

11 December 99

Dear Frances,

Your dear little card has arrived - I have to confess my memory is so selective, I can't even remember how we teased each other! But I do know how spoiled I was. Enough.

It is 6.30 am, Saturday, & I've just finished doing more local cards.

Yesterday I went to see Hugo (her name is really Hugette) - she is now in her 80's & about 1 1/2 yrs. ago she fell & broke her pelvis but is slowly making a good recovery. She no longer does her visiting work out at the prison, but while I was there yesterday another person came who also does prison work & I found their conversation very interesting.

The news of Sandy & Joe & Barbara is better than at first. B. is making a good recovery so it was only a minor stroke, but

I'm not expecting a home-grown art work Christmas card this year. She will be their preoccupation.

You are right, I am so lucky that their visit in September went off without illness or incident of any kind. It was all an ambitious undertaking, & I was able to show them so much around Victoria that a lot of people wouldn't know & also let them have afternoon snooze time.

This week we went to the Linden Singers Christmas concert. They have a very good director & always have an unusual blend of a program, & afterwards the party begins - the Wassail Bowl - over in the church hall, with mulled wine & Christmas fare baked by the Singers themselves. There the carol singing is uproarious & it happens every year - a lovely chance to see some folks you only see once a year. Last night having done my laundry I got out the little ceramic

Christmas Tree which lights up & hangs around it its well known little decorations.

Maion has taken a little course (all very professionally done) for Seniors Counselling Seniors, & is just starting out. It seems to be very flexible & she is directed who to go to. She said on the course there was a French girl & a Chinese man, & in Victoria there could be a need for every ethnic group. I won't question her about this voluntary work because it is obviously confidential. I think she could be a big help to someone in need, & very diplomatic.

Anything I write after this will only reach you after Christmas.

Lots of love & Christmas wishes

Love
Jane