

"Is this dinkum?"

Australian can't believe her round-the-world trip

By RON WALLACE
Liberal Associate Editor

When Elizabeth Anne Casey, then 21, was old, found out she could travel around the world free of charge, she asked herself "is this dinkum?"

It was "dinkum", all right, as the now 21-year-old charmer settles into a temporary life in Richmond Hill, just about as far away as she can go from her Perth, Western Australia, home without leaving earth.

"Dinkum" is an Australian word meaning "true".

Liz is one of hundreds of students who qualified for a Rotary International scholarship this year, a program into which Rotary pours more than \$7 million annually.

She arrived in Richmond Hill a week ago and is staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harris on Becker Road, until classes begin next week at the University of Toronto.

At that time, she'll move into St. George residence at the U of T and spend the next few months acquiring a Master of Arts in history. She has an honors degree in history from the University of Western Australia.

Of the five choices available to her, Liz chose Canada first. Behind



LIZ CASEY

Canada were three schools in Britain and one in Italy.

Last night, Liz told Richmond Hill Rotarians about her visit and her plans.

Included in the Rotary scholarship is round-trip air fare, accommodation, tuition, book costs, meals, living allowance and a travel allowance.

In her case, the round-trip air fare is a continuous fare, since she won't go back; she'll merely keep on going.

Once her studies in Toronto are complete, Liz will enjoy a summer vacation here, travel west across Canada, south to Los Angeles, then head for home across the Pacific.

She arrived in Toronto via London and New York.

For the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Casey, extension of studies was imperative but the location was unknown. It's advised, she said, to continue education away from Australia.

Then, while reading a newspaper, she saw the ad which invited students, as long as they weren't related to Rotarians, to apply for the scholarships.

"When I saw the ad, it was appearing in the paper for the last time," Liz said.

She applied in March, 1976, and was selected in September. One year later, she arrived in Richmond Hill.

Having seen snow only once when she was 16 (and again in Austria from a distance), Liz anticipates the upcoming Canadian winter with understandable apprehension.

Actually, Liz has been travelling since the end of February. She paid for a six-month holiday in Europe.

In France, she enrolled for two months in a French language course, but lasted only two weeks.

"The course was hopeless," she said, pointing out it didn't teach her what she wanted to learn.

She stayed in France two months, then got involved in an organized tour which led her into Russia.

"It's easier to get into the USSR than the USA," she said.

That's because everyone wants to go to the States, but few are prepared to settle in Russia.

Liz is amazed to discover that travelling around the world is such a big deal.

"We're so far away from anywhere (in Australia), all travelling is extensive," she said. "We have the most isolated capital city in the world."

She was startled at the similarity between buildings in Toronto and Perth.

"They're much higher in Toronto, of course, but they look the same."

Standards of living are comparable in most cases, she said, with food and housing more expensive in Canada, and telephone service very expensive in Australia.

Liz notes, and isn't that crazy about, the Western influence in Australia.

"There's a McDonald's in Sydney, but not in Perth, yet," she said, "although Perth has had a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet for eight or nine years."

The present Liberal government in Australia is pro-American, she said.

In her travels, she has made Paris her favorite city, and the Berlin Wall "the most impressive yet upsetting" thing she's seen.

Could she return to live permanently in Canada?

"I am not a disgruntled Australian," she said, "but I have looked at countries with an eye to living in one of them."

The terms of the Rotary scholarship say she must return to Australia, but once there, she's on her own to do as she wishes.

Her mother, Faye, is with her in Richmond Hill this week. She'll leave in a few days for Los Angeles before returning to Perth.

And, Liz hopes, her dad will visit Canada next year.

A life insurance consultant, Mr. Casey has not been away from Australia in his life, and Liz hopes that a Masters degree presentation at the University of Toronto will impress him enough to make the trip.

"All I have to do is get the degree," she said.

Liz is still having a difficult time believing this fairy-tale adventure is really happening to her.

Once she settles into her new life in Richmond Hill and Toronto, she'll find out it really is quite dinkum.



Was a school in 1874, now community centre

By MERILYN MCKELVEY
(Sixth in a series)

Around the intersection of John Street, Don Mills Road and 14th Avenue, at the beginning of the 19th century, there was a thriving community called German Mills.

It consisted of a sawmill, a flour mill, a distillery, a brewery and a malt house.

However, by 1828, it had become a deserted village due to the economic conditions of the times.

The community soon grew up again and in 1855 the Township of Markham records show that there was a school located along the 4th Concession Road.

In 1874, a new school was built on the site — Public School S.S. No. 2.

The building still stands today at 8 German Mills Road off Simonston Boulevard and it is called the German Mills Community Centre.

The building rests on a solid stone foundation and the type of construction used is known as board and batten. The battens rise up and curve into scallops just under the cornice.

On top of the high gable roof there is a belfry with four campered supports and simply moulded capitals.

Unfortunately, the bell which hung in the belfry and sum-

moned the students to school was recently stolen.

At the front, two doors lead into the building, one for the boys and one for the girls as was the custom in the 19th century.

Classes were held in the building until 1962. More than 30 teachers taught in the one room schoolhouse during the 88-year period.

The first was Arabella Hemingway. Emma Wyatt taught from 1900 to 1906, Jennie Reaman from 1920 to 1936, Jean Muirhead from 1942 to 1948 and Mrs. Kathleen Duncan from 1949 until the school closed.

The teacher who went on to become most famous was Leonard S. Klinck, who taught in German Mills from 1897 to 1900.

He then moved to Vancouver where he became Dean of Agriculture in 1914 and then President of the University of British Columbia from 1919 to 1944.

The school still serves the community today as a daycare centre owned by the Town of Markham.

In 1974, the community of German Mills celebrated the building's centennial.

To learn more about the history of the building, one should read Laura Weaver's booklet, German Mills School: Centennial 1874-1974.

German Mills girl finishes fasting

By NAZNEEN SADIQ

Ten-year-old Nasreen Khan of 207 Bayview Fairways Drive had an unusual post-midnight snack at 4 in the morning and then proceeded to fast for the next 15 hours.

This is a significant religious development for the Khan family who along with all the Muslim families of Toronto are observing the month of Ramadhan on fasting.

The month of Ramadhan which is governed by the lunar cycle involves fasting from sunrise to sunset for

30 days and culminates with the celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr.

For Muslims this period of fasting is a necessary exercise for the purification of body and mind. Along with the abstinence of food and drink, the virtues of charity and humility are stressed.

The 27th Fast or Roza as the Muslims call it, is the most important one.

This is called Lailatul-Qadr or the night of the revelation. On this occasion the Koran the holy book of the Muslims was

revealed to their prophet Muhammad.

For ten-year-old Nasreen Khan the significance of all this may be overwhelming but her reactions are as Canadian as her birth.

She spent the day riding her bicycle and playing with her friends. She said that it was a nice feeling and she didn't feel hungry till the evening when her mother started making the dessert.



NASREEN KHAN

maple news

Registrations at hall on Thursday

BY ANNE FOWLER
832-1204

Registrations for Guides, Browns, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers will take place Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Events take place at the Scout Hall, Keele Street, next to the arena.

For those who take part in the registration, there will be a corn roast and soft drinks.

The organization is still

looking for a Brownie leader. Brownie leaders, accepted Thursday, but if a leader cannot be found by the end of the week, the pack will fold.

Due to business pressures, it is impossible for me to continue writing the Maple News. Anyone who may be interested in this position should call Ron Wallace at The Liberal, 884-8177.

HELPMATE INFORMATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

883-2234

September-October

883-2234

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			14	15	16	17
			Langstaff beavers, cubs, scouts registration. Morgan Boyle Park, Pearson Ave., Richvale. 7.30 p.m.	Girl Guides fashion show. 1.30 p.m., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Redelmeier, 1078 Major Mackenzie. 884-7775. Coffee House, sponsored by York Central Assn. of Mentally Retarded. St. Mary's Catholic Church. 8 p.m.	Monte Carlo Night at Thornhill Community Centre, sponsored by St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church. From 8 p.m. 889-3418.	DISCOVERY DAYS begin in Richmond Hill. Thornhill Village Jubilee Festival celebrating 19th century Thornhill. From 1 to 5 p.m. in the old village spread over 15 sites. Busy Bees campout at Orangeville. 884-4274.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Richmond Hill United Church — slides on Kenya. 7 p.m. Cut-A-Thon at the Village Coiffure. 10,133 Yonge. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Registration tea, 1 to 4 p.m., Crosby Memorial Arena, Main St. Unionville. Further info call Unionville Skating Club, 887-5571 or 297-2752.	Adult education courses. York County Board of Education schools 7-9 p.m. Town hall meeting. Barney Danson, Richvale Community Centre. 8 p.m. "Communication in the family" course. Registration Bayview Secondary. 7 to 9 p.m. "No Fines" week at Richmond Hill library.	Charles Connor library. Movies. 7 p.m. Horticultural Society. Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church. Mother's Break Program registration. Contact Janet Kusysecyn 881-2236 or Linda Mather 889-9280. Richmond Hill West. Brownie registration at McKillop School from 4.30 to 6 p.m.	Training sessions for parents & teachers at St. John's Baptist, 75 Oxford. 7.30-9.30 p.m. 881-2818. Main library, Richmond Hill. Three films. 7.30 p.m. "Communication in the family" registration. See Sept. 19.	Main Library, Richmond Hill. Rock musical night. 7.30 p.m. Discovery Days activities at the arena. All evening.	Main Library, Rock musical "Oliver". 7.30 p.m. Discovery Days activities at the arena. All evening.	Main Library, Dixie Flyers. 8 p.m. All day — Discovery Days activities at the arena. Rummage sale at St. Mary's Anglican Church and Union Villa. Church 1 to 3 p.m.; Villa 10 a.m. Walkathon and Bikeathon, held by Canadian Bible Society starts at St. Mary's Anglican Church 9 a.m. Mrs. Gray, 884-3878.
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Gormley Missionary Church. Movie "Time to Run". 7.30 p.m.	First meeting of Partners without Partners course, at Richmond Hill and Thornhill Area Family Services. 8 p.m.	Richmond Hill United Church hosts international fall festival featuring supper and entertainment. First sitting: 5.15 p.m. 884-1301.	Thornhill newcomers' club first evening meeting at 8 p.m. at Heinzman House. 889-8148; 881-0639.			