

C.W.Y. experience worthwhile for Rockwood's Sherry Guild

At this time last year, Sherry Guild of Brady St. Rockwood was in Collingwood, being launched into a program which, from her point of view, has been a learning experience in how to live and communicate with people from both her own and other countries.

She was one of the few young Canadians chosen to participate in the 1973-74 ten-month government sponsored World Youth program. Part of the stint for the group with which she was placed, was five months spent in Canada, with the other five, as residents of Malaysia.

Sherry's span of travelling is over now. She arrived home along with approximately 229 other young people last May 17, after almost a year of sharing her life with nine of her contemporaries.

Out of the 240 participants from across Canada on the program, 79 were from Ontario with those in Sherry's group representing the Gaspe and Rimouski, Quebec; two were from Saskatchewan, one other from Dartmouth, N.S., with the group leader of their team coming from Vancouver.

she stayed for another five weeks applying energies where required, doing general service jobs. While in Canada the stress was learning to work with fellow Canadians in various areas of relationships, sharing community, social and racial problems and, after five months, the team was well-groomed, prepared for their five months stay in the country of Malaysia. Before leaving Canada, they were allowed a short respite and visited their families at Christmas before their overseas venture.

According to Sherry, there were three groups in each province of Canada participating in last year's program, with members visiting from Canada in eight different countries. They operated between Canada and Fiji, Malaysia, Senegal, Gambia, Cameroon, Tunisia, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras and Yugoslavia.

Each year as the program is offered, lists of host countries change and Sherry says that, while Canadians are visiting about, similar groups chosen by their countries, are visiting in Canada with the same basic purpose of learning to relate to people in all levels of society, and understanding other cultures.

Sherry's trip to Malaysia was a real adventure. She tells of spending the first ten days in the city of Morib where linguists taught them the basics of Bahasa, native language of the Malaysians. "We all just had enough knowledge of the language to get by," said Sherry, who relates the fun of living in an abandoned palace near a beach during their days at Morib.



Perak On to Perak for the travellers, and Sherry tells of the Canadians being billeted once again as a group in a small town similar to the size of Rockwood, for two weeks. "We were picked up in land rovers every morning at 8 a.m. and taken to areas to assist in clearing land," she said.

The group moved on then to the city of Ipoh where they worked in outer areas of small villages. For the complete five weeks they had applied themselves manually to planting tobacco, working in factories, hoeing in fields and assisting with road levelling. Even working in rice paddies was part of the working schedule, with people relationships the key to what it was all about.

After Perak a final project was conducted in Kelantan where five more weeks was spent in more of the same type of work. The group was transferred to particular areas, again via land rovers with getting to know the people there, an important

feature. Return home And then it was over! Time to wrap up the program with the ten month tour almost completed. The group went back to Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia for ten days debriefing where they were given a chance to unwind in preparation for returning home.

They said their goodbyes to their Malaysian families (according to Sherry, many of them tearfully), and then proceeded to London, England. By May 17 most of the group arrived home in Canada, after months of being separated from parents and families.

By the end of the ten month program Sherry reports the group had become more patriotic about their home country than when starting out.

"The most important part of the program for me," said Sherry, "is the relationships I have formed and how much easier it is for me to talk to people now."

She said she really enjoyed living in Malaysia and feels the experience has been a wonderful one. She recommends it for every young person inclined towards such a program.

At the present time another program is in progress with another group of CWY being prepared to represent Canada for next year's tour in other countries.

Plans for the future for the Rockwood girl with her travels behind are indefinite. This summer has been a lazy, catch-up-on-family type summer but, come September, she intends to get back to more education. Her field has not, as yet, been determined but, after exposure to so many people in situations with CWY last year, Sherry Guild says she does not expect to have too many difficulties in whatever she might get into. It is certain that her scope for any career should be more extensive.

Rockwood phoners must dial seven digits

After Thursday, August 22, telephone customers connected to the Rockwood exchange (856) will need to dial all seven numbers to complete local calls.

At present only four digits are required to call another telephone in Rockwood.

Lloyd Denby, manager for the Rockwood area, said this change will permit maximum utilization of the switching equipment in the central office and standardize the use of the seven digit numbers for all calls.

Two party customers will get a break, however, on August 22. Instead of dialing 856-5101 to call the other party on the line-5101 will do the trick.

At present there are 1531 telephones connected to the Rockwood Office of Bell.

Eden Mills fun fair, "terrific" in all ways

Last Saturday evening's fun fair at Eden Mills was a "great success."

Festivities started with an oldtimers' baseball game between Aberfoyle and Eden Mills. The fish pond, games of chance and skill, bingo, hamburgers, pop, coffee and hotdogs were all there, to provide an evening that was really fun.

Guides and Brownies under the leadership of Anne Chesworth and Dianne Wallace sold balloons and posies. There were three lucky draws during the evening in which two local boys, Jim Boles and Wayne Chamberlain were the winners.

Applied The Rockwood girl had applied to go on the program through her school during the latter part of her grade 12 Centennial school year. Only after a series of letters and interviews plus a complicated selection process did she know for sure whether she would be chosen to participate. The first Rockwood girl to have applied for the program since its conception three years ago was selected for her leadership abilities, maturity and ability to cooperate.

Looking back, Sherry, 19, said it wasn't always easy at first making the adjustments and learning to live in close quarters with strangers she had never known before. Having come from a closely-knit family scene to that of a group of ten young people ranging in age from 16 to 20 years, she explained there were many mental adjustments required until the group began to think of themselves as a team working towards an end.

"Our leader was only slightly older than the rest of us," she said giving program leaders' ages as from 21 to 25 years.

According to Sherry, most of the young people who apply for acceptance are those interested in travel and seeing the world. She explained the basic idea of the organization of Canada World Youth (CWY) as an international exchange program where young people from many countries have an opportunity to share and adapt to cultures in their own and different parts of the world.

After orientation camp at Collingwood the group was moved to Mooseonee where they had five weeks learning about community involvement with northern Canadian Indians. From there Sherry and her companions went on to Sydney, Cape Breton, where they worked in the capacity of social workers, volunteering assistance generally wherever it was needed. Each span of time spent, was approximately five to six weeks and, as they moved, the group was developing as a team trained to adapt to the particular environments in which they were placed.

Edmonton next From north to east and then to the west and Sherry's next trip was to Edmonton where, with her CWY friends,

helped one another trying to clear land and cultivate more food," she said. It seemed more important for the CWY to work along with the inhabitants than to accomplish great things as the Malaysians respected them for caring enough to assist - not as spectators but as people actually willing to apply themselves physically, she noted.

Jahore From there the team, comprised of five boys and five girls went on with their leader to Jahore. "We were unique," Sherry explained, telling how well they operated as a unit. In Malaysia they stayed in families billeted very near other members of the team.

"It was like being adopted," said Sherry. She told how the families with whom they lived were warm and friendly, accepting the Canadian young people easily. "The children in the families became like younger brothers and sisters of our own," she said, describing Malaysians as a delightfully happy people who live very simply but contentedly.

According to Sherry the Malaysian philosophy of life is one of basic simplicity without the hang-ups of western complexities. She described homes where they lived as open houses on stilts, "made of wood resembling our lake-front cottages," she said.

Describing life in Malaysia Sherry said that in that country, a car designates affluence and position; respected leaders in the community were those with political standing. She said the point of staying with families during their stay was to work along with them and pointed out how it was necessary to begin working in the fields early in the morning as, during early afternoon the heat was too intense for working.

"When it was impossible to continue, we would stop and have lunch," she said. "Sometimes taking a sleep in the afternoon because the heat took a lot out of us."

Sherry said she was impressed with the way the Malaysians work together, cooperating with the others in the village. "Everyone

LAST YEAR AT this time Sherry Guild was being launched on her ten-month tour with the Canadian World Youth, a program in which she stayed in eastern, western and northern Canada prior to her five-month stay in Malaysia. She is at home now preparing to go back to school and further her education in September.

Library provides summer pleasure

Reading books is an every season past-time but summer leisure lends itself for students to catch up on material they've had to bypass during busy school terms. During the months of July and August, the library at Rockwood Centennial public school has fast become a popular spot with its many excellent books on hand for readers of every age to enjoy.

Fiction, historic novels, biographies, books on needlecraft and toy-making, patchwork and quilting instruction books, and numerous others are on the shelves to whet appetites for quality reading.

Assistant librarian Georgina Kelso says there

are now over 10,000 books available in the Eramosa library and she reminds township and village residents that, for them, borrowing books is free of charge.

Mrs. Kelso lists a number of the more recently acquired books including, Hunters of the Arctic by Roger Frisvold-Roche, Making Toys for Children by Joan Moloney, Good Housekeeping New Book of Needlecraft by Vera Guild, Stresses by Walter McQuade, Yoga is For You by Sue Luby, Vogue Guide to Patchwork and Quilting and The Juggling Book by Carlo Hours.

The enthusiastic custodian says that new summer-month

hours have been established to accommodate students who have more time to take advantage of facilities. Once September rolls around regular hours will again be retained. During July until the end of August hours are set at Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m. during afternoons, and 7 to 9 p.m. in the evenings. Saturday mornings are open hours from 9 until 12 noon.

Mrs. Kelso has watched enrolment in membership graduate from small numbers to 311 patrons now listed. "They come in individually or in family groups from many areas of the township," said the lady who encourages children to investigate the collection of film strips and taped recordings on hand, as well as the reading material.



CHILDREN ENJOY the privilege of dropping into the Eramosa library at Rockwood Centennial school where easy reading pleasure is maintained along with film strip viewing and recorded tape listening. Seen dropping in to pick up reading material last Tuesday evening were the Wood family of Harris St. along with young friend, Stephen McLaren. Nancy is seen showing Stephen the book she is choosing as sister Susan and brother David decide on what material they are interested in.

Scouts head for Ravasak

Some of the best scouts from Georgetown and Acton left Holy Cross Church last Saturday morning and headed for Ravasak in the Hockley Valley, near Orangeville.

The 29 area scouts will be joined at Ravasak by scouts from Mississauga and Oakville.

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