

GCPS Progress Report

May, 2023

By Diane Sterne

- Sadly, once again, I have a death to report. Our Chairman's father, Eric Goodfellow passed away on Saturday, March 25, 2023. Eric was a ribbon cutter at the opening of the Granite Creek Walking Tour. His father was Rev. John Goodfellow. Just 54 days shy of his 96th birthday, Eric will be missed. Our condolences to Chris and Penny for their loss.
- After our AGM in March, I filed our Annual Report with BC Societies online and paid the \$40 required to keep our Society status.
- Our Cemetery Licence has been renewed for another year. There is no cost for this because we renewed ahead of time.
- We are honoured to have Tony Cook join the GCPS. He is Barrie Cook's son and Tony is the great-grandson of Foxcrowle Percival Cook, merchant at Granite Creek, Coalmont and Princeton. Welcome to our group, Tony. Tony kindly allowed us to post some photos of his family artefacts. Ray Boyd (thank you Ray) has posted a photo of F.P. Cook's gold scales. You can view it here: <https://www.granitecreekbc.ca/archive/Gold-Scales.jpg> Ray also posted a photo of an intact Granite Creek Hotel plate which can be seen here: <https://www.granitecreekbc.ca/archive/Granite-Creek-Hotel-Plate.jpg> These photos are located in the **Archives** section under **Images** and (at the bottom of that page) **Artefacts and Miscellaneous**. We are grateful to Tony for allowing us to include these photos on our website.
- We had a new entry in our online Guestbook. A woman named Fiona was doing research on a local landmark and decided to use our website for the information and photos. She had visited the area in 2021 and decided it would be a good site for her research project.
- Chris and Penny Goodfellow did an AMAZING clean-up at the Granite Creek Townsite. Below are some photos. They weed-eated the cairn, information boards and picnic tables; cleaned all the plexiglass surfaces of the information board faces; bagged some garbage; and painted the cairn. Thank you so much Chris and Penny for all your hard work! Everything looks fantastic!!!!



- On a recent visit to the Cemetery Bob and I discovered what looks to be a new, small grave of some kind. It is in Row C, Line 22. Some soil has been added and there is a small cat suncatcher hanging from a tree above it. It could be a pet grave/ashes or possibly a person's ashes. If you have any information, please let us know for our records. Below is a photo taken of the spot.



- We have had two interments at the Cemetery recently. Both are from the Rice family and are in the Rice family plot. The first is Jean Page who passed away this year. The second is Edith Rice. She passed away 7 years ago and was interred at the Princeton Cemetery. Her family wanted her buried at the Granite Creek Cemetery; however, at the time of her death, the Granite Creek Cemetery was closed, and officials would not allow her to be buried in the family plot. It was Edith's passing that began our journey to have the Granite Creek Cemetery reopened. The Rice family decided to move Edith to the Granite Creek Cemetery now that it is permitted. It is comforting to have her in the family plot where she belongs. Both Jean and Edith's names have been added to the board at the Cemetery, the FindaGrave website (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/252810794/jean-christine-page> and <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/254014075/edith-sibyl-rice>), my binder, and to our Granite Creek Cemetery website. Thank you, Ray Boyd, for adding it to our website: <https://www.cemetery.granitecreekbc.ca/docs/Cemetery-Index-with-Plot-Map-2023.pdf>. Thank you Bob Sterne for reformatting everything for me.
- Bob and I went up to the Cemetery to work on the "Valley View" section where cremains can be scattered (there are currently no cremains there). There were dead trees and many branches on the ground. We have told our neighbour, Maurice Chartrand, that he is welcome to take the dead trees that Bob flagged. Maurice sells firewood and has helped us a lot with dead trees. We will need to make another trip to work on this section, and hopefully will complete the cleanup then. I think it would be a good idea to purchase a metal bench to place in this area once we have all the cleanup done there. Below are before and after pictures of what has been done so far:



Before



After

- Work still needs to be done at the Cemetery. Anyone who feels so inclined can pitch in and sweep headstones, weed-eat inside and outside grave fences (this is a big job and even if you can only do a portion of the Cemetery, it will be greatly appreciated), and pick up any trash. Please let me know how much time you spend up there so Bob can keep track of the volunteer hours in our records. Thank you!

- Financial Report: 20 paid members; current bank balance \$3,231.93; PayPal \$193.60; cash on hand \$21.82; accounts payable to Ernie Rice when Delprato Cabin picnic table is made \$800.00. Balance is \$2,649.35. Note: these numbers reflect that the annual insurance has been paid.