

21 Oct 96

Dear Frances, I do hope your trip to Harvington Hall was a great success & it is good that you now feel well enough to take part in such outings.

Yesterday (Sunday) in the afternoon Maria & I joined a tour of five "Places of Worship" in downtown Victoria, laid on by the Hallmark Society as a fundraiser, — the idea came from Joan Peggs. It was fascinating & took you way back in Victoria's history. Maria was the perfect guest as her own memories & experiences go so far back too! We started at the synagogue where we got a good run-down on the Torah. We got both cathedrals (including crypts) and the Anglican Cathedral has the most beautiful stained glass window in the new extension. It was very clear that the Anglicans have the money! The Presbyterians have a delightful old place & I'd never been in it before — a horseshoe shaped church with a balcony all round. It is amazing how they all have their faithful congregations, & I expect Oxford is the same. I wonder

if you could tour 5 different faiths' churches in Oxford or York in an afternoon? The last part of call was Joan Peggs' own church, the James Bay United Church, which has done a magnificent job of restoration. It was an awfully cold day & we were very happy to be treated to a handsome tea & scones. Unfortunately only 36 people took part in this event which had obviously involved quite a lot of planning, but the Hallmark Society always sets its bees too high for fundraisers.

Today has been a soaking wet day & blustery. In the morning we shopped & this afternoon I went to see our new accountant & income tax adviser, as we are gradually streamlining our monies all under one roof (as you have done). The bank that was doing a lot of things for us, (to who badly wanted to take over everything) has really let us down

in a number of ways, so the  
Hong Kong Bank of B.C. is now  
our choice. But never fear. It will  
not be taken over by mainland  
China!

I am so pleased that the books  
have gone to Kilchoan, & isn't  
Mrs. Catriona Macmillan delighted?  
She has written such appreciative  
letters. I don't think she ever  
knew Eric MacPherson's family —  
the name was Henderson & they were  
a big family. Sandy was going to  
write to Mrs. M. Jean Christie  
remembered staying in at Sauro. When  
he was 8 yrs. old. She was kept  
-bed with a bad cold & the  
housekeeper brought a day old  
chicken in a box to amuse her!

I think winter has set in here  
too, & we are to look forward  
to rain & wind & lots of both.  
Last week we had a wild break  
storm which left most of  
Goodacre towers powerless, but  
we managed to keep a few  
useful circuits going, & could

boil a kettle & keep the  
refrigerator going, & most  
importantly, keep Maurice's  
pubbing machine going! The  
storm uprooted a tree by the  
Cathedral in the old graveyard,  
& underneath they found a grave  
& coffin they'd never known was  
there! The ferries got hopelessly  
off schedule, but none of this  
affected us!

Maurice has started making  
vegetable soup, & is busy  
chopping up vegetables. He  
loves doing this once I get in  
going

Do you remember "Particularly  
rich in Coptic manuscripts —"  
I think you & Pope John met up  
with them in his earlier years. I  
read a wonderful book about him.  
Much love & we are so glad that  
you are so much better.

Love & Jane