

**A reflection offered by two Fulford Residents
Mary Ramsay and Catharine McKenty**

Written in April 2020 in the midst of the Covid 19 period of isolation

Just Who Is Living Under The Roof Of Fulford?

This enquiry led to the receiving of many interesting and amazing histories as recounted by residents themselves, or by families and friends. We live in the midst of such an accomplished group of ladies who have contributed so much to society over many years, a number having faced unusually steep life challenges. From many countries we have come: In addition to Canada, we are from Trinidad, England, Ireland, Serbia, Australia, Poland, the United States, Yugoslavia, Portugal and Japan.

We are teachers, professors, authors, contributors to publications, and university graduates, including some with postgraduate degrees. Among us is a concert violinist, an opera singer, an accomplished pianist, a clinical psychologist, a prison minister and one who was in ministry to street people. We are translators, linguists, librarians, pastoral care workers, secretaries, and artists. It may be hard to believe but we are champion bowlers, a baseball catcher, a canoe racer who raced on the Rideau Canal. We are mothers, two with seven children each, and great-grandmothers. We have travelled the world. One resident involved in an aerospace company said very proudly, "I worked with eight men, and we put men on the moon!" Living with great courage, there are those who, in World War II suffered in camps with their families, or who had to stand by while their parents were taken away. Some of these families were later reunited.

As you look into the faces of these ageing ladies, and see their smiles, we hope you will have a better idea of their many life accomplishments before they joined the Fulford family.

We are hoping, over time, and with the permission of families, to highlight some of the individual stories of the Fulford ladies

- Mary and Catharine