



Marian Barry, (left), Bethesda Road, R.R. 2, Stouffville, met her pen pal of 40 years, Jeannette Steele of Scotland when Jeannette came calling recently. Although corresponding all this time, they had never seen each other or even talked to each other before. Marian and Jeannette have been writing regularly since Grade 6 public school. —Brenda Little

## Pen pals meet after 40 years

by BRENDA LITTLE  
STOUFFVILLE—The day that Marian Barry of Bethesda Road, Whitchurch-Stouffville thought would never come, finally arrived. After 40 years of writing and waiting she has at last been united with her pen pal Jeannette Steele from Scotland.

"I've been writing to Jeannette since Grade six," says Marian. "But we had never met or even talked to each other on the phone. Being able to see her after all these years is wonderful."

While making plans to visit a friend in Vancouver, Jeannette decided her trip would afford the perfect opportunity to meet Marian.

"I wrote and asked if I could come to see her," says Jeannette. "Everything else just fell into place."

The two women found they didn't have to go through an adjustment period.

"After 40 years of writing we knew each other pretty well. I feel so comfortable with Marian. She's just what I expected," explains Jeannette.

Marian and Jeannette were matched up through a pen pal program in Grade six and have been writing to each other, at least twice a year, ever since.

"I think we're the only ones still writing," says Jeannette.

Now that Jeannette has met Marian and her family, she wishes she had planned to stay longer.

"Five days isn't enough," says Jeannette. "They just flew by."

During her stay with Marian, Jeannette has visited Niagara Falls, The C.N. Tower, Deer Park Inn and many of Marian's old

residences that she has heard so much about in letters.

In her travels, Jeannette has noticed many differences between Scotland and Canada.

"The people are so friendly and social here," says Jeannette. "At home we don't have nearly as many large get-togethers." The restaurant service in Canada also impressed Jeannette very much.

"It's wonderful how the waitresses keep asking you if everything's alright," says Jeannette. "Also, it's nice not to have to pay for a second cup of coffee."

Eating meals at Marian's house was also a treat for Jeannette. She was able to try many foods, such as pumpkin pie and clam chowder, that she'd never tasted before.

"My stay has been a total thrill," says Jeannette. "I'm really sorry I'm going home so soon."

"I definitely want to come back some day," she adds.

Marian hopes to visit Jeannette in Scotland in a few years' time when she and her husband retire.

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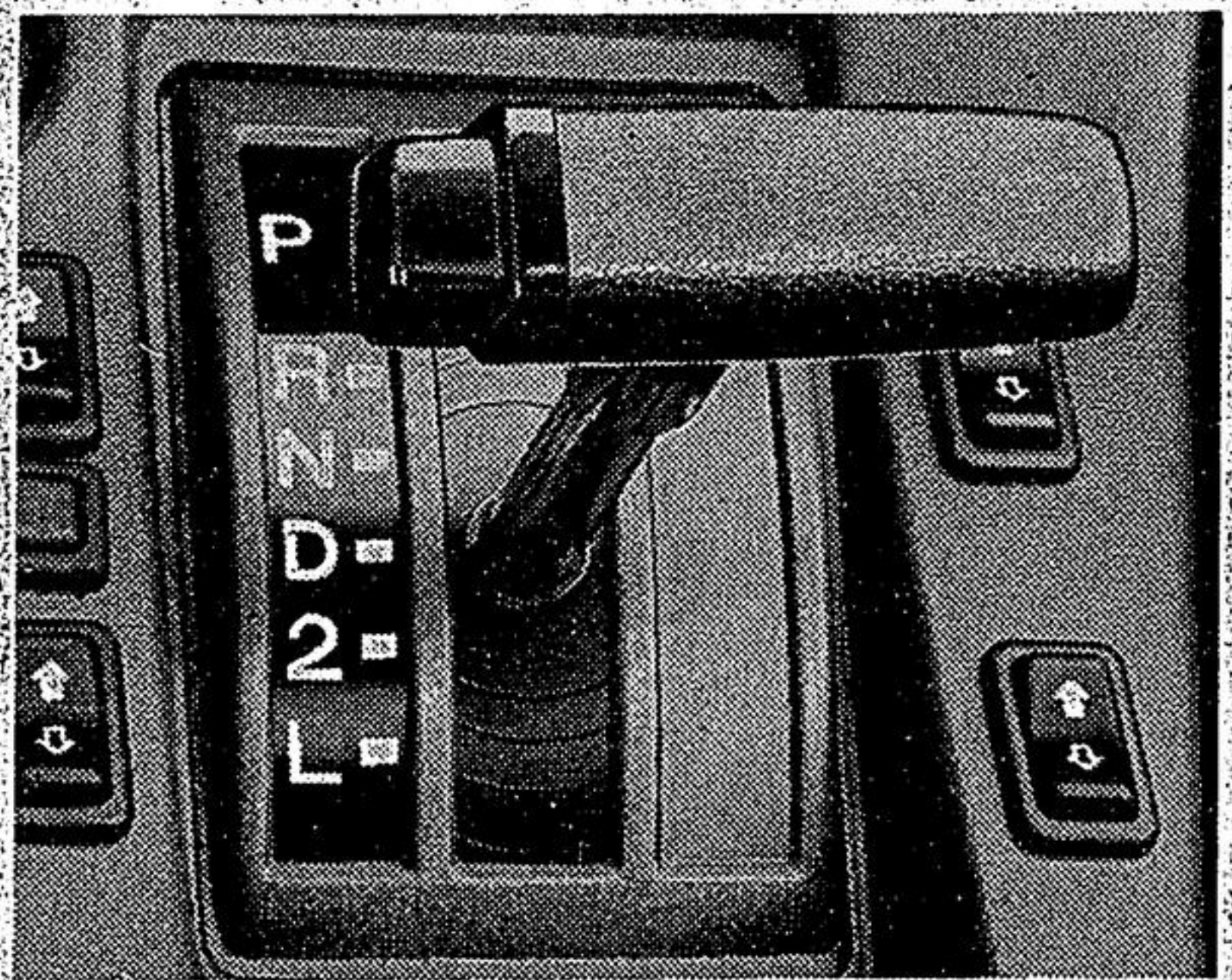


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## A letter of thanks

Recently, Lawrence Milner, Mayor of Dauphin, Manitoba, stopped off in Whitchurch-Stouffville, during a holiday trip across Ontario.

Although Mayor Tom Wood wasn't in at the time, Ed Lundman, the Town's Chief Administrative Officer, welcomed Mayor Milner to the municipality and proceeded to show him around.

In appreciation of this hospitality, Mr. Milner, on his return, took the time to write the following letter. It reads:

Dear Mayor Wood:

We had a good visit with Ed Lundman who showed us around your domain. We were impressed with your kingdom, especially some of the country estates. You have an excellent recreational centre in the making. We liked your swimming pool, ball diamonds, tennis courts and lawn-bowling complex.

Your community must provide some complex problems for you and your Council, because you have both urban and rural territory. Here, we have only the urban area. The Town, to be concerned about. Our rural area has a Reeve and Council similar to ours in Town.

I was surprised and very pleased to receive from you, the framed coat of arms of Whitchurch-Stouffville. Thank you very much! It will be displayed in the Mayor's Office in Dauphin, reminding me of a very pleasant visit.

Enclosed is a key to The Town of Dauphin. We would welcome a visit from you so we could unlock our doors to you. You could have a particularly exciting time in our community during the celebration of Canada's National Ukrainian Festival held annually during the first weekend in August.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,  
Lawrence A. Milner,  
Mayor,  
Dauphin, Manitoba

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