



The Glen

The Regimental Magazine of the Calgary Highlanders



Honouring the Battalion of Heroes: 75th Anniversary: Juno to The Rhine



Volume 8, Issue 1

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Old enough to give their lives for their country
but not old enough to drink...




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Editors' Page

LCol (ret'd) Lee Villiger & Major Kent Griffiths



This edition of the Glen Magazine is dedicated to the 75th Anniversary of our brave and successful Battalion of Heroes in 1944.

Not until they hit the shores of Normandy on 5 July

1944 did the 1st Battalion of The Calgary Highlanders get into action. Taking over Command from the famous 'battle drills' CO, LCol Scott in 1942, LCol Donald George MacLauchlan was the Commanding Officer as they crossed the channel shortly after D-Day and headed inland through the Normandy farm country towards Caen. When LCol Ross Ellis relieved MacLauchlan of command on 30 October 1944, the Battalion had fought exhaustedly through France, Belgium and Holland. Over the next three days the Battalion launched into the Battle of the Scheldt and on Halloween, 31 October 1944, the incredible sacrifices of their blood, sweat, and tears was to prey successfully on the Germans defending the strategic Walcheren Causeway!

Not since St. Julien had the Regiment had such grave casualties, but still sustained a great foothold on the Walcheren objective. This brave victory allowed the rest of the 5th Brigade and the British Forces to clear this strategic foothold giving the Allies the renewed strength of the much needed logistics punch inland.

Onward from Walcheren to across the Rhine was no easy task, and I challenge all of you to read about our Battalion of Heroes as they pushed across the Rhine and into the Homeland of Nazis and witness to their terrible violence! (check out the back cover for more)

This edition of 'The Glen' also highlights the return of the 10th Battalion colours to our Museum and the Memorial Services of two very successful Commanding Officers.

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Unless referenced, all articles and photos are generated by The Glen volunteers: LCol (retired) F. Lee Villiger and Maj Kent Griffiths.

Editorial Comment

The Battalion of Heroes! So what?

Only handful of the veterans from the World War II Calgary Highlanders, "Battalion of Heroes" are still in our presence. Old soldiers never die, they just fade away. Sad that this is a fact of life, but nevertheless we certainly miss their presence. Yeah, but to today's soldiers... So what?

In 1984, at my first annual 10th Battalion and Calgary Highlanders' Association Dinner, held at the famed Palliser Hotel, it seemed that 1/2 the room of about 200 or more people were from the Battalion of Heroes! The famous 10th Canadians' Wally Bennett from the First World War was also in the room! Stories were flying and veterans never stopped enjoying themselves in each others' company.

So, why the "So What" Comment?

In my last several years with the military, I had been a member of the Canadian Army Command and Staff College. I worked as a Directing Staff, Chief Instructor Western Area, and finally the Chief Standards Officer for the Reserves. Big deal.... So what? To be honest, that experience ingrained in me a sense of problem solving, finding answers to difficult tactical and operational decisions and even helped with family and civilian decisions...Asking so what was creating the best possible course of action that would save the most lives and resources while meeting the mission of the higher commander or fulfilling tasks from my organization. The process of asking yourself, "so what" led to getting deep into a problem, looking at advantages and disadvantages and then making proper deductions to help shape decisions.

The meeting of the veterans at Association meetings and dinners, in the Mess, or on the street, has an element of "so what?"

ANSWER: These veterans drive the psyche of the modern Canadian soldier. I believe that it is who we are as Calgary Highlanders! As the Padre alluded to at Knox Church during the St. Julien Service, soldiers' resiliency helped to forge the steel of the sword; essentially, the unbreakable toughness expected from a Calgary Highlander. "Pushups do not get easier, you get harder!"

The Fighting Tenth of the First World War helped shape the World War II Battalion of Heroes! Looking into our deep history, the Calgary

Highlanders, through affiliation with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders also shaped our modern psyche from Scotland's history such as the 93rd's Thin Red Line and the Battle at Balaclava. All of these soldiers, had to be resilient to be successful and sacrificed to maintain the strength of the Regiment.

These tough Canadian soldiers of the First World War and World War II helped to shape the modern Calgary Highlander of today. So, no need to go to Ancestry DNA, simply look around, know your history, find out about the stories of veterans and then look into the mirror. Time to live up to who you are as a Highlander! Can you be forged into steel?

So What? Do the personal self-reflection and historical analysis... Act like a professional soldier and show up to all your training, Unit parades, the Association events, and do your best on courses and any operations when you are called upon to serve.

Start to shape who you are as a modern day soldier... wear your uniform proudly, keep up your fitness, and make a contribution to the Regiment in any manner and form you can. It really is not an option, even as a Reservist. If you see your service as an option, then kindly move on out of the history of greatness that lived before you. Be the Calgary Highlander from which steel is forged; the forged steel of your history and the resilient veterans that went before you.

Lee



Memories of a young Ryan Palmer, destined to become Commanding Officer.

One day he is serving snuff and the next he is a resilient veteran - leading the Regiment.






Command Team

LCol Ryan Palmer and CWO Glenn Fedoruk

The 2018-19 Training Year has been an exciting and challenging one for The Calgary Highlanders, but we continue to adapt, persevere and grow.

The Strengthening the Army Reserve (StAR) initiative initiated by LGen Wynnyk while he was Commander of the Canadian Army and reaffirmed in the 2017 Defence Review *Strong, Secure, Engaged*, continues to drive events on the armory floor. As of the time of writing, the regiment sits at a strength of 253 against 272 establishment positions; our highest strength since the peak of the Afghanistan operations. To manage this growth, we are placing a high priority on leader development, particularly the Primary Leadership Qualification / Infantry Junior Leaders' Course to qualify new Master Corporals, and the Development Period 1.1 Dismounted Infantry Platoon Commander's Course for our junior officers, ensuring that our soldiers have the qualified leaders they deserve.

In maintaining our core individual and collective skill sets, A Company takes the lead. This took the form of a series of Wednesday night training sessions and weekend exercises this past fall where we confirmed our skills in physical fitness, rifle marksmanship, Chemical Radiological Biological and Nuclear (CRBN) defence, first aid, and the operation of our support weapons such as our machine guns and anti-armour weapons. After Christmas, we transitioned to offensive operations collective training with a focus on live fire at the section level. At the time of writing, A Coy prepared to deploy a platoon sized element with 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry on Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE, a two-week

long major force-on-force validation exercise delivered by the Canadian Manoeuvre training Center located at Canadian Forces Base Wainwright.

The most obvious impacts of the StAR initiative are the specialty mission tasks such as Assault Pioneer, and Direct Fire Support assigned to Primary Reserve Infantry units across the country. The Calgary Highlanders have been assigned the Medium Mortar task, working on



concert with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment. To create the necessary technical skill sets, we have sent a large number of soldiers on their Infantry Basic Mortarman Course, and key leaders on the relevant Intermediate and Advanced courses. Meanwhile, we have taken delivery of our first 4 mortar tubes,

and some equipment such as additional radios, but await the full suite of specialty stores and vehicles necessary to establish the capability.

Working in concert with Loyal Edmonton Regiment and the Artillery units of 41 Brigade, we will deploy our Mortar Platoon as part of the NATO Enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group to LATVIA as part of Operation REASSURANCE early in 2020. This will represent the first operational deployment involving Reserve soldiers in their new specialty roles, and reflects the confidence that the Army has in us in this early test of the StAR initiative. Though the deployment of the Mortar Platoon to Latvia will represent the largest deployment of highlanders next year, we also anticipate sending soldiers on other operations such as Operation IMPACT (Iraq) and Operation UNIFIER (Ukraine) as our division enters its high readiness cycle.

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A story almost 30 years in the making

In 1990, I was a snare drummer with the Regimental Pipes and Drums of the Calgary Highlanders and we had six members of the unit taking part in the "Massed Beating of Retreat of the Scottish Division", on The Horse Guards Parade in London England. This would turn out to be a spectacular event and due to the disbandment and amalgamation of many of the Scottish Regiments would be one never to be done again.

We arrived at the Scottish Division Training Depot in Milton Bridge, four weeks early, to rehearse with our commonwealth affiliates from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South East Asia. The accommodations were only barely acceptable, and the food was horrible, but the pub life in Edinburgh was impressive. We also spent many a night in the NAAFI (Navy, Army And Airforce Institutes) teaching the barmaids new traditions like tipping. They ended up taking us out for pizza with their new-found wealth.

It was prearranged to make visits with each regiments Scottish "sister regiments" and ours was that of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders (A&SH) at the Stirling Castle. This was an amazing experience for us and we all felt incredibly privileged for this honour. We were treated to a guided tour of the Castle and a beautiful catered luncheon with members of the A&SH. It was fabulous! In their kit shop, they had personalized bottles of whisky, branded with their crest. It only made sense to bring one home. Unfortunately, it didn't take long for me to crack it open and polish it off; but it's whisky and meant to be consumed.

We had a marvelous two weeks in Scotland and then shipped off to the Guards Training Depot in Pirbright, about an hour south west of London. There we were joined by the Scottish Division bands. It was MASSIVE. Some 650+ musicians rehearsing to play for the Queen. Quite the spectacle.

The many side trips and journeys in and around London during the two-week period provided lots of fond memories to this day.

Fast forward 28 years and 11 months...

My friend and compadre on the trip, Keith McFarquhar, came up to me and said that he had something special and that I'd be the only person who would really appreciate it. He presented me with an unopened bottle of the A&SH whisky from 1990. Over time, the angels have had their share, but the majority is still in the bottle. What a wonderful and thoughtful gift. Thanks to Keith, I put it to good use.

Lloyd Martens





Padre's Corner

Captain Thich Troung

Resiliency: A St. Julien's Day Reflection

(Adapted from the homily presented at St. Julien's Day 2019)

When I reflect on the Battle of St. Julien's, I am reminded of one word: **resilience**.

I think of this word because it describes the kind of personality and character that the soldiers of the 10th Battalion had as they charged into Kitchener's Wood, facing a brand new and incredibly deadly weapon of war: chlorine gas. All they had to push them forward was their mission, their faith, their families at home, and their freedom. They met the challenge head on, they may have stumbled, but they sure did not stop. That's *resiliency*.

It takes a special kind of characteristic to help drive a person into the face of danger, under insurmountable odds. It takes a special kind of trait in a person to help push an individual to stand up and bounce back, despite getting tripped up or knocked down. It takes resilience to do what the soldiers of the 10th Battalion did on that fateful day as they charged into that thick green cloud of chlorine gas, to push forward and to push back their enemies.

It would be fair to say that almost every culture in the world, almost every faith, has some sort of wisdom tradition intertwined into the fabric of that community. Wisdom is important, it helps to shape values and meaning, it helps to transfer knowledge and worldview. Wisdom is the experiential knowledge that is often passed on from one generation to the next, from a sage to the student, from parents to children, from the warriors to the trainees. Wisdom is important, it helps us to shape a better world, it helps us to shape ourselves into whole human beings. Wisdom is honourable, it is sacred, it is divine, it is *holy*.

A wise text of the Hebrew literature has a proverb that says this: *If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small. (Proverbs 24:10, New Living Translation)*

The proverb isn't meant to demean an individu-

al in anyway. It's an observation about resiliency, it's an observation about some of the necessary things it takes to become a stronger human being. This proverb is about creating a firm foundation that allows oneself to bounce back in the face of adversity, danger, and challenges. The proverb isn't talking about getting knocked down because we weren't tough enough, instead, it's addressing the necessity of creating a life that is sturdy, to become a person who can weather the storms of life.

That's what resiliency is: the ability to move forward despite being knocked down, it's the ability to bounce back after experiencing an intense amount of pressure and stress. The men who fought at Kitchener's Wood did not shrink at the challenge before them. They pushed forward because they had the conviction, beliefs, training, faith, and a whole host of life experiences that taught them that they could persevere, that they could march onwards. They had what I can only describe as an incredible mental fortitude, a resiliency, that was carved into their very souls.

Building Resiliency

Resiliency is becoming a rarer trait in our current society. Part of that is a result of the lack of opportunities to create resiliency in our personal lives, and part of that is a lack of language, structures and spaces to allow people to suffer and experience pain and grief to develop perseverance. Resiliency isn't something you one day wake up with or something you're born with. It's something you develop over time, it's something you build into the very core of your humanity. We can develop our resiliency mainly in two ways: personally and together as a community.

Personal Resiliency

We build our resiliency personally through our training and through our life situations. It requires a combination of physical, mental, and spiritual experiences that help shape our personal resiliency. Sometimes it takes hard work to build resiliency: you need to grind through life to become a stronger person. A wise chaplain once said to me, "Pushups don't get easier, *YOU* get harder."



As soldiers, our resiliency comes from the confidence we develop by continuously subjecting our mind and bodies to repetitive actions, tasks, and drills to burn these life-saving skills and memories into our very muscles and bones. You build your body to be resilient, you teach your mind to be resilient, you train your heart and soul to be resilient. Resiliency is developed by allowing your physical body, your mental capacity, your emotional and spiritual being to experience pain, suffering, and trauma, in order to grow and become stronger so that you can bounce back.

One of my personal hobbies is my fascination of learning about knives and swords. I am intrigued with the process of forging knives and so I will often watch videos and TV shows of knife makers and blacksmiths creating knives or swords. When forging a knife, a knife maker takes a piece of steel or metal alloy and subjects it to an incredible degree of heat and then hammers that piece of metal repeatedly, and folds the metal over on itself again and again to create a strong knife. The metal is beaten by a heavy hammer against an anvil, it needs to be drawn out, and heat treated and tempered for it to become a strong blade. A well forged knife is resilient, it is sharp, it is tough. It has weathered beatings and hammerings to become stronger. But the process of knife forging is also a delicate balancing act: too much heat or too little heat, too little hammering or too much hammering can result in the blade breaking and ruining the knife or sword.

Resiliency requires time to be developed, resiliency requires balance. You work hard at it personally, you need to learn and get exposure to real life and experience pain and suffering to get stronger, but you also need to know your limits. A good knife maker gives his or her steel time to rest, time to cool down, before putting it back in the forge to heat it up again, or to keep hammering away at it.

Sometimes, we think that we grow stronger by beating ourselves up repeatedly, when in fact, what we need to do to become more resilient is to give ourselves a break. Like every lesson in life, there needs to be a *balance*.

You become more resilient by learning to bounce back from challenges, stress, and trauma in your life. This type of experience helps to develop your mental readiness, your spiritual resiliency. Your body, your mind, and your soul are all connected - how you feed and nurture each part of your humanity impacts your ability to bounce back.

Resiliency Together



The second way we develop our resiliency is through community. In another proverb, the Hebrew Wisdom texts says this: "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." We need to have the support from our peer networks to become resilient. A blade can never stay sharp by itself. A knife doesn't ever stay sharp after a single use, even the flimsiest piece of paper can dull the sharpest of blades. Like a kitchen knife that is honed on a kitchen steel or a sword polished on a whetstone, you need others to help keep you sharp, you need

friendship, camaraderie, and accountability.

Community is important: United we stand, divided we fall. Community is an important and necessary piece of spiritual and mental resiliency. Nowhere else do I see the importance of community played out in the CAF than being on basic training and working together as a course, or a platoon or a section to make sure we succeeded together. You can't do life alone; we were never designed to succeed by ourselves - to *survive* by ourselves. We were designed to be resilient *together*. All of us at some point in our lives will require the assistance of others to make it through the struggles and challenges we face.

We were born into community, we were created for community. We experience pain and suffering together, we grieve together, we grow together, we go on together. That's how to develop resiliency as a community.

Resiliency isn't something you one day wake up with or something you're born with. It's something you develop over time, it's something you build into the very core of your humanity. We can develop our resiliency mainly in two ways: personally and together as a community.

AIRGHARDT "ONWARD"

I like our regimental motto: *Airghardt*. It is the Scottish/Gaelic translation of the word "Onward". I think it is a fitting description of the people of Calgary - we are a people who keep moving forward. It's a motto that is incredibly fitting of our unit. We keep moving forward - *together*.

How will you keep moving onward in life? Have you been knocked down recently? Who do you need to help you get up? How are you building resiliency? Who are you walking alongside? Who are you *allowing* to walk with you in life? The soldiers of the 10th Battalion exemplified this spirit of *Airghardt* - they moved forward, they moved together. I'm sure some tripped and fell along the way as they dove into Kitchener's Woods on that fateful day, but I am also sure they helped pick each other up and charged forward together to face the terror of the first chemical attack of modern warfare... and they did not falter.

It is their tenacity, their courage, their resilience that we come together to remember and commemorate this St. Julien's Day 2019. We will remember them.

Did You Know?

Chaplains are responsible for fostering the religious and pastoral care of Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members and their families, regardless of religious affiliation.

A Chaplain has privileged access to all CAF members of all ranks, has no commanding authority, and is prohibited from bearing arms under the Geneva Conventions.

Their responsibilities include:

- Officiating at special functions, religious services and ceremonies;
- Advising the Commanding Officer regarding religious accommodations issues, ethical dilemmas, as well as spiritual and morale issues of the unit;
- Liaising with civilian religious faith groups;
- Referring members to other care providers such as social workers, psychologists, or medical personnel;
- Providing directed care after significant life incidents;
- Providing notifications to a member's next-of-kin when directed; and
- Applying knowledge in general military administration and chaplain branch policies.

A Chaplain can work in all military environments with members of the Navy, Army and the Air Force. Chaplains provide a ministry of presence and offer spiritual teaching programs. Ceremonies typically require the chaplain to offer prayers, and church services in public and unit parades. Liaison with other spiritual leaders in the civilian community is expected. Chaplains can work in Canada or may be required to go abroad during operations.

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The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association (CHRA)

President — CWO (Ret'd) Emmett G Kelly MSM CD



Greetings from your new CHRA Executive Committee.

At the AGM there were thanks to the outgoing team as well as the election of your new representatives. With a new team comes some new initiatives and opportunity to try new ideas.

One of the key areas where we want to improve is developing an online membership application and renewal portal. This will allow for all persons to renew or initiate a membership including making payment of dues online.

We are also looking into setting up an online kit shop in support of our already successful in-house kit shop (thanks Ken Clements). If all goes as hoped people who search out the CHRA online will find an opportunity to become members and buy some of the outstanding apparel and accoutrements available. Just imagine, deployed and need a new set of PT strip – order it online and wait for your mail.

Membership remains our biggest challenge. Our regiment has had a fantastic history in the past 25 years of supporting operations worldwide. However, we have also seen many of those Highlanders return home and leave the army soon after. The vast majority have no contact with the regiment, and we haven't been able to track them down. We can only do this with everyone's help. Get names and any contact info you have for missing members and let us initiate contact. The CHRA wants to initiate a meet and greet event in the fall at an outside location to see who we can round up. Details to follow.

Currently the CHRA sits at approximately 450+ members out of close to 2500 who have been members since 1980. I am challenging everyone to assist us in growing by an achievable 100 new members every year. Get us the names, we will do the research to find those members.

The next year also represents the 75th anniversary of events in WWII as the war worked towards peace. Numerous events are planned at home and abroad. Amongst these are a 75th Anniversary commemoration of Walcheren in Montreal on 26 October with our 5 Brigade comrades from the Black Watch and the Regiment de Maisonneuve. As well there will be seats available with 41 Service Battalion on their battlefield tour of Belgium and Holland in April/May 2020. Details to follow.



Deepest gratitude to Past-President Reg Spratley for all of his outstanding work and leadership.

The following are the members of your CHRA Committee:

President- Emmett Kelly

Vice President- Mark Dodd

Secretary- Flint Walters

Treasurer- Kent Griffiths

Past President— Reg Spratley

Director/Chair of the Kit Shop Committee- Ken Clements

Director, Governance and HR- Murray Harris

Director, Membership- Bob Besse

Director, at large- Patrick Conlin

Director, at large- Doug Carsted

Director, at large- Joe Doucet

Serving Soldier Rep- MCpl Wilcox



Missing: Reg Spratley and Patrick Conlin





The Kit Shop Report

Manager Cpl (retired) Ken Clements



It has been a very good year for the Kit Shop, as we have increased our sales over last twelve months by a large percentage and interest in the new stocked items is growing. Due to that fact, I would like to thank everyone who has supported the kit shop and helped to make it a success as it is moved into its new direction. During the summer months when the Regiment stands down, I will be re-stocking the kit shop and bringing in some requested products on a small scale to see how they are received. Also, I hope to be able to finally get a new digital inventory system into place which will help me to be able to control the store inventory on a more precise level.

This summer, the kit shop will be closing so more renovations can take place and to get it ready for the new training year.

The kit shop is losing a valued and long serving member as he retires from his position as purchaser. Wayne Stretch has been a volunteer with us for over 15 years and during that time he also served as a Vice President of the Association and has also held a couple of Directors positions. His dedication to the Association helped to keep our operation functioning and growing and I hope he's as successful in his new role as the Association cadet liaison. We have a new President and vice President and I look forward to working with both in the coming year. Our past President Reg Spratley was very supportive of the kit shop and worked hard to promote it and help out on many different levels. It was a pleasure to work with him and benefit from his experience in retail and marketing. I wish him well in his retirement and look forward to working with him in the Association in the future.

As always, I'm open to any suggestions that you may have in regard to stocked items or suppliers that you may know about that have items of interest. A new field knife is in the planning stages with a local supplier and I hope to have a sample to display in September. Also, a Regimental ring is on the drawing board and it appears to be affordable and of good quality coming from a supplier in Ontario. If I do bring this item in, it will be a special order product and will not be stocked. A sample will be on display by September. Other new items will be Regimental wall plaques made in the UK, pewter flasks that are handmade in England, new Regimental colours and golf shirts.



Happy 95th Birthday to Howard Davies

Last July the Association received a request from the granddaughter of one of our World War II veterans. Howard Davies would be turning 95 in July. She said, "It would mean a great deal to him if he could receive a birthday message from the regiment he served with."

LCol Cox, CO at the time, sent a signed birthday letter. In addition the Association sent, the hard-copy book, 'Battalion of Heroes, The Calgary Highlanders in WWII', signed by the Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major, and hard-copy of Calgary Highlanders War Diary for 7-8 August 1944, which describes the events leading up the shelling in which Pte Howard Davies was wounded, and last but not least a music CD, Regimental Pipes and Drums of the Calgary Highlanders.

Based on the information we had were able to do a bit of research. Following the liberation of the city of Caen in the weeks following the D-Day landings The Calgary Highlanders were part of Operation Totalize which was planned to push south from Caen, secure the approach to Falaise, and break the German defences. The operation was supported by US Air force bombers and very close tank support. On the evening 8 August 1944 The Calgary Highlanders secured their objective, the town of Bretteville-sur-Laize. In preparation for German counter attacks The Calgary Highlanders withdrew from the town to occupy the hills on the edge of the town, it was during this move that the battalion was shelled.



<http://www.tricitynews.com/news/french-honour-for-port-moody-veteran-1.1939270>

The following are excerpts from the War Diary 7-8 August 1944

Aug 7, 1944.

FRANCE, VERRIERES, M.R.0560, sheet 40/16 S.W. ROQUANCOURT, M.R.0558, sheet 40/14 N.W. CAILLOUET, M.R.0555, sheet 40/14 N.W. BRETTEVILLE SUR LAIZE, M.R.0453-0452, sheet 40/14 N.W.

After being up half the night with 'O' Groups. and patrol reports, the diarist is a little tired today. The area was very quiet during the morning, and no shelling or mortaring was sent over to bother us. This is a definite relief to one and all.

Meals are a little irregular and a little cold when they do arrive in this area because of the ban on daily movement. Brig. McGill arrived at approximately 1000 hrs. and we are warned to move our 4 companies back a few hundred yds. to allow the 6th Bde. to take over our positions and make way for the armour lanes. This move

will be made at approximately 1400 hrs. During the morning, the C.O. held a company commander's meeting and cleaned up many points too numerous to mention.

At 1400 hrs. Lt. Col. MacLauchlan and the I.O. went to Bde. to attend a final "O" Gp. on the big push to come later tonight. The "O" Gp. finished at 1630 hrs. and all tie in points were complete and everyone satisfied of their own move. Calgary Highlanders will move into VERRIERES at 052602, relieving the S.S.R.'s for our part in phase 1. This move will take place at 0030 hrs.

Aug 8, 1944.

Upon returning from the Bde. "O" Gp. Lt. Col. MacLauchlan called a Bttn. "O" Gp. and all final points were covered for our move. There is to be a terrifically large bomber raid upon several key points and approximately 1000 tons of bombs will drop on each one. This is good news.

Continued next page...



The evening was spent preparing for the move and supper was served at 2030 hrs. The concentration of troops and armour within the small area of IFS is a sight to behold and it will sure be a relief to break out of the "sardine can".

At approximately 0010 hrs. the Battalion moved from IFS at M.R.0463-0563 across country to TROTEVAL FM. and thence to our first objective, VERRIERES, M.R.0560, sheet 40/16 S.W. We were heavily shelled and mortared throughout the move and it is only by the grace of God that there were no casualties. Marching troops were followed by a skeleton F Echelon. We arrived at VERRIERES around 0130 hrs. and the troops dug in at once. Some former S.S.R. slit trenches were used to good advantage as well. Battalion HQ was set up in a demolished farm house, where the S.S.R. had also made their HQ. Upon entering the building, muffled cries were heard emanating from a pile of rubble, and a party set out to extricate some buried S.S.R. lads. The 'I' section room which had been part of the S.S.R. Battalion HQ had received a direct hit by a Jerry shell and the four lads were relieved in time to save their lives. They were sure in poor shape and were sent at once to hospital.

At 0430 hrs. Lt. Col. MacLauchlan and the I.O. attended an "O" Group. at Brigade where orders were received to proceed at once on the next step of our follow up, to ROQUENCOURT, and once again, dug in. Battalion HQ. was set up around a Jerry 7.5cm. A/Tk. gun site, and here, 2 prisoners were taken from a dug out. The armour was an impressive sight around this area. Tanks and AFV's of all descriptions were lined up waiting to push Jerry back still further and were present in hundreds of numbers.

During the morning, at approximately 1000 hrs., the C.O. and I.O. attended another "O" Group at Brigade at TROTEVAL FM. Orders were here received to proceed by 1200 hrs. to our start line behind CAILLUET. The Battalion moved forward over open ground of CAILLUET and with very little opposition from Jerry except for NBW and the odd shell. CAILLUET, however, became a very hot spot for us, and Jerry continually shelled our positions with everything he owns. At 1300 hrs. the C.O. and the I.O., once again, attended an "O" Group at Brigade, held in 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade HQ and orders were received to proceed at 1600 hrs. our H hour, to our objective at

BRETTEVILLE SUR LAIZE.

Heavy bombers knocked BRETTEVILLE apart for a half hour prior to our attack. The Battalion moved forward into the attack at 1600 hrs. and once again we advanced over open country and fringed by evil looking woods. To our utter surprise, we were not molested and the four rifle companies passed over the hill and down into the demolished town. Except for the odd MG, no enemy sounds were heard. As the C.O. and I.O., in the carrier, came over the high ground, a Jerry 88mm. A/Tk. gun fired 4 shots at the carrier and luckily just missed the vehicle. The occupants jumped out and dove into the ditch, where many more shells were directed slightly overhead. 'D' company carrier was hit immediately in front of the C.O.'s carrier. Both carriers were brought back up the hill a little later and were left in the wood above BRETTEVILLE where Battalion HQ was finally set up. Our troops of tanks did a magnificent job and are credited with knocking out the 88 mm. to our right flank. During the evening the C.O. asked permission to withdraw the four rifle companies to the high ground surrounding BRETTEVILLE and to hold the town from this vantage point. Brig. McGill concurred and the companies were withdrawn. As the companies came back up the hill, Jerry shelled the area and many casualties were received. This shelling brought our wounded to three wounded officers, Maj. Bill McQueen, Capt. Wilkes and Lt. Kirby and Lt. Ford was shell shocked. 3 O.R.s were killed, 39 were wounded and 26 were missing. Later on, 6 O.R.'s turned up and brought our missing list down to 20.

The boys dug in and took up all round defense. OPs were set out by 'I' section and the scouts.

During the night, we also sent out patrols to recce. the area of BRETTEVILLE.

The night was fairly quiet and a few of the lads got in a few hours sleep. One very noticeable thing is the aggressiveness and complete thoroughness of the lads in building slit trenches and magnificent dugouts. Once again, we are successful in taking and holding our objective - BRETTEVILLE SUR LAIZE.

Weather - Fair and warm.





Howard Davies and family



Did you know?

MISSION STATEMENT 2018

The Calgary Highlanders will force generate and train infantry and mortar platoons that are capable of contributing skilled and pre-prepared soldiers to international or domestic operations.



Last August the Association received the following email from John Bowlder in England:

Good afternoon, well its afternoon in England. While looking through some of my military collection I came across the attached badge and thought you would be interested in how I came by it. It was given to my mother in WW2 by a Pip Major (could have been about the Dieppe Raid time).

On waking up to get ready to go to school we found the house full of Canadian soldiers, they had arrived in the night and my mother had invited them in to use the facilities, as you can imagine it was rather chaotic. Some time in the day the Pipe Major came to the school and played his pipes, most of the children had never heard the pipes before so you can imagine the scene. (I myself had always enjoyed them). On returning home everything was back to normal, but I have never forgotten that day. I have never seen any photos showing the backing on the badge, is the backing normal.

Hope this is of interest. I am now 88 (July). The name of the place that all this occurred was Wolverton Buckinghamshire.

John



The association reported back to John that it certainly appears to a WW2 vintage badge on a Glengarry rosette.

Unfortunately, we were not able to confirm the dates or location the Battalion movements at that time.

If anybody can add to the story let the editor know and we will pass on the information to John.



WELCOME TO THE REGIMENT



Back row (left – right) Jeff Gardner, Brayden Twarynski, Mitch Wale.

Front row (left-right) Kevin Nairn, Tristan Lawless, Jeremy Folta, Jason Brar. **Front center** Minki Kang.

Basic Training

Basic training teaches the core skills and knowledge to succeed in a military environment. It may be the most demanding experience some have ever had and requires hard work and perseverance. Courses emphasize basic military skills, weapons handling, first aid and ethical values. Since physical fitness is an important part of military service, a large part of the course is spent on fitness training.

Reserve units conduct their Basic Training either at the local reserve unit location or at a Canadian Armed Forces training centre.

Each day start at 5 am. and ends at 10 pm. consisting of physical training, marching, classes and practical sessions on a variety of military subjects.

Troops spend evenings maintaining personal equipment and living quarters, and preparing for the next day's activities.

Field exercises focus on practical military skills such as weapons firing, map and compass use, and marches of various lengths in full combat gear, as well as setting up accommodations and doing one's own cooking.

Upon completion of basic training, troops are able to:

- complete a 13-kilometre march in full combat gear
- complete push-up and sit-up tests
- run up to six kilometres
- scale walls and cross ditches



New Commander 41 Canadian Brigade Group Col Mike Vernon, CD



On Saturday 22 June at 1345 hrs, The Military Museums hosted the 41 Canadian Brigade Group "Alberta's Brigade" Change of Command Ceremony.

The Change of Command of 41 Canadian Brigade Group from Colonel Eppo van Weelderren to Colonel Mike Vernon was conducted by Brigadier General David Awalt, the Acting Commander of 3rd Canadian Division and Joint Task Force West in the presence of Her Honour, The Honourable Lois E. Mitchell, The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.

The Change of Command is an important time in history for every unit or formation. It marks the end of a term of Command and the beginning of another, but more than that, it signifies the official transfer of the sacred duties of Commanding the soldiers as well as the Responsibility for the Brigade's missions and personnel, from one Commander to the next.

The Ceremony offers an opportunity to reflect on the hard work, growth and successes of the members and units of 41 Canadian Brigade Group during Colonel van Weelderren's tenure. The Ceremony is done publicly and in

front of the leadership of the units of the Brigade so that the new Commander of the Brigade is properly welcomed and recognized by his units.

Colonel Vernon was born in Windsor, Ontario, in 1963. The son of a career army officer, he moved regularly from base to base across Canada. He was an army cadet for four years and during that time completed the Basic Parachutist Course. In his final year of high school, he joined the Canadian Scottish Regiment as a private.

In 1981, he attended Royal Military College in Kingston and was commissioned in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He completed a Master of Arts degree at Dalhousie University in Halifax and left the army in 1994. He and his wife, Sherri, moved to Calgary and shortly thereafter he spent a month in Croatia as a freelance journalist. He then began working for CBC Newsworld as a researcher and later television news program producer and then as a video-journalist for the CBC TV supper hour news program "CBC News at Six". During the spring of 2002 he was assigned to cover Canadian troops in Afghanistan and spent two months in Kandahar, Kabul, and Bagram.

He joined the Calgary Highlanders in 1999 and completed a number of staff courses serving as the operations officer, officer commanding A Company, and deputy commanding officer. In 2003 he was the deputy commanding officer of Task Force Four, assigned to fighting forest fires near Okanagan Falls, BC. In 2006 he completed the Combat Team Commanders Course in Gaagetown, New Brunswick. He assumed command of the Calgary Highlanders in October 2007. He commanded the Regiment during its Centennial year and handed over command on November 6, 2010. Subsequently he was employed as the Deputy-Commander of 41 CBG.

"Fortune Favours The Bold"





Clan of the Gallant Canadians Award Presentations

LCol Palmer and HCol Currie welcome BGen (ret'd) Bob Millar as a member of the Order of the Clan of Gallant Canadians at the level of Tossach.



Citation:

Brigadier General (retired) Robert "Bob" Millar, CD OMM

As a Board of Directors, we are honoured to appoint Bob Millar to membership in the Clan of Gallant Canadians. Bob Millar graduated from Queen's University with a B.Comm and a MBA. As an Armoured Officer, he served 15 years in the Regular Army and 20 years in the Army Reserve. Aside from serving the Calgary Highlanders Foundation, Bob has served the military community.

He became the Founding President of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute (today known as the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute). Bob has served on a number of Boards including Shooting Stars Technology, Eric Technologies, Alberta Children's Hospital Research Board, Citizen's Advisory Roundtable, Canadian Petroleum Products Institute, Transportation Association of Canada, and the Kids Cancer Care Foundation.

His leadership and dedicated time was further evident on the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Association, the Conference of Defence Association, Sharing our Military Heritage Foundation, Calgary Military Museums Society, Valour Canada, and Southern Alberta Corps of Commissionaires. We further recognize his dedication to the Calgary military community as a Director of the Last Post Fund, the Centre for Strategic Studies Advisory Board at the University of Calgary, and as a Director on the Kings' Own Calgary Regiment Foundation.

His work ethic and volunteer spirit have been such an asset to the community and especially to the Calgary Highlanders Regimental

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Clan of the Gallant Canadians Award Presentations

Henchman Award (15 year service award) – Cpl Andress

Cpl Andress has over the last 15 years has proven himself to be an invaluable resource to the Pipes and Drums. He has on many occasions performed tasks and duties above his rank and appointment in an effort to keep the Pipes and Drums operating smoothly. He has not only done extensive work in stores but also extra administrative tasks in support of band leadership. He is always one of the first people to volunteer when extra work is need to be done, is frequently one of the first people to arrive at engagements, as well as on of the last people to go home. It is with the help of his dedication and extra effort that the Regimental Pipes and Drums is as successful as it is today.



Tosach Award (30 year service award)– Brian Woodward

Brian Woodward has been a volunteer member of the pipes and drum since 1997. He spent 15 years (1997-2012) in a senior leadership position in the Pipes and Drums as a volunteer Drum Sergeant as well as a volunteer Drum Major for one year (2012-2013) During that time he has led the drum corps and the band in engagements overseas in Scotland, across the border in the US and all across Canada. During that time his efforts have resulted in awards including a Brigade Commanders Commendation from 41 Brigade Commander.in 2005 and a first place finish in a Grade 3 pipe band competition in 2005 (I'm not sure if tis date is correct). After stepping down from the Drum Major position Brian has still offered extra time for assistance with financial claims, equipment procurement, music selection, and mentoring current senior appointments. His contributions over the last 20+ years have been instrumental to the past and future successes of the Regimental Pipes and Drums



Clansman Award – Ray Purser

Ray Purser is a member of the US Customs and Border Protection Agency and an American citizen living and working in Calgary. It is the great fortune of the Pipes & Drums of the Calgary Highlanders, that he is also a piper. While stationed in Calgary at the International Airport Mr. Purser chose to volunteer his time training and parading with the pipes and drums. Mr. Purser is hard working and conscientious with commendable drill dress and deportment and is always well turned out for events. His strong work ethic, pride in performance and overall easy going nature will be missed within the band when he returns home to the US to undertake a new position in Buffalo NY.





Clan of the Gallant Canadians Award Presentations



For well over 20 years, Glynis Grigg has offered her time, talent, and treasure to The Regimental Family of The Calgary Highlanders. Working mainly behind the scenes, Glynis has contributed on an annual basis to the success of the Grand Highland Military Ball and to the Officer Mess Dinners. Beautiful bouquets of flowers are the most obvious displayed in the venue hallways and on over 70 tables at the Highland Ball.

In addition, her financial contributions, attendance, and friendly personality to the Regiment in many ways are evident to the success of our annual Officers' Mess Dinners.

*For this incredible long serving commitment and financial contributions to The Calgary Highlanders, Glynis Grigg is nominated for membership in the Clan of Gallant Canadians to the **rank of Toshach.***

Did you know?

The Grand Highland Military Ball raises funds for the Calgary Highlanders Regimental Funds Foundation (CHRF) which supports the Regiment's serving soldiers, veterans and their families. Further, funds raised assist in teaching of the affiliated cadet corps including history, outdoor skills, citizenship and music and ensures the preservation of the regiment's traditions and history through the Regimental Pipes and Drums and the Regiment's gallery at the Military Museums. This year's ball raised \$100,000.



Heroes

Full Circle—An Amazing Coincidence

By Dr. Boris Trnavskis

Readers will certainly be interested in this little bit of Calgary Highlanders related history in regard to 2Lt (retired) Boris Trnavskis, Ph.D., MSS, who served with the Calgary Highlanders from 1981-1991.

He was working on a possible itinerary for the Calgary Highlanders Cadet Corps 2020 Battlefield Tour and since 2020 will be the 75th anniversary of the end of WW II in Europe, he was suggesting the tour focus more on the Calgary Highlanders WW II battles, but still visit selected First World War battle sites.

While researching the WW II battles he made a shocking discovery: he had been in an internment camp in Oldenburg, Germany during WW II when Oldenburg was captured and held by the Calgary Highlanders!

According to the Calgary Highlanders Regimental Book (p 11), "Oldenburg was the site of the last battle by the Calgary Highlanders in the Second World War. It was fought 03-04 May 1945.



His Tērvete identity card shows that he was formally processed on 27 August 1945, however, his mother told him that they had been interned in Tērvete much earlier.



The document above shows his picture on the back of the I.R.O. Processing Card, which he used to leave Germany and emigrate to Canada in December 1948.



This photograph reveals His family in Tērvete refugee camp on or about 1948. All are deceased except Boris and his mother. From left to right: Alex Freimanis (uncle), Jefimija Trnavskis (grandmother), Boris, Tanja Freimanis (aunt), Johann A. Trnavskis (grandfather), Veronica Trnavskis (98-year old mother, now living in a nursing home in Collingwood, Ontario), and Leonid Trnavskis (father).



Boris Trnavskis



Boris in Mountain Training in 1986

After discovering this phenomenal connection, Boris expressed, "I wish I had known back in 1981 when I volunteered to join the Calgary Highlanders, that our paths had already crossed 36 years earlier in Oldenburg, Germany."



Boris in a photo of the Calgary Highlanders leadership in 1982

It is absolutely amazing how the life of Boris Trnavskis has come full circle, being interned in Oldenburg as a child, being liberated by the Calgary Highlanders, eventually joining the same regiment as an officer, and discovering the connections while still volunteering to support the Unit's affiliated Cadet Corps. He is clearly a Gallant Canadian.



Mental Health: Interlocking Arcs of Fire and Mutual Support

By MCpl (Ret'd) David McKay, CD



And we build these tools from published materials such as "The Four Agreements", "The Five Love Languages", and "Reinventing Your Life". The material has wisdom. I have been using The Four Agreements and the Five Love Languages to better communicate with and help those around me, which of course, helps me.

If you, or someone you know who's a member or veteran, and are suffering or dealing with someone suffering an OSI, or other psychological injury, this is a group you're welcome in. The key is that you're military. Please reach out and contact me and I can arrange to introduce you to our facilitator to see where it can go from there. And an intriguing part is that we currently use a meeting room in a local business that is owned by a former Calgary Highlander!

There is a growing impact on our regimental family and all facets surrounding mental wellness, resiliency, healing, and education.

I have been continuing both my own healing journey with regards to my psychological injury and my education and skill sets in managing mental wellness. I credit my participation in a local veteran peer support group, which is managed by a trained OSISS volunteer, with the everyday tools that allow me both to manage my injury and promote a growing ability to interact with all of those around me.

OSISS, or Operational Stress Injury Social Support, is a Canadian Armed Forces organization that trains veteran volunteers, who themselves have suffered an operational stress injury, and have walked-the-walk when it comes to going through healing and knowing what works and what doesn't.

With our group we can safely communicate with each other, in military terms, and in the full sense of comradeship as if we'd all been in the same sections and platoons. We get each other. We have each others' backs, and we keep what is said sacred and private. What I can share is some insight as to some simple tools. And we give these tools familiar names such as "I.A.s and stoppages", "interlocking arcs of fire", and "mutual support".

I want to emphasize the arcs of fire and mutual support. As an individual infantryman you cannot successfully hold ground or advance to take a position without your fireteam partner, your section, your platoon, company, or battalion. The same applies when dealing with a psychological injury. You can't do it alone. Those that try to go it alone simply remain a casualty.

Recently, we had a former member who was in some distress reach out and let us know they were struggling. It was quite serious. They have received some critical professional help now. They credit us with saving their life. The truth is that they are the one who saved themselves, simply for reaching out and letting us know they needed help.

They knew to do that because they've heard this message I am sharing with my regimental family, and beyond. It's okay to let someone know, and to ask for help.

And with that... "Covering!"





Soldier Skills "Watch and Shoot"



MCpl Burt directs Pte Cruz and Pte Beler in the fine art of parade square battle drills. Rehearsing basic skills is a routine that stems from the training developed by Canadian soldiers in WWII.



Pte Bagley poses in front with Cpl McLeod and Cpl Bauman on the rear flanks.



(above) Pte Cruz responds to fire control orders and practices target identification. Repetition of these proficiencies builds instinctive responses to combat scenarios and improves reaction timing as well as situational awareness.

(right) Calgary Highlanders practice battle drills in England in 1944, prior to deploying to Normandy. Notice the Thompson Sub-Machine Gun (Tommy Gun) on point to rapidly react to critical





Field Training



Cpl Lucas McLeod, Cpl Ethan Kietz & Pte Nicholas Webb ensure their winter kit is good-to-go!

The **M203** is a single-shot 40 mm under-barrel **grenade launcher** designed to attach to a rifle. It uses the same rounds as the older stand-alone M79 break-action **grenade launcher**, which utilizes the High-Low Propulsion System to keep recoil forces low. Though versatile, and compatible with many rifle models, the **M203** was originally designed for the U.S. M16 and its variant, the M4 Car-



Winter does not stop shooting on the ranges. Troops prepare to practice with the M203 Grenade Launchers in Wainwright (in the snow).



Serving Canada



"Major" Griffiths?



Col Eppo vanWheeldren promotes CWO Kent Griffiths to Major at the Mewata Garrison Officers' Mess on 27 February.

Army) and his Sergeant Major CWO Guimond.

They asked as to his current military employment and were shocked to hear that he could not be commissioned. MGen Wynnyk expressed that the SRCP was designed exactly for CWOs in his situation and that Griffiths should be the perfect candidate considering his experience, multiple senior appointments, and remaining time to serve.

They were well aware that Griffiths had:

- served over forty years of exemplary service;
- deployed on a UN mission to Egypt;
- served as the RSM of The Calgary Highlanders;
- been appointed as the 41 CBG Sergeant Major;
- served as the Army Reserve Sergeant Major;
- served as the CWO for all Canadian Forces Navy, Air Force, and Army Reserves as well as the Canadian Cadets Program;
- served as the RSM of The Algonquin Regiment (in North Bay and Timmins Ontario) from 2013 – 2016 at special request;
- achieved a diverse post-secondary education;
- completed an extensive year-long French language training, graduating with level BBB;
- had received The Head of the Public Service Award, the Ombudsman's Award for Ethics and was invested into the Order of Military Merit; and
- was currently the Acting Regimental Major and Curator of the CH Museum and Archives.

The Army Command Team ordered that CWO Griffiths should have his CO resubmit the SRCP application for approval by the Canadian Army and the Canadian Armed Forces in short order.

18 months later, approval was granted for his commission. This is the first time that any reservist has ever commissioned directly from CWO to major and has overcome another systemic barrier to the Reserve Force.

In 1987, the SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS COMMISSIONING PLAN (SRCP) was created to commission officers for the Regular Force to meet the special and limited needs of the officer military occupations. This plan differs from the "Commissioning From the Ranks Plan" in that candidates commissioned under the SRCP receive no training and have only limited employment and advancement opportunities as an officer due to their short period of remaining service. It allows the CAF to profit from the extensive skill and experience of senior NCMs who are within a few years of retirement. The SRCP only applies to those who acquired a high level of military experience and who have clearly demonstrated the necessary personal attributes to make them suitable for employment as commissioned officers.

In January 2017, CWO Griffiths was nominated to fill an existing officer vacancy but was excluded from the existing commissioning plans due to his short period of remaining service and that he was not part of the Regular Force. He was permitted to occupy the position and perform the duties of the Regimental Major as a CWO.

In September of 2017, in France, while participating as a member of the interment ceremonies for newly discovered remains of two fallen WWI Canadian soldiers, he was approached by MGen Wynnyk (the Commander of the Canadian



Save the Colours!

In the early Fall, HCol Lauchlan Currie was reading Roy Farran's book (The History of the Calgary Highlanders 1921-54). He noted that the Colours of the 10th Battalion were laid up at Knox United Church in downtown Calgary.

Through a further conversation with one of Roy Farran's close relatives, Lauchlan had an interest to further discuss the event asking when and why they were placed at Knox. HCol Currie had a keen interest to go to Knox to view them so he arranged with CHRFF Director Bill Macdonald to go and look. On arrival, they could not find the Colours, but did meet with the church caretaker who showed them a dusty old cupboard in the basement.

Inside was a box. They opened it to find the Queen's and Regimental Colours of 10th Bn. The caretaker said that Lauchlan and Bill had arrived just in time, as no one in the church noted their value, he was to clean up, make room, and somehow dispose of the Colours.

HCol Currie sent LCol (ret'd) Lee Villiger, the Regimental Secretary, a photo from his phone and asked if he recognized them. Lee responded immediately and was given the name and telephone number of one member of the Church Council Office. Lee called the church and after introductions and a lot of information



shared, they said the Colours would be hung back up during the Remembrance Day Weekend and in turn, the Church Council would discuss their next steps regarding what to do.

Not much later, Lee was connected through email with Bob Benner. He told Lee that he was selected by the Council to liaise about the Colours.

In early November, acting in his present-day role as Regt Secretary, Lee sent this information on to the key people in the Unit, Museum, and Association and initiated internal discussions. He met with the CO to

talk about the 10th Bn Colours and they agreed to move forward on this issue, likely in April over St. Julien's weekend due to the significance.



LCol (ret'd) Lee Villiger and Capt (ret'd) Douglas Carsted march out the Colours escorted by CWO (ret'd) Emmett Kelly and Cpl (ret'd) Ken Clements.

In mid-January, the QMSI conducted a recce of the church and plans were made to formally retrieve the Colours from the church to have them laid up in the Calgary Highlanders Museum at The Military Museums.

On Saturday, 27 April, 2019, the Regiment marched from Mewata armoury to Knox United Church to conduct the annual St Julien's Commemorative Parade and Church Service. As part of this event, the Colours of the 10th Battalion were displayed horizontally at the altar area. They were cased and marched out of the church by members of the Regimental Association. They were later transported to the museum and are awaiting display in the Colours exhibit.



Background on Colours



The carrying of Colours, Standards or Guidons, act as a rallying point for troops and to mark the location of the commander, may have originated in Ancient Egypt 5,000 years ago, the Roman Empire also made battle standards a part of their vast armies. The practice was formalized in the armies of Europe in the Middle Ages, with standards being emblazoned with the commander's coat of arms.

The first formal publication: Regulations for the Uniform Clothing of the Marching Regiments of Foot, Their Colours, Drums, Bells of Arms, and Camp Colours, 1747. As armies adopted set formations, a regiment's ability to keep its formation was critical to its success. In the chaos of battle, commanders and soldiers needed to identify their regiment.

Colours are generally awarded by a head of state and are treated with reverence as they *represent the honour and traditions of the regiment*. To protect the Colours, Regiments adopted 'colour guards', composed of experienced or elite soldiers; as a result, the capture of an enemy's standard was a great feat. To lose the Colours to the enemy was a great disgrace; soldiers therefore defended them with their lives.

Individuals and formed military groups shall pay compliments to uncased Colours, except when the Colour is part of an escort to the deceased during a funeral. Retired colours do not receive compliments as in-service colours, to do so would be *akin to insulting the serving colours of the perpetuating unit*. Once laid-up retired colours remain dipped in perpetuity.

Canadian Expeditionary Forces (CEF) units did not receive Colours. In 1917 the 10th was authorized to have a "battle flag" but it is not known if they ever adopted such a flag. The 10th Bn used an issued wool Union Jack in place of a King's Colour when they marched in Germany in 1918. In 1919 that Union Jack was laid-up in Knox United Church. In 1950 The 10th Bn Association purchased Colours at their own expense and they were paraded (for the first and last time) and laid-up during the St Julien's parade on April 1953. The Association cremated the original King's Colour/Union Jack.

Not to be confused with the 10th Bn Colours, the association also had a flag that was displayed and paraded by the membership.



10th Bn Association Flag



The Story of the Regimental Colours

Continued...

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra of Kent (was not the regiment's colonel-in-chief) presented the Union Jack Queen's Colour and new Regimental Colour to the regiment in a ceremony held at Currie Barracks on 25 May 1967. Rev. Canon C.P. Bishop consecrated the Colours in front of a crowd of 2,000 spectators, shivering through a miserably wet and windy ceremony. At the time, LCol A.H. Brackenridge was the commanding officer and the RSM was WO1 A. Sanofsky. HLCol S.C. Nickle Sr. escorted Princess Alexandra. Maj Fred Scott and Capt Don Munro carried the old Colours. On 30 June 1990, the Union Jack Queen's Colour was retired and replaced by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the new (Maple Leaf) Queen's Colour carried by Lt J.G. Hands.



First Battalion King's Colour (left) and Regimental Colour (right).

The commanding officer was LCol A. Maitland, the RSM was CWO W. Donovan, the Adjutant was Captain Lee Villiger, and HCol F.P. Mannix escorted Her Majesty. The 1967 Queen's Colour was later laid up in the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary. The current Colours are displayed and secured in the Calgary Garrison Officers' Mess, Mewata Armoury, Calgary.

Did you know? According to A-AD-200-000/AG-000, THE HERITAGE STRUCTURE OF THE CANADIAN FORCES, Colours are a unit's most prized possession. They are presented personally by the Sovereign or by an individual, normally the Governor General, nominated to act on the Sovereign's behalf.

Historically, Colours marked and provided a rallying point for army regiments in the line of battle. Today, they are no longer carried in action or held by a unit in a theatre of war. They continue, however, as visible symbols of pride, honour and devotion to Sovereign and country.

On presentation, Colours are consecrated by the Chaplain General assisted by the unit chaplains; when the Chaplain General is unable to be present, he will personally designate a chaplain to officiate for him. Through this means, Colours are sanctified and devoted to service as symbols of honour and duty; all members of the unit, regardless of classification, rededicate themselves to constancy in the maintenance of these qualities. Once consecrated, Colours are closely guarded and they are honoured by the appropriate compliment while uncased.

Every effort must be made to prevent the loss of Colours to enemy forces. Colours shall not be taken overseas during active operations, including United Nations, NATO, international and other peacekeeping type operations, and units serving overseas at the outbreak of hostilities shall immediately return their Colours to Canada. They are to be destroyed on threat of capture by hostile elements. Commanding officers are responsible for the safeguarding, care and maintenance, and appropriate manner of the display of Colours. When at rest, Colours should be displayed uncased in an air-tight glass case, customarily in an officers' mess or other guarded lodging location and protected from direct sunlight and fluorescent lamps.



The Story of our Regimental Colours

A British regulation issued in 1747 stated the Sovereign's Colour of every regiment or battalion was to be the Grand Union that consisted of the Cross of St. George and the Cross of St. Andrew. The Regimental Colour was to be the same shade as the uniform facing of the regiment. From that day onward, the Sovereign's Colour has remained the same with only the addition of the Cross of St. Patrick in 1801.

The Regimental Colour was trooped or paraded through the ranks so that every man could see it and identify it in battle. It is no longer the custom to carry the Colours into battle and only the Regimental Colour is trooped even when the monarch is present.

The names of battles in which the units have distinguished themselves are emblazoned on the Regimental Colour; it reminds soldiers of the regiment's past achievements and victories. As such, the Colour is the most prized possession of the regiment and venerated accordingly.

The 10th Battalion never formally received Colours. It had no Regimental Colour and used a Union Jack in place of a King's Colour. On Peace Day, 19 July 1919, Maj Lee Redman led a parade from Mewata Armoury to Knox Presbyterian (now United) Church. With the assistance of former RSM Duncan Stuart, Lt George Guthrie carried the Union Jack the battalion used when it crossed Cologne's New Bridge over the Rhine River on 13 December 1918. This flag was deposited at the church. Then in 1950 the Tenth Battalion Association opted to purchase replica Colours at its own expense. It took delivery in March 1953 and placed these Colours at Knox United Church. The Association cremated the original King's Colour/ Union Jack.



The Calgary Highlanders received their King's and Regimental Colours on 28 December 1927. They were donated by HCol R.B. Bennett and consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Sherman as part of a drumhead service at Mewata Armoury. Battle Honours were not granted until 1929, so initially the Regimental Colour was a bit of a clean slate. (They were added later.) On 29 March 1940, the battalion marched with fixed bayonets and Colours from Mewata, along Seventh Avenue, to the Anglican Cathedral Church of the Redeemer.

Even though the regiment was not granted the Freedom of the City until 1964. Here, the Colours were handed over to a succession of church ministers after an officer spoke this invocation: "These consecrated Colours, formerly carried in service of King and Empire, I now deliver into your hands for safe custody within these walls for the duration of the war." Rt. Rev. Bishop L. Ralph Sherman then laid the Colours on the altar and wished the battalion God-speed.

Annual Awards Presented at the St Julien Dinner

The Waterhouse Award- to the most deserving member of the Regiment as determined by the Warrant Officers, was awarded to Sgt Brian Gaisford for his outstanding work as the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant.

The Mark Tennant Cup for the Top Shot was presented to Cpl CC Arndt. For the Most Proficient Junior Rank in a Non-Combat Role, the Justice J.V.H. Milvain Cup was awarded to MCpl TS Pierce.

Drummer Brian Woodward received the LCol PF Hughes Cup for the Most Dedicated Bandsman of the 2018-19 year.

The Most Explosive Soldier Award was presented to MCpl KG Fischer.

MCpl RJ Green took home the Overseas Bn Award for the "Best Junior NCO in a Combat Arms Role" as well as the Soldier of Excellence Award as the most deserving Junior Rank, as selected by private ballot from among his peers.



Although not technically an Ensign, Captain Mike Ursual received the Ensign Award which is awarded to the "Top Junior Officer" in the Regiment.

The Col JS Scott Cup was presented to the top athlete in the Unit- MCpl WCK Fong.

Regarding the "Oak Leafs" Hockey Team, the Most Improved Player award went to Cpl MMW Mackintosh and the Most Valuable Player award was bestowed upon Cpl LA McLeod.

The CWO McCumber Award for "Outstanding Service to the Regiment (Military or Civilian)" was awarded to Sgt AC Bowers for her remarkable work as the Orderly Room Supervisor.

Sgt SA Oliver received this year's presentation of the Sgt Miller Trophy for the Most Proficient Master Warrant Officer, Warrant Officer or Sergeant in the Regiment. The Trophy is a memorial to A British soldier from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who was killed in Suffield Alberta on a training exercise.



Serving Canada



LCol Palmer promotes WO Steve Klein to the rank of Master Warrant Officer (MWO)

Documentation as to the reason why infantry Senior NCOs and Warrant Officers wear a red / scarlet sash, suspended from the right shoulder to the left waist has been lost over the years, however research has uncovered the following:

The crimson sash denotes command authority and was originally used as a badge of rank. The first mention of the crimson sash was with the pikeman in 1660. The British Army Issued Clothing Regulations of 1727 were vague on whether it was to be worn over the shoulder or around the waist but this was clarified in 1745. Sergeants of the Somerset light infantry are the only regiment in the British army who are entitled to wear their sashes like officers, with the knot on the right side; this distinction was granted because of the gallantry of the Sergeants of the regiment at the battle of Culloden on April 16th. 1746. The rest of the British army were to wear their sashes on the left. The sash was made by a technique called "springing", producing a type of netting that could widen and contract. If an officer was wounded on the battle field, his sash could be used as a stretcher. The Sergeants' waist sashes were intended to go around the waist twice, however, the original purpose of the sash construction started to lose its meaning when length of the sash was gradually reduced for convenient wear.

Officers wear the sash from the left shoulder to the right hip to facilitate the wearing of a sword on the left side. Many swords were worn suspended in a cross belt that hung from the right shoulder to the left hip. As non-commissioned members carried rifles and no swords, it was less cumbersome to wear the sash from right to left and avoid interference with the rifle on the right side.

There is also a legend that at one time, officers wore white sashes (left shoulder to right) to denote leadership. During a battle, an officer was killed and a sergeant took command to continue the assault. He took the blood soaked sash from the officer and wore it so that he could be identified as the leader and that the troops would follow his orders. He wore the sash from right to left to not be mistaken for a commissioned officer and was eventually commended for his actions. Since that time, sergeants wore red sashes over the right shoulder.

Chief Warrant Officers wear the uniform of an Officer and do not wear a sash unless in ceremonial dress and in that case they wear an officer's sash (left to right) and sword.



Cpl Fisher in 10th CEF attire

The Artwork of Reid Fisher

Cpl Reid Fisher was born into poverty and turbulence. He looked to comic books, film, and art as an escape from his misfortune. He started drawing at an early age, searching for xerox paper and pencils in order to develop and hone his craft. Describing himself as “the kid no one wanted”, he traveled between Saskatchewan and Calgary several times during his childhood. He spent the next few years of his life on the streets until the age of 18 - around the time his son was born. He took over raising the boy, becoming a single father; balancing work and parenthood with little to no support from others.

During this time, he pushed forward with his art and was able to go back to school, earning top marks in English and art. His interest in military history was discovered here and stayed with him until he decided what to do with this newly found interest. He began by selling his artwork at various trade shows for a few years, being skilled at his artistic craft enough that he decided to pursue the daunting task of creating a graphic novel based on the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Believable, yet fictional, characters were created, drawing inspiration from factual events. He wishes to educate readers about the camaraderie and hardships that soldiers must deal with while living the trench life. This desire to show realism within art is an ongoing theme in Cpl Fisher's work. It is currently still in progress and will likely be published the near future.

While studying research material for the graphic novel, his love for military history and comics inspired the creation of a series of artworks depicting Marvel's character “Wolverine”, wearing a first World War Canadian uniform with C10 patches and collar dogs (authentic to the research found). He also includes at least one sketch of this for every sketch card set he creates for Marvel, something first started when he was initially contracted by the art card companies Rittenhouse and Upper Deck.

Cpl Fisher joined the army at age 36, falling in love with the Calgary Highlanders; the unit that he had learned about while researching material for his unfinished graphic novel. He has been a Highlander for three years now and is part of the new mortar platoon working towards deployment in 2020.

On line, his work may be seen on Facebook, Instagram, and his website:

<https://www.ravencrowink.wordpress.com>



Art by Reid Fisher



Art by Reid Fisher



Art by Reid Fisher



According to Marvel Comic Books, the character Wolverine was born as James Howlett in northern Alberta, Canada, during the late 1880s, purportedly to rich farm owners John and Elizabeth Howlett, although he is actually the illegitimate son of the Howletts' groundskeeper, Thomas Logan. After Thomas is thrown off the Howletts' property for an attempted rape perpetrated by his other son, named simply Dog, he returns to the Howlett manor and kills John Howlett. In retaliation, young James kills Thomas with bone claws that emerge from the back of his hands, as his mutation manifests. He flees with his childhood companion, Rose, and grows into manhood on a mining colony in the Yukon, adopting the name "Logan". When Logan accidentally kills Rose with his claws, he flees the colony and lives in the wilderness among wolves, until he is captured and placed in a circus.

Logan returns to civilization, residing with the Blackfoot people. Following the death of his Blackfoot lover, Silver Fox, at the hands of Victor Creed, now known as Sabretooth,[36] he is ushered into the Canadian military during World War I. During World War II, Logan serves with the 1st Special Service Force (The Devil's Brigade) in Italy, and later recruited by Team X, a black ops unit.

As a member of Team X, Logan is given false memory implants. Eventually breaking free of this mental control, he joins the Canadian Defense Ministry. Logan is subsequently kidnapped by the Weapon X program, where he remains captive and experimented on, until he escapes. It is during his imprisonment by Weapon X that he has adamantium forcibly fused onto his bones. James and Heather Hudson help him recover his humanity following his escape, and Logan begins work as an intelligence operative for the Canadian government's "Department H" to lead Alpha Flight but then joins the X Men. He then becomes Wolverine, one of Canada's first superheroes.

Cpl Fisher is currently volunteering his creative talents in creating a graphic novel style gallery guide for the Regimental Museum. This innovative approach will certainly connect with teens and adults alike, inspiring gallery guests to explore the Unit's museum and learn about the regimental history.



Art by Reid Fisher



Art by Reid Fisher





This past Fall the Calgary Highlanders conducted the BMQ (Basic Military Qualification) Serial 0563 course which ran on weekends from 12 October 2018 to 10 February 2019. It kicked off in September with a well-organized IST Training Program for the instructors led by Capt Tucker, Sgt Tait and Sgt Chan. The BMQ course was led by the Course O, OCdt Evans (now 2Lt Evans) and WO Malenfant. Instructors were MCpl Wilcox, MCpl Fong, MCpl Lauritsen MCpl Burt, Sgt Mitchell, Sgt Danay, MCpl Choate, MCpl Hamilton, MCpl Coates, MCpl St-Amand, MCpl Madsen, Cpl Khan and Storesmen/Drivers Cpl Macintosh, Cpl Baker and Cpl Clayards.

Beginning with 53 candidates, 42 graduated on parade day; 9 being Calgary Highlanders.

Pte Lawless, Pte Twarynski, Pte Walz, Pte Folta, Pte Gardner, Pte Gibson, Pte Kang, Pte Narpin, Pte Brar.

The course went well but was met with a few challenges. The introduction of the new C7 rifle drills, facing a 60-80km wind/rain/snow on range day and watching the wind take away the pinned down sand bagged 3 sections of Mod Tent, rolling a MILCOT on the very, very icy highway (no one got hurt!!) and conducting day/night NAV in the Waiparous training area in - 25 to - 30 deg C.

They did what Highlanders do best, adapt, overcome and achieve the Mission while turning out a course of trained soldiers.

Congratulations new Calgary Highlanders!!

Cheers!

MCpl Paul Wilcox
 HQ Coy
 The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association
 Soldier Rep



Reviewing Officer—Maj Fiona McLean joins OCdt Evans to inspect the course.





Enjoying the Summer



Maj Kent Griffiths, Capt Mike Ursual, Capt Andrew Pittet, HCol Lauchlan Currie, Lt Josh Hill, Capt Jason Leek, and LCol Ryan Palmer.

On Saturday, 13 July, 6 Officers joined the Honourary Colonel's annual Spitzee Cavalry horseback trail ride and or BBQ.



Captain Pittet provides one of the lunchtime speeches that resonated with young and old and reinforced the enormous contribution made to the local community and country. The Pipes and Drums performed at their usual high standard along with difficult Highland dancing in the 3 inches of grass.



Cpls Russell, May and Pennington join Sgt Perry in the meal line at the Sarcee Training Area during summer training in the late 1970s.

Adopted at the same time as the FN C1 Assault Rifle, the C2 was basically the same weapon, but with automatic fire capability, a heavier barrel, and a folding bipod replacing the fore stock. The C2 fired a 7.62mm NATO cartridge from either 20 or 30 round magazines. The rifle was employed—2 per rifle section and was replaced by the current C9.



FN C2



Robbie Burns Supper

The Warrant Officers' and Sgts' Association held their Annual Robbie Burns Supper on Friday 25 January, 2019 at the Carriage House Inn. Attendance was good and a terrific time was had by all. As always, the food (haggis) was outstanding and the whisky incredible.



The Dancers showed off their new shoes in the four colours of the regiment.



Music was provided by the Pipes and Drums.



CWO (ret'd) Flint Walters addressed the haggis.



Maj (ret'd) Paul Ritchie provided harmonies.



Museum Update

Connecting the Regimental Family with its Heritage



Major Kent Griffiths Curator

The 2019 year has brought a continuance of positive events for The Calgary Highlanders Museum and Archives. Much of the work has been around the professional development of the volunteer staff as well as upgrading the collection and gallery displays. Two staff are participating in the Alberta Museum Association – Museum Management Certificate program consisting of eight modules of training and four of the staff attended the Organization of Military Museums of Canada Conference in Edmonton.

The museum continues to support the joint efforts of The Military Museums in short term atrium displays and events such as Black History Month, National Aboriginal Week, the "D-Day Dodgers" event with the Calgary Italian community and the Caribbean Exhibit.



On April 19, 2019 two lanterns, that were originally lit by the Eternal Flame at Mons, Belgium arrived at The Military Museums in Calgary. Lit in the Collegiate Chapel in the city of Mons, where Canadians had fought on 11 November 1918, the lanterns transported the flame across the Atlantic by aircraft and greeted with a ceremony at the museum.

The lanterns (right), named "Tommy" and "Maple" represent the spirits of the British and Canadian (respectively) soldiers and nurses who died overseas during the Great War. Symbolizing the return of souls of our fallen with or without graves, the flames facilitate the uniting of them with their families, because most kin have never had a chance to visit the graves of their military ancestors who died fighting in Europe over 100 years ago.

The project was directed by Christopher Shaw, the Chairman and Heritage Consultant for Shorncliffe Trust in Kent, England as an addition to their Great War Centennial commemorations. This project could not have been successful without the assistance of Terry and Ed Plant, who facilitated the Canadian activities.



(Left) Greeted by Capt Phil Webster and Maj Kent Griffiths (representing the Armoured and Infantry Regiments), the ceremony was observed by other military members, museum visitors and staff. The fire from "Maple" was then used to reignite the eternal flame at The Military Museum and may be utilized for similar "Lantern" events in the future. Such events may involve Calgary youth to inspire connecting with their fallen relatives or other Canadian heroes.

You can assist by donating documents, uniforms and other artifacts to the museum. If you have materials to donate, please email us at: museum@calgaryhighlanders.com to arrange an appointment.

Did you know? The CH Museum is one of the seven museums that form The Military Museums



The Battle of Walcheren Causeway

By Cpl Mike Dorosh

The Battle of Walcheren Causeway is commemorated by The Calgary Highlanders annually, selected by the unit to represent the courage and sacrifice that sustained the battalion through ten months of combat in Northwest Europe. The battle is well documented in many histories. Walcheren Island housed the last German coastal guns on the Scheldt Estuary, and as soon as they were knocked out, Allied shipping could use the port of Antwerp. This was vital to the Allied cause given the reluctance of the Germans to yield any of the channel ports, which caused great strains on the supply system.

The province of Zeeland is the westernmost, and least populated, province of the Netherlands. Much of Zeeland lies below sea level, and a long period of reclamation efforts has drained the sea away, joining many small islands into larger landforms, which by 1944 included the Walcheren Island at the mouth of the Scheldt Estuary and the South Beveland isthmus which connected it to the mainland. Walcheren was connected to South Beveland by a road and rail line elevated over the Sloe channel by a causeway about 40 metres wide and a kilometre long. The causeway was thus known to the Dutch as the "Sloedam" - literally, it dammed the Sloe Channel.



the province of Zeeland as it appeared in 1944

The German coastal garrisons had several missions, including securing Antwerp (Europe's largest port) and the coast from enemy invasion, putting down civil unrest, and securing naval and air force facilities from attacks by the Dutch Resistance.

On 24 October 1944 the 2nd Canadian Division was 40 kilometers east of Walcheren Island. At that time, plans were made for a British amphibious landing on Walcheren, while the 2nd Division was tasked to clear the isthmus, take the Walcheren Causeway, and assault the island from the east to link up with the British. There was no guarantee the naval landings could take place (and a parachute drop was made impossible by the flooding of the island) and thus the need to take the causeway was considered acute. The fight west took a week, including a tough crossing of the Beveland Canal. By 29 October the 2nd Division was approaching the causeway, and the British 52nd Division had landed on the isthmus also. The next day, the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry was less than a kilometre from the causeway, and Middelburg - the capital of Zeeland - only a tantalizing four kilometres distant.

Confusion reigned among the Canadian commanders. There was no detailed intelligence on German defences. In fact, a defence overprint map issued a few days before displayed German defences to the east, but nothing was apparently known of the defences west of the causeway on Walcheren Island. There was hope the Germans had been so badly smashed the causeway could be "bounced", or taken on the run. The causeway was flat, rose only a few feet above the marsh and mud flats on either side, and offered no cover to assault troops using it.

The 5th Brigade prepared to make a water crossing of the Sloe, and the Calgary Highlanders was one of just two units of the 2nd Division that had trained in assault boats. Before D-Day, forecasts had predicted the Allies would need 90 days to break through the German defences and reach the line of the Seine River. Postwar grumbling by generals and historians aside, that goal was met with days to spare. In fact, the Allies had so thoroughly trashed the Germans in Normandy, that the predicted need for an assault crossing of the river never came to pass. The Germans retreated too fast, pulling back all the way into Belgium. By October, however, heavy losses in Normandy and the Scheldt meant that those soldiers who had trained in assault boats in England were mostly gone.

Then the unit commanders of 5 Brigade were told the operation was off. But at some point the Brigadier changed his mind and on the morning of 31 October the 5th Brigade's battalion commanders were informed their new mission was to form a bridgehead on Walcheren Island.

The Black Watch prepared to storm the causeway and the pitifully few Calgary Highlanders who had trained on storm boats prepared for an assault crossing, only to find the launch sites had no cover, and the Sloe was alternately too mucky at low tide and not deep enough at high tide to use boats.

At about noon the Black Watch sent a company onto the causeway which was hit by heavy small arms, sniper and high explosive fire.

They pulled back with heavy losses, but with the assault landing cancelled, the Calgary Highlanders now prepared to take over the frontal assault down the causeway.



Walcheren Island as of 31 October 1944



The lead company went down the causeway at midnight with heavy artillery, mortar, flak and machine gun fire in support. While the artillery fired at suspected German positions spotted during the Black Watch assault, the Germans had brought up additional weapons. The lead Highlander platoon disintegrated and the company commander pulled his men back to the crater on the causeway. A new fire plan was drawn up and at 6:05hrs on 1 November, the third attempt to cross the causeway went forward. Artillery fire blasted into the mudflats to suppress enemy snipers and the lead platoon reached the western edge of the causeway 45 minutes later. A final concentration of artillery and a charge into the roadblock and concrete positions at the far end got the Calgary Highlanders onto Walcheren Island and at 09:33hrs the bridgehead was reported secure, though a high velocity gun was still firing straight east onto the roadway.

Unknown to the Highlanders, just as they were declaring the causeway bridgehead secure, British commandos had commenced their planned landings at Vlissingen.

The Highlanders fought for the rest of the day, faced with heavy counter-attacks at close-quarters. Sergeant 'Blackie' Lalage gained regimental immortality by throwing German hand grenades back before they could explode. For the first time, the Calgary Highlanders had flame weapons used against them (a report by the German 70th Infantry Division notes that the 3rd Company of Engineer Battalion 170 indeed counter-attacked the western end of the causeway). When one company of Highlanders lost all its officers, an artillery rep and the Brigade Major, neither with infantry training, volunteered to go out and lead them. By midnight Le Régiment de Maisonneuve had been ordered forward in relief.

For the officers of the British 52nd Division, there was only disbelief that three battalions could be used in such a callous fashion, and to them, it seemed the Canadians were committing the cardinal military sin of reinforcing failure. The British divisional commander refused an order to reinforce the 5th Brigade. He was threatened with a sacking, and reluctantly agreed that the British would send as many of their own soldiers across as the Canadians had in the bridgehead. By this point, there only forty "Maisies" left on Walcheren Island, and so it was that a platoon of Glasgow Highlanders went to join them. And before long, both "Maisies" and Highlanders pulled back onto the causeway in the face of continuing German counter-attacks.

Meanwhile, three kilometres south, the 52nd Division reconnoitered a new crossing site, desperate to avoid the killing ground of the causeway. In the same area that German troops had tried to cross in 1940 (losing 100 men to drowning) they found a place to ford the mud-flats and marked it with mine tape. A Scottish battalion sneaked across before dawn on 2 November, and were violently shelled and counter-attacked once spotted. Later in the day a second battalion was across, through the German defenders, and linking up with the causeway.

The fight for Walcheren Island was not over, but the Canadians had already left the area, headed for three months of much-needed rest in the Nijmegen Salient. Mopping up Walcheren Island took another few days, and the shipping lanes to Antwerp were finally secured. The Calgary Highlanders had suffered 64 dead and wounded in extremely adverse conditions.



The Causeway, as viewed from the Middleburg side, prior to the German invasion.



Faces of the Regiment

Readers are encouraged to send in photos from all eras of the Unit's history in order that the archive may be expanded. Digital images can be sent to calghighr.glen@gmail.com. Prints should be mailed to The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association, Mewata Armoury, 801-11th St SW, Calgary, AB, T2P 2C4. Prints will be scanned and returned upon request. When sending photos, don't forget to include information on who/what, when and where.



Private Cole Chisholm's drum on Juno Beach 6 June 2019



Band Officer - 2Lt Tim Branford sporting colourful bowling shoes at the Pipes and Drums team-building night.



Cpl Campusano sharing a camouflage face painting experience during the Military Museums' Summer Skirmish event





Faces of the Regiment



Photo by Fiona McLean

Sharon and MWO (ret'd) Joe Doucet visit the museum



Photo by Fiona McLean

CWO (ret'd) Bob Besse and LCol (ret'd) Murray Dennis take time to fondly remember the past



Photo by Lee Villiger

Capt Jason Leek serves at the Soldiers' Christmas Dinner



Photo by Fiona McLean

MWO (ret'd) Gordie Fish, volunteering at the museum



We Shall Remember Them



Honourary Colonel Rod McDaniel **March 18, 1926 – March 6, 2019**

Following a full life, well lived and filled with countless personal and professional accomplishments, Roderick Rogers McDaniel passed away on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, just 12 days short of his 93rd birthday.



After graduating from Oklahoma University in 1946 with a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering, Rod began his professional career as a Reservoir Engineer.

Working at both Creole Petroleum Corp. and Imperial Oil until 1955; when he went out on his own and established McDaniel Consultants Ltd., which was the first reservoir engineering consulting firm in Canada at the time; he remained a vital part of the company he founded until his retirement in 1993.

During his active working days, Rod had many diverse interests that bestowed upon him lifetime honorariums and accolades.

In 1952 Rod began volunteering on various committees of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. In 1978 he was elected to the Board of Directors and in 1988, was appointed Honorary Life Director, a position he served until recently when called upon, he would fulfil his hosting duties at the Brand Room. As Calgary was very good to Rod, Rod in return gave back.

In 1970 Rod was asked to serve as a Director of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, which he did and was then elected President of the Chamber from 1972-1973, while at the same time serving as President of the Calgary Petroleum Club.

In 1973 Rod found he still had one or two hours left in the day so he accepted the position of Chairman of the Board of Pacific Western Airlines Corp., and served in that role until 1991.

Although there were many other projects to which Rod enjoyed lending a hand to, he especially enjoyed his time as Honorary Colonel of the Calgary Highlanders Regiment from 1994 -2000.

On 14 June 1943 he joined the 2nd Battalion, Calgary Highlanders in Calgary with the rank of Private. He transferred to HMCS Nonsuch in Edmonton on 12 October 1944, and left the service in August 1945. Rod also loved to 'play' and had many dear friends that would happily 'play' with him and were always there at his side.



We Shall Remember Them



Lieutenant-Colonel Jon Lynn Moffat OMM, CD 9 February 1938 - 26 January 2019



Jon Lynn Moffat was born in Kindersley, Saskatchewan to proud parents, William and Nina Moffat. As a farmer's son and the middle child, Lynn grew up with strong Catholic values and was guided by his two sisters Donna Laverty and Deveene Lucke.

Lynn's life was full of accomplishments, perpetual motion and excitement. He lived his days fully embracing the many varied challenges he faced. This journey started on the farm, but continued as a Queen Scout, an air cadet, and as a Corporal in the Saskatoon Light Infantry, where he also began his career as a bag piper. After high school, Lynn was selected in 1956 to The Royal Military College of Canada attending College Militaire Royal in St. Jean and the Royal Military College in Kingston. Lynn loved RMC as he continued his musical interests tasked as duty piper on many occasions and his leadership was evident as the Cadet Band Master. He learned to speak and write French fluently, and he saw athletic action as a boxer, a diver, and a football player. For his perseverance, good sportsmanship and true RMC spirit, Lynn was a two-time recipient of the Marshall

Memorial Award. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with the RMC 'Class of 61'

Lynn was posted to serve three years with the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment of Canada) and served with the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in West Germany. He was to meet his wife Maureen Connolly and had his child Jon Moffat in 1963. Their daughter Karen was born in 1965.

As a Captain, Lynn transferred from the regular army to attend Dalhousie University and continue his military passion by joining the Princess Louise Fusiliers. He added a Bachelor of Education Degree and subsequently moved to Calgary, Alberta in 1965. Lynn signed on with The Calgary Highlanders and this new military adventure paralleled his prolific teaching career in the Calgary Catholic Separate School System. In 1970, Lynn attained his Master of Educational Administration and his accomplishments continued as he was directly responsible for creating the Army Reserve High School Credit program resulting in many new recruits into the Canadian Forces. Lynn also won the Alberta Meritorious Award for his work with teens coping with substance abuse.

As a Calgary Highlander, Lynn served in many battalion leadership positions, and later as a Major was posted as Operations and Training Officer with the Southern Alberta Militia District Headquarters.

In 1975, Lynn achieved his Basic Parachutist qualification with the Canadian Armed Forces, but not before he was a keen civilian sports parachutist with over 150 free-fall jumps. This led to the Black Bear Club that saw the legendary Lynn and others jump from civilian aircraft into military training in support of, or as enemy force against the Calgary Highlanders. In 1976, Lynn was appointed Commanding Officer of the Calgary Highlanders.

Lynn continued his leadership with The Calgary Highlanders serving as Field Officers' Exam coordinator and trainer which helped many reserve and regular force officers achieve a number of senior officer examinations. In 1991, he was appointed for the second time as Commanding Officer of the Calgary Highlanders. In addition, Lynn continued as the lead trainer and administrator of the Inter-allied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR). For his exemplary leadership in these areas ; in 1993, LCol Lynn Moffat was appointed an Officer of the Order of Military Merit.

Upon his retirement from the Reserves in 1994, Lynn continued to serve the Regiment as the 10th Battalion and Calgary Highlanders' Association President and the Regimental Secretary. Lynn began playing the bagpipes again and he joined the Pipes and Drums as a civilian Piper and administrator. He was seen everywhere facilitating many activities of the Regimental Family. Lynn's pipe drones were heard at the Royal Military College, at funerals, mess dinners playing the Piobaireachd, playing in parades, weddings, special functions, and he was found teaching pipers of all ages. Lynn is credited for writing his own pipe music and tunes for the Regiment.

Lynn retired from the Alberta Teachers' Association as the Department Head of Religious Studies at Bishop Carrol High School Lynn married the love of his life, Marilyn in 1989 and they were happily married for 30 years. They retired to the lower mainland and Victoria. Marilyn passed away suffering from cancer on 6 April 2019. They were inseparable in life and now forever together.



The Regimental Pipes and Drums Circa 1995. LCol Moffat (front row, 2nd from the left) took on a leadership role, honed his skills and performed at an incredible number of events.



We Shall Remember Them



Donald George MacLauchlan was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on 19 July 1905. His family moved to Calgary in 1912 where his father started his medical practice. While in school MacLauchlan joined the army cadets, and graduated in 1921 soon after joining the Calgary Highlanders. Donald was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on 11 February 1931.

While in Calgary, Donald worked as a secretary for the International Sportsman Club. Over the next ten years, he progressed to earn the rank of Major. Donald also earned a fine reputation for being one of Alberta's top rifle shots and he was a top fencer. It was noted that he had been fired from his job at the 'Albertan' newspaper for taking excessive time off in order to attend Militia courses.

When war broke out in 1939, Major MacLauchlan was tasked as an infantry rifle company commander. He arrived in England in 1940 and soon became Second in Command of the 1st Battalion, The Calgary Highlanders. On the 9th February 1942, Donald G. MacLauchlan assumed command from LCol J. Fred Scott. At age 35, LCol MacLauchlan was to be the first Commanding Officer of the Calgary Highlanders in World War II to take the battalion into battle.



Major MacLauchlan with Col J Fred Scott and HLCol JH Woods front of the home in the Mount Royal area of Calgary that was the Officers' Mess. Circa 1939—1941



Above– The Commanding Officer's Portrait.



Caricature from the Glen in 1942



Right– LCol MacLauchlan meeting with Field Marshal Montgomery in WW II.

As the CO, he led the Highlanders when they landed in Normandy on 6 July 1944. LCol MacLauchlan commanded throughout France, Belgium, and the Netherlands to just before the Battle of the Scheldt and Walcheren Causeway. Exhausted but proud, LCol MacLauchlan was relieved after Hoogerheide by LCol Ross Ellis on 29 October 1944. He had pushed himself as hard as his men. LCol MacLauchlan's fighting career met some exhausting challenges, but he persevered and his excellent leadership at Clair Tizon earned him the Distinguished Service Order (DSO). During his service, LCol MacLauchlan was also awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (CVSM), the 1939-45 Star, the Star Defense Medal, the War Medal 1939-45 and the Efficiency Decoration (ED).

In peacetime, LCol MacLauchlan was posted as Commanding Officer of the No. 122 Canadian Infantry Basic Training Centre at Maple Creek Saskatchewan. He retained an active association with the battalion offering the benefit of his wartime experiences. In addition, Donald spent considerable time with the Ottawa Pipe Band.

Lieutenant Colonel Donald George MacLauchlan, DSO ED passed away in Ottawa on 15 March 1992.



“Who Can Tell The Dancers From The Dance”

William Butler Yeats

Article by Glenn Millage



The dance corps of The Regimental Pipes and Drums of the Calgary Highlanders: Tessa Fehr, Kira Schmidt, Jessica Robinson, and Jennifer Hilman, at the Sergeants' and Warrant Officers' Robbie Burns Dinner, February 2019. Photo by author.

If you've been to a Calgary Highlanders event, you may have been fortunate to witness the dance corps executing their accomplished skills to the sound of the Regimental Pipes and Drums. Tessa Fehr, Kira Schmidt, and Jennifer Hilman were led by dance sergeant, Jessica Robinson on Robbie Burns day at the Carriage House Inn where they were a highlight of the Pipes and Drums performance.

Highland dancing has been a part of Scottish culture since before recorded history, where the roots of these dances are steeped in ritual and tradition. In modern times the majority of Highland dance is performed by females, however historically, dances lay with warriors imitating epic exploits from Scottish lore. Legend has it that clan chiefs and kings used Highland Games and the Highland dances to select their mightiest men at arms who competed to demonstrate their strength, stamina and agility.

The Calgary Highlanders officers have until the recent past, partaken in highland dancing at mess dinners and other gatherings. This tradition was carried on through the Calgary Highlander cadet program in the 80's, where young men and women learned and performed highland dances. In the late 90's, a dance corps officially formed and became an important part of the Regimental Pipes and Drums.

Today's corps of ladies all have a long and, prominent standing in the local dance community. Kira and Tessa both started dancing at 3, though Tessa's dance of choice until 12 was ballet. Jenifer and Jessica both started Highland dancing in their teens. All have competed in countless Highland games and dancing competitions.

Tessa has "retired" from competitive dancing, and volunteers her dancing skills with the Calgary Highlanders. Jessica now manages and instructs The Highwood Highland Dancers school in High River, with fellow dance instructor Kira; both have completed their Associates exam to become certified associate Highland Dance instructors. Jennifer teaches at the Judy Schey School of Highland Dancing and has achieved the Members (full-teaching) standing in highland dance.

Tessa first came to the Regiment around 2006 as a piper, and dancer, (sometimes both on the same day). Taking a leave of absence, she re-joined the dance corps in 2018.

Jennifer was recruited by past dance sergeant Kirsty Thackrey in 2008, and became dance sergeant herself in 2012. When not dancing, she can be seen in the tenor drum section. She stepped aside from the dance sergeant role in 2017 to focus on her family, but still dances and drums with the Highlanders.

Kira was recruited by Jessica in 2017 and has become a lively and welcome addition to the pipes and drums (and dancers) family.

Jessica stepped into the role of dance sergeant in 2017, but has been with the Calgary Highlanders since 2011 when she was recruited by then-Drum Major Steve Patterson. A year later, she too picked up the tenor drum.

When asked "why volunteer", the response from our dancers seemed indicative of all volunteers in the Pipe Band. Simply put: it's fun. The band along with the dance corps seems like a second, big family and has become an integral part of the lives of the dancers, drummers and pipers. Unique opportunities to perform have arisen, and always foster esprit de corps amongst the group, especially so when travelling and sharing experiences together.

There is an energy that dancing with a pipe band brings, and a special joy performing what they love to do with such a group.

Additionally, dancing is important to the Calgary Highlanders Regiment, and representing the Regiment is worthy of time and attention. It is essential to carry the rich history and traditions in the Regiment forward, and to be part of that is something in which all in the dance corps and band take great pride.

The Highland Fling

One legend associates it as a warrior's dance of triumph following a battle. It was supposedly danced over a small round shield, with a spike projecting from the centre, known as a Targe. Yet another legend links the dance to a young boy imitating the antics of a stag rearing and wheeling on a hillside; the curved arms and hands representing the stag's antlers.¹

The Sword Dance

(Gille Chaluum – Gaelic for "the servant of Calum")

One story said to originate from the times of Shakespeare's Macbeth, recalls that when King Malcolm III (Canmore) of Scotland killed a fellow chieftain in battle, he celebrated by dancing over his own bloody claymore crossed with the sword of his enemy. Yet another story tells that a soldier would dance around and over crossed swords prior to battle; should his feet touch the blade during the dance however, then this was considered an ill omen for the following day. Another and more practical explanation is that the dance was simply an exercise used to develop and hone the nimble footwork required to stay alive in sword play.¹

1- The History of Highland Dancing by Ben Johnson. Retrieved from

<https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofScotland/Highland-Dancing>



Kira Schmidt dances on ice in 2018 before the Calgary Flames' Armed Forces Appreciation Night. (Believed to be the only time highland dance has been performed on ice at the Saddledome) Photo courtesy of Calgary Flames.



The dancers debut new dance shoes in the regimental colours for the Robbie Burns dinner. Photo by author.

Wilt Thou Go to the Barracks, Johnny?

Performed by the men of the military as a recruiting tool. When travelling village to village, the recruiting officer would use a dancer to attract people both as entertainment, and as an example of the strong, manly soldier that possibly would entice young men to join.

Hielan' Laddie

Soldiers are thought to have created the dance during the First World War which is performed the tune of the same name. The Calgary Highlander version performed by the Pipes and Drums is unique having four parts, rather than the usual two.

Highland dancing is amazingly rich in history and tradition. Intermixed above, are snippets of a few of the dances and their histories/legends, but even many of the individual foot and hand movements themselves have their own tale to tell. In the sword dance for instance, you may notice the dancers giving a heavy stomp to the floor of the back foot to symbolize the crushing of an enemy's skull into the ground after having killed them in battle.

The Calgary Highlanders are fortunate to have a group of dedicated and talented, volunteer dancers that carry on mighty traditions in the regiment.

No Captions Required





Cadets

On Friday 16 August 2019, Major (ret'd) Dick Westbury attended the graduation parade at the Rocky Mountain Cadet Camp located 48 km northwest of Cochrane, Alberta.

The Rocky Mountain National Cadet Training Centre (RMNCTC) replaced the Banff Cadet Camp in 1999, and offers the challenges of glacier trekking, mountain biking, white water canoeing, kayaking, hiking, and rock climbing to Cadets from across Canada and from Great Britain.

The Training Centre also offers intensive Pipes and Drums course selections for cadet musicians from the Northwest region.



Major (ret'd) Dick Westbury and Director David Usherwood present the Royal Alberta United Services Institute (RAUSI) Trophy to Cadet J Lord from the Royal Regiment of Scotland Cadets in Great Britain.

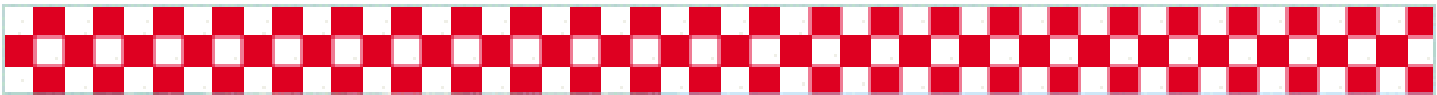
A mini-band from the Pipes and Drums training perform prior to the parade in a downpour, but do not fail to excite the spectators and certainly add flair to the graduation ceremony in this outstanding Rocky Mountain environment.



Her Honour Lois Mitchell, Governor General of Alberta is escorted by LCol Kyle Clapperton to inspect the cadets across the deluge of the RMNCTC parade square.

Her Honour then made a short but motivational speech and congratulated the Cadets from across Canada and Great Britain.





Regimental Mascots



“Heather” the Scotty Dog mascot of the Pipes and Drums in 1942

“Why it is our regiment that has the Bear for a Mascot? I took two snaps of him and have sent them to have them developed, so shall send them home at once. He is living in a hole in the bank now, but the zoo have offered to keep him at London, so shall send him up now I believe.”
Letter From: Lt. Alexander Thomas Thomson, January 5th, 1915



10th Battalion mascot, Salisbury Plain, England in 1914-18





The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association Dues, Gifts and Membership

If you are an existing member of the Association, either Ordinary or Associate, all you have to do to renew your membership for 2019 is to send us your annual dues of \$15.00 (Box A) or pay in person at the Kit Shop Mewata. If you are not an existing member and wish to become one, please complete the application form (Box B) and attach the 2019 annual dues of \$15.00.

All serving soldiers are automatically Ordinary Members upon receipt of the annual dues and need not apply for membership.

If you are unsure of your status, complete Box B.

BOX A: DUES/GIFTS

2019 dues are \$15.00 and, of course donations are much appreciated.

A tax receipt will be issued for donations of more than \$25.00; annual dues are not tax-deductible.

Cheques should be made out to 'The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Funds Foundation and mailed to:

The Calgary Highlanders Regt Assn
Mewata Armoury
801-11th Street SW
Calgary AB T2P 2C4

Enclosed are my annual dues of \$15.00 (2019)

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please complete if this information is not on your cheque or has changed.

BOX B: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I am a Calgary Highlander Veteran (applying as an *Ordinary Member*)

I am NOT a former Calgary Highlander (applying as an *Associate Member*)

PLEASE PRINT:

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rank (indicate 'Retd' when applicable if providing rank) _____

Given Name(s) _____

Surname _____

Decorations/Post Nominals _____

Military Service (if applicable)

Unit _____ Dates Served _____

Unit _____ Dates Served _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

EMAIL: _____

OR

I do not have an email address

Former Calgary Highlanders become Ordinary Members upon receipt of the annual dues (\$15.00). The Board of Directors may grant conditional memberships to any applicant for Associate Membership, but such memberships must be confirmed at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

Mail to:

The Calgary Highlanders Regt Assn
Mewata Armoury
801-11th Street SW
Calgary AB T2P 2C4



This edition of the Glen Magazine was dedicated to the 75th Anniversary of our brave and successful Battalion of Heroes in 1944. Consequently, a young Princess Elizabeth was also supporting the cause during that important time of Canada's history. Who would have ever known that Her Highness would go on to become Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II, and be gifted the Regiment, "The Calgary Highlanders" becoming our Colonel-in-Chief.

