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We publish weekly during the academic year with a circulation of 10,000.

Must be submitted by e-mail including your name, letters with pseudonyms will not be printed. Letters must be 200 words maximum. Deadline for letters is Friday at noon.

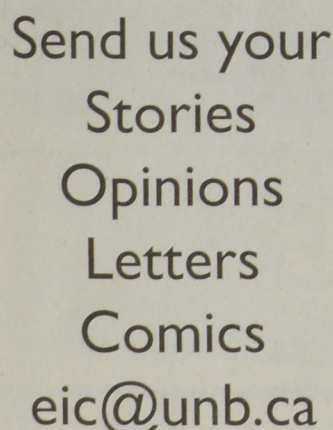
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"Why are you crying, you're not a war bride." These were words my mum spoke to me as, with tears in her own eyes, she looked away from the window of the train and the masses of people crowding the platform at our first stop in New Brunswick, Campbellton.

Indeed, why was I crying? But cry I did, along with so many other family members - daughters, sons and grandchildren, who accompanied their special war bride family member on this amazingly memorable trip.

We traveled by train from London, Ontario to Montreal where we boarded the official 'War Bride Train' taking us to Halifax and Pier 21 for the 60th Reunion of War Brides. But this was no ordinary walk to the train platform.

Via Rail employees had arranged a special 'parade to the platform' lead by a piper, a very special piper - my mum's

grandson! It was not an easy task trying to stay out of my mum's sight - imagine a 6 foot piper in full Black Watch attire

trying to remain incognito while everyone around us was commenting on the piper and all the media. But Todd did

manage to surprise his Nan and with as much love and pride as any grandchild could muster, he escorted my mum as the train of three led the outrageous

Through the station and a mass of media and cameras, onto the waiting train.

The self-described committee of "four ordinary Via employees," whose brainchild this train was, warned us that we were in for a treat once we reached New Brunswick (Ron Jackson, Peggy Topple, Nancy Risser, and 8-months-pregnant Annick Belley are anything but ordinary, rather they're extraordinary individuals for a multitude of reasons.)

How sad for communities outside the Maritimes (especially Eastern Ontario) that chose to ignore personal requests by committee members to participate in this monumental journey. You really missed out on an exciting event and the opportunity to acknowledge an integral part of our Canadian and your own local history.

No words could prepare us for, nor even begin to describe the impact of, the lively warm greetings awaiting us in Eastern Canada.

All along the Maritime route, in the wee early hours of the morning, in the cold, the rain, the fog, and dark of night you were there - you very special people. You made sure that we heard and saw you - from the official stops in Campbellton, Jacquet River, Bathurst, Miramichi, Moncton, and Truro, all the way to Halifax and, surprisingly, back again - you were there, in masses, from all across Canada's East Coast, including a contingent from PEL's Historical Society.

Westchester: no one group was more disappointed that the train did not stop than those aboard the War Bride Train – passengers and Via Rail employees alike.

We first noticed cars parked along the roads leading to the train crossing and wondered what was happening. Wow! We soon experienced what was happening: Once again a special and unique welcome.

Throughout New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, you not only crowded station platforms, you sent your warm wishes from along country lanes, crossroads, porches, backyard fences, and hillsides, from alongside the tracks and from cars that were stopped waiting for this 23-car-long train to pass.

There were many who left work to wave as the train passed their workplace, there was the RCMP detachment who lined up along the platform to salute the

On Sunday, November 11th, the Colour Party marches to their posts at the Fredericton Cenotaph

precious cargo aboard this special train as it eased into the station (you initially worried us when we saw the many cruisers parked at the station).

Thank you to the group of women whose spontaneous song and dance number delighted all who witnessed your impromptu show and prompted shouts of "Again, again, please!" - to which you readily obliged.

Then, on to the reception that patiently waited for our late arrival in Halifax. It seemed that the whole Atlantic Command was there, so many in naval uniforms, officers, naval cadets, and the

Stadacona Band, the local and provincial politicians were there, too, bolstered by the exuberant people of Halifax and

Nova Scotia. All welcomed us, literally, with open arms. There were cheers of applause and shouts of "Welcome back, welcome home!" Indeed it seemed like home – we were overwhelmed with the reception.

Your smiling faces, the signs, cheers, colour parties, and salutes, the veterans, police, red hat ladies, IODE, hockey teams, pipe bands, cadets, armed forces, all the groups and organizations proudly displaying their colours to everyone of you. The memory of all this and so much more is etched in our minds and on our hearts forever!

To all you wonderful Maritimers who made our mums feel so special: Thank you. To coin a British phrase, "you done

yourselves proud!"

I eagerly tried to document the sights and sounds of all these pipe bands, the fire trucks with lights flashing, the people of all ages, all cheering and waving signs and flags—but no picture, no video tape or words could possible do these people and their enthusiasm justice.

These same crowds were perplexed at my comments that we were overwhelmed by their reception, they could not understand that there would be any other way to greet this special train with its equally special passengers.

And who was responsible for initiating this outpouring of welcome and love? A very hard working group of four Via Rail employees, Ron, Peggy, Nancy,

375 King St

NICKY W ZEE'S

dance bar
night club

FREDERICTON'S PLACE TO BE WEDNESDAYS

Molson Midweek Mayhem





Jordan Croucher Special Guest TONIGHT
 Music in main bar by his personal DJ RS Smooth



DJ Fuji

DJ Nasty Naz



Get In Early to avoid The Lineup for Freddy's Biggest Student Party Night
 No cover with valid 07/08 Student I.D.

Campus Cup BEGINS TONIGHT : Can Neill House Repeat as The Champ?

FRIDAYS

FREE CASH FRIDAY'S

Get in before Midnight
and receive



\$10.00 in

Free Zee Cash with paid cover.
 (can be used that night on select products)

Also 10pm - Midnight
 \$2.00 Rum, Rye, Gin, or Vodka

Ladies Night Too (must pay cover to receive Zee Cash)
www.myspace.com/nickyzees

SATURDAYS

Beat the line and get in early
 \$3.00 Doubles of Rum, Rye, Gin, or Vodka
 from 10pm - Midnight

SUNDAYS

10-close

2 for 1 Liquor
 (All but Top Shelf)
 \$2.50 Alpine Draft (16 Oz)



Karaoke with Sean Burgess (in the pub)
 DJ Fuji upstairs. No Cover