



SEASONS GREETINGS!

May the Blessings and Joy of this Holiday Season be with You throughout 2010.

It is a pleasure to publish our first Archive Newsletter. We hope that you will also visit our web site at www.smhc-archives.com to view our on line displays and exhibitions. Please leave your comments / messages on our Guest Book.

Lorna Weiss
Chair - Archival Collection Inc.



Our Beginnings

In September 1998, a task team was established to work towards organizing an Archival Committee. In 2003, rooms in the basement of the Administration Building were given and by 2005 room 20 was made available for archival displays.

The meeting held on the 16th October, 1998 established that there was a need to preserve in a usable manner the history of the Centre. A statement of Activities was agreed "To establish and to maintain a display within Selkirk Mental Health Centre so it is available for educational and the preservation of history".

In 1999, the Archive Committee became officially incorporated under the articles of the Manitoba Corporation Act and the Committee became the SMHC Archival Collection Incorporated.

The original Board of Directors was Dr Nakielny, Pat Hubick, Elaine Molson, Isabel Geard, Joan Galka and Doreen Massey.



Alf Barnett

Our Archival Profile Tribute

Alf Barnett came to Canada from Wales in 1924 at the age of 16 with \$16.00 in his pocket. He worked his way from Ontario to Selkirk following his active service with the Royal Canadian Navy. He started his psychiatric nursing career in 1935 at SMHC. His main concern was to see psychiatric nursing given its proper place. And his dream of creating a psychiatric nurses association came to fruition with the creation of the Psychiatric Nurses Association of Manitoba in 1960. The profession of Psychiatric Nursing in Manitoba owes much to his vision and courage. In 1998, for Alf's birthday, the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation Inc. Established the *Alf Barnett Scholarship* which provides funding for a Registered Psychiatric Nurse pursuing graduate or post-graduate education.

The SMHC Archive Collections Inc is a charitable organization and would welcome donations; artefacts and / or monetary to help towards our preservation work. [Contact Lorna Weiss.](http://www.smhc-archives.com)

Bulletin Board:

A dedication ceremony was held on the 27th November, 2009 to denote the change of names of the SPI and Reception Units. Refreshments and Archival displays took place in the Recreation Hall.



Dr David Young

The SPI building will be renamed the Alfred Barnett Building and the Reception Building will be renamed the David Young Building.

In September 2009, the first Family Advisory Committee held a Family BBQ for patients, their families and friends as well as staff. The event was extremely well attended with ample portions of roast pork and entertainment.

Heather Meiklejohn, a former museum curator from London England and Glasgow Scotland, is now teaching at the University of Winnipeg will attend the next Archive Committee meeting in January 2010.

The Committee will be seeking institutional category membership to the Association of Manitoba Archives.

On May the 25th, 1886, patients for the Selkirk Mental Asylum were moved so quietly and unobtrusively from their temporary quarters at Lower Fort Garry, the towns people were hardly aware of their coming to the newly built mental hospital. Dr David Young was the in charge at the Fort and became the first resident doctor at the Selkirk building.

The Committee would like offer a sincere thank you to all those Individuals who have donated artefacts and monetary donations to the Archive Collections Inc.