

Life IN Saanich

T H E N & N O W

Pioneers and students

come together to hear

each others' memories,

dreams

and all they have in common

SAANICH MEMOREIS PROJECT COMMITTEE

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Royal Oak Middle School
Tillicum School

Introduction

Cherishing the Past, Valuing the Present and Visioning the Future, this was Healthy Saanich Committee's theme for their first community mapping day held in late 1999. Over 100 residents, young and old, came to the mapping day to map what they valued about their community, Saanich. There were 54 maps created and Briony Penn, a local artist and biologist, pulled all the themes together to produce a wonderful work of art entitled "Healthy Saanich". These maps are available for sale through Saanich Community Centres.

The members of the Healthy Saanich Committee talked about ways to bring the energy together again to celebrate the millennium by capturing some of the rich memories many residents have of growing up in Saanich. Several people expressed interest in somehow bringing Saanich pioneers and students together and, as with all great ideas, another committee was born!



Life In Saanich, Then and Now participants from Tillicum School

It took a tremendous amount of volunteer work on the part of the Memories Book Committee throughout 2000 to pull this project together. Committee members developed the interview questions, pursued pioneers willing to tell their stories and set up the interviews at schools where the teachers and principals involved were as excited about the project as we were. We obtained a supply of tape recorders through the Greater Victoria Public Library, arranged rides for the pioneers and tracked down interesting photos.

Meeting each month, we discussed our progress and grew more excited as we saw the anecdotes of the pioneers and students come together with the photos in the book we have today.



An interview at Fairburn Elementary

What readers don't see here, but what we on the committee had the pleasure of experiencing during the interviews was how each room buzzed with energy from the moment the students and pioneers met, working together to set up the tape recorders and begin their interviews. Seniors and students strayed often from the questions as one story led to another—then led to another! Their conversations were spirited and accompanied by lots of laughter.

As in every project of this size, pioneers and students shared far more material with us than we could possibly use. Unfortunately, some of the interviews could not be transcribed, and some participants will not see their memories reflected here. Also, some readers may find inaccuracies in the recollections, but please

recognize that "Life in Saanich" was not meant to be an academic history of Saanich. Giving pioneers and students the chance to come together, hear each others' memories, dreams and all they have in common, was the original intent of the memories project—that we have a way to share those Saanich memories with others through this book is value added.

Councillor Judy Brownoff, CHAIR
HEALTHY SAANICH COMMITTEE 2000

School Life

ABOUT SCHOOL CLOTHES...

"I started out wearing old pants, usually my brother's hand-me-downs. There was one family who would walk to school carrying their shoes, then put their shoes on in the school. Then they would carry them home because they couldn't afford shoes, and they weren't allowed in the school in bare feet."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

"I was very fond of an outfit once that my mother bought me for Easter. It was a red pleated skirt—pleated skirts were in style—and she bought me a nice white shirt to go with it. I just loved that outfit. If I could have worn it to school every day, I would have."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"Girls didn't wear pants. Pants didn't come in until about 25 years ago. Whenever we went out, we had gloves and a hat. We had to be really dressed or we just didn't go very far."

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

"We had to wear dresses, but you could choose the dresses you wore. There were no uniforms. Farmers and construction workers wore jeans—jeans were work clothes. When we went downtown, we had to be reasonably dressed. When we worked in the garden, we wore slacks or shorts depending on the weather, but never jeans."

EVELYN MIDDLETON, 72

"I wore tunics to school because I'd gone to a private school and my mother had the idea that tunics were easy to look after and they were a reasonable cost."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"My mother was a dressmaker and she used to make our clothes. She knitted and made sweaters. Then my aunt in the States used to send us up some nicer things because she worked for quite an exclusive place."

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

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"Aunt Lilly was a seamstress for some clothing manufacturer in England. She used to send us out very English pants, usually heavy twill pants, very prickly on the skin. I'd be sitting in my school seat and always scratching—you'd think I had bugs or something."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"I wore corduroy trousers, a shirt and tie, a sweater and oxford shoes. Blue jeans were not allowed, and you didn't wear sneakers or running shoes. Girls had to wear skirts, and at high school, if a girl got caught with nail polish, then she was marched into the office where the principal had a great big bottle of nail polish remover."

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79



1927 Cedar Hill School class wearing the styles of the day

ABOUT SCHOOL CLOTHES...

"I've always been very interested in fashion design so my clothes are a bit different from most people's. In general I would describe the style as sort of a funky elegance. If I'm wearing a very simple gown, I might have a really funky necklace or shoes or something like that." JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"For clothes, I like sports clothes like Nike, Adidas and that stuff. I wear either track pants or tearaways. There's a lot of new stuff now." MONTY SHARMA, 12

"Normally it's just jeans and a t-shirt or a tank top and a sweater or something, or it could be a day I feel like wearing a skirt. Lots of girls wear platform shoes." WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

"I wear clothes that are comfortable, not really tight leggings or anything, but just khakis—whatever I enjoy wearing." ASHLEY WEISGERBER, 16



"Jeans, sweaters, jackets, different things. I'll wear cargo pants now that the fad's in, but I'm not always going with the fad; I like to wear my own stuff too."

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

FAVOURITE TEACHERS...

"One of my favourite teachers is Mr. G. He treats us like we're adults, and if you appreciate him, he'll appreciate you." JAY CASANOVA, 15

Mr. G

"Mr. Brands at elementary school was a really good teacher. He was my drama teacher." MARISA PALMER, 16

Mr. Brands

"In Grade 3, I had a teacher named Mr. Wong; he was really nice. I like Miss Martha. She was my Grade 4 teacher; she was really nice, too."

MONTY SHARMA, 12

Mr. Wong

"I think I like Ms. Hamm and Mr. Kelly because they're just really nice teachers. Mr. Kelly is more the easy type of teacher, and Ms. Hamm is really hard and quick-going and she doesn't take time out for stuff."

HARINDER JASSAL, 13

My mother and father came from England, and everything in England was white and black. I was sent to school in a new white shirt and black short pants. My shirts were made out of bleached flour sacks and my mother would cut out my short pants from a bigger pair of pants."

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77

We just had ordinary, normal blue jean pants—they were called iron man pants."

BOB GILLESPIE, 71

When I went to Cedar Hill School, we used to wear these short pair of pants and stockings or straight white pants. Usually around about Grade 7 or 8, we would graduate to the plus fours pants, and then when we moved on to high school, we got into long pants."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87

When I first started going to school, I remember wearing lace-up boots or snap-on boots, breeches—they're puffy things that are short-legged with socks that came up over them—really old-fashioned—and standard shirts."

LYLE HAYDEN, 66



"At the school where I went, we wore tunics and white shirts. My grandmother, perhaps, bought those in England. They'd have a hem and we'd let them down each year so they would last a year or two."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

REMEMBERING TEACHERS...

"Bob Huddlestone stood out for me. He did a lot for me. There was Chandler—she must have lived to be 100 at least. There was a principal I had who used to walk around with a stick in his hand and he'd be scratching his leg—I don't know what that was all about. If people got out of hand, I'd seen him strap the whole class."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

"I had some lovely old teachers. Probably my favourite was my teacher in Grade 4 at Quadra, Frances Gardner. She was a darling and she was quite an elderly teacher at the time. Then in Grade 6, I had Miss Harley. She was actually married to Norman Forbes, who was the vice-principal of Mount Doug. She was a very strict teacher, but she was very fair. She told us that if we did the homework we were given on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, she wouldn't give us any on the weekend because she didn't want us sitting up on Sunday night doing homework. She said our weekends should be free but if we didn't obey her, she would load us down with homework on the weekend."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"I remember my Grade 1 teacher Mrs. Sims. She was a lovely lady. I remember our principal, Mr. O'Neil. We went as far as Grade 8 at Tillicum School. There was one teacher in particular in Grade 6. She had given

us an arithmetic examination, and she threatened us that if we didn't get 100 percent, she would give us a strapping for every mistake we made.

Fortunately, I happened to be one of the three who got 100 percent. I was lucky, but some of the youngsters got as many as 13 strapings—13 mistakes—so needless to say, parents were up in arms and visited the school. Saanich School Board heard about it. School trustees arrived and she was transferred to another school. She was an excellent teacher, but quite a disciplinarian."

MURIEL 'ASHY' MARY (ASH) LOCKHART

"I remember Miss Fee because she was very kind to me, and Miss Scholefield at Royal Oak School because she was so upset one day when she had to tell me I failed. I just thought she was wonderful after that."

MARY VOWLES, 61

"Gus Woodward stands out in my mind because we called him 'Gus.' Anyway, he was quite the guy—kind of strict, though. If any of the boys did anything out of hand, he got the strap and he'd strap their hands."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"There were the two Dunnett girls and there was a Mr. Evercomb. Billy McMichael was the principal at Cedar Hill. He was the one principal we really liked, although I had a run-in with him. He used to hand out chewing gum to the kids when we were in Math; that's why we liked him. Then there was Miss Chandler who lived to over 100. We used to call her Old Dame Chandler, but when I look back at it, she had a great influence on our life and she was a wonderful teacher."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

My favourite teacher was Miss Ballantyne. She had green goggles on the corner of her desk."

WALLACE 'WALLY' WEST, 88

Miss Chandler. There were five of us in our family and Miss Chandler taught us all."

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75



Miss Chandler

I remember Lloyd Main really well. He was my principal at the Gordon Head school.

Mr. Main was a real nice person. He's still alive. When we had a 40th anniversary of the school, I met him there, and I met his daughter who I remember as a little girl."

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

"There was Danny Parfitt who I knew and who was a good friend even after we left school. Dr. Thomas, the principal at Mount View where I attended for four years, he was a good man, and the principal at Cloverdale School who taught me in Grade 7 and 8. We had a number of teachers who to this day, if I saw them on the street, I'd have a great talk with them. The only problem is, there aren't many of them left."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

"I went to Cloverdale up to Grade 5 and the principal's name was Mr. Rutley. My Grade 2 teacher was Miss Bossi and like the name sounds, she kept a tight hand on us fellows. In Grade 5, Mr. Rutley said, 'we'd better do something about you coming to the office too many times,' so my brother-in-law got me to go to St. Louis College. My mother said we couldn't afford it, but I did go, and I had to work for the brothers in order to pay off the debt. I had to go up Fairfield Rd. to get their lunches from their house and then deliver messages after school. That was the way I paid for my education; it was a good experience."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

Y O U T H

Miss Hollick

"Probably Ms. Hollick because she's always getting the kids involved with lots of different things. She arranged this, and we had this huge Canada forum which a lot of the students got to help organized. Mr. Green, because he's nice and he's organized a lot of trips for us." DIAN ROSS, 13

Mr. Kelly

"In every grade I think 'this teacher is my favourite teacher' and so I don't have a favourite teacher."

VANESSA JUSTICE, 9

Mr. Hollick

"Mr. Davies was really good. Mrs. Pelton was nice. She was kind of strict, but a good teacher."

SAYURI FRIEDLAND, 13

Mr. Green

"I have favourites and they're Mrs. Ferguson and Ms. Hollick. I like them because they're kind and they're understanding. I like Mr. Rigler and he's very, very funny." JUSTINE STAMILE, 9

Mr. Davies

"My favourite teacher before I came to Spectrum was my kindergarten teacher. She made school fun. Even though kindergarten is fun, she made it so you would learn but you had fun with the learning. Right now my Science teacher, Miss Madill, she's probably one of the nicer teachers that I've met so far." CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

Mr. Pelton

Mr. Ferguson

"Mrs. Radcliffe. She's one of my favourite teachers because she fuels my passion for history. She has a belief system where we're allowed to believe what we want to believe. We can be vocal about it as long as we're not hurting other people. She's just a strong person to follow."

LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

Mr. Rigler

Miss Madill

Mrs. Radcliffe

"The first teacher I remember was from McKenzie Elementary School, Miss Harvey, my Grade 1 teacher. Talk about depression days. Some of the children weren't getting enough milk to drink. She raised goats and she used to bring goat's milk to school for the children."

LAURENCE 'LARRY' WEBB, 78

"Miss Watson used to ride to school in her Model T and she only had less than a quarter of a mile to go. Every day at 11:55, a girl they hired from the family farm would come in with her lunch which was draped over with a checkered table cloth. This announced lunch time. She would put the table cloth on her desk, get out her meal and a pot of tea with a tea cozy over it. I will always remember Miss Watson with her lunch. She was a nice teacher."

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

"We had Miss Dunnett; was she ever strict. I tell you, I never forgot her. My friend didn't either. We weren't allowed to ride double on the bike, but I was riding the bike down the hill with my friend on the back seat and here was this teacher coming. I said, 'Miss Dunnett's coming.' We got so flustered we fell right off the bike, and my friend really hurt her knee. It took a long time to get better. We were petrified."

ADELINE 'ADDIE' (CLATWORTHY) WILLIAMS, 80

"Miss Scholefield was a teacher at Cedar Hill. She's actually still living in Cadboro Bay—she would be in her 90s now. What I remember about teachers is that they always wore dark clothing and dressed very old-fashioned it seemed."

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68

"There was this red-headed lady who used to wander around the classroom

with a strap in her hand that made her look like Lucifer. That's the one I remember."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87

"I had some good teachers. Miss Harvey. Her old home is still out there on Mount Douglas Rd. She used to raise prize goats. We used to call her the 'goat teacher.' Margaret O'Neill was the teacher who always had the choir. Another one was Horace Dawson. He finished up as the principal of S.J. Willis."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"I remember one, Mr. McKenzie in elementary school, who used to embarrass me no end. I guess I was the youngest and smallest in the class and I was scared stiff of him. He'd fire a question at me and I'd be scared to speak up. It wouldn't be allowed today, but he would pick me up and stand me on his desk. It turns out he was only 19 when he started teaching, nine years older than me. I met him many years later and told him how he embarrassed me. His wife was standing there and she said, 'And now you're embarrassing him.' But it was something that just stuck with me."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"Miss Rankin and, later, Miss O'Connell who was a real dear to us. Miss Young—she used to point her pointer at you and say, 'Wake up, wake up,' then bang it on your desk. You'd just about spring out of your seat. In Grade 6, 7 and 8, there was Mr. Hutchison who later became a lawyer in town. He was a very strict teacher, but he's one of the ones I admired. I had the strap a few times from him. My mother knew I was disciplined at school. My being a bad boy—that didn't rub well with my mother."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

SCHOOL DAYS...

“School starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. On Fridays, it ends at 2 p.m. We don’t have a recess; we just have a 10-minute break. In the breaks we go down to the cafeteria where we can buy chips or pop from the vending machines and talk to our friends about class and stuff.” SARAH JURICIC, 15



“We only have two classes a day because we’re on a new system called the Copernican system and each class is 2 1/2 hours long. We start at 8:30 and we have a break in between for 10 minutes. We have lunch from 11:05 to 12:10, then we’re back in from 12:10 till 2:55.” RYAN HINDLEY, 15

“Our school starts at 8:40 and recess is only 15 minutes. We just play basketball, or sometimes we just sit in the shade if it’s real hot or hang out in the girls’ washroom and do our hair.”

RATANA CHHIM, 13

“It starts at 8:43. We have two subjects in the morning and recess from 10:10 to 10:30 and then two more subjects, then lunch, then three subjects and that’s it.”

SAYURI FRIEDLAND, 13

“We start the day off with reading, then we have a little bit of spelling and then we go into recess. Then maybe we do a little more reading, some Math, Science, then lunch, then spelling again.” TOM MILLS, 9

“We start at about 8:45. We have odd jobs, like some people make coffee and tea for the staff, and me and my friend babysit the kindergartens while the teacher goes to get a coffee or tea. We go watch them when she leaves the room. Basically, we go outside and get some fresh air or run around for awhile. For lunch break, we have lunch monitors who go out to the young classes to watch them so they don’t misbehave when the teacher’s not there.”

WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

“I wait on the corner for my friends, then we walk the rest of the way to school together. We hang out and talk until the bell rings at 8:43. We go in, they take attendance, and we start at 9. If you’re late, you have to go down to the office and get a late slip.” NICOLE WINSTONE, 13

Teachers are really important—they have a huge impact on you. They were all really quite devoted. Mind you, some of them gave me the strap, but I probably deserved it. I was such a chatterbox back then. I got the strap three days in a row one week for talking to people. I don’t know if it taught me a lesson or not.”

BETTY-JEAN ‘BJ’ (SAUNDERS) FAIR

SCHOOL DAYS...

“We had homework, but I never spent too much time on it. I was pretty clever at school. When I went to private school we were supposed to do sports after school. I would misbehave during school so I would have to stay in after school. I’d get my homework done while they were playing sports and then I didn’t have to take any home.”

BERNICE ‘BERNIE’ (CARTER) POLIQUIN, 68

“We always had to leave early because we had a long way to either walk or ride our bike, so we didn’t get home too early. We got a lot of homework then so it was pretty well like a working day.”

MARGARET ‘MARG’ (BUROW) MACKINTOSH, 77

“We weren’t supposed to be late and we never were. School started at 9 and we had different subjects during the day. We usually had a break called recess. We usually had physical education two or three times a week, and we always looked forward to that—to get out of our classroom and have some fun—not that we didn’t enjoy some of the classes too. Some of our teachers were very easy to follow and were very helpful; others didn’t quite have that gift.”

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

“We went on the bus to school for 8:55 a.m. We put our lunch in a can or pail—I used to carry my sandwich in a kind of chocolate box—in our classroom. We would assemble outside because the flag wasn’t up yet. Mr. Halford, the janitor, was appointed to pull the flag up, and we would sing ‘God Save the Queen’ as he pulled it up. We would go back to class and we’d have the Lord’s Prayer and sometimes we’d have a scripture reading before we started.”

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"I didn't do my homework unless I really had to, or I did it at the last minute which is typical for a boy."

LYLE HAYDEN, 66

"I went to a school called the 'Model School' where they taught the normal students and which is now Camosun College. This is the school where they were learning to be teachers and we were there to be experimented on and demonstrated on. We had grades one to four in one little classroom and one teacher. She would teach our row which was eight or 10 children, then she would move on to the next row and on and on. It was very interesting, because you could see what was going on in the next section."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

"In Grade 1 and 2, I was in St. Ann's so there were probably 20 in a class. In Grade 3, I was in a one room school on McTavish Rd. which is still there, and all grades were in one- room, about 24 kids. From then on there were 25-30, sometimes 35, in one grade. When we got into high school, there weren't that many kids so quite often Grade 11 and 12 would be together because there might be nine graduating."

PAT GAIT, 64

"In Quadra, there would be 32 students in a grade. When I went to Gordon Head, it was only a two-room school. In Grade 7, there were only four of us and in Grade 8, there were three of us. Of course, Grades 5 and 6 would be in the room so the teacher would teach all four grades. In the other room would be Grades 1 to four."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"When I went to Tillicum, there was one grade per room, maybe with 25-30 students, but we had a different system. In one room you'd have 2A and 2B so the 2B's would not be quite as far along as the 2A's. In a way, it was almost as if you had split the class into two."

RUTH (FARQUHAR) MANNIX, 74

"Initially I went to the old Cedar Hill School, not the original, but the one that was rebuilt. There

were only three classrooms. Times were desperate—although there were about 10-12 children in a class, there were two or three classes in a room."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87



Tillicum School Class, 1917

ABOUT CLASS SIZE...

"Strangely enough, when we got into Grade 6 we were segregated—the girls were in one class and the boys were all in the other, and that's the way it was through grades 6, 7 and 8. They thought it was proper."

MAY CROFT, 77

FAVOURITE SUBJECTS...

I loved French, but I didn't get that till high school. My least favourite was Algebra, but my teacher would keep the ones who were slow after school and then we really picked up and could understand it. I used to like to draw because my dad was an artist and I was quite good at it. If I kept it up, I might even have got better."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"Science and Geometry in high school came more or less easy for me. I could practically give you the theorem and what-have-you from the drawings. I got 100 percent, which was a first for me."

GLEN VALLANCE, 85

"I went to Mount View High School. I quit in Grade 10. Schooling came hard to me. I had to study an awful lot to get through. Arithmetic was something I really liked, and I did carry that with me into my apprenticeship as a machinist. When it came to mechanics, arithmetic and stuff like that, I did very well."

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77

"In public school, my favourites were history, geography and mathematics; in high school, they would be history and mathematics. I was exposed to French for four years, but it didn't make much of an impression."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87

"I didn't like school because I was so shy. I hardly ever talked to anybody."

MARY VOWLES, 61

"Right now I'm taking Cooperative Education. It's a program where you go out into the work place and do work experience. I spend actually half my day after lunch time in an elementary school because I want to go out and get my teacher's degree. In the mornings, I have Social Studies and Math. I'm in the flexible studies program so it's 'work at your own pace,' that kind of thing, not all nose-to-the-grindstone stuff."

TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

"We have tons of homework and very hard exams at the end of the term."

SARA CHAPMAN, 16

ABOUT CLASS SIZE...

"In the Honours, there's about 25 and in some of the others, 32. Honours goes at a little bit faster pace. We learn more stuff. They go through a bit more Grade 11 material and then there's minimum essential and normal. If you're not challenged with your abilities, then you get bored."

VANESSA WHITE, 16

"Our class is at 36 but we kind of mix with Mr. Kelly's class for some things."

ALI GLOVER, 12

"Our class is mixed, Grades 6/7. There are probably around 26, 27 or 28 in the class."

RATANA CHHIM, 13

"We have about 30-35 students in one class and they're all mixed grades."

HARINDER JASSAL, 13

"There's 21 people in my class and it's straight Grade 3."

VANESSA JUSTICE, 9

"I think it's supposed to be 27, but my class has 32."

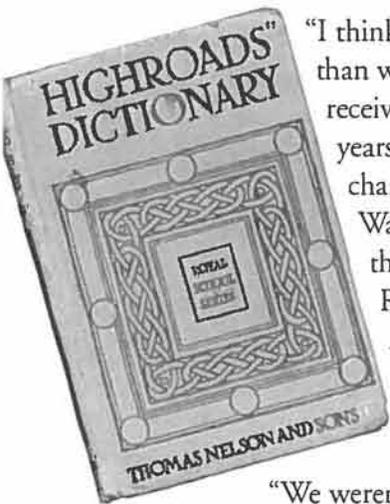
SAYURI FRIEDLAND, 13

"Some classes are mixed. It depends on some Grade 12's who want to get extra credits and the credits they need to graduate, so some of them are in some of my classes. Most are all Grade 11, and two of my classes have an over-abundance of students because they were the only courses that would fit them. They have, like, 33 and 35. We move from classroom to classroom while most of the teachers stay in their classrooms."

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17



COMPARING SCHOOLS TODAY...



"I think you have far more advantages than we had in those days. We never received any music lessons in our early years at school, and we didn't get the chance to go on trips to Mt. Washington or anywhere else like that. We just received the three R's—Reading, Writing and Arithmetic—and looked forward to the holidays."

MURIEL 'ASHY' MARY (ASH) LOCKHART

"We weren't allowed to get out of our seats. Not at all. If we wanted to go to the washroom, we put our hand up and waited till the teacher saw it and said we could go. We wouldn't dare speak to anyone—not even whisper—or else we were punished. We were more like zombies sitting at our desks. When I hear my grandchildren talk now about school, it's unbelievable. I don't say either one is right or wrong, but I guess today may be better in one sense—you have more contact with each other, and you have more of a chance to express yourself. We didn't. We had to just sit there quietly and speak when we were spoken to."

MARIE GRIFFIN, 81

"There's very much more rapport between the teachers and the students than there was in my days. The teacher was absolute law, and she used a cane or whatever. It was accepted punishment even at home, you know, spanking your kids or strapping them or whatever. It's far less formal, far more open, and the amount of knowledge has increased incredibly from what we had to learn as little fellows. It's nothing compared to what you learn today."

MIRIAM TAYLOR, 89

"Our schools were very strict. There was the strap in those days, and you didn't have to do much to get it. My husband actually got the strap in Grade 1. He was swinging from the flag pole and managed to swing right around in front of the teacher. I'm glad they did away with it."

PAT GAIT, 64



The original pioneer school was built in 1885 and then

"If the kids have problems, there's somebody there to help them, but I think parents need to keep on top of it to make sure kids get what they need. If the parents aren't there, the kids don't get it. I always took lots of homework home, but I'd never do it. If you were slow in those days, you were put in the back of the class and forgotten."

MARY VOWLES, 61

"I think there's a great improvement. The curriculum is very much extended to what it was in those days. The band that Reynolds put in the parade was marvellous, one of the most beautiful, harmonious bands. I think there's a great deal of credit going to your teachers who promote that band and, of course, the kids themselves."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"I wish I was going to school now with all the learning material you have—libraries, computers, the Internet. It really is better now than it was for us. What we learned in a year, you could probably learn in a month or less."

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN 64

FAVOURITE SUBJECTS...

“I took the Annual class—working on the Annual. I really like that, and I like Musical Theatre and English.”

MARISA PALMER, 16

“Science, because we get to do experiments and they’re lots of fun.”

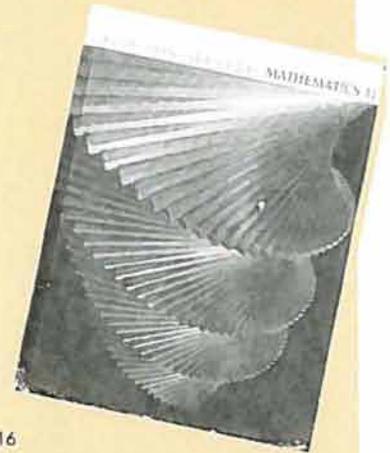
GURAV DHAUL, 13

“I like Math the most.”

SAYURI FRIEDLAND, 13

“I like Social Studies quite a bit and history. I don’t like geography. I like biology and photography too.”

BETHANY ELLIS, 16



“Social Studies. I love History, learning about what happened a long time ago. Probably Dance would have to be my favourite subject. It comes under Aspects of Learning. It’s one of the courses with Career Prep to prep you for working with different people and talking with different age groups—one of our work experience things.”

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

“I really like English Literature.”

CHELSEA MASON, 18

“The only subject I really enjoy is Biology. I’m very interested in the human body or just any kind of living organism.”

SARA CHAPMAN, 16

SCHOOL SUPPLIES...

“We usually buy them from the schools because we don’t know what we need.”

GURAV DHAUL, 13

“We buy them from stores and basically, they’re just pens, pencils, rulers, felt pens, pencil crayons, scissors, glue...”

MATTHEW BAER, 14

“My supplies we buy at the store pretty much, and I use paper, binders, pencils and pens, a calculator. They supply the textbooks so we don’t have to buy those. For my photography class, they supply the cameras too.”

BETHANY ELLIS, 16



ved to Cadboro Bay in 1901.

“The biggest thing about schools today that I don’t understand is that they seem to spend very little time in school and a lot of time with off days or running around with different activities that seem unrelated to the three R’s.”

LYLE HAYDEN, 66

“I think education on the whole is much more sophisticated, and you’re more prepared to go on to university. In our day at high school, you had university entrance or commercial which meant you worked as a typist or secretary. There’s a much broader chance of continuing your education today.”

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68

“It seems to me that children today have a little greater spread of education. We had pen and pencils; now there are calculators and it’s totally different. Everything has advanced so fast. I’m still a pen and pencil and paper person and you people are all computers.”

CYRIL E. ‘TED’ SHELLEY, 77

"I went to a Belmont Junior High School concert a few weeks ago and it was just marvellous. They had the school band, they had the school choir, they had skits—it was just wonderful! The kids sang the songs of our day and I thought, 'oh, if only we were allowed to do that instead of singing those crummy old songs that we had to sing.' I came away with a very good feeling that it's okay."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

SCHOOL SUPPLIES...

"The books were supplied by the schools in the elementary grades, and we had to buy our own pencils, scribblers, rulers and stuff. If you were poor as we were, you just carried through the same old ruler and pencils from the year before."

MAY CROFT, 77

"High school books would be passed on from one child to another until they were worn out or until they changed. I had two older brothers so I used my brothers' books and they were passed on to my sister. We bought the books from neighbours or the school. If we had to buy a new one, we would go to Eaton's or the book store."

MARGARET 'MARG' (BUROW) MACKINTOSH, 77

"Another girl and I used to berry pick in the summer or babysit and we'd pay for our own books. Some books you got from the school and some of them you had to pay for. I know we used to apply our money to our school books."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"It was a long time ago that I was in public school. I started in 1919. Then it was just a matter of having a pencil box with a ruler, an eraser and pencils—eventually a pen."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87

"We used to buy them. We'd get a list when we went to school the first day. We'd come home and have the afternoon to go and buy the

supplies, then return the next day with all of them. We rented the text books and we would pass them on to other students who couldn't rent them."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"We bought textbooks from a second-hand store mostly. Brand new, they were very expensive. I would have loved to have bought new ones but my dad always bought second-hand stuff. We had scribblers, about 10 or 12 depending on the subjects we had. We had a Maclean's pen and pencils, rulers, stuff like that."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

EXAMS AND REPORT CARDS...

"We got ranked which was something else. I mean, there were 40 children and they ranked you first to fortieth. One year I came in third and I was thrilled."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

"If your marks were good enough, you didn't have to take the exam, you went right into high school. If your marks weren't, you had to take your provincial or government exams."

MARIE GRIFFIN, 81

"We got regular report cards, and they were marked on the basis of percentages."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

SCHOOL OUTINGS...

"I remember once we went to Smuggler's Cove, and we had a little picnic there. We sat around, ate and talked, played in the water—cold water back then."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"Every school had a sports day, then every school would come together for a big sports day at the agricultural hall out in Saanich. Sometimes we had picnics at Beaver or Elk Lake.

PAT GAIT, 64



the schools in Victoria used to go to
Flowers Park and have a sports day. I
remember in Saanich that we went to Elk Lake
and I used to sprint out there.”

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

The sports day would have been held in
Saanich School District—at that time at
Beaver Lake. There used to be a paved track,
which isn't there anymore, right near the lake.
I always thought that was lots of fun. I used
to generally come home with a bat or a ball for
a prize.”

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

When I was going to Gordon Head School, we
used to occasionally go down to Margaret's Bay
for a picnic. Sports day was held in Saanich at
Beaver Lake. It seemed to me they always paved
a race track course with fresh tar the week
before. If anybody fell in the three-legged race
or sack race, they ended up in the wet tar.”

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

Saanich schools had their sports days and they
were always held at Beaver Lake. All the
schools competed against each other in
swimming races, tug-o-war, basketball and soccer.
The school choirs, they had their events, and
there was the music festival where different
schools would compete in singing.”

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

“Most of the school supplies are things like paper, pens,
eraser and binders that you buy. You get the school
textbooks from the school. You pay a fee at the beginning
of the year and you get the books. As long as you bring
them back at the end of the term, you don't have to pay
for them.” CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

“We usually just go to Staples or Zellers and get new
binders, paper, highlighters, pens, pencils, rulers and
dividers.” SARA CHAPMAN, 16

SCHOOL OUTINGS...

“In Band, we went to Kamloops last year for four days.
This year, we're going to Kelowna for four days. Next
year in Grade 11, we go to Hawaii. We also have picnics
at school or hot dog day.”

VANESSA WHITE, 16

“We just came back from skiing a little while ago. That
was really fun. We go swimming, to the water slides,
skating.” MONTY SHARMA, 12

“We don't have picnics, but we have sports days and stuff.
Sometimes we go swimming. Sometimes we go to the
UVIC track. We have track and field, and we run relays,
100 metres and 200 metres.” HARINDER JASSAL, 13

“We have a fun day trip almost at the end of the year. It's
really hot out so we have stations where we have

activities. We have house games, and
there's a trophy at the end of the year
or a plaque that we have. We just get
our house team printed on it and it
goes in the school trophy box.” ALEX
THAMMAVONG, 13

“In Grade 2, we went to Sidney Spit
and we had a picnic there. We went
to Beaver Lake and we had lunch
there. I'm going to Tom Thumb's
Safety Village. It's a little place where
you can pedal in these little cars, and
there's a tiny little McDonald's—you
can't get food there, you just pretend,
and there's a gas station there. There's
lots of stuff.” VANESSA JUSTICE, 9



Sketchy
“They would have a bus that would take us over to Strawberry Vale School where we would run races against kids from other schools. A few times we marched up the Pipeline Rd. to Beaver Lake too. When I was

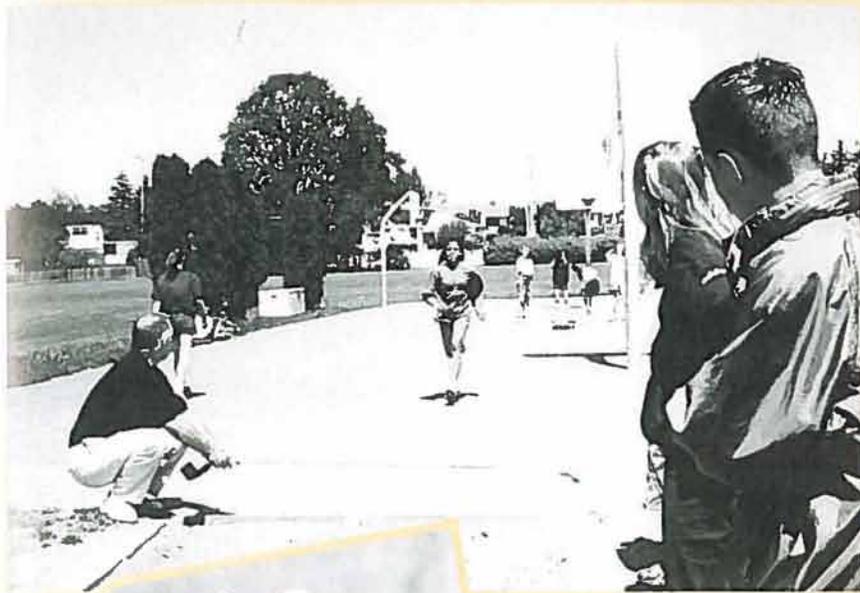
older in Royal Oak School, we got to go to Beaver Lake to cut the Christmas tree for the school. You wouldn't do that today—they'd have you!”

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75



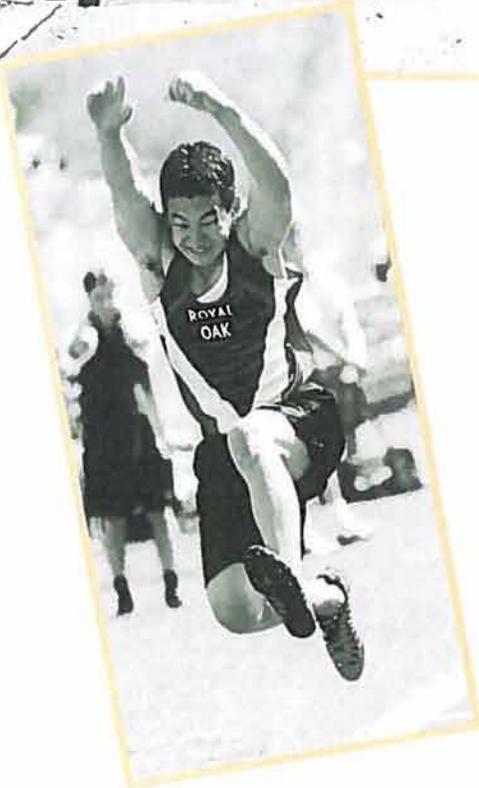
Sports Day, 1923 on Burnside Road

Y O U T H



“We go skating often at Pearkes Arena, and we go swimming sometimes. Depending on the teacher, it’s either Gordon Head or Oak Bay. I like Oak Bay better. The Grade 7’s got to go skiing for two days to Mt. Washington, and we’re going to Camp Thunderbird for three days. We get to go to the waterslides. We have a fun day—I think it’s the last day of school—and the Grade 7’s set it up and run it and the Grade 6’s are the team captains. Each team has someone from each grade, and we have it on the schoolgrounds.”

DIAN ROSS, 13



“At Spectrum, there’s the Magical Mystery Tour at the beginning of each year. The whole school gets on five buses and you don’t know where you’re going. All the teachers barbecue, make your lunch, and then there’s games all day. It’s the beginning of the year so it’s an ice-breaker where you get to know everyone.” CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

“Our leadership group usually organizes something, or sometimes teachers will organize a field trip to the museum. For my biology class, we’re going to go to Vancouver to Science World and the Vancouver Aquarium.” CHELSEA MASON, 18

Recreational Activities

ABOUT LESSONS...

"We had a player piano, and I took piano lessons. I didn't do very good with lessons because I would play the rolls. As soon as my mother heard music from the room, she would think I was practising."

EDNA RIX, 84

"I took a lot of dancing lessons and swimming lessons. I carried my music right through my life until I lost my sight and couldn't read the music. I couldn't play by ear, and the arthritis in my hands didn't help."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"I took violin lessons for three years and played a few times at the Royal Oak Women's Institute when we had school plays. I was in the Victoria Musical Arts which used to be in Newstead Hall on Fort St., but that didn't last very long because I was a country boy way out in Cordova Bay and I wasn't into that much city life."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

ABOUT THE ARTS...

"I sang at school. One of the teachers considered that I had a fair voice, and I was the lead-off in singing. I hated it, but I had to sing. The only concerts we had were in school and they were mostly at Christmas time."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

"I had music and I became a music teacher. I sang in school and professionally."

ADA BONE, 78

"We had a school choir, but I got thrown out in Grade 8. I guess my voice changed. You couldn't have a deep voice—they were all tenor voices. I'll always remember going to the Royal Theatre and seeing the Grand Opry. That was really fun."

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

"I belonged to the choir in school. We used to have one-time festivals. All the schools participated in the singing, and they were judged on who was the most harmonious. In church, I belonged to the boys' choir at St. Mark's on Boleskine Rd. It isn't there anymore."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"My mother was very interested in music, and she gave all the kids in the family lessons just so they could appreciate music. I belonged to the Musical Arts Club years ago, and I remember hearing Yehudi Menuhin when he was a protegee at the Empress Hotel. We used to go to concerts and plays all the time."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"I never did sing. I got kicked out of the choir and all that stuff because I couldn't keep a tune."

GLEN VALLANCE, 85



McKenzie Choir

"I took music lessons at home and swimming lessons—we took them through the Times Colonist at the old Crystal Gardens. I was more or less forced to take music lessons, and I lost interest as an adult."

GRACE LOUIISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

ABOUT LESSONS...

"I've played cello since I was in the fourth grade."

JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"I take dance class and I used to take jazz. I took swing dance, Latin dance and ballet."

ALI GLOVER, 12

"I've taken swimming, and at church they give us lessons on how to play instruments and how to sing sacred songs."

HARINDER JASSAL, 13

"I took cooking lessons with my mom."

ALEX THAMMAVONG, 13

"Right now I take fencing lessons."

MATTHEW BAER, 14

"Out of school, I take piano lessons and trumpet lessons."

KATHLEEN KOLEHMAINEN, 12

"When I was younger, I took swimming lessons but that didn't last long. Right now I'm taking dance lessons. This will be my twelfth year taking dance. It's one of my 'hobbies' as my friends call it."

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

"I've taken a lot of dance classes like jazz and tap-dancing. I played the flute for awhile but then I didn't like it. I took rowing lessons a couple of years ago and I really enjoyed that."

SARA CHAPMAN, 16

ABOUT THE ARTS...

"I've attended a couple of concerts like musicals with my parents. My brother was the drummer in the Spectrum band. We used to watch him play drums in the band. The prices weren't too bad for watching Spectrum—they were about \$3 per person."

RYAN HINDLEY, 15

"I sing everywhere! I sing walking home from school. I love to sing. I sing with the school choir, at home with the radio. I'm often in concerts myself, but I've always enjoyed going to the symphony."

JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"I'm involved in musical theatre, but my vocals aren't something I'm too proud of. I try to get out to concerts once in awhile. Sometimes they're just local shows and they can cost about \$10, or there might be something in Vancouver for \$40 or \$50."

AARON WICKS, 16



Women's Institute Building

We had a school choir. Miss O'Neill was the music teacher and we had singing once a week. We won at the music festival, too. Our school choir won eight or 10 years in a row. She was good at it. We used to have concerts and sing up at the little church there on Carey Rd., the Garden City United Church and other places."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

I never sang in church, but we sang at home all the time. My dad was a great one for playing the piano. The whole neighbourhood would come in and we'd all sing."

VERA (PALMER) BEISCHER, 75



"My people being Welsh, they sang in what was called a "Glee Club," and we had a concert about once every two or three months. Either my mom or somebody related to us sang, and it was very interesting. In those days it was free, but there was a collection. My sister and I enjoyed listening to the big time bands when my parents went out. We'd stay up all night, and we knew every move and every popular song. But we were not allowed to sing those, we had to sing something like "Trees" or "Amazing Grace" or something like that. I've always had a love of music, and now today, because I don't like really new music, I like country music better."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

ABOUT CLUBS...

"Believe it or not, I belonged to a motorcycle club at one time, and we used to ride motorbikes. I wasn't very old then—I wouldn't do it now."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"I swam at the Y under Archie McKinnon—he has a building named for him at UVIC. He taught my brothers and sisters and my daughter. We travelled all over the province in the summer time and swam in the different swimming events in Kelowna, Vancouver and Seattle."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"I was in Scouts. We used to have summer camp every year out at Fork Lake in the Highlands. We used to pitch our tents on a farm out there. We'd have an open fire and cook. I was in Cubs too. We had a lady for a cubmaster, Mrs. Sherwood, and Jack Miller was the Scout Master."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"I belonged to Girl Guides for quite a few years. We went on camping trips, and I enjoyed them."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"I was in several different church groups, mostly to do with the choir to start with, then Sunday School. Later on I was in young people's groups with the Anglican Church. I spent quite a bit of time at the YMCA and with other sports groups. There was one called the Provincial Recreation that I spent quite a bit of time with in gymnastics."

LYLE HAYDEN, 66

ABOUT SPORTS...

"We always played rounders in the back field with kids from the district, and I played baseball at school. I got into grass hockey with my friends a few times. I tried tennis—forget it! I loved ball."

MAY CROFT, 77



"I played soccer and swam. Our team played in the Colonist Cup."

FREEMAN 'FREE' NOTT, 84

"There used to be a vacant lot where the Esso gas station is at the corner of McKenzie and Shelbourne, and we played softball there. The army camp was where the university is and the soldiers who were there during the war used to come and play with us."

EVELYN MIDDLETON, 72

"I did a lot of diving, a lot of swimming. I got my bronze medallion when I was 14. I got my life saving certificate and I also got my royal lifeguard—I got that when I was 41."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80



Elk Lake football team

"I played soccer and softball, a bit of basketball, but I was kind of short so I didn't do much."

CHARLES ROY SPELLER, 76

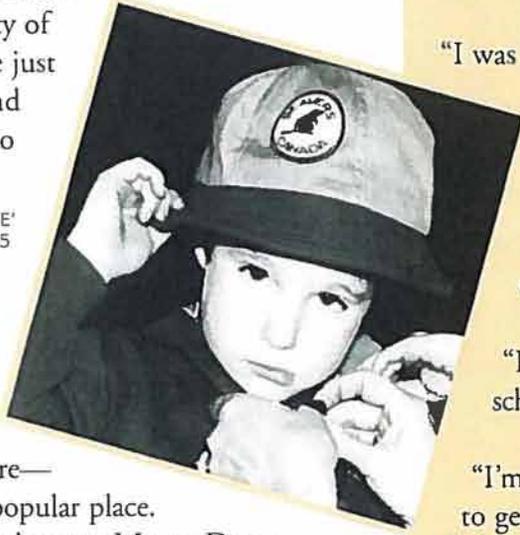
"I played soccer for 28 years in this town. I have trophies for amateur boxing, wrestling, bicycle-racing. I was the featherweight champion for BC in boxing and wrestling. When I got older, I boxed professionally. I had about 11 fights and I was never knocked out."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

OUR LEISURE TIME...

"We made bows and arrows, sling-shots. We'd go into the woods which used to be the Hudson's Bay woods and where the University of Victoria is now. We just generally played, and we went to Cadboro Bay Beach a lot."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85



"Just about any place we wanted to go, we went. We used to hitchhike everywhere—Thetis Lake was a popular place. We'd ride our bikes down to Mount Doug Park. On the corner of Union and Quadra, there was a Mr. Herby's where they used to have the best beef burgers. In Cadboro Bay, they had the big pavilion and dance hall, and we always used to end up there."

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

"I was in a musical and I had to do solos. I was in choir at my church when I was younger. Instead of all those boring songs, we'd have upbeat, lively songs. I went to a play earlier this year—Anne of Green Gables—and I play the clarinet in concerts." WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

"I go to plays usually about once a month with an elderly woman, and I do go to concerts sometimes in the summer—popular music festivals, that kind of thing. Usually it's about \$20-\$40 for concerts." SARAH NORRAD, 17

"I went to Harbourfest a couple of years ago when it was here and I saw Jan Arden. During the Commonwealth Games, I saw a couple of concerts but other than that, they're usually all in Vancouver." JAMIE KNOWLES, 17

"I went to 'Oklahoma' once. I like to see musicals, although I haven't had a chance to see very many."

LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

"I look after the little kids in my church and do some singing with them. During the service, I sing along too. I go to plays sometimes because our school puts them on. I go to a few plays out of school, and my dad takes me to a symphony every year." KATHLEEN KOLEHMAINEN, 12

ABOUT CLUBS...

"I was in Beavers, then I went to Cubs, then I went to Scouts and then I just stopped. It got a little boring." RICK DOWNIE, 12

"I used to be in Girl Guides. I had to stop because I had too much stuff going on."

VANESSA WHITE, 16

"I participate in Girls on the Move and that's in our school." RATANA CHHIM, 13

"I'm in Cubs for the second year and I'm really excited to get into the third year. I like the activities and dodge ball and stuff. We went on one camp this year. It was actually pretty good because there was this water balloon fight." TOM MILLS, 9

"I'm in something called 659 in my church. It starts at 6:59 and that's why it's called 659. It's just somewhere where you can get together with your friends and sing and play games." WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

"In the summertime, there was always swimming out at Elk Lake and Beaver Lake if you could get there. We used to go pretty well everywhere on a bike. We pretty well made our own entertainment, although there was a church on Cedar Hill Rd. where we used to go every Friday night to see a free show. All you had to do was bring something to eat."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"We'd play soccer, but there wasn't really a field. We did sneak out in the middle of the night."

CHARLES ROY SPELLER, 76



"As a teenager, I collected Old Model T's. When I was in high school, I was the only person with a car except for one teacher. When I was 15, I used to drive a

1917 Model T to school without a driver's licence. The police used to think it was funny because the car had a 1915 licence plate on it. As school years went on, I was transportation for the soccer team together with the one teacher who had a car. Once in awhile a teacher would come along and give me 50 cents from the school board to pay for the gas. Gas was around 25 cents a gallon back then. I didn't have time for anything else. I didn't smoke, and all my money went into gasoline and 10 cent hamburgers."

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

"We window-shopped—we wandered around town looking in the windows hoping we could buy something. It was like admiring things in the catalogue. We'd go to movies downtown or for long walks. I loved to dance so we'd go to dances at the Crystal Gardens. It's turned into a tourist attraction now, but it had a beautiful swimming pool and a wonderful dance floor. It was very, very romantic because we were sitting around under palm trees, listening to the music, and we could look down at the water. It was just a lovely place to dance."

LYNETTE 'LYN' STOFER, 76



A day out at Cadboro Beach

"We all had bicycles, and we'd take a picnic and go on bicycle afternoons. We'd go to the occasional movie which was kind of cheap in those days. It was 5 cents on the bus each way, 10 cents to get in the theatre, and then we had a nickel to spend. We could go out for the afternoon for 25 cents—you can't even get a chocolate bar for that now."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"We used to ice skate at the arena, then unfortunately it burned down. My brother had a little job, and he paid to have my ice blades taken off and roller bottoms put on. Then I roller-skated at the roller bowl on Government St. We had a live organist who played music—it was nice to skate to live music. When we got the arena downtown, I went back to ice-skating. We also did things at home. We played marbles, and in the house, we did embroidery, tablecloths and napkins for our hope chest."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

MEETING PLACES...

"We had one street lamp at Cedar Hill Cross Rd. and Richmond and we used to gather at that corner. There was only one other light at Shelbourne and Cedar Hill Cross Rd., and there was another gang a little older than we were who used to gather there."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

YOUTH

“At school, I’m in Leadership which is a group that organizes fun activities for the school.” TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

“I’m involved with my church youth group, and when I was younger I was in Cubs and Scouts. By the time I was that age it was co-ed.” BETHANY ELLIS, 16

ABOUT SPORTS...

“I played soccer this year and I play basketball and volleyball. I’m playing rugby right now. I’ll probably participate in track this year.” RICK DOWNIE, 12

“I’m a big sports fanatic. I love soccer; I enjoy playing baseball and volleyball. I swim a lot and I like tennis, too.”

SARAH JURICIC, 15

“Outside of school, I play softball and I like to do a bit of bowling. I might go back and do 10-pin. The team I played with this year—we were the league champions.”

VANESSA WHITE, 16

“I play basketball, golfing. I’m a member at Gorge Vale. I play road hockey with my friends.” JAY CASANOVA, 15

“I’ve been in baseball. This is my first year and, well, I’m a little paranoid of the ball, but I’ve been getting over it. I like playing third base, second base and field and I want to try pitching. Once in awhile I play hockey with my friends, and I play basketball with my dad a lot.” TOM MILLS, 9

“I play golf regularly, three times a week, maybe. I play badminton for the school team.” PETER GUAN, 17

“I like to jog and run and do track. I like swimming, roller-blading and mountain-biking.” VALERIE VOSPER, 18

OUR LEISURE TIME...

“I play on a Playstation, that’s like Nintendo. I like roller-blading a lot. I go down to Gordon Head and do tricks and jumps.” RICK DOWNIE, 12

“All my girlfriends and I, we love to go to the mall to shop or just look around. Sometimes there are parties we go to and we go to movies a lot.” SARAH JURICIC, 15

“I like to go downtown. I’m a downtown person.”

AARON WICKS, 16

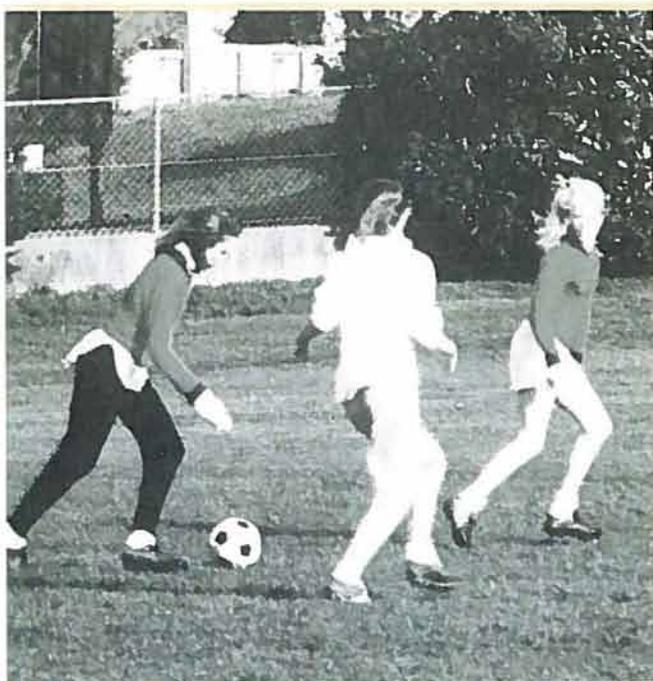


“We used to play a fair amount of basketball at the Lakehill Community Centre. We didn’t hang around on street corners. One of my three best friends had a ping pong table and we used to play ping pong day and night. It was great.”

RICHARD ‘BUNGY’ WILLIAMS, 80

“We used to get together on the corner of Milgrove and Obed because there was a street light there. We’d play ‘Run Sheep Run’ or ‘Follow the Arrow’ or something like that, then mom was always ready to call us home by 9 o’clock.”

GRACE HAWKINS, 79





Intersection of Shelbourne and Cedar Hill Cross Roads (1923-24)

"I lived in Mt. Tolmie and a central point seemed to be at Richmond Rd. and Cadboro Bay Rd. We would all meet there, about 30 of us, not many girls. If there were girls, she was somebody's sister so it wasn't as if she was somebody's girlfriend. Later on there was a community hall built there, and we were allowed to go in and play card games. There were a few books in there we could read and it didn't cost us anything. If we had money, we could give them maybe 10 cents a month towards electricity."

KEN STOFER, 79

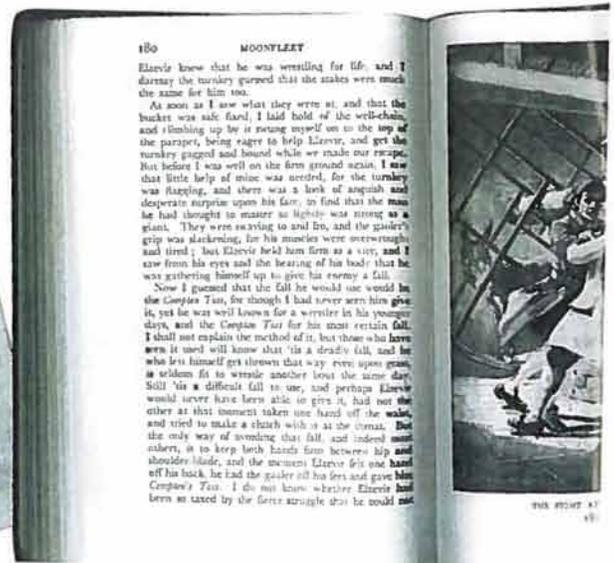
ABOUT READING...

"We traded books with friends—mostly fiction or adventure. As for libraries, there was only one in town—on the corner of Blanshard and Yates."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

"I got my reading material mostly from my father who used to bring books home from work. I read historical, mystery novels—adventures, especially—the old Tom Swift books in those days, and not too much in the way of classics or poetry or fairy tales."

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85



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used to get my books from libraries or from school. My mom always bought me books. Very often I'd get a birthday present and two or three books would be in it. I used to get a yearly book

about three inches thick—Chum's Magazine, which was an English publication. There were a number of stories, but all the articles that came out in Chum's Magazine during the year were all stitched together in this huge bound book. I still have a few of them in the house."

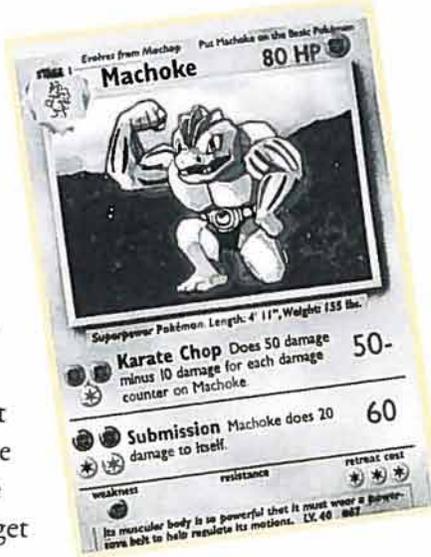
JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"Most of the reading material was in our house and came from my mom and dad. We got the odd book from the library, but the library was downtown Victoria. I always liked adventure stories. I had a whole set of Tom Swift books. They were all short titles like 'Tom Swift and his Electric Runabout,' 'Tom Swift and his Electric Rifle,' that sort of thing."

KEN STOFER, 79

"Usually in the community, we'd pass the book from one to the other—same with school books and what-not. Mostly I read adventure books, Black Beauty or things like that. But we didn't have any books passed around that I can remember that were anything but good for a child's mind or a young person's mind."

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77



Y O U T H

"I work a lot. I work a lot of hours on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. When I'm not at work, I like to go with my friends to the theatre or just play a lot of basketball." RYAN HINDLEY, 15

"My main recreational activity is going to the gym with friends and doing aerobics, kick-boxing and rock-climbing. I do a lot with my boyfriend, and for fun we go to the movies or friends have parties or we go hiking." SARAH NORRAD, 17

"I wish I had more time just to go out and have fun because I'm so busy with school. When I do get the chance, it's more like relaxing and hanging out with my boyfriend, going to activities with my youth group and hanging out with them, going to movies or just watching movies at home."

CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

ABOUT READING...

"I read all sorts of books, although I'm on a bit of a romance novel kick right now. You know—feeding my brain absolutely useless information. I love Shakespeare. I love poetry, novels. I really like historical novels." JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"I get books from the school library or I buy them from book stores. My aunt works at a book store so I buy them there." CASSIE MCCAMBRIDGE, 16

"I get books out of the school library. Sometimes I go to the public library, but I like to read the sports section of the newspapers. I like to read adventure books."

MONTY SHARMA, 12

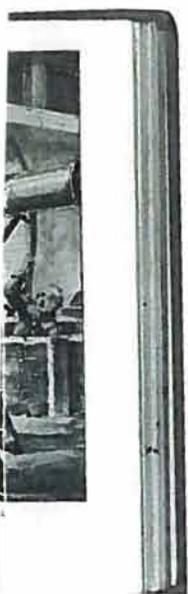
"When I'm reading just for pleasure, I usually get my reading materials from friends if they've read a book and recommended it. I get books from either the school or public library. I read fiction and romance novels or historical dramas. I don't really like reading poetry."

SARAH NORRAD, 17

"I usually go out and buy my books. I'm taking a writing class right now outside of the time table—kind of an extra-curricular activity—so I'm trying to read as many interesting authors as I can."

TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

"I'm starting to get more interested in classics just because I know they are classics. I'm interested in poetry; I write some of my own poetry. Books that I really love and get glued to are mystery novels." CHRISTINA BURKE, 18



Home Life

ABOUT CHORES...

"We always had sawdust in our house. The truck would deliver the sawdust, and we had to shovel it into the garage. Then we'd bring it by the bucketful into the house and put it in this great big pot to burn for our heating and cooking."

BERNICE 'BERNIE' (CARTER) POLIQUIN, 68

before I went to school. I had long, blonde hair, and I was terrified the cow was going to dirty it with his tail that had been lying in you-know-what. We had to look after these blasted cows, milk them again at night and deliver the milk to local people."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

"I didn't receive an allowance, but we had a wood and coal stove and one of the big things was to cut kindling to get the fire going every morning. Along with my brothers, I helped my father build his house. It took him four years to build it, but I found out what work was then."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

"There was a grocery store on the corner of Boleskine and Douglas and a man came around in the morning and took your order, and then they delivered it in the afternoon. It was by horse and wagon for quite a long time, and then they got a little truck."

WALLACE 'WALLY' WEST, 88

"I might have had 5 cents a week, but I got up to 25 cents when I was a teen. I didn't really do much in the way of chores. I was the last of a big family of boys. By the time I came along, mother had forgotten she was supposed to teach me to cook and sew. I did have to pick; we had a big garden, and I had to pick berries and beans, things like that."

MAY CROFT, 77

"I fed and killed and cleaned the rabbits and chickens, gathered the eggs, dug the garden, chopped the wood and carried wood upstairs. It kept a chap kind of busy. I started out with a nickel a week allowance and then went up to two bits a week."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

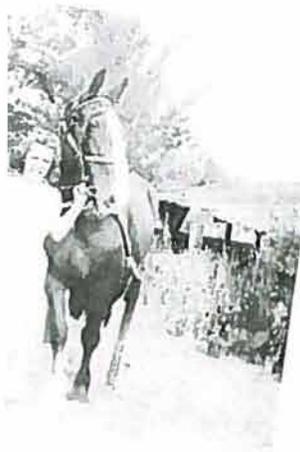
"I didn't receive an allowance; it was all for free and it was hard blasted work. I milked cows first thing in the morning



BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64



ABOUT CHORES...



“My mother and father had a dairy farm and sold milk. I helped with washing the bottles and delivering milk sometimes with my dad.”

ADELINE ‘ADDIE’
(CLATWORTHY) WILLIAMS, 80

“I do dishes, clean the house, cut the lawn, vacuum, clean the bathroom. I don’t receive an allowance, but I do get paid for cutting the lawn.” JACOB REDLIN, 15

“I mow the lawn, I vacuum the house, I clean my room. Mowing the lawn makes me \$5 a week which isn’t too bad considering I have a job.” RYAN HINDLEY, 15

“I wash the dishes, weed the garden. I get about \$2 every time I do the chores.” GURAV DHAUL, 13

“I don’t really have chores, but I help my mom around the house. There are three kids, me and my two brothers, and we always help her out. We don’t really get an allowance; she just buys us stuff.” MONTY SHARMA, 12

“I have to help out with the dishes and vacuum. I have my own paper route.” CHASE BENNING, 11

“I babysit my sister a lot and wash dishes.” SAYURI FRIEDLAND, 13

“I have to clean my room once a week and I get \$2 for it. I just have to help out and I don’t have any specific chores. I have to keep my room clean, sweep the floor, help out around the house. I don’t really get a specific allowance for however much I do.” NICOLE WINSTONE, 13

“I don’t receive an allowance anymore. I used to before I had a job, but that was the cut-off. I don’t have as much to do as when I was younger. Now, because I’m not at home as much between work and school and stuff, basically I have two dish days a week and I have to take care of my room and do my own laundry.” CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

“I do the dishes, dusting, vacuuming. I don’t receive an allowance. I’ve been brought up to do it because you have to, not because you get paid for it. They’re part of my family obligations.” CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

ABOUT SHOPPING...

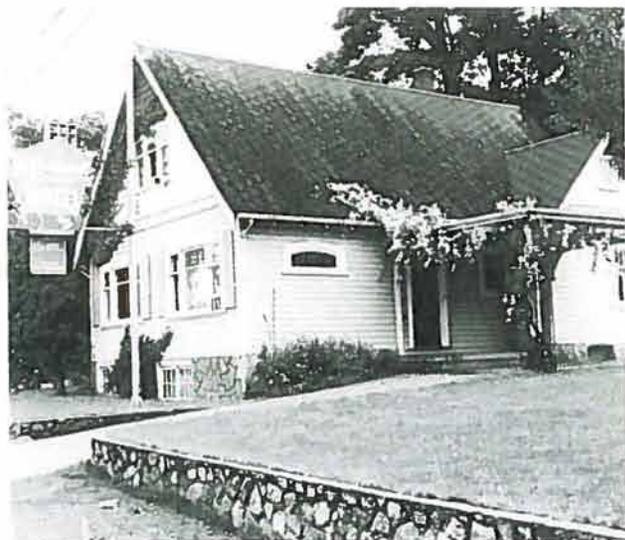
“My parents shop for groceries wherever it’s closest. They usually go to Safeway or Fairways or Country Grocer. For clothes, my favourite store is Bootlegger. It’s in the Mayfair Mall. I like Below the Belt and Stitches—those kinds of stores.” SARAH JURICIC, 15

“We used to have to set the table. My mother died when I was born so we had a housekeeper. She did other work at other houses so if she was going to be late home, I had to prepare vegetables for supper. I didn’t really get an allowance, but when I needed something, my dad would give me the money.”

JOYCE M. (HOBBES) PETERSON, 68

“We lived right alongside the business. There was a door built in the side of the house that went into the store and tearoom. I had lots of chores to do. When I was seven or eight, I used to have a little bucket to pick up Polar Bear wrappers. People would throw papers and things around, and I’d pick up, tidy the beach and keep the right-of-way. I used to sweep the walkway in front. I always got the kindling for the stove in the morning, and my brother Bruce and I would take turns lighting the fire.”

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75



McMorran's Tea Room

ABOUT SHOPPING...

"Mostly the man came around and took the order on Tuesday, and it would be delivered on the Thursday so you didn't have to go to the store."

FREEMAN 'FREE' NOTT, 84

"We used to get groceries at Spencer's. When I was a teenager, we shopped for clothes at Eddie's, Eddie Mallek's, which was kitty corner from where the Hudson's Bay is now. My dad shopped at Doran's Men's Wear."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"There was the one store just down on Cedar Hill Cross Rd. near Richmond where we shopped for groceries. Then there was a store on the corner of Cedar Hill Cross Rd. and Shelbourne. Sometimes we'd go into Eaton's, but in those days it was Spencer's, and sometimes to the Hudson's Bay when there was a grocery store in the basement. They usually charged a little more in town."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

"We'd sometimes go to Hunter's Grocery which was on the corner of Shelbourne and Cedar Hill Cross Road—that's where Pacific Savings is today. There was a little store in Gordon Head called Sadler's Grocery. It's gone now, but it was on the corner of San Juan and Tyndall Ave. If my mother needed a pound of butter, I could ride my bicycle and get it."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"We got our groceries from our grandfather's store which was on Kings Rd. The store is still there, but not as a grocery store. For clothes, we'd go to the Hudson's Bay Company, or we made them ourselves, including me."

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

"We shopped for groceries at the local store called Bates. There was another store called Crosby's, and for clothes we shopped at Spencer's and Hudson's Bay."

GERRY SPARK, 80



MacWilliam's Store, corner of Marigold and Interurban

"I can remember a fish man coming to the door on Friday. We had a dairy farm and we peddled milk, so we'd do a little bit of shopping as we were out—bread and groceries. We also bought from the Eaton's catalogue."

EDNA RIX, 84

"I grew up at the corner of Tillicum and Carey, right across from where the 7-11 store is now. My father went into that house when he was six-months-old and lived there for 84 years. My son is in that house now. There was a store kitty corner from there called the Seven Oaks Supply Store, and that's where we shopped for groceries. Occasionally, we'd go to town for clothing and other things."

LAURENCE 'LARRY' WEBB, 78

"We went to White's Grocery Store at the corner of Millgrove and Burnside. They delivered, and that was a help sometimes. My sister would be in a buggy and I'd hang on to it and tag along. If mother was feeling rich, she would buy two chocolate bars, and we'd go home and split it up three ways."

GLEN VALLANCE, 85

"We had our own grocery store, a general store right at the corner of Tillicum and Carey Rd.—the building is still there. It was groceries, hardware, and we had a gas company, too."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"My dad gardened so we had lots of vegetables. We raised chickens and we had a goat for milk. There wasn't an awful lot we needed other than meat and butter, sugar, a few things like that. There was a store in town called Jones

Meat Market up on Cook St. Then, when Gurtons had Marigold Market, we shopped locally at the corner of Marigold and Burnside.”

RUTH (FARQUHAR) MANNIX, 74

“We shopped in Victoria. There were a couple of small grocery stores where we picked up a little bit of groceries but mostly we grew our own. If a neighbour had more potatoes and you had more carrots or whatever, then you traded. When things were tough, my dad used to pop the pheasants out of the kitchen window. Sometimes I think if it wasn’t for the odd pheasants or something, we wouldn’t have had meat on Sundays. We lived on Wiseton St. just off Carey Rd. We weren’t supposed to shoot—this was a restricted area—but we used to keep the .22 inside the window so no one saw it...”

CYRIL E. ‘TED’ SHELLEY, 77



TRAVELLING...

“When I was quite young and lived in Cadboro Bay, we used the street car. We used to have to walk up to the Uplands to get it. The street car would go round and round in circles before it ever got to you. We went by bus once the buses came, and after that there were cars.”

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

“Mostly my parents shop at Thrifty’s for groceries. For clothes, it depends, wherever we are, whatever we need.”

DIAN ROSS, 13

“For clothes, we shop anywhere. We often look around a lot to find what’s good. For food, we often go to the Warehouse store so we can buy a lot in bulk—it’s a lot cheaper that way.”

MATTHEW BAER, 14

“We usually shop at Safeway for groceries, and for clothes we go all over because we go to all the stores in the mall. Hillside Mall is where we shop for new clothes. Sometimes if there’s something really nice at Zeller’s, we’ll go there. I make some of my own tops too.”

WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

“My mom, when she goes for food, she goes to pretty much every food store, and my sister, she always goes to the mall.”

CHASE BENNING, 11

“My parents sometimes go to the local market at Thrifty’s but they also go to Chinatown.”

PETER GUAN, 17

“I shop in a bunch of different stores in the malls downtown: Below the Belt, Thrifty’s. My mom doesn’t usually go shopping that often. She likes to go to thrift stores and get good bargains. We shop for groceries at Thrifty’s or Safeway or Fairways. Fairways is the cheapest so we try to go there sometimes, but Thrifty’s has a lot more.”

SARAH NORRAD, 17

TRAVELLING...

“We go on a lot of long trips. In the summer time, we go to Calgary and then to Prince Albert and we stay there for awhile. Then we go back to Calgary and stay with cousins. My dad comes from Nova Scotia and my mom comes from here. I’m going to Nova Scotia one day with my dad. I’m going to fly down there.”

RICK DOWNIE, 12

“We like to go up to the end of the Island. Sometimes we go over to Prince George to visit my grandpa. We get one long trip a year.”

JAY CASANOVA, 15

“My father learned to drive pretty late in life. We had what you call a Chevrolet 490 four-cylinder job and side cars and a flap. Sometimes we’d go as far as Sidney—we’d have two flat tires in a day.”

ERIC ‘STOFE’ STOFER, 85

“Whenever we went on a day trip, it was in the milk truck, and we all sat in the back of the truck and hung our legs down the tailgate.”

ISABEL ‘TILLY’ (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

“Most of our trips were around the area until I was nine or 10. Then we’d travel up-Island to Qualicum, which would take about three hours and maybe three or four flat tires. I remember my first airplane flight in 1947 to Seattle. It cost \$8.50 return. From Vancouver, it was \$8—it’s changed a little since then.”

BARRIE ‘BOOGIE’ GOODWIN, 64

“If we went into town, we took the bus. The bus fare from the city as far as where Ravine Way

is now was 6 cents, but if you went further, like the corner of Tillicum and Carey, that was 10 cents. Money was so scarce, you’d get off the bus at Ravine Way where Town & Country is and walk the rest of the way just to save 4 cents. Sounds funny, but 4 cents was 4 cents.”

LAURENCE ‘LARRY’ WEBB, 78

“Daddy always had a car and we’d go up-Island. It used to take nine hours to get to Nanaimo with about five flat tires on the way. The roads were so narrow—they were just cut through the bushes—we had to drive very slow. As soon as you’d see another car coming, one of you had to stop to let the other one pass. It was a long trip, but we used to love to go.”

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

“We were lucky because we had an old T4 and we used to get taken on little drives to Elk Lake or Goldstream. Other than that, we rode our bikes, walked or grabbed a streetcar or bus.”

HELEN ‘SALLY’ WEBB, 76

“My dad was a farmer, so we really didn’t do long trips with him because he couldn’t take time off. When I was a very young girl, my aunt and uncle took me on the midnight ferry from Victoria Harbour to Vancouver. It used to go at midnight and you slept on the ferry and got off in the morning in Vancouver.”

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68

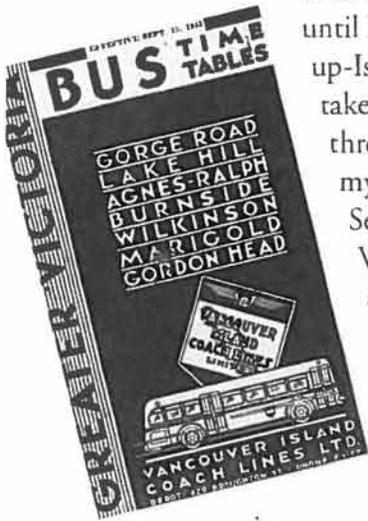


Jitney run by the Stewarts on the Lakehill route (1919)

“We couldn’t afford a car until about 1937, but most of our transportation was to Victoria on the jitney. That was a very small bus-type vehicle owned by private people. They had a run—ours was from Carey Rd. into Victoria. Of course, the bicycle was the basic mode of travel for young people. There were a few horse-and-carriages, but not very many.”

CYRIL E. ‘TED’ SHELLEY, 77

“I went to Vancouver several times to play soccer and box. We went to Port Angeles a couple of times. CPR had a ferry in those days.



It went to Port Angeles just like the Coho does now. CPR also had the Victoria/Vancouver run and the triangle: Victoria/Vancouver/Seattle.”

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

“When I was six or eight, my grandparents took my brother and myself to Vancouver twice on the CPR to visit an uncle. It was exciting because from where I lived at Cadboro Bay beach, we could see the boats going by every day and we’d dream. When I was older, CPR would put on day excursions, and for \$3 or something you could get on a boat and go to Seattle, have four or five hours in Seattle, then catch the boat back all in one day. You could do the same thing to Vancouver. They would have a live band to listen to and you could watch people dance.”

BETTY-JEAN ‘BJ’ (SAUNDERS) FAIR

MY PARENTS’ WORK...

“My dad was the guardian of the family and he worked at Yarrow’s shipyard. He was described as the ‘ship’s rigger,’ and his hours were from eight in the morning until five.”

MURIEL ‘ASHY’ MARY (ASH) LOCKHART

“My dad had the Gordon Head freight service, and he started on the road at 7:30 in the morning picking up parcels. Then he’d take us all around his route, taking the parcels into town, wherever they had to go. The dairy would get him to haul cows somewhere up to Duncan.

Y O U T H

“On short trips we go by car. We visited Niagara Falls by plane because we have relatives there.” GURAV DHAUL, 13

“The longest trip I went on was to India. It was quite a long trip; we had to stop at England then take another plane from England.” MONTY SHARMA, 12

“I have my own car now. We drive everywhere which is bad for the environment. Every couple of years we go down to the British West Indies—Grand Cayman Islands—we have a lot of family down there. We just went down there and to Jamaica because that’s where my parents grew up.” CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

MY PARENTS’ WORK...

“My mother works at Brown Brothers right now. She just went back to work. She used to be a babysitter at home. She works from 8:30 a.m. until about 5 p.m. My dad is security at UVIC. He works from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. two days. On the other two days he works nights, which is from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., and then he comes home and sleeps. My dad works every four days. My mom works from Monday to Thursday.” RICK DOWNIE, 12

“My dad is a lawyer, and my mom is currently taking courses to be a teacher. My dad works anywhere from eight to 10 hours a day.” CHRIS MAR, 15

“My mother is a sign language interpreter. She used to work in the school system, but since she’s moved up here she’s become freelance. My father is a regional manager in retail. His work day is pretty long; he’s got four or five stores at a time that he has to check in on and keep track of.” JESSI SIMPSON, 16

“My father works at a lodge down by the Commonwealth Place, and he’s been working there for nine years now. My mom works at the Empress Hotel as a housekeeper, and she’s been working there for 10 years. My mom works at 7:30 a.m., and my dad works at 3 until 11.”

ALEX THAMMAVONG, 13

“My dad works from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., and he is a systems analyst which means he works on computers. My mom works for the BC Systems Corporation where she does the ordering of computers and stuff for the government. She works 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.” RYAN HINDLEY, 15



He never knew when his day ended. Sometimes he had to go out after supper and do some deliveries. For awhile my mother worked. There were fields of flowers, and she used to go down and pick them in the spring and dry flowers at the Gordon Head flower place.”

MARIE GRIFFIN, 81

“My dad was a street car driver, my mother was a housewife. The housewife job is all day, particularly in those days. Everything was cooked with wood and coal. Dad’s work day was eight hours and sometimes he had a split shift. He’d have to sit around for two hours between shifts—four hours on the Number 6 which was Hillside and four hours on Number 4 which was Esquimalt.”

HERBERT CROFT, 80

“My mother was home all the time, but my father worked at the Victoria Daily Times. He was a maintenance man there, and sometimes I’d get jobs there myself. He had a split shift—he’d go to work early in the morning and he’d be home by noon and then he’d go back again around 4.”

ERIC ‘STOFE’ STOFER, 85

“We had a farm and the work day was quite long. We had dairy cattle and a routine milk route so the milk was delivered house-to-house around Greater Victoria. My mother’s work was long and hard without many modern conveniences to help her out. There were four children in the family so there was a lot of work to do.”

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

“My mother was a homemaker. They all were, no mothers worked. My father worked at several jobs. He did work for Saanich, but he also worked in the foundry which is where they make molds and things like the streetlights downtown. He was a BC Bee

Inspector. On work days, he’d get up at six. He would start at seven, and then he would finish about six at night. They were long work days because when he got home, he was also working on stuff.”

BOB GILLESPIE, 71

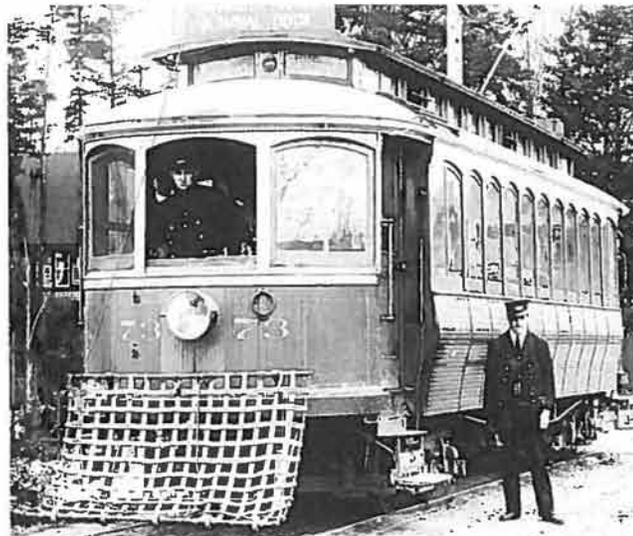
“My father was with the Hudson’s Bay Company. He started out as a trapper and ended up in top management. He was very successful. He was with the fur trade but you don’t mention that now because everybody hates fur coats. I had all these fur coats I had to get rid of.”

OLIVE ‘BILL’ PATTERSON, 80

“My dad was a postman. He did Harriet and started at Washington, then up to Harriet and he did Wascana. I used to help him very often on the weekends when I wasn’t in school.”

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

“Their work day could be anywhere from 12 to 18 hours a day, and their main income was



Herbert Croft’s father in the conductor’s uniform.

running the tearoom in the summer months. In the wintertime it was hard work. My father had a lot of property to pay taxes for. He worked in the bush cutting wood to sell to the dairy. He supplied fence posts to the Gordon Head Fruit-Growers’ Association and got the contract to cut

cedar poles for the BC Telephone Company after he convinced them to come out Blenkinsop Rd.”

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

“They worked every morning and every night. If it weren’t for their singing, I do believe they would have gone mad because it was all work for them and this small Glee Club society kept them sane.”

LILLIAN EASTON, 79



OUR ENTERTAINMENT...

"My father had an affinity for radios. When the neighbours found out he could repair radios, we'd have a dozen radios in our house at a time.

We had one radio, it must have been about six feet long, and we kept it on the mantle.

My mother called it the HMS Hood after the battleship that was



sunk during World War II. I had a radio in my room that my father made for me. I'd get Los Angeles and San Francisco. I used to listen to 'Paris in Cafe,' but the radios shows we listened to mostly were Eddie Cantor, Jack Benny and Fred Allen, that type of thing."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

"We enjoyed radio. We would listen to the kids' programs that came on—'Log Cabin' and 'Amos and Andy.' Of course, in the evening my parents would listen to the 'Jack Benny Show.'

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"The first radio I remember was made by a dentist in the area, Dr. Henderson. It was a chalk box with a little crystal in it, and it was called a Crystalset. You could put it on the kitchen table, and you'd put headsets in the pudding bowl and that kind of amplified it. Everybody would sit around and listen to the music coming out of this thing. That was before we had a real radio."

LAURENCE 'LARRY' WEBB, 78

Y O U T H

"My dad is a cook at the Empress Hotel, and my mom's a housekeeper at the Empress Hotel. Their work day is eight hours and they get two days off." HARINDER JASSAL, 13

"My mom works with a doctor. She works from 8 to 4, and she doesn't work on Thursdays. My dad, he's an autobody man. He fixes and paints cars. He's pretty good."

MONTY SHARMA, 12

"My dad works, and my mom stays home. My dad usually goes to work about 8:30 or 9 in the morning, and he comes home around 6 or 7." VANESSA JUSTICE, 9

"My dad's a cook at a retirement home and my mom's a mom. She'd probably make about \$100,000 a year or more if she were paid for all the jobs that a mom does."

LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

ABOUT TECHNOLOGY...

"I have a computer at home. We just upgraded our computer. My sister has ICQ. It's like a chat, and you can chat with all your friends on the Internet." RICK

DOWNIE, 12



"I have a computer at my house. I borrow my sister's CD player. I have a radio and TV, of course." GURAV DHAUL, 13

"I've got a Windows 95 computer and a CD player, and my parents have a CD player as well."

DIAN ROSS, 13



"We have two computers, and everybody in my family has their own CD player." LAURYN MORLEY, 12

"I just got a new computer and I have a CD player." PETER GUAN, 17

"Our computer is a sorry excuse for a computer but it does what we need to do. We just got a CD player for Christmas." LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

“We had a gramophone when we lived on Regina. We got a radio when we moved down to Earl Grey. Daddy had a surprise for us. He told us to walk around the block, down and up Obed and around and up Maddock and back down. We came back and he said, ‘we’re not ready.’ We had to go around a second time and then we were allowed in the house and there was the radio. We used to listen to ‘One Man’s Family,’ ‘Amos and Andy,’ ‘Orphan Annie’ and ‘Death Rides the Highway.’”

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

“There was no TV so it was strictly radio. Radio shows were things like ‘Amos and Andy’ and a lot of soap operas. There was one called ‘Just Plain Bill’ and there was ‘Mary Worth,’ ‘Helen Trent,’ ‘Can a Woman Find Love at 35?’—you know, those sort of silly soap operas. In later years, there was ‘Jack Benny’ and ‘Burns and Allen,’ ‘Three Black Crows’—all shows you had to listen to and use your imagination.”

KEN STOFER, 79

“We had a gramophone out at our cottage in Deep Cove that we used to wind up and put on these really thick records. We used to dance on the grass to these funny old records. I remember one was called “Do You Know Where the Flies Go in the Wintertime?”

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68

Our dad had a Victor Orthothonic in the McMorrans’ tearoom for the first dances he ran in about 1922. You wound the thing up and the young sweethearts camping on the beach would come up and dance to some of these numbers. Later on, he had Irvin’s Orchestra and it was 25 cents admission. Later, when electricity came in, he had a Wurlitzer. At Royal Oak School, there was a funny old radio set up. We used to gather around there to hear Walter Damrosh give us music and classical

training. After that, if the teacher wasn’t at hand, we’d hear CRCV in Vancouver give their station announcement, then ‘Knock, Knock, Knock. It’s the Happy Guy.’ The station used to have this famous musician from Toronto play music, and we’d hope the teacher wouldn’t come in and turn the radio off.”

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

“My grandfather had a radio, a Philco, a big long box. It was metal and all the tubes were on the side. There was a speaker, and he used to set the speaker up on a high shelf in his store on Cadboro Bay Beach. It played radio programs and music. People would be out in the rowboats by 10 Mile Point and they could still hear the music and the radio programs because sound

travels on the water. People who rented the little shacks on the beach in the summer would gather around my grandfather’s store to listen to their favourite radio programs. We listened to Al Jolson and Gracie Fields



Wurlitzer

sing. My brother and I had a favourite radio program, ‘Little Orphan Annie.’ Then there was ‘Fibber McGee and Molly’ and Joe Penner, whose line was ‘Do you want to buy a duck?’ We laughed at silly things then, but we do today, don’t we?”

BETTY-JEAN ‘BJ’ (SAUNDERS) FAIR

GROWING UP IN SAANICH...

“When we were youngsters, we looked forward to the summer holidays picnicking at Japanese Gardens and watching the concerts. They had vaudeville there in those days so we always made sure we watched it every afternoon during the summer holidays. We also looked forward to swimming in the Gorge.”

MURIEL ‘ASHY’ MARY (ASH) LOCKHART

OUR ENTERTAINMENT...

"I have a number of shows I watch like 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer' and the knock-off of that which is 'Angel.' I have a deep dark secret: I watch 'General Hospital' with my aunt every night. It's a very bonding moment. It's trash but it's a lot of fun. Otherwise, if I watch TV I turn on A & E or a music station." JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"I don't like TV really but if I'm watching it's usually the music channel." COLLEEN LEPPKY, 15

"I enjoy the 'Simpsons,' 'MAD TV' and radio station Q93." RATANA CHHIM, 13

RATANA CHHIM, 13

"I don't really listen to the radio very much except for in the early morning. I enjoy TV shows such as 'Friends,' 'Simpsons' and 'Third Rock from the Sun.'" MATTHEW BAER, 14

"I like a lot of TV shows like the 'Simpsons' and a few dramas. I don't have cable so we don't get that many shows. My dad really likes 'Jeopardy.'" CHASE BENNING, 11

CHASE BENNING, 11

"There's a new Seattle station that I listen to all the time. Between work and dance and school, TV's not a big part of my life. I like to watch the girlie stuff like 'Oprah' and 'Rosie,' and I watch 'ER' and 'Friends.'" TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

"I listen to Z95 for music. For the news on the radio, I'll listen to CFAX. I like to watch wrestling on TV—a lot of people think it's kind of weird. It's one of my favourite shows on TV; I've watched it since I was little." CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

GROWING UP IN SAANICH...

"All my friends are really close by so I can just walk to their houses. It's nice that Saanich is so peaceful and small." SARAH JURICIC, 15

SARAH JURICIC, 15

"I'll always remember when I was 12-years-old, and I won a baseball championship over at Hampton Park. It was pretty wild—we were all jumping up and down."

JAY CASANOVA, 15

"I remember the airplane crash in 1927. Even before that, there were a few of them around. I do remember one of them that flew out of where Lansdowne School is now—that was an airfield."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

"I had lots of fun as a kid, made a lot of friends. It was a happy time because most of us were in the Mt. Tolmie area, and it was all apple orchards, fruit orchards—it was great."

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85

"I think it was a very happy time for me. I had lots of friends. Some of them have passed away, but I still have very fond recollections of the good times I had with them. We'd go on bicycle tours and that sort of thing. You made your own fun in those days."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83



"My father and I watered the maple trees on Memorial Ave. (Shelbourne St.), and we packed the water from our well across the field and over the creek."

GRACE LUCRETIA "GRACIE" (BEAUMONT) HENRY, 84

"Oh, it was a beautiful place, wonderful. Freedom—we could go anywhere or do anything we wanted—there was nothing to worry about. We were all innocent and had a lot of fun."

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

"We grew up in a society where we had a lot of friends. We basically had no crime in the district. Nobody had a great deal of money but that didn't seem to bother us. We had lots of things to do, and nobody really ever got in any serious trouble."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

"I loved the Gorge. I swam at the Gorge Bridge where they had the floats and diving boards. Ralph Alcock taught the kids to swim and he taught me all my life-saving. He trained me to swim from the harbour to the Gorge. I'd get up in the morning—we lived right across the street—and I'd be down there in the Gorge till lunch and then come back for the afternoon."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"We had a lot of freedom with the traffic being so little to what it is today. We used to roller skate, ride bikes, things like that. We used to play a lot of ball in the fields. We used to go to ballgames down at Hampton which used to be called the Plough. There was a big showboat in town opposite the Parliament Buildings, and we used to walk from Earl Grey all the way down there to watch the entertainment."

GRACE HAWKINS, 79



Stofers building their first house

"Later in life after I met my husband, we bought property in Saanich just off Shelbourne. We got four lots for \$600, and we had to borrow that much money from his father and pay it back. We rode on bicycles to the lots and cleared the land and built the house ourselves. We're still in it 52 years later, and that's a memory of Saanich that really sticks out in my mind."

LYNETTE 'LYN' STOFER, 76

"Ah, the freedom in Cadboro Bay and the fields. You got to ride your bike anywhere you wanted without fear or worry."

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68

"I remember the day they brought electricity into our house. I can remember them hammering these wires up the side of the wall and across the ceiling. In the dark, we'd have to go in with our hands crossed to try to find the string to put the light on. I also remember when all the wells ran dry because when they introduced loganberries, people started to irrigate and lowered the water level. There were even poems written about the 'great unwashed' when the wells went dry."

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

Cadboro Bay Beach Hotel fire

"There was lots of open space—no houses climbing up to your back side. We could go to any field we wanted and play baseball. Down there in the Nicholson area, a lot of water sat so when that froze over we would skate our heads off. It's certainly a different world now."

ADELINE 'ADDIE' (CLATWORTHY) WILLIAMS, 80

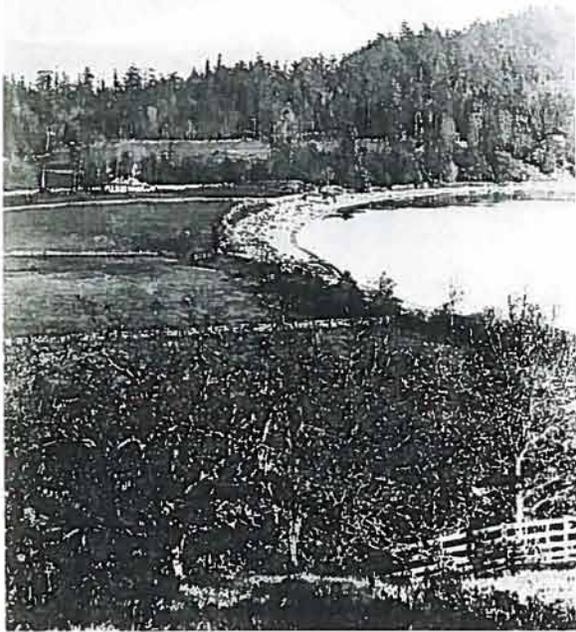
"I remember all the grass fires that used to happen on Mt. Tolmie every year. As kids we would run up there as soon as we saw the fire. The Superintendent of Saanich would be up there with a lot of wet sacks. He would hand out wet sacks to the kids, and we would battle the fires. The fire department would be there too, but it wasn't very big. We'd get maybe 25 cents an hour for helping. Another memorable thing was when Shelbourne St. used to flood every winter and we couldn't get to school. We had to go down to the edge of the water and be taken across in a little rowboat. We'd walk the rest of the way up to Cedar Hill School."

KEN STOFER, 79

"My grandfather owned two different stores on Cadboro Bay Beach, right on the sand, so we were at the beach morning, noon and night. We slept in a tent at the beach all summer while they ran the store. I can remember the day the Cadboro Bay Beach Hotel burned down. We weren't allowed to go close, so I stood in the water watching the big blaze, they tell me, with my dolly in my arms saying 'nothing's going to happen to my dolly.' My grandfather was along the beach helping get the furniture out."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR





Cadboro Bay Beach with Mt. Baker (1880's)

OUR CLOTHES...

"There were no slacks in those days, although when I rode a motorbike I always wore slacks. They had big wide bottoms so I had to tape them up somehow so they wouldn't fly."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"There were four sisters that I always hung around with. One day the elder sister went to town. I can see her coming back across the field, and she had beach pajamas. They had really wide legs and the top matched the bottom. She had a saucy panama hat that would come out to keep the sun off. She looked real smart in her new beach pajamas and panama hat."

ADELINE 'ADDIE' (CLATWORTHY) WILLIAMS, 80

INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES...

"My mother, oh, she spent a lot of time with me. She was always there. She would talk to us, read to us, when we were small children."

MARGARET 'MARG' (BUROW) MACKINTOSH, 77

"I'd say Nellie McClung. She went to the same church that I did. She had a room at church called 'Current Events,' and we used to discuss

"As time went by, you'd see stores go down and bigger ones go up. And just seeing the Gorge develop—how at first they didn't realize the Gorge was a big thing—they've figured out we could use it for recreation, and so they've cleaned it up and really done a lot within the Gorge." RYAN HINDLEY, 15

"We have a trampoline every summer so everybody comes over to my house to jump on it." ALI GLOVER, 12

"I always enjoyed the fireworks when I was a kid."

MATTHEW BAER, 14

INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES...

"My dad has always been there for all my sports events and games. He just gives me lots of advice and he's there when I'm feeling down or something." SARAH JURICIC, 15

"My parents, probably, but my Grade 7 teacher Mrs. Bell really guided the way for me. She got me to do the best I could, not slack off." VANESSA WHITE, 16

"Probably my mom and my Grade 5 teacher Mrs. Amos; she's deceased now. I wasn't really popular when I was a little kid; I was quiet. But she taught me many things, and after school we'd talk. She'd take me out for walks so it was nice." COLLEEN LEPPKY, 15

"My mom for always being there and my aunts because they're always there. My grade four teacher because he would always be so positive, and he told me to do what I really wanted to do." CASSIE MCCAMBRIDGE, 16

"My mom. She's very, very supportive of me. My dad, too, but especially my mom." DIAN ROSS, 13

"Probably my mom and dad because they made me."

TOM MILLS, 9

"My parents would say it's my friends, but I would say it's my parents. They taught me traits for things like when I'm an adult—how to survive when I'm an adult—how to take care of myself." LAURYN MORLEY, 12

"My mom because she always has a positive outlook on life and my dad because he's always trying to make me do my personal best." CHASE BENNING, 11

things. I remember when I turned 21, she said to me: 'I wish I was 21 and know what I know today.' She was an older woman then."

EDNA RIX, 84

"I guess it would be my teacher because sometimes I'd be behind and she'd come and sit with me and help me."

WALLACE "WALLY" WEST, 88

"Ernie Easton was his name. He was an electrician and almost totally deaf. He was a lawn bowler at the clubhouse and he did the electrical work. I was fascinated by watching him do it and we sort of connected. Even though he couldn't hear me, he got the message that I was interested in learning from what he was doing. He gave me the odd job or two and it started me on electricity."

GLEN VALLANCE, 85

"My mother was the one who taught me a lot of lessons about never being afraid to admit you've done something wrong, that it's easier to tell the truth because it solves a lot of problems, and that once you start lying, one lie leads to another. After my mother, my high school principal at Mount Douglas High, Bert Bailey, influenced me the most. He was a great guy and I respected him very much."

KEN STOFER, 79



"My parents. They taught me never to tell lies, not to swear, not to tease or bully people and not to be racially discriminative which is very important, I think."

LYNETTE 'LYN' STOFER, 76

"There were some very good people in the neighbourhood—one was Jack Douglas. He had a garage and he didn't mind us kids going over there. There was quite a number of boys like myself who were very interested in mechanics and getting our hands dirty and helping him do anything we could. He taught us a lot about cars. That was very good for us, kept us off the streets and from running around with nothing to do. When I was 13 or 14, Mr. Woods, who had a small machine shop with a lathe, asked me if I would like to come down two nights a week and he would give me training in being a machinist. That



Putting in foundations for the clubhouse at Burnside Lawn Bowling Club

was great. I built one little engine that I still have, a little marine oscillating engine, and that was the start of my machine shop career.”

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77

“I can't say just one person. My grandfather was very powerful, my grandma, my mother, then I would have to go next to school teachers and my very first employers. There was a lady who came to visit us once and I'll never forget her name. It was Miss Murray, and she said, 'Betty Jean, remember this, if you are going to do something, it's important that you do it well.' That doesn't sound very important but it stuck in my brain all these years.”

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

ABOUT FADS...

“There was a crazy fad that went around where every kid was wearing a tam with buttons and things on it. I remember my mother dug one up from somewhere, and she sewed a



bunch of buttons on it for me. I was downtown one day, and a kid on a bike came along behind me, belted me on the head and knocked the damn thing right off! He didn't like these tams, and I never wore it again after that.”

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85

“We went to the movies and put these spectacles on with different colour lenses, and the screen would come up in colour.”

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

“All the boys wore what they call “strags.” The pants were very tight at the ankle and very, very, very wide at the knee.”

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

“The boys wore plus fours, they were pants that came down below the knee, like golfer's wear.”

GERRY SPARK, 80

“The zoot suits came in the late thirties. The suits came with a great big hat, long baggy pants and a big chain hanging down.”

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

Y O U T H

“Probably my parents—they teach me what's right and wrong. They're hard-working, and I respect them for that. They're very loving.” PETER GUAN, 17

“My dad because he's raised me, and he's always there for me, and Princess Diana, how she was always helping others—she's a positive role model.” ASHLEY WEISGERBER, 16

“I think it was Stefan, my brother, who died of cancer. He's my hero. He was three years older, and my younger brother is three years younger so I'm smack-dab in the middle. He taught me things like how to tie my shoe so he's the one who was there for me.” LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

ABOUT FADS...

“Pedal pushers are in right now and flares and platform shoes. Rap is a big thing right now and hip hop.”

SARAH JURICIC, 15

“It's not one big fad that everyone does any more. Even just in the school where you think everyone would be the same, there's just so much diversity in what people like and enjoy.” JESSI SIMPSON, 16

“A major fad just passed. Pokemon cards are little cards that you can battle each other with. There are moves on the card that, if you flip a coin and it's heads, the move would work, and if it's tails, you get hit with it. It's kind of complicated. Some are worth up to \$1,500. There are some with holofoil on them to make them shiny, and that can boost the price up to about twice the price, and some have a little gold star on the bottom, and those are the good ones. They're strong, and they're good to fight with.”

DAVID BUI, 12

“Dyed hair, flares, Tommy Hilfiger and stuff.”

HARINDER JASSAL, 13

“There's the name brand stuff that I try not to buy into if I can help it. Other than that, we've got the cell phones and the pagers which again I try not to buy into. I just bought a car so I can't really say I'm not all into having those kinds of things. I needed a car for dance and work.”

TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

“Colour in your hair. For some people, it's baggy pants, and other people dress all in black—that's a fad for some.”

BETHANY ELLIS, 16

"I remember the twenties when all the women had long, long hair, and then they cut it off and the boy's bob came into style."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80



Strags

"There wasn't much traffic so for fun, of course, we'd get an old purse, tie a rope to it and put it out in the middle of the road. A car would come along and they'd think, 'Oh gee, there's a purse. I'll pick that up and see if there's money in it.' Then we'd pull the purse back in, and we'd be hiding in the bushes. Of course, now there are no bushes to hide in and there's too much traffic."

LYNETTE 'LYN' STOFER, 76

"Here's three: the big pompadour hairstyles, bell bottoms and the zoot suit—they had the big chains and huge shoulders."

BOB GILLESPIE, 71

"I went into the service as a teenager, and fads for people who weren't in the service, like zoot suit type clothes, didn't rub off well with the servicemen. In younger days, the girls would play hopscotch and a game called 'Pussy in the Corner,' and you ran from one tree to another, like musical chairs. Yoyos were a great thing. Willoway store would have an expert yoyo player in the window and everybody caught on. Some kids got Orphan Annie decoder buttons by sending in 5 cents and the lid off a tin of Ovaltine."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"Of course being a farmer's daughter, I wore pants—boys' jeans, mostly. Then all of a sudden they brought in these woopy pants. They were very tight, high-waisted and they had a red stripe and a big yellow 'V,' and I was so happy because they were women's pants."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

"We saved cantaloupe seeds, dried them in the sun and threaded them. You could dye the seeds with Tintex and make necklaces. We made them all different colours. There was a type of macaroni shaped like stars, and we'd string that for fun."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

APPRECIATING OUR PARENTS...

"My father died when I was three-and-a-half so I don't remember him. My mother was really strong. When my father died, one of my older brothers said that we three younger children should be put in an orphanage, but my mother said no. She did the very best she could and she was a very warm, intelligent mother."

MAY CROFT, 77

"They were strict. When they said 'no,' you knew that was it. You didn't bother asking again, because 'no' was 'no.'"

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

"They taught us right from wrong. They gave us an opportunity to get a reasonably good education under what could be considered today to be quite difficult conditions with the shortage of money. They always pushed us on to do the best we could in whatever we did."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75





Betty-Jean Fair's mom

"We had very good parents. They were musical. My mother didn't play very well, but she did learn a little piano. My dad played the trumpet and he was a comic. He used to sing funny songs."

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

"My mother died when I was born. What I appreciated most about my father was that he went into the hospital and brought me home and would never give me up for adoption. I have a brother 3 1/2 years older, and my dad insisted on keeping both of us. It probably wasn't easy."

JOYCE M. (HOBBS) PETERSON, 68



Y O U T H

"Right now, every person has these little fake pearl bracelets of all different colour stones. I don't like to do whatever is majorly in at the time because I don't want to follow the sheep." CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

"We have so many fads. There's leopard-print clothing, kind of crazy bright stuff, the big, flat orange shoes, big heels."

CHELSEA MASON, 18

APPRECIATING OUR PARENTS...

"I like my parents because they give me some freedom, but they're also protective of me which is good. Some people's parents just let them go off and do whatever."

RYAN HINDLEY, 15

"They're just wonderful people. They teach me all my lessons, and they tell me stories about when they were growing up."

ALI GLOVER, 12

"I appreciate that they're so encouraging. They give me a place to live, and it's a very good home."

HARINDER JASSAL, 13

"They're always there for me, and they understand what I'm going through even though they're different from me."

RATANA CHHIM, 13

"I appreciate how hard they work and how many friends they have and how many people respect them."

DIAN ROSS, 13

"I appreciate how they take care of me and how they respect me."

TOM MILLS, 9

"The love that they show towards me and their will to never give up on me."

LAURYN MORLEY, 12

"I have so much freedom to do basically whatever I want. They trust me and I'm really lucky that way. I have a lot of really good opportunities because of our trust."

TESSA HOLOWACHUK, 17

"I think they've made me stronger as a person."

VAL VOSPER, 18

"They're together, that's really nice, and they try really hard to keep our family close and try to make sure we do something together at least once a week. There are quite a few families where two parents are working, and they are trying to do too much."

LINDSAY MCRAE, 17

Historical World Events

MEMORABLE EVENTS...

"World War II. I was a teenager then. Red Cross ladies always met at our house and did their knitting and sewing. Whatever they were going to raise money for, they'd organize at the house."

MARIE GRIFFIN, 81

"The most vivid in my mind was the day the Second World War ended. We were out in Saanichton and all the planes started to come over. Everybody yelled to hit the ground, and there were fireworks and bombers going through. It was really scary."

MARY VOWLES, 61



"I was seven when WWI ended. My dad was overseas as a chaplain, and we lived with grandma and grandpa in the country. I can remember grandpa, who was about six feet tall, white-haired, coming to the door and saying 'School's out, the war's over.' Of course, they rang the bells till they rang them off the hook. We went into town,

and they burned the Kaiser in effigy. That was quite a memorable evening, I can tell you, because I was allowed to stay up."

MIRIAM TAYLOR, 89

"In 1930, there was the big strike where everybody got on the old train and went to Ottawa to complain about no work."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"I remember when the Lindbergh baby was kidnapped. I remember how awful I felt when Charles Lindbergh's son was kidnapped for money and killed. That was a very traumatic thing in my life; I was young and impressionable."

EDNA RIX, 84



Charles Lindbergh

"I remember when Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic."

WALLACE "WALLY" WEST, 88

"We had a good thing going. Our house was in the middle of the Gordon Head army camp which is now the University of Victoria. We were in the middle of a route march, and they always stopped at our place under the tree. My grandmother used to give them cold water so they gave us sugar and lemon and coffee so we could make lemonade for the soldiers during the summer and coffee during the winter. There was always extra for us for helping them out."

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

"I named Playfair Park and was presented with a \$5 cheque by Premier Tolmie. It was a contest for all Saanich school children to name two parks."

GRACE LUCRETIA 'GRACIE' (BEAUMONT) HENRY, 84

"I remember VE Day here in Victoria. Everybody started to walk all over the middle of the street and throwing confetti and really shouting, making a real whoopee."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80



VE Day, Blanshard Street

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MEMORABLE WORLD EVENTS...

One thing that really impressed me was the visit in 1939 of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother as we know her today. It was really something. Everybody got time off from school and watched them go by.”

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

“The earthquake. It shook the house. My sister had a baby and we just picked him up and ran outside. The apple trees were shaking and the ground was moving. It was kind of weird to see.”

HELEN ‘SALLY’ WEBB, 76

“It was the abdication of King Edward VIII when he decided he would not be king and married Mrs. Simpson. That’s when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth became king and queen, and that was really unusual, a really big deal.”

RUTH (FARQUHAR) MANNIX, 74



VJ Day on Government Street.

BC ARCHIVES I-20524

“The main thing was the Second World War and the celebration of the end of the war. VJ Day, they call it, Victory over Japan. I think that had the most impact on everybody. A lot of the boys we went to high school with went overseas and some of them didn’t come back. I can think of three who never returned.”

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

“I remember when King George VI passed away and they had the funeral on the radio. We stayed up all night and had cocoa; it was just a family affair. We listened to the procession, and my mother, who would cry at any funeral, was sniffing away like anything and telling us exactly where they were passing—she knew that and that impressed me.”

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

“When the Commonwealth Games came in 1994, my dad worked there. There was security there when the Queen came, and the David Foster thing—he was security there—helping all the movie stars and people get to where they wanted to go.” RICK DOWNIE, 12

“I remember the most important thing was a tragedy—it was Princess Diana’s death. That was quite upsetting.” JACOB REDLIN, 15

“I used to say it was the embarrassment of my generation that the question will not be ‘where were you when D-Day was?’ but ‘where were you when the O.J. verdict was declared?’ There have been a lot of deaths lately. Princess Diana, that was tragic. John John. All these people suddenly died, and that was kind of rough for the entire world.”

JESSI SIMPSON, 16



“When Princess Diana died, I really felt for her—I really loved her too. I think she was a good lady, and she did things instead of sitting around on her pompous diamond little seat.” CASSIE MCCAMBRIDGE, 16

“I remember the Oklahoma City bombing. It always comes to me when I think about world events because we didn’t have wars during our ages.” RYAN HINDLEY, 15

“For me, it’s Kosovo. It started last May when my friends and I were trying to organize a whole fund-raiser for this. We had a ‘toonie day’ so everybody was supposed to bring \$1 or \$2 or something. Then when we had a clothes drive, we got people’s old clothes and brought them to this church.” NICOLE WINSTONE, 13

“I think it would have to be the Gulf War. I remember we did some projects on it at school, and we had a big play on it too.” SARAH NORRAD, 17

“I remember the flood in Manitoba in 1996—one of my good friends had a lot of family over there. That was a big thing. When President Clinton almost got impeached or whatever—that’s a big thing that never will die. Now there’s just old jokes.” CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

"I can remember sitting in my grandfather's front room at Cadboro Bay listening to the old Philco when Japan bombed Pearl Harbour and the numbness that we had because of the dreadful things that were going on."

BETTY-JEAN 'BJ' (SAUNDERS) FAIR

ABOUT WARS...



Pearl Harbour

"I didn't join up until 1942, and I went overseas as an engine mechanic. I wanted to become a fighter pilot—every kid wanted to become a fighter pilot—but I

was turned down because I was 'colour-defective.' The medical officer put on the records 'colour defective; unsafe for air crew.' In fact, I wrote a book called 'Unsafe for Air Crew,' because when I got to England, I had a chance along with two other fellows to muster two air crew. I became a flight engineer and flew in Halifax and Lancaster bombers and did a tour of operations in Germany."

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85

"It was just like our life had to stop for awhile while we concentrated on saving, knitting for the soldiers and doing without a lot of things."

MAY CROFT, 77

"My dad was in the Second World War in the medical corps. The war took him away for years—I never knew him until I was seven."

MARY VOWLES, 61

"My dad was in World War II and so were two of my uncles. It broke our family up, and several other families, because they were away for a long time. My mother left my father."

PAT GAIT, 64

"It was a very serious time because friends were going off to war and some of them never returned. I suppose it made our generation more serious than it would have been if there hadn't been a war."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

"World War II. I was four years in the Japanese prisoner of war camp. I'm lucky to be alive. I was the only Canadian dispatch rider in the Second World War to get the military medal. I travelled between posts by motorcycle and delivered dispatches from various units to commanding officers about whether they should move or retreat."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"We had blackouts. We covered our windows with black paper so no light would show through. There were air wardens who used to go around and check. They'd come up to your door if they saw a light shining through because they were afraid of the Japanese during the war. Submarines used to be around."

EVERLYN MIDDLETON, 72

"What a terrible situation it was, brothers killing brothers. In 1940, I was on a destroyer, and it was torpedoed in the Bay of Biscay. That had quite an impact on me."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"Fear ruled. Fear of loss of your loved ones, loss of your country. I guess that's why it was so wonderful when we had peace because you sort of lived in that fear for all those years and peace was like a big weight off everybody's shoulders."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

FAMOUS SPORTING OR CELEBRITY EVENTS...

"I remember meeting Gracie Fields at Government House and Her Royal Highness Princess Alice at the Empress Hotel."

ADA BONE, 78

"The regatta at the Gorge. It was the Times Colonist swim where swimmers would leave Victoria Harbour and would swim right

through to the Gorge down to the Gorge Bridge. Audrey Griffin was one of the personalities.”

MURIEL 'ASHY' MARY (ASH) LOCKHART



Gorge regatta

BC ARCHIVES G-04555

“We used to listen to the World Series on the radio. Every fall it was a big thing. Hockey was a big thing in Canada because there were only six teams. I listened to Foster Hewitt broadcast daily. When the Patricks built the arena in Victoria, my father was forever taking his boys to it. I got to watch Lester Patrick, Frank Fredrickson, Slim Halderson and Jocko Anderson, a little guy. We had one referee, Mickey Ion, he was the one referee for the whole game. They were seven-man teams and talk about fights now, there were fights then, too.”

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

“My grandfather always talks about when Lindbergh landed his plane at the Lansdowne School at the fields there. Lindbergh was flying around the world or something and he stopped off at Lansdowne field to refuel. My grandfather was there and got to see Lindbergh land his plane.”

KEN JENNINGS, 93 (AS TOLD BY GRANDSON ROB JENNINGS)

“I recall going to the Royal Athletic Park and watching baseball. One of the players there, Gil McDougald—he’s still alive—went off to play with the New York Yankees. He hit a grand slam homerun in the World Series, and the three players who were on base are all in the Hall of Fame and he’s the only one who isn’t.”

BARRIE 'BOOGIE' GOODWIN, 64

“I guess when Princess Diana passed away. That’s probably one of the longer times I’ve watched TV.”

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

“I don’t really remember this because I wasn’t born, but World War II has had a big impact on me. I really like history and I like studying it.”

KATHLEEN KOLEHMAINEN, 12

FAMOUS SPORTS EVENTS OR CELEBRITIES...

“In sports it would have to be Michael Jordan because he’s big in basketball and Wayne Gretzky—the Canadian.”

SARAH JURICIC, 15

“I remember thinking when I was little that Boomer Esiason, the quarterback for the Cincinnati Bengals, was the most amazing person ever, and he is pretty good.”

JESSI SIMPSON, 16

“Diego Maradona—he’s my favourite soccer player. He’s in the World Cup, and he scored a goal with his hand but the refs never saw it. None of them ever saw it. He was in front of 155,000 people and they all saw it. He scored the goal and that’s the one that won the game.”



RYAN HINDLEY, 15

“The NBA finals in 1996.”

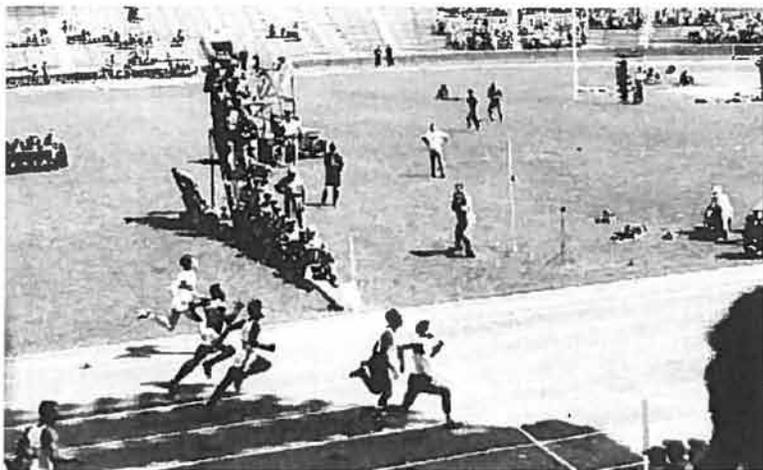
GURAV DHAUL, 13

“When I was 12, I went to a big baseball game in Seattle between the Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners. I used to go to Cougar hockey games in Victoria but they’re not around anymore. The Commonwealth Games in Victoria in 1994 were really neat. There were so many people here and so many events going on. It was really fun.”

SARAH NORRAD, 17

"In 1954, when we went to the British Empire Games—now called the Commonwealth Games—we were sitting right in the spot where Roger Bannister passed John Landy in the Miracle Mile. That's something that will always stand out in my mind."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75



The British Empire Games

BC ARCHIVES H-06678

"One of the big events when I was growing up was Torchy Peden and the six-day bicycle race."

GEORGE F. WILLIAMSON, 79

"I remember when Muzz Patrick, whose old man had the New York Rangers, won the Canadian Boxing Championships in Victoria. I remember when my brother was picked to play against the touring English All Star team and he had to check Stanley Matthews, Great Britain's star soccer player. That was a packed house at Royal Athletic Park. I think there was over 6,000 people turned out for that game."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"A big highlight in Cordova Bay was the Regatta Days. Some of the events were called open events where anybody, wherever they lived, could come and race on the beach—they had obstacle races and kayak races, that kind of thing. Others were closed events for people who lived or had camped in Cordova Bay for a period of more than two weeks. It was so some great athlete couldn't come from Victoria and win the Norris Cup. They had speedboat races later on, and they were called hydroplane races."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"I remember when the Victoria Cougars won the Stanley Cup in 1925. I can remember hearing my father cheering away."

JOHN E. 'JACK' MERRETT, 87

"Boxing was very common. It's sad because it's a dreadful sport. To get your brains knocked out is not a sport in my estimation, but in those days there was the 'Brown Bomber' Joe Louis. Everybody just adored him. Then we found out that he was going to fight this fellow from Wales. Well, all of a sudden my sympathies changed. I wasn't for Joe Louis anymore, I was for this little Tommy Farr, a coal miner. Wiped, oh, he got beat so bad! Joe Louis won, of course, but I'll never forget how Tommy Farr stood there with welts all over him, and he said, 'I done my best, mom.' To tell his mom that really got to most of us."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

ABOUT THE GREAT DEPRESSION...

"I had a very small income from England at the time and that was about all we had. Mind you, we lived well enough because by that time we were on the ranch, and we grew a good deal of our own food. We had cows and we had chickens so we ate well. We had to buy flour, things like that, but we lived well. A lot of people were very hungry during the depression."

MARIGOLD PATTERSON, 97

"My mother grew a vegetable garden—what they called a 'victory garden,' and we ate a lot of carrots. To this date, I'm not very fond of carrots."

BERNICE 'BERNIE' (CARTER) POLIQUIN, 68

"I know that it certainly reduced my dad's estate to about one-quarter of what it had been. We each had stocks and they were worth practically nothing by the end of the depression. My parents couldn't engage in any outrageous spending. Luckily, he'd just built a new house in 1929. If it had been one year later, he said he probably wouldn't have built it. It's a heritage house now."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83



U T H

“I think of Michael Jordan for basketball and Pavel Bure for hockey because he’s my brother’s favourite, and he supposed to be really good. A favourite entertainment thing is that show ‘Who Wants to be a Millionaire.’ “

CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

“Probably Hulk Hogan when I was very young and still in wrestling. He would probably be one of the people I really liked when I was younger. He put a lot of motivation in a lot of little kids.”

CHERYL FERREIRA, 17

“Someone like Mario Lemieux, Wayne Gretzky, Michael Jordan, sporting events like the play-offs in the NBA or, of course, the Commonwealth Games when they came to Victoria.” KATHLEEN KOLEHMAINEN, 12

Unemployed men boarding a train to Ottawa during the depression of 1935

“I was lucky because I didn’t live in a family where we were very, very poor, so I never had to go without anything. I knew, though, that where I lived near Tillicum School was a poor district. Some of those kids used to walk all the way into Victoria in the morning to get something to eat at the food kitchen on Johnson St. before they went to school. There were work camps for the men, and they’d get their room and board and I guess enough to keep their family going, but it was a tough time for people. The only compensation was that everybody was poor pretty well and if you weren’t, you were very conscious of what other people were going through.”

OLIVE ‘BILL’ PATTERSON, 80

“Everybody had a hard time finding a job. Very often jobs were intermittent, lasting only a few days, and you were very lucky to get it. My parents were often worried about where the next dollar was going to come from. We weren’t starving or anything, but we didn’t have any extras in life.”

RUTH (FARQUHAR) MANNIX, 74

“The Depression was an awful thing. I guess we were kind of lucky. We did have a bit of ground and we could grow quite a bit of stuff. Any surplus was always passed on or put in preserving jars and kept through the winter. Meat was the problem. I don’t think I heard of anybody buying a big roast or anything like that.”

CYRIL E. ‘TED’ SHELLEY, 77

Love, Dating & Marriage

ABOUT DATING...

"My parents were quite strict, particularly my dad. I was closer to 17 before I was allowed to go to a show with a boy. We'd go to shows and then maybe to little parties in our own neighbourhood where we would be chaperoned by the parents of whoever had the party."

MURIEL 'ASHY' MARY (ASH) LOCKHART

"We usually were going around with kids that we'd gone to school with or knew from somewhere. I never considered it a date. I don't think I made a date until I was 16, and then it was so awkward and everything. We sure weren't chaperoned. I went roller-skating with one guy. I went to a show. I went for walks. I wasn't, you know, what you would call very sexy."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80



The Methodist church picnic

"It seemed to fall into place. There was a boy who walked to school ahead of me. Gradually he fell back. One day I dropped some books, and he came back and helped me pick them up. From then on, we walked to school and became very good friends. He was my first boyfriend, and I was about 15. We didn't go on many dates. His family belonged to the same church so we went to church affairs a lot."

MIRIAM TAYLOR, 89

"We went to movies in downtown Victoria. One theatre was called the Romano and it cost 5 cents. Sometimes it was called the 'rat house.' There were rats running down the aisles."

GERRY SPARK, 80

"If I wasn't home by midnight, I sure heard about it."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"There'd be two or three couples who would get together and go skating. There was very little of going steady. Not till I got back from overseas did I ever really have a steady girl. But I think there was more fun. Nothing was serious. A bunch of guys and girls—no chaperones—we'd do all sorts of simple things that didn't cost much money, but we had a lot of fun."

LAURENCE 'LARRY' WEBB, 78

"I don't ever remember dating. If we managed to cut a few lawns or whatever to make money and we were talking to a girl, we'd ask, 'would you like to go to a show?' If the answer was yes, then we'd see if her parents would allow her to go. The next time it would be somebody else, so it wasn't a steady thing."

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77

"I would say about 17 was when I started dating. We were never chaperoned. Mostly we would go for a walk. The poor fellow that I dated, he'd ridden miles to get to work, and then he went home, and then he rode back to see me and we'd walk to Mount Douglas. No wonder there was no hanky panky—he couldn't get enough pep!"

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

"He said he started dating when he was 21 and he had to be home by midnight. They always went out in groups. Often his mom would approve for him to go to a church social, a tea or a meeting at the church or choir practice."

KEN JENNINGS, 93 (AS TOLD BY GRANDSON ROB JENNINGS)

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ABOUT DATING...

"I've never been chaperoned on a date. We just go to the movies. I'm almost 13." RICK DOWNIE, 12

"I started when I was 12. Actually, one of my restrictions was I wasn't supposed to start dating till I was 16. Back then, for the first few years of dating, it wasn't like dating. You just hung out with someone and held their hands and occasionally cuddled. There wasn't what you normally would think of in a boyfriend/girlfriend situation. We wouldn't be chaperoned unless it was something like a school dance. We'd probably do dinner and a movie, or sometimes go out in groups." JESSI SIMPSON, 16

"I've been allowed to date since I was 15, but I'm only 16 now. Teenagers usually go out to movies, but they're not chaperoned by their parents. My mom probably wouldn't let me go out with someone she didn't know." MARISA PALMER, 16

"I was, like, 11 when I started. My parents don't really mind if I date. Of course, they want to meet the person and they take me wherever I have to go. They won't let me walk anywhere if it's long distances. My parents have been pretty good about letting me have my space but when I'm at parties at my house they're always chaperoned." ALI GLOVER, 12

"My first date was when I was 10-years-old. I went to this camp and this girl just came up to me and asked if we wanted to go to a movie together, and I just said yes." ALEX THAMMAVONG, 13

"My parents don't want me single dating until I'm 16, but there's some girls in my class who are supposedly dating. It never really lasts, and I think it's really stupid." DIAN ROSS, 13

"It's kind of hard to say when I started dating. We had little boyfriends and girlfriends when we all went to school, but I guess my real high school boyfriend was in Grade 9 so I was 14. We'd go to the movies usually. That was the first date you'd go on, out to the Capital or something like that, then for dessert and coffee. After that, we'd start going out to each other's houses, watching movies. There weren't any restrictions, just 'know your boundaries,' and I didn't have to be chaperoned or anything." SARAH NORRAD, 17



The Romano Theatre (1959)

I didn't have a lot of dates. We used to go around to the Allen girls' place and listen to Mark Warner's hit parade. Mrs. Allen was a

very nice lady; she used to make us cocoa. As far as going to a show or something with girls, how would I ever take them? There was no bus or anything for that. They would sometimes come down for a campfire on the beach which wouldn't be a date because other girls and boys were around. I had a few girlfriends in Nova Scotia and one or two in Victoria, but nothing serious. I was too young to be serious."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

ABOUT MARRIAGE...

"I'd been going around with him for three years and I was nearly 19. My mother said she had to give me permission to marry before I was 19. My birthday was Sept. 6, which was Labour Day and a holiday. I asked if I could get married two days before my birthday so we could go away. My mother said it was all right so we married on Friday night, went to Vancouver on the midnight boat, spent Saturday and Sunday there, and we came back on Monday. Both of us went back to work on Tuesday. Some honeymoon, eh? That was war time and we were lucky to get a stateroom on the boat."

MAY CROFT, 77

"I had a nice white wedding when I was 22. I started going out with him when I was 18. I'd known him before that because we went to school together. We were going to go up-Island for our honeymoon, except someone played some tricks on us. They did something to our car so we didn't get any further than the Dominion Hotel. They tied all our pyjamas up in knots and threw confetti in the suitcase."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"I knew my spouse for about two weeks before we got married. I met her in Halifax; she was coming out of a cafe, and I said, 'That's the one I'm going to marry.' I was on my way out and I tapped her on the shoulder and I said, 'What's your hurry?' Two weeks later we were married. I was 30."

ERIC 'STOFE' STOFER, 85

"I never got married. I'm one of those fellows who hasn't made the same mistake once! All my girlfriends who I was sweet on all went up and died on me."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83

"My wife was Helen Burgess. We would drive down to Beacon Hill Park at lunch time and talk and watch the boats go by. I had a 1948 Chev Panel Truck and that was my pride and joy. We had printed on the side 'McMorran's Dancing Pavilion' and notes all over it, and it had a radio in it. She invited me to go to the St. Andrew's Caledonia Society. She was the secretary, and they used

to have meetings in the Knights of Pythias Hall which was across from City Hall. I would come down to the dances they had. I wasn't into Scottish dancing, but we used to go around a bit and that led to marriage later on."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"We'd been going together for two or three years. I was 20. We went to Vancouver on the midnight ferry for our honeymoon. The boat used to go from Victoria to Vancouver at midnight, and it would get there at seven in the morning. It wasn't a honeymoon if you didn't go on that boat."

VERA (PALMER) BEISCHER, 75

RAISING CHILDREN...

"I had four children. When my youngest was a year old, my husband left so I raised four children by myself. It was mighty difficult. It's most rewarding that my family is very close, and even though I raised them by myself, they all turned out wonderful and my grand-

children are turning out the same way. I did a good job and I just love my family."

BERNICE 'BERNIE' (CARTER) POLIQUIN, 68

"The joy, the pleasure, the gratification that each one of them brought is rewarding. I think the three of them ended up good kids. Never had any visits from the people in blue so we did all right."

HERBERT CROFT, 80

"I really enjoyed it—seeing how our children grow up and have kids and find jobs for themselves. They amused themselves as children; there were no computers. I had one daughter and two boys. I've got four granddaughters and two great grandsons now. Time goes so fast."

ESTHER MAY MORTIMER, 81

"What I found most difficult about my children was that my daughter is a morning person, and she used to wake up at about three in the morning, all wide awake and wanting to play. I didn't. She still wakes up at an awful early hour. Otherwise, they were reasonable children to look after."

MARIGOLD PATTERSON, 97

"The most difficult part was having enough money, but I babysat so our kids had dancing, skating and swimming, all the extras. They worked out really well, all of them. We're proud of them."

PAT GAIT, 64

"I think young people today have far more temptations than we did. I know there are many more good young teenagers out there, you just hear about the bad ones."

ETHEL MARGARET (SPELLER) LOUDOUN, 84

"We have four children—two boys and two girls, who are now all grown up, of course. We had the farm so there was always something to work at or play at. We always found the farm was an attraction for all their friends to come over after school so supervision was never any great problem. We just never had any serious problems, and I'm thankful for the lifestyle



Herb & May Croft, 1942

that we lived to help us with that. It's rewarding to see our children grow up and become independent and successful."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

"I was in the navy so the wife had to shoulder most of bringing up the children. In fact, I was home only for the birth of one of them—we had three boys and three girls. It was pretty tough and, of course, the youngest one used to ask 'who's he?' when I came home. They were brought up under fairly strict rule; they had rules to live by and go by, and they abided by them."

RICHARD 'BUNGY' WILLIAMS, 80

"It seems like it was a breeze now. We had a wonderful backyard and my husband loved to build. We had a sand box and a climbing thing. We got a cup from BC Electric for the best playground so kids came to our place to play. The most difficult part, I guess, was sending the friends and neighbours home."

EDNA RIX, 84

"We'd never raised children before so we didn't know what we were supposed to do. We just tried to be fair with them, tried to teach them. The most difficult part, I suppose, was when they started to want certain things and we had to draw the line between what was discipline and what was being fair. It's not easy raising children."

KEN STOFER, 79

"It was rewarding watching my son and daughter grow up and accomplish things. They're both musically inclined. They take after their mother. The most difficult part was having enough time to spend with them when they were growing up."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"You have to temper discipline with love and give them respect. In turn, they will give you respect. We have two wonderful boys who both went to Colquitz. To see them grow up into fine young men—not that they're young now, they're 40 and 45—but they're doing the same thing with their children that we have done with ours. We're proud of them, and we're proud of the grandchildren too."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"I don't call it dating, but I had my first boyfriend when I was in Grade 6—but it wasn't really a relationship. Basically, you wouldn't talk at school because you were too shy, and if you went to a party you'd sit together and hold hands. I have a curfew of 12, but it would depend on what I'm doing. I always have to call home and tell my parents where I am, what I'm doing." CHRISTINA BURKE, 18

"Probably around 16 when I'm in Grade 10 or 11, that's probably when my parents would let me start dating and, yeah, I'd probably have a lot of restrictions on me because of my parents' values." KATHLEEN KOLEHMAINEN, 12

The Future

ABOUT CAREERS...

"I think I wanted to be a garage mechanic because the war was on, and I thought that would be kind of nice. But my mother put the money I would have got from digging potatoes into the hairdressing school downtown. I went in and told this Mrs. Chapman that she'd better teach me to be a good hairdresser or I wasn't going to pay her the next installment of my apprenticeship. A year or so later, I took my exam in Vancouver with 280 of us and only four passed from B.C. I was the only one from Victoria who passed, so I guess I really learned how to be a good hairdresser. I went on and did that for just about all my life. I did hairdressing in Government House, so that was pretty special."

ISABEL 'TILLY' (RAPER) OSBORN, 75

"I wanted to be a druggist, a pharmacist, but then my dad needed help and it was in depression times. My oldest brother was studying to be a doctor and I was in college, but my dad couldn't keep us both in college. I said I would leave college, teach school and keep house for my dad. That was after World War I. I taught public school and then helped my brother with the money I earned."

VERA ALBERG, 96

"I would have liked to be a florist but it didn't come to pass. I worked in a meat market for many years cutting meat."

GRACE LOUISA (SINCLAIR) NICKELS, 77

"He wanted to work in his dad's business and I guess I believe him. I wonder, though, if in the back of his mind he didn't have some fantasy about travelling afar or being an undercover agent or something. He was so into mysteries."

KEN JENNINGS, 93 (AS TOLD BY GRANDSON ROB JENNINGS)

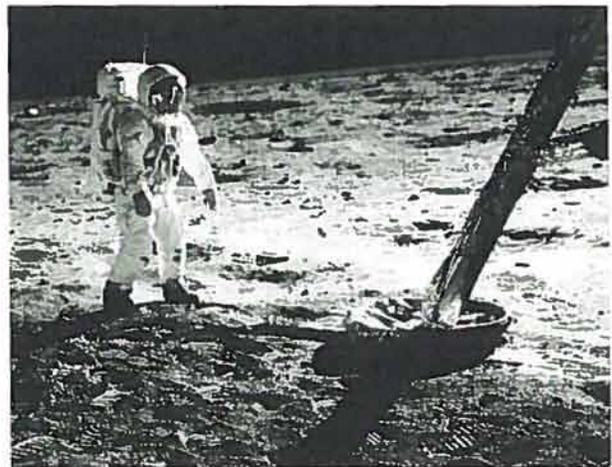
IMAGINING THE FUTURE...

"We never talked about what we thought was going to be. Young people nowadays get more involved with things. Really, we were just like kids in our generation. Kids nowadays are so grown up in their thinking and their ways compared to us, say, 70 years ago."

MARIE GRIFFIN, 81

"I guess we hoped for the end of the depression but you no sooner thought you were getting to the end of the depression and the bloody war started."

HERBERT CROFT, 80



"I got nicknamed 'Moon,' because I said that one day we'll go to the moon. The kids said: 'They'll never do it; they'll never build an engine big enough or powerful enough.' I met one of those fellows the day they landed on the moon and I said: 'What do you think about going to the moon now?' He was so pleased it had happened. I also used to argue about smoking. All my friends were smokers and I never was. I said: 'One day, you'll find government ads to stop smoking; they'll ban smoking.' My friends said: 'You're crazy, you're crazy.'"

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85

"The one thing we wished for as teenagers was for peace in the world, and we got it in a partial sort of way. We've never had another world war, although we certainly have far too

ABOUT CAREERS...

“I want to be somebody who helps animals, a naturalist, and I want to be an animal doctor, a veterinarian and a human doctor.” JUSTINE STAMILE, 9

“When I was younger, I wanted to play in the NHL but that’s pretty hard. I think I want to be a professional drummer. Of course, I’d still like to play hockey.”

JACOB REDLIN, 15

“I want to work with computers, then maybe if I have a good income I could do writing on the side.” CHRIS MAR, 15

“I want to be a geologist or an archaeologist or a soccer player. An archaeologist because my uncle is one and that’s always interested me.” CHASE BENNING, 11

“I’d really like to start a theatre group.” AARON WICKS, 16

“I want to be somebody who helps other people out, like maybe the police force or a fire officer, or just somebody who does work for somebody else and helps them out.”

RYAN HINDLEY, 15

“I want to be a children’s counsellor or a teacher.”

ALI GLOVER, 12

“I want to be a lawyer. That’s been my dream since I’ve been five-years-old. Ever since I’ve started going to school, I’ve always wanted to be a lawyer. I do plan to carry that out.” HARINDER JASSAL, 13

“I want to be a carpenter just like my dad because I’ve been working on some wood. I try and learn things by myself. I’m going to stick with my children and have a happy life.” TOM MILLS, 9

“I want to become a social worker and work with children in that area.” VAL VOSPER, 18

OUR IMAGININGS...

“We imagined to see people living on other planets like Mars, Venus, Jupiter. It would be cool, but that won’t happen.” JAY CASANOVA, 15

“Something I see is coming is electric cars. We’ll probably all have electric cars. I think that’s good; it’s better than gas so we won’t have pollution.” MARISA PALMER, 16

much dissension going on still. We wanted to have our own homes, raise our own families and have a reasonable income and a nice retirement. We basically achieved those goals.”

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

“I don’t know if we ever imagined anything. Travel wasn’t like it is now. We used to visit an elderly gentleman friend who came from England. He loved it out here in Canada and we’d ask: ‘when are you going back to England?’ He used to say, ‘when I can have my breakfast in Canada and my dinner in England.’ That was pretty near impossible at that time. We used to laugh about it, but we often think ‘now we can do that.’”

HELEN ‘SALLY’ WEBB, 76

“We always talked about one day we’d maybe hear from somebody else from another planet or that one day we might even get to the moon.”

KEN STOFER, 79

“Who would have thought in my mother’s day about going from horse and buggy to rockets to the moon. Who can tell what’s going to happen in the rest of my lifetime?”

RUTH (FARQUHAR) MANNIX, 74

“The world has changed so much now. I didn’t have any plans for the future. I just took one day at a time—I was just happy to be alive.”

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

“I don’t think we ever thought about the future; we were too busy thinking about the present.”

VERA (PALMER) BEISCHER, 75

“Most of my girlfriends had the same idea—get a job, find a nice boyfriend, get married. I think that was what was on everybody’s mind.”

BETTY-JEAN ‘BJ’ (SAUNDERS) FAIR

ABOUT SAANICH IN THE FUTURE...

"At the rate of construction in Saanich, I'm very happy that there's the ALR. There are a lot of areas in Saanich where its rocky, wonderful for building houses, but by all means, save the ALR. I'm all in favour of a control on what we do in development. I'm not anti-development, but I do think that we have to be careful about what we're doing. I think Saanich will continue to be a Garden of Eden."

JAMES 'JIM' S. HOGG, 83



"I doubt there'll be as much commercial farming as we see today. It is dwindling quite quickly for a lot of reasons, but I hope that you have a good environment and really watch what's going on."

JOHN PENDRAY, 75

"I don't know any of the Saanich councillors personally, but I think they have done a good job. I'm glad to be a resident of Saanich all these years. I couldn't give them enough praise."

VERA ALBERG, 96

"Fully-developed. I hate to think of it, really."

HELEN 'SALLY' WEBB, 76

"In my short time on this earth, I have never seen so many houses being built. If it continues that way, I don't think there'll be room to walk. What's going to happen with all

the sewage and things that we cause? Something's got to be done about better methods for cleaning up the pollution."

CYRIL E. 'TED' SHELLEY, 77

"From what I've seen through our area since I was a little boy to now, there are apartments and not very much land to roll on or shoot pheasants. I can see Saanich becoming more like Burnaby, and so our municipal officials are going to have to be allowing more multiple type dwellings. We trust that they'll be good buildings and that's what their responsibilities are in our municipal hall. I hope the municipality will be keeping our open areas such as beaches and parks which I think they're doing a very good job of, especially with Mount Douglas Park and Beaver Lake and Quicks Pond. If there are other lands, I hope they keep the access open to them for people in their planning too."

ERIC WALLACE MCMORRAN, 75

"I hope it's not going to be too, too, too busy. I do hope they will maintain a lot of green space because it's just wonderful to drive out there and see the farms out in Central Saanich. I would hate to see that disappear because when I look around now, I see developments that I just don't like. I know it's about space, but it has to stop. Some of those buildings are ugly."

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

LIVING LIFE OVER...

"I never went to university, and I had the golden opportunity when I got out of the service to go to university practically free and I regret it. The only thing is, if I had gone that way, something else would have happened and I would never have met my wife and I probably wouldn't have my family."

ERIC 'STOFFE' STOFER, 85

"I've enjoyed my life. I enjoyed being married. I enjoyed my husband. We had a lot of fun together; we travelled a lot. I'd have like him to live longer but by the time he died, he was getting blind and deaf so it wasn't fun for him."

MARIGOLD PATTERSON, 97

"I wouldn't have got married. I would have educated myself better. I divorced my husband in 1960 and I never remarried. I had the chance but I just didn't want to get into that again."

OLIVE 'BILL' PATTERSON, 80

"I think I would go with a boy longer before I got married. I did go with the first one for three years but it still turned out that he really wasn't ready to settle down. He was in the navy. You know, once they get in the navy they change, not everybody, but he did, so that's what broke us up. And I would have had my family when I was younger; I didn't start to raise a family until I was 38 and that's kind of old."

GRACE HAWKINS, 79

"He said he would marry younger—he didn't marry until he was 32 and he would have liked to start that chapter earlier."

KEN JENNINGS, 93 (AS TOLD BY GRANDSON ROB JENNINGS)

"Even at my age I enjoy every day. I don't ever say, 'oh, I'm so old, why have I lived so long?' I think the Lord must have some work for me to do or I wouldn't be here. I'm just happy to have lived."

VERA ALBERG, 96

"I think I had a pretty good life. We had a good time to grow up in so I don't really see that I would do anything differently."

HELEN 'SALLY' WEBB, 76

"I wouldn't join up again...no, I wouldn't join the war again. I don't think there's any need for it. Other than that, I've had a good life."

LIONEL C. SPELLER, M.M., 81

"Something that has always bugged me from the day it happened is that I wish I had furthered my education. I was forced to quit earlier in high school because my mother was very sick and I had to take over and look after the family."

BOB GILLESPIE, 71

"I never dreamed. My sister knew she was going to marry a tall, dark, handsome guy, live in a white house with a green trim and have six

"My friends and I always think that the world's going to end with a big, huge nuclear war." RYAN HINDLEY, 15

"I think things will be a lot more technical and probably a lot more polluted, a lot more global warming. Everybody will have a phone in their ear—they'll be talking on phones and not to people." DIAN ROSS, 13

"I think the future can become very bad because of all the pollution that's going on—running on fossil fuels. Unless we find a clean energy source, it will be kind of grim." MATTHEW BAER, 14

"I think I'll see the cure for a lot of diseases in my lifetime." BETHANY ELLIS, 16

"I have a plan I say to older people—not really to my friends—I see myself maybe living in a big house, being a really successful social worker, having my cats and dogs and horses and living in the country." VAL VOSPER, 18

ABOUT SAANICH IN THE FUTURE...

"If it keeps going this way it will be tall buildings and more and more people. It's gotta slow down." JAY CASANOVA, 15

"I think that Saanich will be a lot bigger, and the population will be a lot higher. I also imagine that there won't be that many trees, just lots of buildings and stuff."

DAVID BUI, 12

"I hope it will stay the same. I like how it is now. It's pretty quiet, but I think it will get a lot bigger." ALI GLOVER, 12

"People will just throw their stuff on the ground and the air will be polluted and so will the water. There's not going to be very many trees and lots of buildings."

VANESSA JUSTICE, 9

"I think it won't be that environmentally great. I think that there will probably be lots of smog because we're not really treating it that well. I'm sure there are going to be lots of people like myself; we all want to make a difference and help, but I don't think it's going to help."

WHITNEY RUTTEN, 13

kids, which she did. I guess I was too scared to think of the future.”

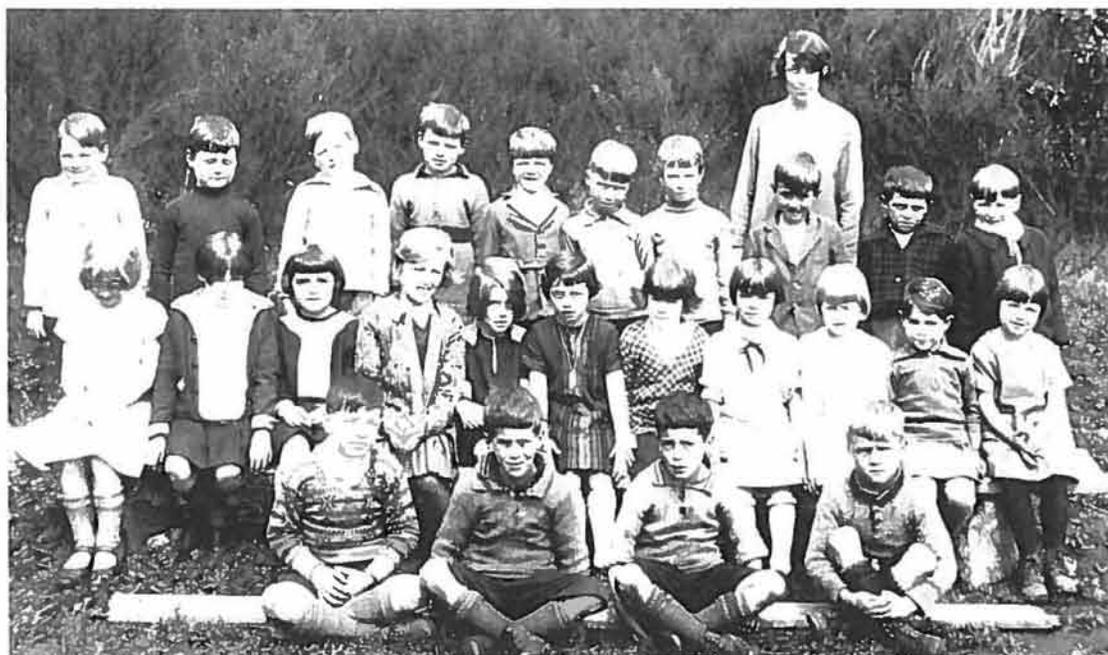
MARY VOWLES, 61

“I don’t think I would do too much differently. I probably wouldn’t have got myself involved like I did in my early marriage, but having said that, I wouldn’t give any of that up because I wouldn’t have ended up with my loving children. No, I don’t think I would change anything.”

LILLIAN EASTON, 79

“Well, this is in a perfect world: I would like to have four children instead of two. I’d like to learn other languages, particularly French. I think if all of us Canadians had French we wouldn’t be a divided country. I would also like to learn Japanese. If I had another go-round, I would like to do more towards world hunger and peace.”

BETTY-JEAN ‘BJ’ (SAUNDERS) FAIR



Cedar Hill School Class, 1928

“I just think our population will keep increasing. I think there will be a lot of push, though, to preserve our natural beauty of Victoria—like all the trees because so many have been cut down to build houses and malls or cineplexes. I think Victoria will expand more up-Island which will be good.” SARAH NORRAD, 17

LIVING OUR LIVES OVER...

“I don’t know if I would really change anything. I might change the way I look at school and day-to-day life. I’ve spent the last two years at junior high school kind of

waiting for all the action and I’m starting to realize it’s right here.”

AARON WICKS, 16

“I don’t think I’ve really made that many mistakes in my life so far. I’d try to be better at Math. I want to be real good at Math.”

ALI GLOVER, 12



Fairburn Elementary class, 2000

“I don’t think I would really do anything differently. I’ve learned from all of my mistakes and grown from everything that’s happened. I mean there are little regrets, of course, in every bit of your life, but I don’t think I would change it.” SARAH NORRAD, 17

A Short History of Saanich

Saanich is one of the oldest agricultural settlements in British Columbia. As early as the mid-1850s, employees of the Hudson's Bay Company and the first colonial settlers embarked on the arduous task of transforming the virgin forests of the peninsula into productive farmland.

The farms and dairy herds of Saanich soon became a vital source of food for Victoria's expanding population and by the turn-of-the-century the district was renowned for its cultivation of fruit and flowers. The Strawberry Festival, held on the second Sunday in July since 1966, celebrates and honours the agricultural history of Saanich. The highlight for festival-goers is the chance to enjoy Saanich strawberries with ice cream.

The Municipality of Saanich was incorporated in 1906 with a population around 5000; the first council meeting with Reeve Thomas Brydon was held March 10 in the Pillinger home; and West Saanich Road was the site of the first municipal hall, built in 1911.

The current Municipal Hall on Vernon Avenue was opened in December 1965 by Lieutenant Governor George Pearkes. The presentation ceremony for the Coat of Arms was held September 25, 1983. The motto on the crest is "Porfulo Serviendo" which means "Serving the People".

The Craigflower Schoolhouse bell first rang on March 8, 1855. On the schoolhouse's 128th anniversary in 1983, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II unveiled a plaque to mark completion of the restoration of the schoolhouse.

The history of Saanich and its pattern of settlement is still evident in many of the old buildings and structures located throughout the District. The homes, schools, churches, commercial buildings and farm buildings of heritage significance reflect the efforts and aspirations of the pioneer era as well as later periods of development. They provide a tangible link with the past and a meaningful sense of historical continuity.

Today, with a population close to 110,000 people, an area of 11,179 ha, Saanich is the largest of the core municipalities making up Greater Victoria.

There are 817.49 ha of fresh water lakes and 29.61 km of marine shoreline and more than 1,325 ha of parkland including 750 ha of regional parks. Local area plans identify another 130 ha for future acquisition. There are four indoor community centres, one senior centre, two youth drop in centres and a municipally-owned 18-hole golf course.

Saanich, a community rich in history and diversity looking ahead to a healthy future.

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Participants

SAANICH MEMORIES BOOK INTERVIEWS PIONEERS

Vera Alberg
Vera Beischer
Ada Bone
Herbert Croft
May Croft
Lillian Easton
Betty-Jean Fair
Pat Gait
Bob Gillespie
Barrie Goodwin
Marie Griffin
Grace Hawkins
Lyle Hayden
Grace Henry
James Hogg
Ken Jennings
Muriel Lockhart
Ethel Loudoun
Margaret Mackintosh
Ruth Mannix
Eric McMorran
John Merrett
Evelyn Middleton
Esther Mortimer
Albert E. Neville
Freeman W. Nott
Grace Nickels
Isabel Osborn
Olive Paterson
Marigold Patterson
John Pendray
Joyce M. Peterson
Bernice Poliquin
Edna Rix
Ted Shelley
Gerry Spark
Charles Roy Speller
Lionel Speller
Eric Stofer
Ken Stofer
Lynette Stofer
Miriam Taylor
Glen Vallance
Mary Vowles
Helen Webb
Larry Webb
Wally West
Addie Williams
Dick Williams
George F. Williamson

Y O U T H

YOUTH

Matthew Baer	Chris Mar
Chase Benning	Chelsea Mason
Jenn Boyd	Cassie McCambridge
Bethany Brouwer	Lindsay McRae
David Bui	Tom Mills
Christina Burke	Lauryn Morley
Josh Carlson	Sarah Norrad
Jay Casanova	Melissa Orton
Morgan Chamberlin	Marisa Palmer
Sara Chapman	Lara Pierce
Ratana Chhim	Jacob Redlin
Gurav Dhaul	Dian Ross
Lara Donaldson	Whitney Rutten
Rick Downie	Dayna Schellenberg
Bethany Ellis	Monty Sharma
Erin Favell	Jessi Simpson
Cheryl Ferreira	Leyna Slawow
Sayuri Friedland	Justine Stamile
Vanessa Futchter	Alex Thammavong
Peter Guan	Val Vosper
Ali Glover	Ashly Weisgerber
Ryan Hindley	Vanessa White
Tessa Holowachuk	Aaron Wicks
Emily Jacobson	Jenn Wilson
Harinder Jassal	Nicole Winstone
Sarah Juricic	
Vanessa Justice	
Vince Kennedy	
Jamie Knowles	
Kathleen Kolehmainen	
Alicia Langkamer	
Colleen Leppky	
Ivy Ly	

Due to technical difficulties, some participants are not quoted in the book and some interviews were not successful.