

# "Surfing Grandmother" Enlivens Langstaff Classrooms After Hectic Holiday Overseas

By MARGARET McLEAN

Surf board riding in Honolulu, swimming in the Nile (and being hauled out) and creating a sensation by appearing at a party in Tokyo in an Arab robe were just a few of the highlights of the summer trip made by Langstaff Secondary School's only surfing grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Hay Trott.

Her ultimate destination the 17th International Conference of the Society for Education Through Art in Tokyo, Mrs. Trott visited briefly a dozen European and Asiatic countries en route and had an exciting adventure in almost every one of them.

As a result, Room 303 at Langstaff now sports a gay poster advertising a bullfight in Madrid, students will be able to use a variety of imported art materials and the teachers' luncheon has an interesting display of contemporary Japanese art.

During her six day stay

in Scotland, the enterprising Mrs. Trott sold a full page article to "The Scotsman"; while in Laos she sent home an article which Canadian Press distributed to newspapers across Canada.

This was just to keep her hand in her former profession as a journalist. Before coming to the York Central High School system in 1957, Mrs. Trott was a freelance writer and contributed regularly to Weekend, Canadian Forum, Monetary Times, the Star Weekly, etc. Formerly head of the art department at Thornhill Secondary School, she was appointed head of that department at Langstaff last year.

Leaving Scotland, Mrs. Trott spent a few days in London and was appalled that there was no Canadian art on display at Canada House there.

In Madrid for four days, she saw a bull fight, the one advertised in the poster which she brought back, and

from the balcony of her hotel watched students chanting and shouting and smelled the wisps of the tear gas which the government troops used against them.

Nothing daunted, she spent three days in Athens, had a dress made from hand woven material over night, went up to the Acropolis "and just stayed and stared and sketched".

Flying next to Cairo, she was installed in an Arab hotel (having disdained such things as reservations throughout most of the trip) No-one spoke English here, "but I picked up half a dozen words in the first fifteen minutes" she said airily.

Next day was being celebrated as "Revolution Day" in Cairo and she was treated to a tremendous military display with miles of marching troops, tanks etc., This display of military might she found hard to reconcile with

the gentleness and helpfulness of individual Arabs. Riding a camel around the great pyramids she was amused to notice that the name tag the animal wore on its neck read "Canada Dry".

Flying to Luxor, former summer playground of the beautiful Nefertiti, she put up in a houseboat on the Nile (for \$8 a night) and scorning a proffered swimming pool, took a swim in the muddy Nile. Underestimating the strength of the current, however, she had to be pulled out by two obliging Egyptians, and then went into the swimming pool to get cleaned off.

Her stay here included a tour of the Valley of the Kings and a visit to the Temple of Karnak and she confirmed her opinion that Egyptian art has deteriorated demonstrably since ancient times.

Her flight back to Cairo was on the first Russian plane purchased by Arab

Air Lines. The air conditioner worked only to the accompaniment of a piercing scream and when the plane landed, all the lights went out.

Next stop was Karachi where she stayed overnight in a government rest house; then on to New Delhi in a plane filled with English school children returning to Singapore.

With no reservation again here, a friendly BOAC stewardess booked her into what she called an inexpensive hotel. Here for \$13 a day, the two shared a palatial five-room suite and seized the opportunity to entertain lavishly the next day.

After a day spent in Agra, "the Taj Mahal was too finished, too perfect, it didn't move me" — our intrepid traveller flew to Madras. Here she was the guest of Professor N. G. Rangar, MP for the Swatantra Party. At a party for Indian press members she had the pleasure of meeting Rajagopalachari, former Governor General of India and leader of the opposition.

Mrs. Trott was impressed by the beauty of Madras and bought here some lovely saris which are now the envy of her female students.

After brief stops at Calcutta and Bangkok, she was the guest of an Ottawa friend, Keith McLelland who is in charge of the Indo-China Truce Commission in Vietnam, Laos. She met three Canadian nurses there and wrote an article about them which was the one sold to Canada Press.

After an all night train trip back to Bangkok, she flew on to Hong Kong and from there to Tokyo—where the real business of her trip began.

Arriving at the conference hall she was shown her name on the program and advised that she had 20 minutes to provide a speech for the translators. Her subsequent, quite impromptu, speech about art education in Canada "was warmly cheered by the Japanese but the Americans didn't seem to like it."

Mrs. Trott found the conference stimulating and helpful in every way but "was disappointed and nonplussed that more Canadian art educators weren't there."

At Kyoto she visited the famous Tamagawa Gakuen School, a work-school where students perform manual labor as well as study. "Incredible art work, glorious music, magnificent setting" were some of the terms Mrs. Trott used to describe the school.

Following the conference, she went on a five day sketching trip, visiting Hida Hanga, a centre at which great woodcuts are produced.

Most vivid impression of her stay in Japan was the "fantastic honesty" of the people and the Frank Lloyd Wright designed hotel in Tokyo — "the most beautiful hotel in the world".

Flying from Tokyo, Mrs. Trott went directly to Honolulu. Two and a half hours after her arrival there, she was having a lesson in surf boating. "I rode seven waves on my first try", which prompted one wondering American to the observation, "That's the first surfing grandma I've known".

Next stop was a brief one at Los Angeles and then direct to Toronto, where her friends had been meeting planes for three days and had almost given up hope of seeing her again.

And while the "surfing grandma" is not at all sure just where she'll go next year, you can depend on it that wherever she is, things will happen! And it must be an education for students to just sit in her classes after this year's trip.

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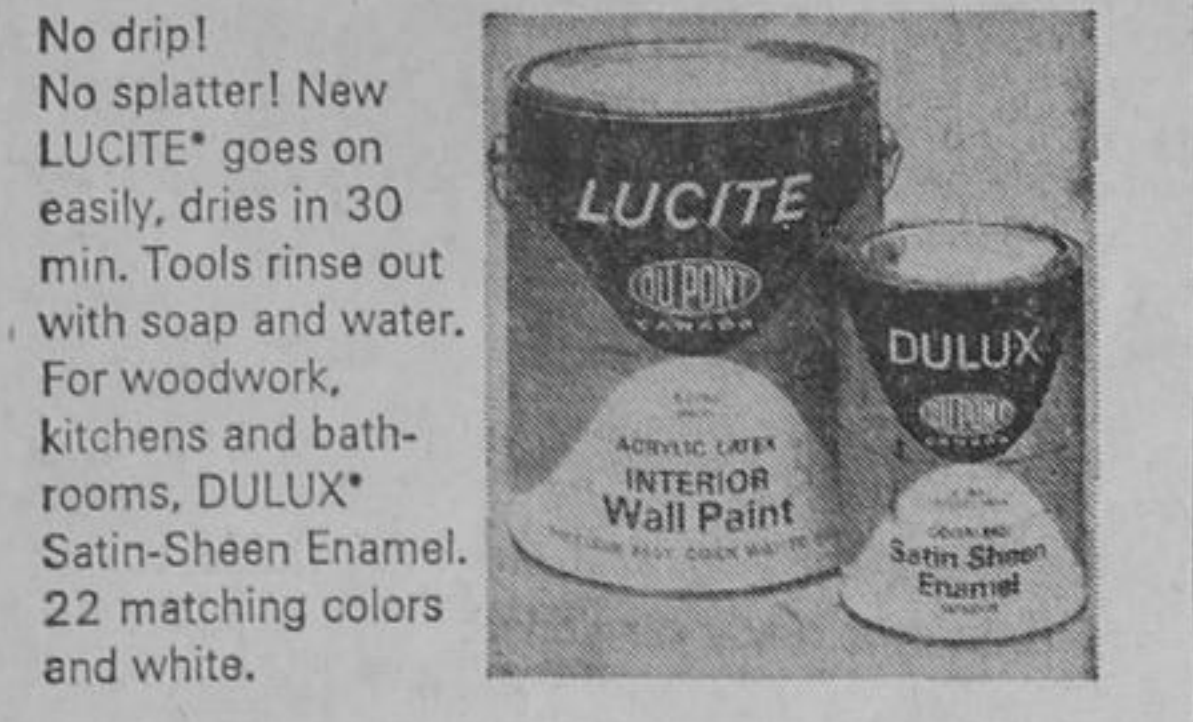
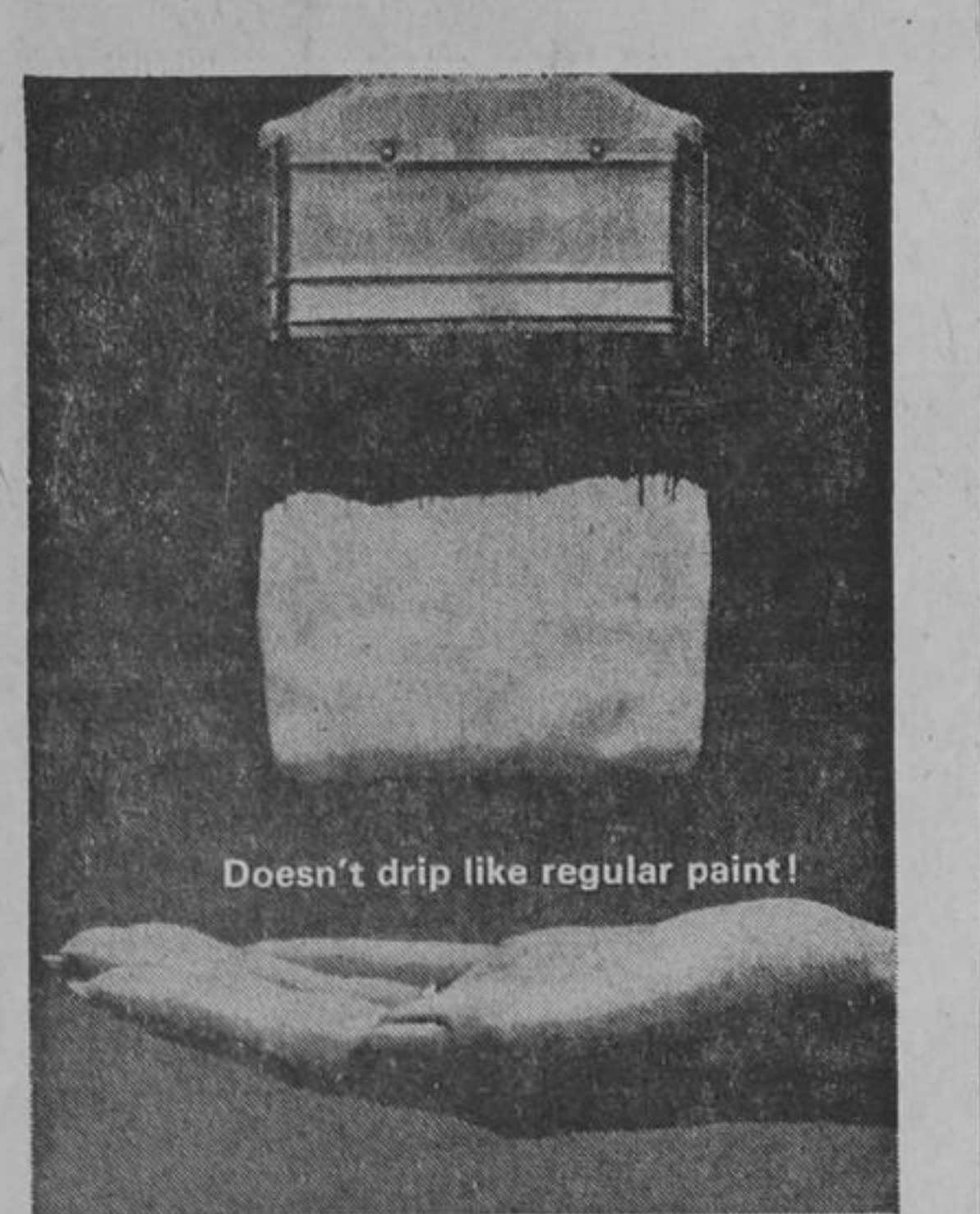
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## The Thornhill Sports Scene

### OASA FINALS

Bad weather certainly dogs the Bayview Plaza team. The final game was to have been played last Saturday, at Tavistock. Instead the date was moved up to Thanksgiving, that is if it didn't rain.

### BOWLING

**Ladies Afternoon Bowling Club**  
Team Standings: Jokers, 16 pts; Aces, 14 pts; Queens 13 pts; Hot Shots 12 pts; Knaves, 6 pts; Deuces, 2 pts.

Over 200 Myrie Porter, 213; Peggy Roswell, 200; Joan Fulton, 217; Janey Hatton, 318; Billee Maver, 220; Peggy Ross, 244; Barb Newton, 214; Doreen Barton, 224.

**Thornhill Mixed Bowling Club**  
Team standings: Jim Rutledge, 20 pts; Don Bradley, 19 pts; Reg. Sparkes, 16 pts; Cy Ball 14 pts; Charles MacDonald, 9 pts; Peter Leahy, 6 pts.

Men's High triple (flat) Cy Ball, 721; High triple (hdep) Cy Ball, 748.

Over 200 Don Bradley, 250; Cy Ball 278; Jim Rutledge, 203; Ken Poole, 225; Al Bonner 249; Harold Hingley, 203.

Women's High Triple (flat)

### Victoria Square

Correspondent: Mrs. W. Sandie  
R.R. 2 Gormley  
Telephone 886-5421

### Lions

It was boys' sports night at last Tuesday's meeting of the Lions Club. The boys of the Lions Softball League, which included Gormley, Headford, Buttonville and Victoria Square, were entertained by the members.

The guest speaker was Don McCrae, a teacher at the St. John A. MacDonald High School, Scarboro, who gave a very interesting address on sportsmanship.

### Euchre

There were eight tables of euchre players at the euchre party held in the community hall on Friday evening of last week, sponsored by the community centre board.

Prize winners were: Ladies: (1) Mrs. Harry Barber, (2) Mrs. Ruby Stone, consolation, Mrs. Walton, most lone hands, Mrs. C. Attridge. Men: (1) Herman Mortson, (2) Bill Cox, consolation, Laurie MacDonald, lone hands, Wally MacDonald.

Lucky draw for a box of groceries was won by Mrs. Harry Barber.

Another euchre party will be held in the hall on October 15 at 8.15 pm. This euchre will be sponsored by the Lions Club. Ladies please provide lunch.

### Church News

Dr. A. F. Binnington was in charge of the church service on Sunday morning. Holy communion was observed and new members received. Miss Edith Boyd and Mrs. Neil Mortson, were welcomed into the Christian fellowship on profession of faith.

Graham Scott BA, will be in charge of the October 17 service. There will also be a nursery for small children, in charge of Mrs. K. Petty.

Choir practice will be held in the church tonight (Thursday) from 8 - 9 pm. New members are most welcome and needed.

On October 19 at 4 pm the Victoria Square Messengers will meet in the Sunday school room, with Mrs. P. Rumney in charge.

The October meeting of the UCW will be held in the Sunday school room on October 20 at 8 pm. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Loren Guild of Headford. All ladies in the community are invited to attend.

### Neighborhood Notes

Birthdays to Percy Bennett, October 15; to Stanley Boynton Jr., one year, October 15; to Lawrence Boynton, October 19.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Canning will celebrate their 11th wedding anniversary, October 16.

Miss Anita Orr, of Bradford, spent the Thanksgiving weekend with Miss Muriel Mortson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson and boys of Islington, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Empringham.

Mrs. L. Knapp and Irene had Sunday evening dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Empringham and girls.

Karen MacDonald, 614; High triple (hcap) Karen MacDonald, 692.

Over 200, Becky Kinney, 205; Beryl Iverson 281; Karen MacDonald 251; Peggy Ross, 222; Eva Hingley 218; Jane Ball, 210; Jan Bradley, 208.

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

#### Senior Soccer

Thornhill 2, Woodbridge 0

Thornhill began the '65-66 season on a winning note by defeating Woodbridge 2-0 in an exhibition game held at home Monday. The contest was very close in spite of the low score. Woodbridge threatened to come back right through to the final gun and only some superior ball handling on the part of Gary Dowker kept the game out of reach. Dowker set up the winning goal and scored the clincher himself. Unfortunately Dowker is not eligible to play soccer for Thornhill this year and the team will have to do some real digging into the roster to find a replacement. One sure possibility is Tom Kitty, a real up and comer who had a chance to show his potential against Woodbridge on Monday.

#### Intermediate Football

Thornhill 0, Richmond Hill 12

The Richmond Hill Intermediates beat Thornhill 12-0 in the first half, then let their defence hang on to the lead for them in the second. A fumble off a punt in the first quarter gave Richmond Hill the ball on Thornhill's 10 yard line to set up their first score. Early in the second they again marched down the field using the reverse and end sweep to chalk up another six pointer. In the second half, Thornhill managed to get the ball inside the Richmond Hill 10 yard line twice, but both times lost the ball on downs before they could score. Outstanding in the second half was Thornhill's defensive squad who kept Richmond Hill from adding on to the score sheet.

Charles and Chris Zinkan and Mike Stratton were the stars of the determined but losing Thornhill squad.

### Intramural Activities

The annual "little brother/little sister" extravaganza was held last Friday so that the senior students could welcome the newcomers to their school and their colour team. Two relays were held between the juniors of the colour teams and both were won by the Red team. The

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