

Profile: Jim Gordon student back from U.K.

by Kerry Chalmers
Banjo picking, guitar playing, folk singing and an interest in electronic music is resulting in a varied and rich life experience for 21-year-old Rockwood resident Jim Gordon.

Jim who is working on a four year Bachelor of Arts degree in music, recently returned from a four month stay in Britain where he was studying British contemporary music as part of his thesis. He attended concerts, invaded libraries and worked in local coffee houses and pubs as part of his study. This rewarding opportunity was made available through the University of Guelph who send approximately 30 qualifying students, mostly in the Arts and Science fields to London where they stay in a house owned by the university. They take correspondence courses and send essays and exams back to the university. Jim was the only music student and the other exception was that he rented a flat near Regent's Park.

Meal pay
British audiences enjoyed his music and appreciated the traditional folk songs. Often part of his pay for an evening would be a hot meal, reports Jim. An interesting point is that the local pubs and coffee houses have no microphones and yet this presents no problem.

While in Britain he travelled taking in Southern Ireland and Scotland. He arrived in Ireland at a bad time however, Easter weekend. As a result IRA victories were being celebrated all over the area with bombings and other events. Hitchhiking was impossible and Jim was advised to leave because of the danger.

He took a train to Dingle Peninsula where a primitive farming area exists, predominantly Gaelic. Expecting to find some beautiful examples of ancient Gaelic music in this quaint setting, Jim was amused to find local entertainers dinging Simon and Garfunkel songs in the locals.

He was fortunate in Killarney though, where he met the author of a book he had purchased on ancient folk songs. On arriving at a pub, the female entertainer was none other than the author.

Ancestry
Jim who has Scottish ancestry was especially interested in Scotland and although he travelled extensively there and also went to the Isle of Skye, he found the constant work on his thesis somewhat of a handicap to a truly enjoyable holiday.

Guelph Spring Festival awaited him on his return and as a member of the Board of Directors he has many involvements. The festival operates on a \$100,000 budget and is already planning for next year.

Jim was stage manager for the opera, Seabird Island and was responsible for the electronic music. He has studied composition with Professor Derek Healey who has an electronic music studio, so when Mr. Healey wrote this opera, Jim was a natural choice for the music management. He also played banjo in the children's opera, The Return of the Tiger.

A number of projects are slated for this summer. Jim intends to perform, as much as possible, alone and with his partner David Archibald. Together they are Gordon and Archibald, well-known in the Guelph area. A concert is scheduled for June 16 at Peter Clark Hall at 8 p.m. This will be a reunion for Gordon and Archibald who will try out new material, much of which was acquired while in Britain.

Managing David Archibald will be another job for Jim who says David is becoming very well-known as a singer-composer, especially for his folk-opera Wind On The Prairie. This opera about Louis Riel has only three actor-musicians who play 11 different characters as slides are projected behind them. Jim Gordon is one, David Archibald the other and Guelph resident James Hardy, the third.

Jim would like to see this folk-opera move into the theatre and concert hall area and out of the university circuit where it has been a tremendous success. Many agencies and management groups have expressed interest, but don't know what to do with this new medium.

On tour?
Quality Records, an American company, wants to send the show on tour but would like the Canadian content altered to suit a tour out of Canada.

Jim feels strongly about working with Canadian companies. His interest is in Canada and learning old Canadian folk songs. Unfortunately the backing from a Canadian company has just not come. There has been much interest expressed over the past couple of years but with no follow-up tapes to several record companies and finding the enthusiasm with no follow-up time after time, Jim felt very frustrated and fed-up. This was one of the reasons he decided to take advantage of the opportunity to go to London.

Another concern
Maple Sugar Troop is yet another concern of this refreshing, hardworking musician. External affairs wanted to send some Canadian talent to Russia last winter as part of a cultural exchange program. They contacted Dorothy Hogan who had a small group that played at high schools, in libraries and at last year's Olympics. Jim was a member of this group.

Mrs. Hogan co-ordinated a broader spectrum of Canadian talent for this exchange that did not go to Russia after all. The talent however was grouped together and Mrs. Hogan decided to keep it that way. Graham Townsend, North American Champion Fiddler who has made at least 25 albums, Maurice Bolger, a banjo player who plays on the Tommy Hunter Show, a well-known French-Canadian Step Dancing Group and Jim Gordon who provides the folk singing end of it with some instrumental, make up the new Maple Sugar Troop. They will appear at a convention for William Davis at York University in June; the Royal Ontario Museum of Art in July and perhaps at the C.N.E.

Last but not least, Jim Gordon's agenda for the summer includes his ongoing project of trying to set up a coffee house in Guelph where all types of live entertainment from jazz to folk could be heard. Jim feels there is a real need for such a facility and says he has a lot of backing and support.

One major holdup is finding a suitable location to rent. It would seem with Jim's enthusiasm this will remain a problem for a very short time!



A HOME for live entertainment from jazz to folk is a need Jim Gordon is trying to fill for Guelph.

Osprige

Wedding, election area highlights

By Doris Fines
Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Gary Ferguson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Ferguson of R. R. 1, Guelph, and Sandra Johnston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Johnston of R. R. 4, Grand Valley, who were married on Saturday May 28, at Bethel Presbyterian Church, Marsville. Gary and Sandra will be living in Osprige.

Mrs. Ross Ferguson, Mrs. Thomas Fines and Doris Fines attended a miscellaneous shower in Marsville hall in honour of Sandra

Johnston. Around 60 ladies were present, and Sandra received many beautiful and useful gifts.

Vote!
Everyone is urged to go out to vote June 9. If you can't make it then, there will be an advance poll at Osprige School on Sat. June 4, and Mon. June 6, from 12 noon to 9 p.m. D.S.T.

Friends were saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. John Taylor of Milton, when she was struck by lightning outside her home, when a lightning bolt hit the tree beside her. The Taylors were former

residents of this district, living on the Third line by 17 sideroad. They moved to Milton two years ago.

The president, Mrs. Ralph Sinclair, opened the Osprige Ladies' Aid May meeting with a Mothers Day Tribute. The hostess was Mrs. Ward Bruce.

Devotions were led by Mrs. Barry Clarke, who gave a reading on A Parable for Oppressors. The scripture was taken from Luke 16.

Mrs. Gordon Aitken introduced the new study book—Justice, Not Charity, written by Douglas Roche. Study was

on the first chapter—The Comforts of Home, displaying the fact that Canada and U.S.A. are developed countries, and we should be more concerned about the developing countries. We are lucky Canada is a rich country, and our concern should be for the less fortunate.

Twelve ladies answered the roll call with an exchange of house plants. Mrs. Henry Pankratz prepared the program, which consisted of piano music, and a wedding anniversary contest, which was won by Mrs. Ralph Sinclair.

On Thursday, June 9, elect

GEORGE GRAY

"A Man of Proven Vision, and Administrative Capability, Pledged to Serve with Energy and Humility every constituent in Halton-Burlington"



GEORGE GRAY— HIS PLATFORM AND ACTIONS

- I am pledged to work with unceasing diligence for every citizen of Halton-Burlington for the betterment of our riding, as a place to live, and work in.
- I will be accessible to every man, woman, or child who may have a problem they wish me to work on and solve.
- I will work in harmony with every level of municipal government, every board, and commission, in order to further the fortunes of the riding and its people.
- I have been increasingly busy trying to solve the Milton School problem, having met with Education Minister Thos. Wells on May 19, the School Board on May 24, the Milton Public Meeting on May 26th. I have arranged a meeting with Mr. Wells for Monday, May 30th, at the specific request of the parents' group and the School Board. This meeting will include all parties mentioned, I am hoping to resolve the problems on May 30th.
- I do not agree with many of the items in the Blair Commission Report. If elected, I will hold a series of public meetings in the riding to obtain input from our constituents. In the meantime Premier Davis has already said that he would not implement many of the provisions in the report, and he has also said that more public meetings, and input would be required on the balance.
- HYDRO CORRIDOR—The Court has ruled that the expropriation hearings must consider alternate route evidence. This is an example of our democracy at work. Whatever the outcome, and wherever the line goes, I intend to see that landowners are properly compensated for the intrusion, and inconvenience.
- UNEMPLOYMENT—I am continuing my efforts to bring new industry to the riding of Halton-Burlington. I expect to announce several of these this week. New industry will provide jobs for our people, improve the residential-industrial base, thereby holding down your property taxes. Jobs within Halton will conserve energy because our people will not have to commute so far to work.
- INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT—I will work energetically with the new Halton Industrial Development Commissioner to assist him in any way to provide new industry.
- REGIONAL GOVERNMENT—I was one of the instigators of the Bill 151 Regional Government Review Committee, which has been formed by the Region. This committee has already made some suggested changes to the Regional Government and is continuing to work on the review.
- GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL NURSING BED ADDITION—Due to my efforts, the Ontario Cabinet, and the Minister of Health, have ordered a complete review of the freeze on nursing beds in the province. The request for the addition has been presented to the Halton Health Council, and we are awaiting their approval. In the meantime, I need more signatures to our petition. I will follow this proposal to a successful conclusion.
- SANITARY LANDFILL—The region of Halton is planning to proceed with construction of a resource recovery plant. Complete resource recovery is possible, with only minor residue. I will continue to push for complete investigation of all systems available, while the resource recovery plant is in the planning and construction.

Eden Mills Guide and Brownie news

by Diana Wallace
Smoke signals actually work!!

We proved it this weekend when we went camping at Gorwhin (which incidentally is Indian for "the meeting of the four winds") for two days. Our theme was "Our Native Heritage" which gave us ample opportunity to dress up in colorful Indian costumes, build a realistic teepee, make a totem pole, send smoke signals, and have a colorful parade. We even learned some Indian sign language and Brownies learned them from each other.

We had five mothers (without which camp would not have been successful) join us at different times to help with all the cooking and Mrs. Ann Chesworth joined us for the weekend. She put us really in the mood with her "Eskimo Indian Hunting song" and her "Rain Song" (which was followed by a water spray in the dark over each Brownie who was convinced the song asking for rain had worked. (For those still unconvinced it rained within 24 hours).

It was very hot, 28 degrees C., at midday but we settled down under the trees and made Indian headbands and purses with Mrs. Blackman.

She could not have chosen a better project for a hot afternoon. Mr. Turowski, one of our fathers who brought Mrs. Turowski to help cook for us, helped us build our teepee with a few of his scout knots. Mrs. Abbott, one of our mothers who kindly slept over all night in the tent, found it great fun and enjoyed being a Brownie for the first time. We made her our "squaw" for the ceremony. It seems there were a few extra "critters" (not including the mosquitos) along, which we did not notice, until one mother tossed her daughter's "teddy" into the trunk of the car and was quickly scolded for doing such a thing. It seems "teddy" was this new Brownie's security blanket and camp would not have been considered without him. I just wonder how many other security blankets sneaked in.

Our Tawny Owl Mrs. Neave managed to find a lovely spot for our morning service on Sunday. Mrs. Heard and Mrs. Palmer arrived in time to join us before cooking our Sunday dinner.

We finish Brownies this week May 28 and re-open on September 8.

A Strong Dependable Voice for Halton-Burlington

