrey Dawson, editor of the *London Times*; and Miss P. Ashley Cooper, daughter of the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Co.

#### August 15, 1940, page 3, Fairbridge News

The 28 Fairbridge children who stayed for a month left last week for New South Wales. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre, Miss D.M. Williamson, Miss P. Ashley Cooper and Miss Belinda Dawson. The

day before their departure a swimming meet was held at the school for their enjoyment. A programme of races, diving and novelty events were arranged by Mr. Arthur Sager and Mr. W.M. Allen. Mrs McIntyre and Mr. W. J. Garnett acted as judges.

The 17,491 ton 600 foot long *Aorangi* was built in 1924 and operated by the Canadian-Australasian shipping line, a joint venture between the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. and the Union Steamship Co. of New Zealand. The liner ran between Vancouver, Victoria, Honolulu, Suva, Auckland and Sydney. Operations ceased in 1941 at which time it was used as a troopship until 1946. The service resumed in 1948 but the company was wound up in 1953 and the ship was sold for scrap.

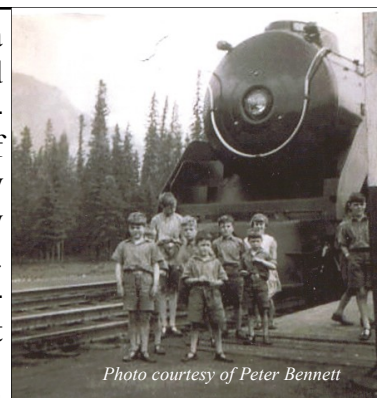


Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett

**Molong 1940:** The 6th party of 30 children, brought out by Miss Cooper & Miss Belinda Dawson, travelled via Canada instead of the Suez Canal route due to the war. They arrived in August 1940 & were the last party from England to come to Molong until the first postwar party arrived in Nov 1947.

- |                               |                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Armitage, George Frederick | 11. Drury, Frank Thomas             |
| 2. Barge, Patrick Arthur      | 12. Duncan, Robert                  |
| 3. Bennett, Marie             | 13. Dyson-Holland, Harford          |
| 4. Bennett, Peter             | 14. Dyson-Holland, Patrick          |
| 5. Blundell, Stephen          | 15. Dyson-Holland, Richard          |
| 6. Buxton, Edwin Frank        | 16. Gomm, Edward Frank              |
| 7. Cook, John William         | 17. Griffiths, Joan                 |
| 8. Cook, Margaret             | 18. Hellens, Clarence               |
| 9. Cook, Mary                 | 19. Hellens, June Ellen             |
| 10. Cook, Thomas              | 20. Jeffrey, Robert                 |
|                               | 21. Mason, Richard Grenville Porter |
|                               | 22. Ord, William                    |
|                               | 23. Roberts, Rosette                |
|                               | 24. Roughly, John William           |
|                               | 25. Scions, Robert                  |
|                               | 26. Smethum, Doreen Elizabeth       |
|                               | 27. Stella, Margaret                |
|                               | 28. Watt, Joy Cherry                |
|                               | 29. Watt, June Ada                  |
|                               | 30. Watt, Rosemary Diane            |



Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett



Fairbridge children at an early stage maintained in this country.



Party sailing out for Australia. Organized by the generosity of the Staff of the National Provincial Bank.



Boys waiting at the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School on Vancouver Island.



Fairbridge harvest in Australia.



All Fairbridge children bear their share.



## Children

Not only from present perils of war but for the whole space of childhood and adolescence, certain children in this country need protection and care.

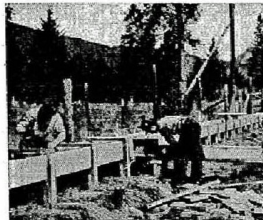
FOR such children "Fairbridge" has been sustained by the generosity of the British public since 1913. This vigorous organisation which now administers four Fairbridge Farm Schools established for 1,050 children must not fail or even falter for lack of financial support.

Urgent Appeal is made to all who have had a part in building the Farm Schools still to contribute the whole or part of their customary subscriptions so that their good work may be maintained, and the children already in the Farm Schools may have their training completed at the accepted Fairbridge standard.

And Urgent Appeal is here made to all who feel an anxiety and obligation that children should be protected from the dangers, horrors and deprivations of War. The deprivations have a long range and children so rescued with your help will escape them and be well equipped for citizenship of the Dominions which to-day are our pride and our fellows in the challenge to tyranny.

Any contribution, however small, will help to fill the 'breaches in our wall of security. And if made under deed of covenant can be enhanced by nearly 74 per cent. with the rate of income tax demanded by the new Budget. On this day, when the Budget requires still greater sacrifice from taxpayers, we repeat our appeal for help. You, too, face some deprivation. Will you therefore sponsor a child by yielding to it some portion of your present resource, thereby securing for the child an honourable place amongst the citizens of Canada and Australia?

£30 Annual Subscription will provide maintenance for one child. Such a subscription made under deed of covenant will yield by return of Income Tax as much as £52 3s. 6d. and will then go to covering maintenance cost of a further child.



Irrigation Dams constructed by Fairbridge boys for older Fairbridge orchards in British Columbia.



Fairbridge apprentices making boxes for the export of Flintry apples in the United Kingdom.

## DEED OF COVENANT

I, (full name) .....

of (address) .....

HEREBY COVENANT with the Fairbridge Farm Schools (Inc.) of Savoy House, Strand, London, W.C.2, that for seven years or during my lifetime (whichever is the shorter period) from the date hereof, I will pay annually to the Treasurer for the time being of the said Society, for the use of that Society, such a yearly sum as, after deduction of Income Tax at the rate for the time being in force, will leave the net yearly sum of (insert in words an amount that the subscriber will annually pay) .....

the first payment to be made on (insert a date not earlier than the date of the receipt) ..... day of ..... 1940, and subsequent payments to be made on the anniversary of that day.

Dated this ..... day of ..... 1940

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED by the above named in the presence of

Name .....

Address .....

Occupation .....

Subscriber's signature.

**FAIRBRIDGE FARM SCHOOLS (INC.), SAVOY HOUSE, 115 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2**

The Kinloch Fairbridge Farm School, Wessauy, Australia

The Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School, Vancouver Island, British Columbia

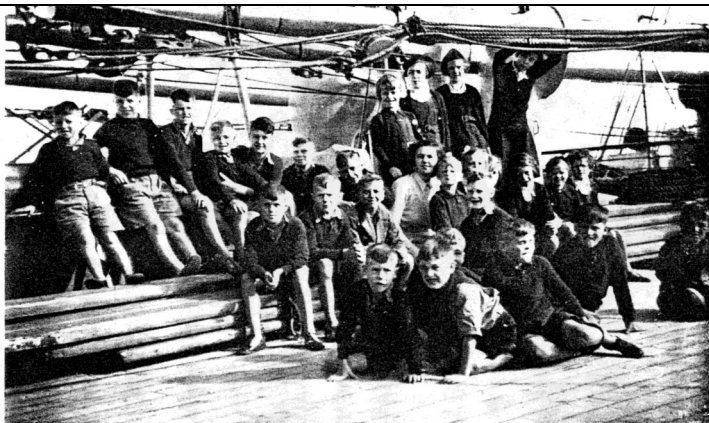
The Midland Fairbridge Farm School, New South Wales

The Flintry Fairbridge Farm School, Okanagan Valley, British Columbia

*The London Times, Wednesday, Jul 24, 1940; pg. 4*

*The ad above was placed in the London Times on July 24, 1940, (page 4) shortly after the 1940 group left England for Australia via Canada's Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School.*

*The photo below was found in the Fairbridge Farm School 1940 Annual Report.*



Fairbridge children who enjoyed the bounteous hospitality of the Canadian Pacific Merchant Seamen on the voyage to Australia in September, 1940.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY  
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION  
MONTREAL

MINISTER OF RESOURCES  
IMMIGRATION  
JUL 8 1940  
RECEIVED

Montreal, July 8, 1940.

570340

Dear Mr. Blair,

For your information, I am attaching hereto picture of the last group of Fairbridge children who arrived in Montreal yesterday and left same day for the Fairbridge Farm School on Vancouver Island.

All the group, except three boys, are destined for Australia. Three of the boys are for the School on Vancouver Island.

Yours very truly,  
*Eastman*  
Assistant Commissioner.

F.C. Blair, Esq.,  
Director, Immigration Branch,  
Dept. of Mines & Resources,  
OTTAWA, Ont.

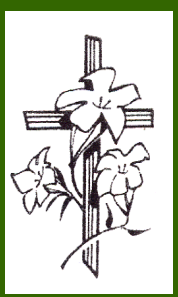
v/h.  
att.

*The letter to the right is announcing the arrival of the July 1940 group in Montreal. See pages 14 and 15 for an account of their journey. This letter was found at the Ottawa Public Archives Canada, Immigration Branch, (RG 76, Vol 375, File 510340, Pt. 2.)*



## *Fairbridgians who passed away.*

## *Our sympathy to the families.*



HARMER, Dennis Richard November 25, 1928 - January 25, 2011 Passed away peacefully in Mission, BC, age 82. Dennis leaves behind his wife Betty, Daughter Terry (Mike), of Salmon Arm, BC, granddaughter Connie (Shawn), of Salmon Arm BC, grandson Larry (Kelly) of Revelstoke BC, along with many great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. The family would like to thank the staff of Mission Memorial Hospital for the wonderful care they provided to Dennis during his time there. There will be no formal service as requested.

## **FAIRBRIDGE CHAPEL REPORT**

*Prepared by Ron Smith for the  
Fairbridge Canada Association  
September 17, 2011*

On behalf of the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society I would like to provide you with some information on what has happened at the historic site and with our society over the past two years.

### **1. Board of Directors and Membership**

At present we have a board of seven. Karin Laurie remains our President and John Hardy is also on the board. Cliff Rabey moved this spring. He has been actively involved in maintaining the heritage site, including cutting the lawns. Another board member, Erik Henriksen, who undertook many of the repairs to the buildings, is constructing a new home in Cobble Hill and will likely be moving before Christmas. He has indicated that he will remain on the board, but just won't be so handy.

With the exception of members of the Fairbridge Canada Association and the board itself there are next to no other members and this is a concern to the board. There is a need for a membership drive as well as get new members to stand for the board as vacancies occur.

### **2. Finances**

Over the years the Chapel Society has relied on three sources of income to maintain the site. Grants, which we have been lucky enough to receive from various sources for a number of large and small projects over the past twenty-five years or so; fees for the rental of the Chapel for weddings and concerts; and donations. The latter has come in the form of everything from a few dollars in the donation box, individual donations for which we provide a tax receipt to more recently a very valued corporate/employee donation from the Telus Corporation.

Each year the Fairbridge Strata hosts an afternoon Christmas Carol event and usually raise about \$200 which they donate to the Chapel. The Society of course does not charge a rental fee as many of the families in the community help out at the Chapel in other ways throughout the year.

Last year, from April 1, 2010 to March

31, 2011 the net income was \$3,446.53 with expenses of \$2,686.19. The Telus donation of \$800 is included in the above income and I recently received another donation of \$800 from Telus which will show up on the books next year. This donation is the result of either present or past employees donating \$400 through their "Telus Team" program and they request the money to be sent to the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society and the corporation matches the amount dollar for dollar. Doreen Hagen mentioned that there are other firms that have similar programs and may be a way for those interested in assisting the society to 'double' any donation.

### **3. Weddings and Other Events**

Funds received from rental of the Chapel have been going down over the past two years. This year we only had two weddings—one last weekend. No weddings have been booked for 2012 although I expect one will come in shortly and more later this fall.

The Board of Directors will have to look at the use of the facilities at the heritage site to see if there are other ways to raise funds to maintain the grounds and buildings. We may well need a larger Cowichan Valley organization to assist us.

### **4. Repairs and Maintenance**

Last year we did some painting of the off white trim around a few of the Chapel windows but we still need to do the upper level windows as well as finish the brown 'high' area of the east end of the school house. This will likely be done later in the fall. We also cleaned out all the eaves troughs, which is an annual undertaking.

This summer we put new shingles on the *Fairbridge Chapel* sign but the support posts need to be anchored better. Also I am going to try and get the hour hand and the bell strike co-ordinated. They are about five minutes out of sync but the Antiquarian Horological Society set me *The Turret Clock Keepers Handbook* last year and gave me other advice by e-mail to get the 136 year-old clock keeping perfect time.

### **5. Grant Application**

In 2010 the Chapel Society made an application to Farm Credit Canada, a Regina based organization, that provides small grants to rural organizations for various community projects. Our application, which was turned down last year, was re-submitted this year at the request of the



FCC. The application is requesting \$8,800 is to do interior improvements to the school house.

There are three things we want to do. First, refurbish the interior and make it look more like a one room school house, its original use from 1885 to 1896, and have it available to small elementary school aged classes so they could spend the day at Fairbridge and have it as a base to study nature or visit neighbouring farms. Second, it could be used as a small meeting hall for local groups. As some of you may not know the school district closed the Cowichan Station Rural Traditional School about five years ago and the Anglican Church closed St. Andrews Church in Cowichan Station last year. Both had ample meeting facilities. The third use of the school house would be to have one or two display cabinets and wall hangings to show visitors some historic artefacts and pictures of the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School. If attractively displayed it would add to the appeal and use of the historic site and likely draw more people to use the facilities or to book tours.

If the grant is approved we would need to start a fund raising drive to put in our portion of about \$10,000 to match the Farm Credit Canada grant. At the same time the Society would work with both the school district and the Cowichan Valley Museum to develop an outreach school program that would be run through the museum. I have already had an exploratory discussion with the museum curator.

#### **6. Other Things to Mention**

Finally, there are three other things I would like to briefly mention. First, the Society has recently received a number of gifts—by this I mean artefacts and photographs from Cathy Cowans that John had, and from both Jeff Bulcock and Derek Lee. These will be on display in the school house. Also there is an old map of southern British Columbia from 1950 which was in the office when I bought the building. I forgot all about it as it was stored in our walk-in closet.

Second, the society got our web site up and running last year and we are posting information about the Chapel, the society and some of the history of Fairbridge. There are a few pictures on the site now and in time we will be adding more as well as other information.

Finally, the Cowichan Museum in the train station downtown has a display about Fairbridge and also has a unique wooden post card 'Ploughing at the Prince of Wales Fairbridge School' on sale.

It, and other historic wooden postcard scenes from around the valley was made by Roger Lamont.

## **The Chapel News Fall 2011**

As the days start to get shorter and Christmas is fast approaching I would like to bring everyone up-to-date on events at the Fairbridge Chapel.

This September the Fairbridge Canada Association once again held their reunion at Duncan and the Strata hosted a wonderful afternoon on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were a number of special guests from England attending this reunion. The next morning there was a short service in the Chapel. Thankfully the rain held off until all the festivities were finished.

Just prior to reunion the Chapel Society was given a number of special artefacts and photos of the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School. This included the 'Records of the Sunday services held between 1936 and 1940 (when the Chapel was opened and used for the first time). During this time services were held in the dining hall. Will Garnett also gave the Society 16 old photos of the farm school, including one of the Fintry Training School in the Okanagan. Maureen Speed donated the 'Gong' seen on page 19, from Tom Speed's collection. This and other artefacts will be put on display in either the Chapel or school house on special occasions for the time being. We were also in receipt of all the records of the Fairbridge Canada Association and will be keeping these at the heritage site. For the past 30 years they have been kept by their recording secretary, Molly Harris, who did a wonderful job keeping things in order.

This past summer we did only a few minor jobs around the Chapel. This included putting a new shake roof on the sign in front of the Chapel and cleaning up sections of the building that is not usually accessed by the public. There are a few more projects to undertake over the next month or two including getting the minute hand and the bell strike co-ordinated, cleaning some of the hardwood floors and change some burnt out lights.

The records of the Fairbridge Canada Association are now stored in the Chapel along with our society records. A four-drawer file cabinet holds all the information accumulated to date.

The annual Fairbridge Carols 2011 will be held on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. At 2pm. This year the Ensemble laude Women's Medieval Choir will be the special guests. Everyone is welcome so lets fill up the pews!!

At the time of this release we have not heard from Farm Credit Canada although the Board should be notified early in December. A special notice will be posted on our web site.

**Ron Smith**

#### **Mailing Address:**

Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society,  
4791 Fairbridge Drive ,  
Duncan, B.C., V9L 6N9

#### **Web Site:**

[fairbridgechapel.com](http://fairbridgechapel.com)

### **Fairbridge Carols 2011**

Woody Reimer. Fairbridge Carols program organizer The Fairbridge Carols 2011 strata social and concert event was held on Sunday afternoon, November 27, 2011 in the Chapel and featured the award winning Ensemble Laude Women's Medieval choir. ([www.ensemblelaude.org](http://www.ensemblelaude.org))







## We received 8 successful Bursary Applications for 2011.

I just want to thank you for choosing me as a recipient of the Fairbridge Alumni Bursary...The bursary means a lot, as it will allow me to take a class I otherwise would not be able to afford. Thank you so much. Kim Ayer

**Donations help to ensure that the  
Fairbridge Alumni Bursary Society  
has a future.**

### 2011 Executive Members:

*Pat Skidmore President*

*Barry Hagen, Treasurer*

### Directors:

*Doreen Hagen*

*John Hardy*

*Roddy Mackay*

*Theresa Shelley*

*Joan Skidmore*

**Thank you**



**As of October 2011, the  
Fairbridge Alumni Bursary Society  
has given out 133 Bursaries totaling  
\$40,880.00 since 1992**



*Fairbridge Alumni Bursary Society  
Registered Charity Number  
89079 2047 RR0001  
Incorporated October 17, 1989*



## Do you have Fairbridge Artefacts sitting in your basement or attic?

If you are looking for a home for them, the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society and the Cowichan Valley Museum and Archives are both adding to their Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School collection.

- Contact Ron Smith if you have anything you want to donate to the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society : 4791 Fairbridge Drive Duncan, BC, V9L 6N9 (Email: [rgwsmiths@hotmail.com](mailto:rgwsmiths@hotmail.com))
- Contact Kathryn Gagnon, Curator/Manager, Cowichan Valley Museum and Archives, 130 Canada Ave, Duncan, British Columbia, (250) 746-6612 (Email: [cvmuseum.archives@shaw.ca](mailto:cvmuseum.archives@shaw.ca))

Maureen Speed donated the Gong seen below to the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society—it was originally given to Colonel Logan upon his retirement from the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School.



Cathy Cowans donated John Cowans' tin plate and bowl from his Fairbridge years, along with a number of photographs to the Fairbridge Chapel Heritage Society.

# Fairbridge Gazette

First published in 1939.



**Look for your**

**Next Gazette:  
Spring 2012**

Pat Skidmore, Editor : [patskidmore@shaw.ca](mailto:patskidmore@shaw.ca)

Photo courtesy of Maureen Speed



Here's your chance to get your stories published in the Fairbridge Gazette. Send in poems, adventures, Fairbridge tales, what you are doing now or whatever you would like to see in your Gazette. The deadline for submission for the next issue is:

**March 15, 2012**

## **AROUND TOWN**

Do you have any news to report?  
Send it in to the *Around Town* column.

## **WANTED COLUMN**

Are you looking for a long lost friend? Confirmation of a Fairbridge Memory? An old photograph? A forgotten recipe? Or?

Send in your requests to our  
**WANTED COLUMN.**

*We will try to help.*





**Fairbridge Canada Association membership is \$30.00 for the 2012 Calendar Year**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Forward to Barry Hagan, Treasurer, Fairbridge Canada Association, 5549 Clipper Drive,  
Nanaimo, BC Canada V9T 5M7 (tel) 250-751-2086 (email) [dbhagen@shaw.ca](mailto:dbhagen@shaw.ca)

**THE FAIRBRIDGE CANADA ASSOCIATION 2012 MEMBERSHIP**

Your membership in the FCA entitles you to voting privileges at the BGM.

**COME OUT AND HAVE YOUR SAY AT THE 2013 BGM**

Forward to: *Barry Hagan, Treasurer, Fairbridge Canada Association, 5549  
Clipper Drive, Nanaimo, BC Canada V9T 5M7 (tel) 250-751-2086 (email)  
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