

Letters to the Editor

Don't malign McGibbon hotel, readers say

Dear Editor:
Please allow us to reply to a letter in last week's Herald, signed by Mr. David Atherley. While ignorance is bliss, we think that it is a lot more practical to be informed. We are particularly offended by his derogatory remarks pertaining to people and events in

relation to the McGibbon Hotel. We wonder if Mr. Atherley has ever been in the hotel, or has he given it a second glance as he stated a bum would not do. There have been a great many people stop at the hotel over the years, for accommodation from over night to stays

stretching in to years, and they were from India, the U.K., U.S.A., recently from Italy and Portugal, as well as from across Canada. There have been many turned away because of no vacancies. The hotel is and has been, home for a lot of people, retired farmers, business men, men on

veterans pensions and women and men who work in the area. We have never known a bum among them, all pay their own way. Some have been of an undesirable type, but they do not stay long as they are asked to move along if they disturb any of the others. The hotel, I'll admit has

deteriorated over the last 20 years, due to a succession of absentee landlords. Not so long ago it was the center for business meetings and banquets, conventions, etc. Their cuisine was well known. As one of the oldest buildings in town, we believe it should be preserved and returned as near as

possible to its former prestige. The new owners are well on the way to remodeling the building already, and have been in control for only three weeks. It will take time, but we are very confident that they can do the job because of the determination and capacity for hard work so far exhibited.

Further the man was not killed inside the hotel, but on the sidewalks in the vicinity. It could easily have happened in front of any other building including Mr. Atherley's.

We have been associated with the hotel for 15 years and can assure one and all that the rooms have always been clean, the linen fresh, and the roomers made to feel at home.

Mr. Atherley, we think you should call in for a visit, identify yourself and we're sure you will be better informed and possibly a bit surprised at the renovations already made or under way.

Thank you Mr. editor for allowing me this opportunity for rebuttal.

Sincerely,
Jessie and Gear Hayes

McGibbon owners defend their hotel

To the editor of The Herald:
As the new owners of the McGibbon Hotel we would like to respond to some of the

remarks made by Mr. David Atherley in his "letter to the editor" which appeared in the January 17, 1979 edition of The Herald.

Writer knocks sports story

To the Herald editor:
In reply to your extremely biased and utterly misleading report in the Georgetown Herald, Jan. 17, 1979, regarding the Rebels vs Redmen, I would humbly suggest that you instruct the writer to inform the public of the true facts even though it may hurt the pride of your "superior" Georgetown readers.

Firstly, the writer has never at any time attended any of the Redmen's coaching sessions, so how can he possibly form any opinion on the matter.

Secondly, the Rebels have approximately 80 members in their team, many of whom are seniors. The Redmen on the other hand have 30 members of whom 3 are seniors.

Because of the numerical advantage the Rebels were

able to enter several races unopposed. This is superior training and coaching? Bull droppings!

If this is an example of fair and factual reporting by your reporter, I suggest that he enter the field of children's fairy tales. He would very quickly make a fortune.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Gwyneth Gibb
Member of Acton Redmen Swim Team

Hot Debate

At a recent political debate, one of the candidates claimed that his opponent was controlled by powerful interests.

The opponent calmly replied that his wife should be left out of the argument!

We feel that for the most part Mr. Atherley's remarks are outdated unfounded and just plain inaccurate. We would like to explain our position fully so that the people of Georgetown can decide for themselves if a valuable part of Georgetown history should be "closed down, torn down and a new one rebuilt" as Mr. Atherley feels or, as we intend, to completely renovate and restore the building to its original, pre-Confederation condition.

If Mr. Atherley had taken the time to come into the hotel and see some of the restoration work being done, we feel that he may have been more moderate in his remarks or even

supportive of our efforts to make the McGibbon into a comfortable and respected hotel.

Incidentally we do invite Mr. Atherley and citizens of the area to drop by the hotel to see some of the changes which will be taking place during the next few months.

Indirectly Mr. Atherley's remarks have fallen on the reputations of the tenants in the hotel. The hotel is nearly at full occupancy with virtually all tenants working and paying their share of taxes in the Georgetown area. They are good people and we strongly

object to the negative inference that Mr. Atherley has made in this regard.

As far as the reputation of the McGibbon Hotel itself is concerned, we realize that reputations are made by people over a period of time; we are sound businessmen, experienced in the restaurant and hotel business, that have decided to make a major investment in the future of Georgetown.

To all the people of Georgetown, including Mr. Atherley, it's a different ball game.

Sincerely,
George and Nick Markou

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