



November 11, a day of reflection

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LOOKOUT
newspaper

MARPAC NEWS
CFB Esquimalt, Victoria, B.C.

Cover Illustration by Brian Lorimer
(See story on page 26)

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Message from the Admiral

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2016

Every year on November 11th, we pause to remember our fallen, our Veterans and our ill and injured. It is an act we undertake with a great deal of respect and reflection as we honour those who stood bravely in defence of our country and our values.

Just as it was their duty to serve their nation, it is our duty to honour and remember their sacrifice. Through two World Wars, and every military engagement since, Canadians from across the nation, including First Nations, Inuit and Metis, have served and defended Canada with honour and distinction. Every year the rolls of veterans grow shorter, which makes it ever more important to take the time to remember their sacrifices and rededicate ourselves to the work of protecting and preserving Canadian values and interests around the globe.

I ask that you remember the military families who are so greatly impacted by the absence of their loved ones in times of conflict and uncertainty. They are truly the strength behind the uniform.

I invite you to pause and consider the legacy of Canada's men and women in the naval uniform who have answered their nations call in some of our more recent conflicts. At the outset of hostilities in Korea in the 50's, during the First Gulf War and in response to the terror attacks of September 11th the RCN were Canada's first military responders. In each case the RCN deployed a trio of warships to serve as a clear commitment of Canada's solidarity with our friends and Allies against tyranny, oppression and intimidation through fear.

I urge you to join with our veterans and with Canadians everywhere to remember all those who have served, and all those who continue to serve our nation. Please include the crews of HMC Ships Vancouver, Brandon and Edmonton in your thoughts, as they are all currently deployed on operations in the Pacific.

Finally, let's all remember the courage and sacrifice of the thousands of Canadians who gave their lives to uphold peace and freedom during times of conflict, and who helped build this great country. Let us never forget the cost of our freedom.

Yours Aye,
RAdm Art McDonald,
MSM, CD
Commander, Maritime Forces Pacific/Joint Task Force Pacific

About the Legion poppy campaign

Royal Canadian Legion

Every year, the Legion conducts the Poppy Campaign to honour those who serve, and to raise funds in support of veterans and their families.

From the last Friday in October to Remembrance Day, all Canadians can be a part of the campaign. Wear a poppy, attend a ceremony, and show your recognition for those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Canadians are fiercely proud of our veterans and during the period leading up to Remembrance Day millions of Canadians wear a poppy as a symbol of national pride and respect, a visual pledge to never forget.

During the Poppy Campaign, thousands of Legion members from coast to coast to coast volunteer their time to distribute poppies and raise millions that will support veterans and their families in need. While poppies are distributed freely, the Legion appreciates the generous donations to the Poppy Fund in support of serving and retired veterans and their families.

To further support veterans – past and present – anyone can become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. You can also show your pride and appreciation by purchasing poppy and commemorative items from the online Poppy Store at www.legion.ca. All proceeds support Legion programs.

Wear the Legion's poppy as a visual pledge to never forget our Canadian veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

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Local Remembrance Day ceremonies

Personnel from Maritime Forces Pacific/Joint Task Force Pacific will be participating in several ceremonies in the region.



9:00 a.m.

- Aboriginal Remembrance Day Ceremony – Goldstream Park

10:00 a.m.

- Veterans' Cemetery, God's Acre – 1190 Colville Road
- Cobble Hill – Cobble Hill Community Hall, 3550 Watson Avenue at the Liberation Park Cenotaph

10:50 a.m.

- Nanaimo – Cenotaph, 85 Front Street
- Parksville Cenotaph – Behind City Hall on Craig Street

10:55 a.m.

- Oak Bay – War Memorial, Beach Drive, Uplands Park
- Victoria – City of Victoria Cenotaph (Legislature Building), 501 Belleville Street
- Ross Bay Cemetery - 1495 Fairfield Rd
- Esquimalt – Memorial Park Cenotaph, 1229 Esquimalt Road
- West Shore Communities – Veterans Memorial Park located at the intersection of Goldstream Avenue and Veterans Memorial Parkway (Millstream)
- Sidney – Town Hall, 2440 Sidney Avenue
- Saanich – Municipal Hall, 770 Vernon Avenue
- Sooke – Sooke Royal Canadian Legion, 6726 Eustace Road
- Duncan - Charles Hoey Park, Canada Avenue
- Lantzville – Lantzville Royal Canadian Legion, 7225 Lantzville Road

To find a ceremony in British Columbia go to www.legionbcyukon.ca/content/2016-find-remembrance-day-ceremony

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Naden Band musical tribute

Join the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy for a musical tribute commemorating The Great War. The concert will be held on the main level of the Royal BC Museum and is free of charge.

The Naden Band is a 35-piece ensemble which performs in diverse

styles including classical, jazz, pop, and contemporary music. For this performance, the band will be joined by local and talented vocalist Stephanie Greaves for several pieces during the program.

For more information please visit www.nadenband.ca

A Musical Tribute to The Great War
Thursday, Nov. 10
7 p.m.
Royal BC Museum
Clifford Carl Hall
Admission - FREE



HMCS SACKVILLE Remembers and Honours

HMCS Trentonian, Irish Sea, 13 June, 1944

Roger Litwiller Collection; Allen E. Singleton, RCNVR photo, courtesy Jack Harold, RCNVR

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WHAT SAY YOU

People Talk

The Lookout asked those who attended the kickoff for this year's Poppy Campaign at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 172:

Whom will you remember most on Remembrance Day?



A former classmate at Penticton Secondary School, Captain Jonathan Snyder who was killed in Afghanistan in 2008. It was such a sad moment when I learned he had been killed and I will remember him for the rest of my life.

MS William Sherman,
Personnel Coordination Centre



Although I wasn't deployed to Afghanistan there were people in my unit [PPCLI] who were killed while serving. They will certainly come across my mind along with both my grandparents who also served in the CAF.

PO2 Chris O'Leary,
Base Foods



A friend of mine named Leading Seaman Brandon South, who died at a hospital in Tanzania in 2014. I worked with him at the base and I will definitely remember him when the clock strikes 11 on November 11.

LS Nadine Becket,
Naval Fleet School Pacific



My dad Jack Smith who was aboard HMCS Ottawa during the Battle of the Atlantic and helped save a group of sailors floating on a raft. I always remember him on Remembrance Day. I'll never forget my dad and his recollections of the war.

Veteran Larry Smith,
RCL Branch 172

WHAT SAY YOU

Cockrell House supports our homeless veterans

Cockrell House is operated by the non-profit South Mid Vancouver Island Zone (SMVIZ) Veterans Housing Society that was formed in early 2009.

Our mission is to provide shelter, food and support services to ex-members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Regular and Reserve, who are homeless or under-housed.

There have been over 50 veterans assisted since we started, and we currently have nine with us. The main house in Colwood facilitates eight veterans and we have two units at Prince Edward Lodge (low income Legion Housing) at our disposal. We are also assisting three others at various locations.

Our funding comes from veteran organizations and groups such as the City of Colwood, the Esquimalt Lions, and Russ Ridley, the original owner of the House.

The largest supporter has been the BC/Yukon Legion Foundation that encompasses all the branches in B.C. They have recently purchased the building,

Cockrell House, which secures a future for this incredibly important project. We never quit trying for government funding but as yet are unsuccessful.

In 2013 we participated in a federal program run by HPS that conducted research and evaluation on the issue of homelessness with regards to veterans. The other participants were Alpha House in Calgary, Mainstay in Toronto, and the City of London. A great experience.

We are fortunate to have professional support from people such as Dr. Tim Black at University of Victoria, the local VAC office and their front line workers, peer support from OSISS, lawyer Terry Swan, and nurses from Verity Home Care who visits our vets bi-monthly - all pro bono.

When a veteran is successful and can move out on their own, they are fully outfitted with everything they need to live independently - such as furniture, linen utensils, etcetera. Most of this is donated.



Cockrell House is an 11-unit multiplex in Colwood providing transitional and safe housing for homeless ex-military personnel.

Our hard costs - housing, food cards and bus passes - are approximately \$10,000 per month.

Anyone wishing to donate may do so and get a tax receipt, through the BC/Yukon Legion Foundation.

Respectfully submitted
Angus Stanfield
Chairman, SMVIZ Veterans Housing Society
BC/Yukon Command
The Royal Canadian Legion
www.legionbcyukon.ca

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Asia-Pacific expert earns Vimy Award

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

Dr. James Boutilier, Maritime Forces Pacific's (MARPAAC) Special Advisor on Asia and the Pacific, has been named the 26th recipient of the Vimy Award for 2016.

The annual award presented by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute in Ottawa recognizes one prominent Canadian who has made

outstanding contributions toward the security and defence of Canada, and the preservation of democratic values.

The award was presented to Dr. Boutilier at a gala reception dinner at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa on Nov. 4.

"I was stunned, humbled and flattered to hear the news that it would be me," said Dr. Boutilier.

"The previous recipients were, and are, an illustrious

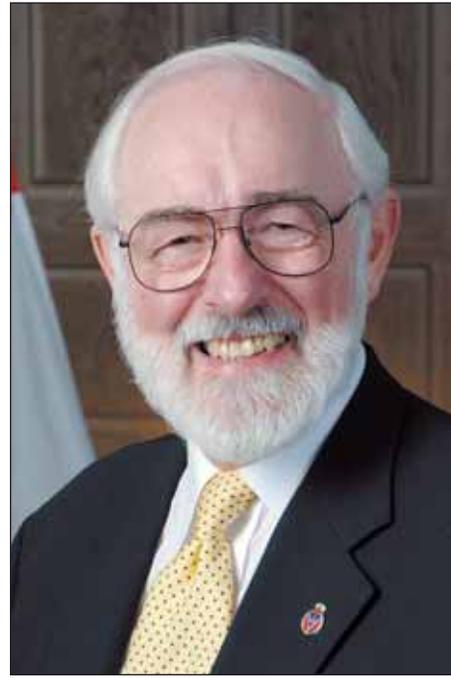
band of brothers, and I hope I can live up to their high standards."

Former Prime Minister of Canada Joe Clark received the inaugural Vimy Ridge Award in 1991 and other winners have included former Governor General of Canada Adrienne Clarkson (2010), Major-General Jonathan Vance (2011), General Rick Hillier (2008), and Honorary Colonel Blake Goldring (2014), who dedicated the award to the memory of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent and Corporal Nathan Cirillo.

A congratulatory letter from RAdm Art McDonald, Commander of MARPAAC, spoke glowingly about Dr. Boutilier's worthiness for the award, noting he was the "driving force behind the Canadian Armed Forces/Royal Canadian Navy's (CAF/RCN's) Pacific awareness" and "the incredibly appropriate [person] to be recognized and celebrated."

Captain(N) Steve Jorgensen, MARPAAC Chief of Staff for Operations and Planning, noted Dr. Boutilier's expertise in the Asia Pacific region has been sought after for over a half a century. He describes him as an expert advisor for MARPAAC, and the entire Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), and Canadian Armed Forces as a whole.

"He has been a constant voice about our attention in the Pacific," says Capt(N) Jorgensen. "If someone in Ottawa at the policy level



Dr. James Boutilier, Special Advisor on Asia and the Pacific, MARPAAC, has been named the 26th recipient of the Vimy Award.

Dr. Boutilier's expertise in the Asia Pacific region has been sought after for over a half a century.

Capt(N) Steve Jorgensen, MARPAAC Chief of Staff for Operations and Planning



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has a question on Asia Pacific they will call him."

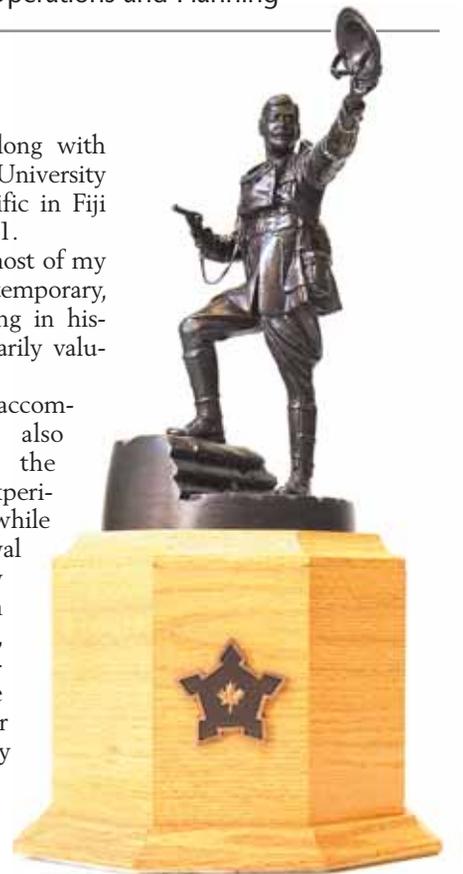
Dr. Boutilier is more than just an advisor. He spent 24 years at the Royal Roads Military College, first as head of the History Department and then later as Dean of Arts. He has taught several members of the RCN's command team including Vice-Admiral Ron Lloyd, Commander RCN, who earned his Bachelor of Arts in Military and Strategic Studies in 1985.

His intricate understanding of British Imperial history in the Pacific developed from his studies at Dalhousie University (BA History 1960), McMaster University (MA History 1962), an MA on the Royal Navy, and a PHD at the University of London (PHD

History 1969), along with teaching at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji from 1969 to 1971.

"Even though most of my work today is contemporary, having a grounding in history is extraordinarily valuable," he says.

His academic accomplishments are also combined with the practical naval experience he gained while serving in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve from 1956 to 1964, and as a navigating officer in the same capacity for the Royal Navy Reserve from 1964 to 1969.



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CANADIAN TIMELINE

- 1899** OCTOBER 11 South African War begins
- OCTOBER 30 First Canadian soldiers leave for South Africa
- 1900** FEBRUARY 18 Battle of Paardeberg begins
- NOVEMBER 7 Battle of Leliefontein
- 1902** MARCH 31 Battle of Hart's River
- MAY 31 South African War ends
- 1914** AUGUST 4 First World War Begins
- 1915** APRIL 22 Canadians see first major action at Ypres
- 1916** JULY 1 1st Newfoundland Regiment goes over the top at Beaumont-Hamel
- 1917** APRIL 9 Canadians take Vimy Ridge
- NOVEMBER Canadians capture Passchendaele in muddy battle
- DECEMBER 17 Some Canadian women first get to vote in a federal election
- 1918** NOVEMBER 11 Armistice signed ending the war
- 1939** SEPTEMBER 10 Canada officially enters the Second World War
- 1942** AUGUST 19 Canadians take part in Raid on Dieppe
- 1943** JULY 10 Canadians come ashore in Sicily
- 1944** JUNE 6 Allies come ashore in Normandy on D-Day
- 1945** MAY 5 Canadians complete Liberation of the Netherlands
- AUGUST 15 V-J Day: official end of the Second World War
- 1950** JUNE 25 Canadians enter Korean War
- 1951** APRIL 24-25 Canadians see action in the Battle of Kapyong
- 1952** OCTOBER 2 HMCS Iroquois hit off Korean coast
- 1953** JULY 27 The Korea Armistice Agreement is signed ending three years of fighting
- 1956** NOVEMBER 24 First Canadian peacekeepers set foot in Egypt
- 1974** AUGUST 9 Nine Canadian Forces Peacekeepers die in the Middle East
- 1988** 1988 World's UN Peacekeepers awarded Nobel Peace Prize
- 1990** AUGUST 2 Iraq invades Kuwait, setting off the Persian Gulf War
- 92-03** 1992 THROUGH 2003 Canada participates in several missions to support peace in the Balkans region
- 2001** 2001 Canadian soldiers deploy to Afghanistan
- 2006** SEPTEMBER Canadians see intense combat in Afghanistan during Operation Medusa
- 2010** JANUARY Canadian Forces deploy to earthquake-ravaged Haiti
- 2014** MARCH End of Canada's mission to Afghanistan

Courtesy Veterans Affairs Canada

SILVER CROSS MOTHER ANNOUNCED



As the National Silver Cross Mother, she will place a wreath at the National War Memorial on Nov. 11 on behalf of all Canadian mothers who have lost a son or a daughter in the military, either in action or in the course of his or her normal duty.

Photo by CNW Group/The Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command
2016-17 National Memorial (Silver) Cross Mother – Colleen Fitzpatrick



Royal Canadian Legion

David Flannigan, Dominion President of The Royal Canadian Legion, announced Colleen Fitzpatrick as the National (Memorial) Silver Cross Mother for 2016-2017.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick lost her middle son, Corporal Darren Fitzpatrick, when he stepped on an improvised explosive device while on patrol in the Zahari district, near Kandahar City on March 6, 2010.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick was born in New Westminster, B.C., and was raised in Vanderhoof, B.C. She now lives in Prince George, B.C., with her sons, grandchildren and her husband Jim of 32 years.

As the National Silver Cross Mother, she will place a wreath at the National War Memorial on Nov. 11 on behalf of all Canadian mothers who have lost a son or a daughter in the military, either in action or in the course of his or her normal duty. Throughout the year, she will also be called upon to perform other duties honouring the fallen from all conflicts.

The Silver Cross was instituted on Dec. 1, 1919, and was issued as a memento of personal loss and sacrifices on behalf of all widows and mothers who lost a child while on active duty in the service of their nation, or whose death was consequently attributed to such duty.

Every year, Legion provincial commands and individuals put forward nominations for the selection of a National Silver Cross Mother. These nominations are reviewed by a selection committee at Dominion Command and one mother is chosen for the year, which begins Nov. 1 until Oct. 31 of the following year.

CORPORAL DARREN JAMES FITZPATRICK

Corporal Fitzpatrick was a member of the 3rd Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). Born in June 1988, he joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 2006. During his tour to Afghanistan he was advanced promoted to Corporal, working with the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team.

Cpl Fitzpatrick was mortally wounded after stepping on an improvised explosive device while on patrol in the Zahari District, near Kandahar City, Afghanistan, on

March 6, 2010.

He was a kind-hearted passionate individual with a desire to help others. He was extremely close to his two brothers and was a loyal friend. He enjoyed the comradery of the military and developed strong bonds with his PPCLI family.

The family has established memorial bursaries in their son's name awarded annually to students seeking careers with the Canadian Armed Forces.

The City of Prince George has dedicated

a city park as a memorial, and one of only two bravery parks in Canada titled the "Cpl Darren Fitzpatrick Bravery Park".

He was 21 years old and the 141st fallen soldier from Canada's mission in Afghanistan.

"Fitzzy," as he was known by friends and family, is remembered as a loving son, brother, loyal friend and a model soldier. He was an avid snow boarder, loved playing football, but most of all enjoyed spending time with family and cousins at the summer cabin.



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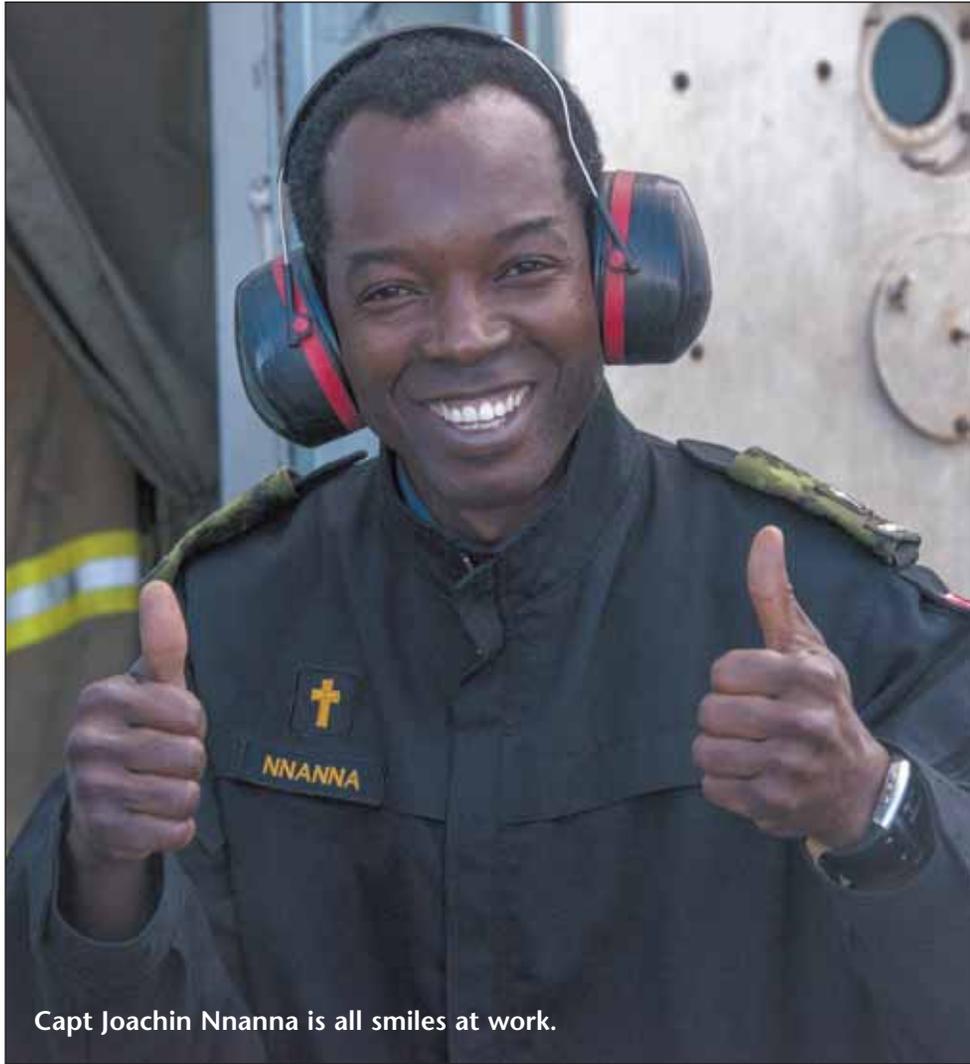
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HMCS Winnipeg returns home



Capt Joachin Nnanna is all smiles at work.

LS Brendan Gibson HMCS Winnipeg

The crew of *HMCS Winnipeg* returned home to their loved ones last month after a month long exercise off the coast of San Diego conducting work ups with *HMCS Ottawa* and ships of the United States Navy Third Fleet.

These work ups are designed to help prepare ships and sailors of the Royal Canadian Navy for upcoming deployments through four phases: lectures, operations, damage control, and warfare exercises.

The first phase was lectures given alongside at San Diego Naval Base upon the completion of Fleet Week.

The ship then set sail for phase two of work ups that drilled the ship's company on damage control, man overboard, hazardous material spill, casualty clearing, and force protection exercises.

During this time *Winnipeg* also conducted Ship Without Air Detachment training, which focused on the ship's ability to per-

form critical tasks with both Canadian and foreign helicopters, such as landings, take offs, fuelling, and personnel transfers.

Phase three of the exercise moved to operational capabilities in both above water and under water warfare, including mine detection and simulated threats from enemy submarines and aircraft. As this phase continued, other elements such as structural damage and mass casualties were mixed in to the action stations drills, forcing the crew to fight the damage control and casualty clearing battle within the ship while simultaneously fighting the warfare threat outside the ship.

The final phase took place over 36 hours in which *Winnipeg's* crew contended with massive damage from a simulated air attack, while also planning for and executing a mass casualty and evacuation exercise on San Clemente Island, off the coast of San Diego.

These exercises helped prepare the ship's company in case of actual emergencies while sailing, and

allowed *Winnipeg's* crew to work and learn together to overcome obstacles, creating a stronger and more self-reliant team.

"I couldn't be more proud of the ship's company in *Winnipeg*," said Commander Jeff Hutchinson, ship's Commanding Officer.

"They faced every challenge posed by Sea Training with energy, aggression, a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. I'm most pleased with the growth in the ship's company as a whole as I watched them transition from independent sub-teams and siloed departments to one mission-focused, integrated all-ship team. They truly are one with the strength of many."

As *Winnipeg* enters a short work period, the crew will hoist in the lessons learned over the six weeks and move forward to prepare for the upcoming deployment in the New Year.



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OPERATION MEDUSA

A HARD FOUGHT BATTLE

Adam Day
Legion Magazine

A no-holds-barred history of Operation Medusa, the biggest battle in the last 60 years of Canadian military history, as told by the officers who led it.

Someday the opening hours of this battle will be a movie. It will start with a menacing group of drab green Canadian military vehicles creeping across a river and into a field, deep in a foreign land. The soldiers will look apprehensive, their commanders uncertain of what is to come. Then suddenly the assault force will light up machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, and worse.

In seconds Canadian soldiers will be dead on the battlefield, with many more wounded.

Unfortunately, these were the opening moments of the most important battle in Canada's war in Afghanistan.

The U.S. had just pulled out of Kandahar and left it to NATO to provide security and reconstruction in what had been a fairly peaceful place.

But the enemy had other ideas. What they saw was the American superpower in retreat and NATO as weak.

They massed in numbers not seen since the initial invasion of Afghanistan in 2001.

Their intent was to reveal NATO as impotent. They wanted to take Kandahar City.

Operation Medusa was the Canadian-led response.

In September 2006, the massed enemy would end up fighting almost the entirety of the 2,800-strong Canadian battle group—not just three companies of infantry, but also the reconnaissance squadron, a field squadron of combat engineers, JTF2 special operations troops, Americans, Danes, and lots of air support.

The enemy did not win, though they did achieve certain small victories, such as that first battle when the Canadians crossed the Arghandab River to take Objective Rugby and were massively, cinematically, repelled.

When Charles Company got lit up and retreated on Sept. 3, 2006, it marked one of the lowest points in the battle. Four men died. Their names were Frank Mellish, Shane Stachnik,



Troops wait near the Arghandab River during Operation Medusa.

William Cushley and Rick Nolan.

The next morning it got worse. Charles Company was hit by friendly fire from an American jet. There was one dead—Mark Graham—and so many dozens wounded that the entire company had to be removed from the order of battle.

But that doesn't tell the whole story. In fact, it's kind of impossible to tell the whole story.

At this point in time, Operation Medusa is almost an enigma. If the battle were to be fought in retrospect, none of the leaders there would have done it exactly the same knowing what they know now. On the other hand, none of them would change much either.

Major-General Omer Lavoie

If you ask the battle group commander during the battle about who won and whether it was a success, he will give you a predictably straightforward answer - Medusa was a success.

Back in 2006, MGen Lavoie was a lieutenant-colonel in charge of the Canadian battle group, under the command of Brigadier-General David Fraser.

"It was right on the transition from U.S. com-

mand to NATO command," said MGen Lavoie. "The Taliban bought into the idea that NATO wouldn't have the same stomach for a fight. We show up, we go in there, we take back that area. And this was a place of iconic importance to the Taliban. So if I base it on those criteria, I say it was a huge success, because everything my troops were asked to do, we did."

"Did we free Zhari and Panjwaii districts from the Taliban? Of course not. But when I look at the reason we went in there in the first place is that the Taliban were threatening Kandahar City. Something had to be done to protect the city from falling. And it's a huge sense of pride for my soldiers to accomplish that."

"Professionally it's changed who I am. I use it as my azimuth when I'm commanding. We lost our regimental sergeant major [Chief Warrant Officer Robert Girouard], we lost 19 guys. And so it's hard not to think about that every day. That's the hardest part of command."

"But we were the only unit to receive a Governor General's citation for an operation, and that commendation is what means the most, it's what unifies us as a band of brothers."

Major Trevor Norton

During Medusa, Maj Norton was the LAV Captain in Charles Company, and he was there on Sept. 3, helping to oversee the battle.

"In some ways it was a pivotal moment for me. When I look back on it, it was the one time in Canada's involvement in Afghanistan where the Taliban really massed and sought a conventional fight. And we gave them one. But I didn't look at it as some massive event at the time. Looking back it was quite remarkable, but it was just another part of the mission. It was just another day in Kandahar."

For Maj Norton, there is one aspect of the operation's opening battle that still makes him think, even a decade later.

"Prior to Sept. 3, we'd been sitting on one side of the river and trying to attrite the enemy on the other side of the river with direct fires. I had the firing line set up and we'd fire whenever the enemy exposed themselves. I said to people 'the guys we're taking out today, we're not going to face tomorrow.' The next day, we crossed the river; we were worried about where we were going to breach the enemy's defensive line. But we weren't firing, and that allowed the enemy to get the drop on us."

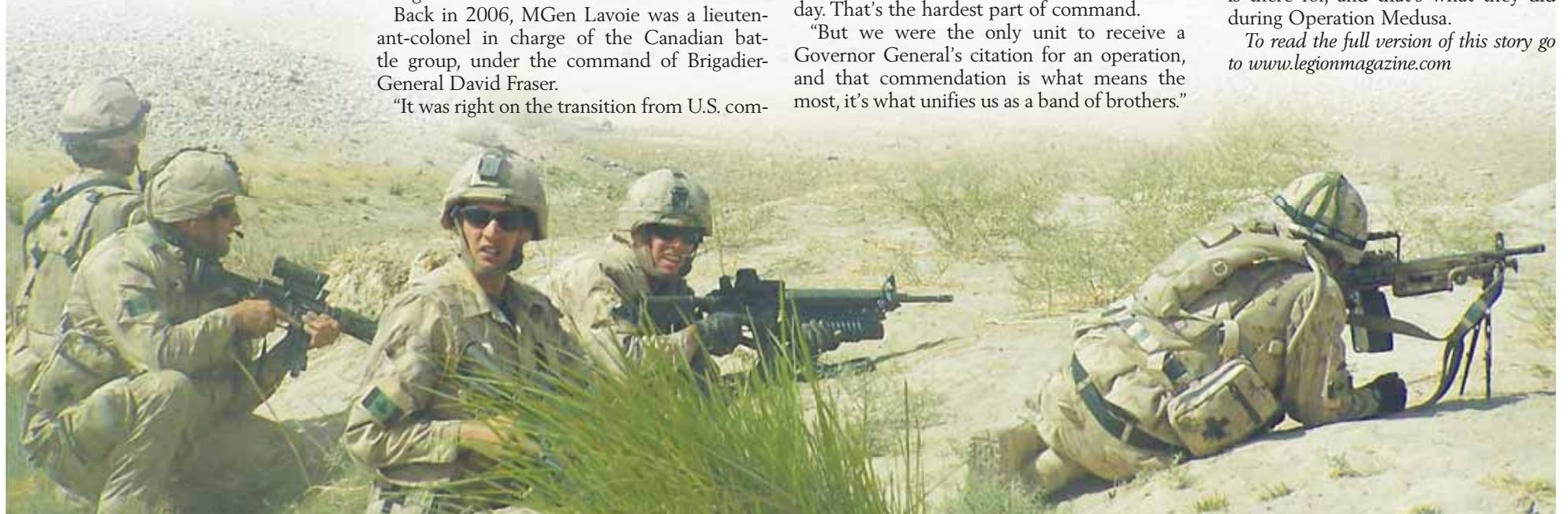
"Since then, I've tried to impress upon my guys in training we need to make sure we rely on those conventional tactics. If you think something, you should probably put it forward. If it doesn't seem right, you should put it out. I use that as an example of initiative. [Someone had to] recommend that we continued firing, because that is really what allowed the Taliban to get the drop on us."

Never surrender

In the end, the Canadian battle group achieved all their objectives. It took longer than expected, and was far harder than anyone wanted it to be; but the eyes of the world were watching, and there was no way the Canadians were going to lose this fight.

It's likely that civilians will never grasp the cost of war. Sacrificing lives to take a piece of land is incomprehensible. But that's what the military is there for, and that's what they did during Operation Medusa.

To read the full version of this story go to www.legionmagazine.com





Lest We Forget
Friday, November 11, 2016

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Vice-Admiral Kim, Commander of the Republic of Korea Navy Education and Training Command, and Captain Glen Leverette, Deputy Commander of U.S. Navy Forces Korea, present 85-year-old Korean War Veteran Ha Cho Soo with more than 2.5 Million Korean Won (\$2,500 USD) that was collected during Clear Horizon 16.

Korean veteran receives financial support

Capt Jenn Jackson
MARPAC PA Office

More than 60 years ago, members from 21 United Nations Sending States (UNSS) came to the aid of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Armed Forces in a conflict now known as the Korean War. In 1953, an Armistice was signed ending the war, but like all wars the impact continues to be felt by those who fought for freedom.

In a response to a request from Clear Horizon 2016 planners, who wanted to honour a veteran along with members of the United Nations Sending States at the culmination of the exercise, a recipient was chosen based on need.

Eight-five-year-old ROK Army veteran Ha Cho Soo was the decided receiver of 2.5 million Korean Won (\$2,500 USD) that was col-

lected from participants during Clear Horizon 16. Vice-Admiral Kim, Commander of the ROK Navy Education and Training Command, along with senior representatives of seven United Nations Sending States visited the ROK Army veteran to present him with the donation.

"This is money collected by the ROK and UNSS personnel including ships' crews representing the countries that fought in the Korean War," said Vice-Admiral Kim to Soo during the presentation. "We have come here together to deliver this to you. It's not a large sum, but we'd be thankful if you accepted it, as it is a meaningful collection and we hope you use it well."

Soo was clearly honoured and touched by the presentation and spoke with representatives following the presentation.

"I was very honoured to be here today," said Capt (N) Michael Davie, Commander of Naval Force Readiness and senior Canadian representative for Clear Horizon 16. "Canada, Korea and other nations only enjoy the freedoms they have today because veterans like Mr. Soo fought bravely. It is an honour to meet him and see how the ROK Navy cares for its veterans."

Soo served in the ROK Army from 1952-1957 as an infanteer. During the war, he was interred as a Prisoner of War at the Geoje POW camp, located in Geoje, Korea.

As part of the Clear Horizon outreach program, approximately 20 sailors from the ROK Navy Mobile Construction Squadron and participating nation ships' crew spent more than two hours completing minor repairs, maintenance, and cleaning to Soo's home.

10 QUICK FACTS about Remembrance Day



Courtesy Veterans Affairs Canada

6 Remembrance Day is a federal statutory holiday in Canada. It is also a statutory holiday in three territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut) and in six provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador).

1 Remembrance Day was first observed in 1919 throughout the British Commonwealth. It was originally called "Armistice Day" to commemorate armistice agreement that ended the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.—on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

2 From 1921 to 1930, Armistice Day was held on the Monday of the week in which November 11 fell.

3 In 1931, Alan Neill, Member of Parliament for Comox-Alberni, introduced a bill to observe Armistice Day only on November 11. Passed by the House of Commons, the bill also changed the name to "Remembrance Day". The first Remembrance Day was observed on November 11, 1931.

4 Every year on November 11, Canadians pause in a moment of silence to honour and remember the men and women who have served, and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict and peace. We remember the more than 2,300,000 Canadians who have served throughout our nation's history and the more than 118,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice.

5 The poppy is the symbol of Remembrance Day. Replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to provide assistance to Veterans.

7 The national ceremony is held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. The Governor General of Canada presides over the ceremony. It is also attended by the Prime Minister, other government officials, representatives of Veterans' organizations, diplomatic representatives, other dignitaries, Veterans as well as the general public.

8 In advance of the ceremony, long columns of Veterans, Canadian Armed Forces members, RCMP officers, and cadets march to the memorial lead by a pipe band and a colour guard. At the end of the ceremony, they march away to officially close the ceremony.

9 Some of the 54 Commonwealth member states, such as Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia, observe the tradition of Remembrance Day on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Other nations observe a solemn day but at different dates. For example, ANZAC Day is observed in New Zealand on April 25. In South Africa, Poppy Day is marked on the Sunday that falls closest to November 11.

10 Many nations that are not members of the Commonwealth also observe Remembrance Day on November 11, including France, Belgium and Poland. The United States used to commemorate Armistice Day on November 11. However, in 1954 they changed the name to Veterans Day.

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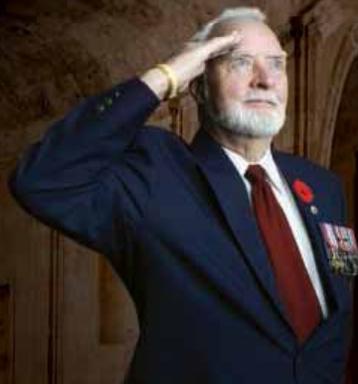
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Afghanistan war to be forever remembered in memorial

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

Efforts by a local citizens' group to erect a highly visible downtown memorial honouring those Canadians that served in Afghanistan are moving forward.

The Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project (GVAMP) was formed two years ago in an effort to recognize the 40,000 Canadians who served in Afghanistan between September 2001 and March 2014, and the 163 that lost their lives.

The monument will be located in the downtown core close to Christ Church Cathedral and will be made from 20,000 lb. of granite slabs and measure 11 feet long, eight feet high. It will feature a Canadian soldier reaching out to the outstretched hand of an Afghan child. The cost estimate for the memorial is \$177,000.

Official fundraising efforts will begin in the New Year; however, the GVAMP had an encouraging sign after a Sept. 28 meeting at the Bay Street Armoury. Four donors from Victoria made significant donations towards the project.

"Despite the initial donation there is still plenty of

work to do, including working with all levels of government," says Brigadier-General (Ret'd) Joseph Gollner, President of the GVAMP Society.

He served 37 years in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) before his retirement in 1993. After his retirement, BGen Gollner, while Honorary Colonel of the Regiment Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), twice visited PPCLI battlegroups in Afghanistan in 2008 and 2010.

"Our mission is to create a memorial that will recognize the contribution of all the 40,000 CAF members and public servants that served in Afghanistan and their families. The memorial will also recognize those Afghanistan campaign veterans that continue to suffer with physical and mental wounds. Finally, the memorial will recognize and honour those Canadians that paid the supreme sacrifice to protect our freedoms," he says.

Each individual's name will be on the memorial.

The initiative to create an Afghanistan memorial originally came from Victoria City Councillor Chris Coleman in 2011. Coleman made a motion

after a discussion with the family of Lt Andrew Nuttall, PPCLI, who was killed in action during his tour of Afghanistan in 2009. He says the memorial is an automatic for Victoria because so many people in the Capital Regional District are connected to Afghanistan in one way or another. He noted the memorial will also commemorate other aspects of the war that are sometimes forgotten, including the advances in human rights that were brought about by Canadian participation in Afghanistan.

"For me one of the benchmarks we never talk about is that when Canada started their mission in Afghanistan there was fewer than three million Afghanistan children in school, and fewer than 10 per cent of those students were girls. Twelve years later there are eight million Afghan children in school and three million of them are girls. These are profound changes that our nation should be celebrating but often does not," says Coleman.

Gollner encourages anyone interested in supporting the GVAMP to contact them through their website: <https://vicafghanistanmemorial.ca/>

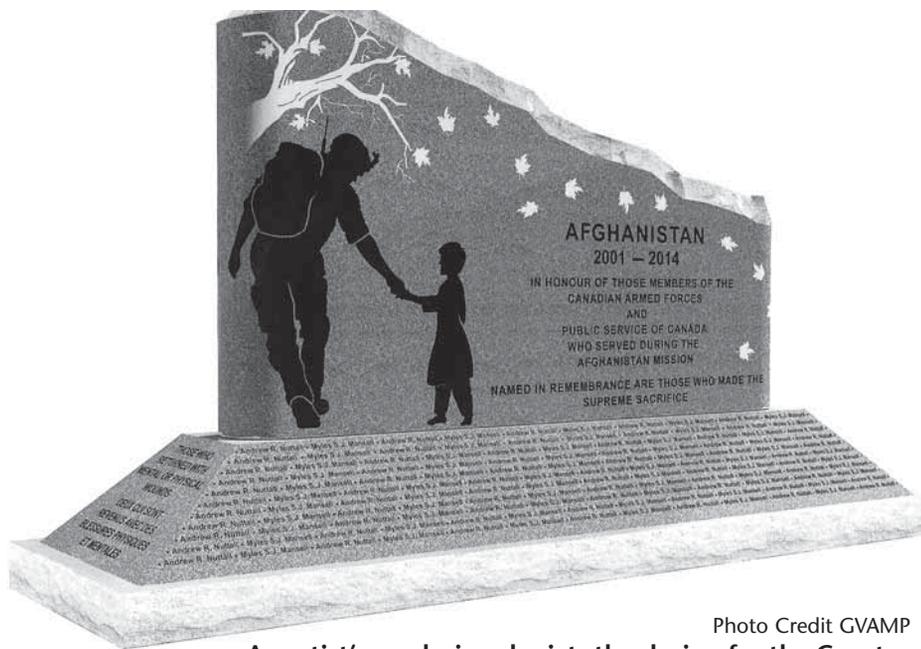


Photo Credit GVAMP
An artist's rendering depicts the design for the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project's monument.

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Valour Canada to honour Legion

Legion Magazine

The Royal Canadian Legion will be presented with the 2017 General Sir Arthur Currie Award for its significant contribution to Canadian military history and heritage. General Sir Arthur Currie is widely considered to be Canada's greatest military commander.

The award is given by Valour Canada, a national not-for-profit organization with the goal of connecting Canadians with their military heritage.

Based in the Military Museums in Calgary, Valour Canada produces the Monumental Canadian series of three-minute documentaries seen online and on television. It conducts in-class and in-museum education programs. It engages youth with social media through Militrivia, a Facebook page devoted to

military history with more than 4,000 followers.

The recognition deviates from Valour Canada's tradition of honouring an individual. Previous recipients have included historian J.L. Granatstein and veterans advocate Jody Mitic.

"It is Valour Canada's initiative to properly recognize The Royal Canadian Legion for the long-standing, marvelous work they have undertaken to assist and be the home of Canadians in uniform who have served their country and local communities, big and small, over the last 100 years," said retired Major-General Robert Meating of the organization's board of directors. "As a grassroots, community-based volunteer orga-

nization, Valour Canada could not imagine a more worthy person or organization to honour in the year of the 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge than The Royal Canadian Legion."

The award will be presented to the Legion at a gala dinner to be held in May 2017. Valour Canada will also produce a Monumental Canadian documentary on the Legion.



General Sir Arthur Currie

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– Retired Major-General Robert Meating, Valour Canada, Board of Directors

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We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae, 1915

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War Amps sharing a lasting legacy



Shannon and Kamryn, Operation Legacy, 2016.

They passed this legacy to us younger amputees and now it's our turn to share their stories, so that we never forget their sacrifices.

Shannon Krasowski

People often can't help but smile when they see six-year-old Kamryn Bond lay a wreath with her friend, Shannon Krasowski, 40, at their local Remembrance Day ceremony.

Although an unlikely pair, they are both amputees and are part of a legacy that goes back nearly 100 years.

Kamryn is a member, and Shannon a graduate, of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program.

It was war amputee veterans returning from the First World War who created The War Amps in 1918, its Key Tag Service in 1946, and later, the CHAMP Program. Since 1975, thousands of child amputees across Canada have received financial assistance for their artificial limbs through CHAMP, and attended regional seminars where they learn about growing up as an amputee.

When Kamryn was 11 months old, both of her legs, right hand, and several fingers on her left hand, were amputated due to a respiratory illness. Shannon's left leg was amputated when she was 13 years old due to bone cancer.

They met three years ago at their local Remembrance Day ceremony in Grande Prairie, Alberta. That year, Kamryn watched Shannon lay a wreath on behalf of

The War Amps Operation Legacy, but ever since, it has been a tradition they share.

While growing up as a Champ, Shannon met many war amputee veterans and heard their firsthand accounts of the devastation of war.

"They passed this legacy to us younger amputees and now it's our turn to share their stories, so that we never forget their sacrifices," she says.

Although Kamryn is still quite young, her mom, Dale, says it is important for her daughter to lay a wreath on Remembrance Day.

"It builds the foundation for her to understand how much our war veterans gave up for our freedom."

When Shannon was younger, she shared a close bond with one particular war amputee veteran. He gave her a lion statue because he said that she had the courage of a lion.

Shannon says, "I have since passed this statue down to Kamryn to recognize her courage, and I hope that one day she will pass it down to another young amputee, who looks up to her."

According to Shannon though, Kamryn is already a role model to many people.

"Kamryn epitomizes what CHAMP is all about. She has such a great attitude

and her positivity makes everyone smile. You can't help but be in a great mood when you're around her."

Dale says that because Kamryn and Shannon are both amputees, they share a unique bond.

"It's important for Kamryn to have someone who understands what it's like to be an amputee, especially as she gets older, because she will have questions that I won't always know the answers to."

Dale adds, "We will always be appreciative of the work of the war amputee veterans and the message they have left for young amputees like Kamryn to carry into the future. It is for this reason that she lays a wreath every year in their honour, and will do so for many years to come."

A sailor aboard HMCS Skeena scans for German U-boats.



Crew aboard HMCS Morden demonstrate the ship's 20-mm Oerlikon anti-aircraft gun during training off Halifax on Aug. 3, 1943, shortly before sailing to Plymouth, England.

Five u-boat kills in five weeks

In the summer of 1942 Canada's escort fleet excelled at protecting supply convoys from German submarines

Marc Milner
Legion Magazine

On Aug. 28, 1942, as corvette HMCS Oakville battled German submarine U-94 astern of convoy TAW-15 in the Mona Passage between Hispaniola and Puerto Rico, another German sub, U-511, commanded by Kapitanleutnant Friedrich Steinhoff, arrived on the scene.

He found the convoy by steering toward tracer rounds arcing through the night sky between Oakville and U-94. U-511 reported contact with the convoy at about 4:15 a.m., about 15 minutes after Oakville sunk U-94.

The German sub slipped astern of HMCS Snowberry on the port bow to reach a

firing position about 1,000 yards from the convoy. At 4:30 a.m. Steinhoff ordered the firing all four bow tubes before turning and firing his two stern tubes. The targets were fat, the range was short, and it was hard to miss.

Steinhoff's first victim was the 13,031-ton British tanker San Fabian, laden with 18,000 tons of fuel oil destined for the United Kingdom. Only the master, one gunner and 31 crew from a total crew of 59 were picked up by USS Lea.

The second ship struck was the 8,968-ton Dutch tanker Rotterdam, filled with 12,000 tons of gasoline. It settled quickly by the stern, taking 10 of the 51 crew; survivors were rescued by USS SC-552.

The last ship struck was the 8,773-ton American tanker Esso Aruba, carrying 104,000 barrels of diesel fuel. It was severely damaged.

None of the escort ships made contact with U-511, and Steinhoff did not linger. However, the U-boat was damaged from its own hasty crash dive and retired to make repairs.

Convoy TAW-15 arrived at Key West, Florida, without further incident on Aug. 31. After Oakville's Lieutenant-Commander Clarence King ordered a brief stop in Guantanamo Bay for repairs, the corvette eventually made it back to Halifax on its own steam.

King earned a Distinguished Service Order for the sinking of

U-94, the typical award to the captain of a ship that sank a U-boat. Gunner Hal Lawrence received a Distinguished Service Cross, and Stoker A.L. Powell and Stoker David Wilson (who oversaw damage control in the boiler room) each received a Distinguished Service Medal.

In July and August, nine U-boats were sunk by Allied warships in the North Atlantic from Gibraltar to the Caribbean and north. Four of those were destroyed by Canadian escorts: U-90 on July 24 by St. Croix; U-558 on July 31 by Skeena and Wetaskiwin; U-210 on Aug. 6 by Assiniboine; and U-94 on Aug. 28 by Oakville.

What the navy did not know at the time was that another U-boat, U-756, was sunk by a Canadian corvette in the mid-Atlantic in the early hours of Sept. 1.

This U-boat kill was achieved by HMCS Morden, and it remained unknown until 1987. At the time, Morden was an escort for convoy SC-97, which had cleared Halifax Harbour on Aug. 22 with 64 ships destined for Liverpool. The mid-ocean escort group that joined on Aug. 26 was C-2, composed of two Royal Navy four-stack destroyers Burnham and Broadway, the British corvette Polyanthus, and the Royal Canadian Navy cor-

vettes Brandon, Dauphin, Drumheller and Morden. C2 was augmented on Aug. 29 by two large U.S. Coast Guard Cutters, Bibb and Ingham, from Iceland.

Only the British escorts had modern Type 271 radar; none of the escort had shipborne high-frequency direction finding.

In the path of convoy SC-97 lay no less than three U-boat packs.

"Vorwärts," composed of nine U-boats, was southwest of Iceland, and "Stier," with six U-boats, was farther south; both were trolling for convoys. The nine subs of group "Lohs" were moving to a refuelling rendezvous southeast of Newfoundland.

The first U-boat to make contact, U-609, submerged ahead of SC-97, and then penetrated the escort screen before attacking from periscope depth in daylight the next morning. Two ships, SS Bronxville and SS Capira, were struck and both went down. Morden and the rescue ship HMS Perth picked up survivors while the rest of the escort attacked underwater contacts.

U-609 slipped away unscathed.

For the next 48 hours, C-2, now aided by the destroyer USS Schenk, held Vorwärts at bay. On Sept. 1, aircraft from Iceland arrived to help. Subsequent attempts to press home attacks and maintain con-

tact were thwarted by naval and air escorts, and several U-boats were damaged. The Germans gave up the chase on Sept. 2.

In the 1980s, the British Naval Historical Branch undertook a complete re-evaluation of U-boat losses and Allied claims of destruction. Through a thorough reassessment of the evidence, and by process of elimination, the only attack that could account for the loss of U-756 was that by Morden.

The commanding officer of Morden, Lieutenant J.J. Hodgkinson, reported an attack on a U-boat shortly after midnight on Sept. 1, and felt at the time that his ship had done well. Morden was screening SC-97 when her radar picked up a contact, followed shortly by a U-boat sighting. The sub got under before Hodgkinson could ram. But three depth-charge attacks followed swiftly. Two charges were dropped as Morden ran over the swirl of U-756's dive, five more were dropped in a deliberate attack, and then a 10-depth-charge pattern was dropped on a solid sonar contact. No wreckage or bodies were recovered, but 55 years after the incident, Morden was credited with the kill.

The destruction of U-756 capped a highly successful five-week run of U-boat kills by the RCN; five in all.



Photo Credit: Buchheim, Lothar-Günther
Chief of the German U-boat arm Karl Dönitz observing the arrival of U-94 at St. Nazaire in June 1941.

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Second World War soldier laid to rest



Photos by MCpl Pat Blanchard, Canadian Forces Combat Camera, DND
Members of The Algonquin Regiment carry the casket containing the remains of Private Kenneth Duncanson during his burial ceremony at the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, near Brugge, Belgium, on Sept. 14. Private Duncanson died exactly 72 years ago during the Second World War.



Lieutenant Colonel Ken McClure, Commanding Officer of The Algonquin Regiment, hands the Canadian Flag to Judith Thomas, a second cousin of Private Kenneth Duncanson during the burial ceremony.

DND

Private Kenneth Donald Duncanson, the Second World War soldier whose remains were identified by the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in May, was laid to rest Sept. 14 with military honours by his unit, The Algonquin Regiment, in Adegem Canadian War Cemetery outside Bruges, Belgium.

Private Duncanson's family was present at the ceremony, with the support of Veterans Affairs Canada.

It was 72 years to the day that Private Duncanson lost his life on Sept. 14, 1944, during an attempt by The Algonquin Regiment to establish a bridgehead crossing of the Dérivation de la Lys (canal) and the Leopold Canal. This was part of the preliminary battles leading up to the Battle of the Scheldt.

Private Duncanson, who was from Dutton, Ontario, was 29 at the time of his death.

His remains were found in a farmer's field near Molentje, Damme, Belgium, by a metal detector hobbyist on Nov. 11, 2014. Subsequently,

his remains were fully recovered by the Raakvlak Intercommunal Archaeological Service of Bruges, with assistance from DND's Casualty Identification Program, and with the support of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Embassy of Canada to Belgium, and the Canadian Defence Attaché.

His identification resulted from a combination of historical context, anthropological analysis, artefact evidence, and dental records. The identification was made by DND's Casualty Identification Program, with the assistance of the Royal Canadian Dental Corps and the Canadian Museum of History.

Veterans Affairs Canada provided support to the family members of Private Duncanson and coordinated their participation in the funeral.

Private Duncanson was born in Wallacetown, Ontario, on June 7, 1915. He married in 1939 and lived in Dutton, Ontario. He enlisted in the Canadian Army on Aug. 24, 1942, and joined The Algonquin Regiment (of North Bay and Timmins, Ontario) in April 1944.

Adegem Canadian War Cemetery already contains the graves of 67 soldiers from The Algonquin Regiment. Most of the 848 Canadians buried at this cemetery died in the fall of 1944 during the Liberation of Belgium and the Battle of the Scheldt. A number of Canadian airmen who died in action elsewhere are also interred there, as are a number of British and Polish soldiers. There are also two French burials.

We are forever grateful.

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Bombardier G.M. Hart, Royal Canadian Artillery, attends to some uniform wear and tear in Ossendrecht, Netherlands, 1944.

The housewife... of sorts

Sharon Adams
Courtesy Legion Magazine

At fleet school they said, "If we wanted you to have a wife, we'd issue you with one," recalled navy veteran Jim Ross. "And then they did."

In his six months at Canadian Forces Base Cornwallis in Nova Scotia in 1958, Ross became intimately familiar with his housewife - a sewing kit with everything he needed to keep his uniform shipshape.

"We had to sew our names on everything we were issued," said Ross, who lives near Charlottetown. "That was a big thing. It took up so much time because we had so much kit - summer uniforms, winter uniforms, shorts and underwear and hats."

Like recruits throughout history, Ross soon learned he was responsible for keeping his uniform in good nick.

That navy-blue housewife, with his name and service number neatly embroidered in red on the outside flap, now resides in the Veterans Memorial Military Museum in Kensington, 50 kilometres west of Charlottetown.

After a few minutes rooting around the displays, museum chairman Dean Cole finds housewives issued to Canadian troops from the First World War and Second World War.

The pocket sewing kit—nicknamed the housewife and shortened to hussif or hussy—came along in the mid-1700s. In an era when women swooned over men in ornate and colourful

uniforms. Mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts often provided their heroes with homemade sewing kits, showing off their own needlework skills. Soldiers tucked away personal mementoes in the handy pockets. During the Civil War in the United States, which predated dog tags, these mementoes were often the only way to identify casualties.

During the world wars, Canadian-issued kits contained a variety of buttons, needles, thimble, and thread for sewing up rip and sewing on buttons and badges. There was thicker thread for darning socks and gloves, beeswax for waterproofing thread, and swatches of cloth for patches. But women's groups and family members continued to make sewing kits for use at the front line or for Red Cross packages.

One such kit brought comfort to Royal Canadian Air Force Flying Officer George Sweanor from Port Hope, Ont., a newlywed shot down in 1943 while serving with Bomber Command and sent to a prisoner of war camp.

"My November birthday was made more memorable by the arrival of Joan's parcel. I cherished the sewing kit because she made it from the same material that she had used to make her dressing gown," he writes in his memoir, *It's all Pensionable Time: 25 Years in the Royal Canadian Air Force*.

Australian soldier Henry John Harris

wrote about an inventive use for his kit in his First World War memoir on the website www.ww1.canada.com:

"Owing to the extreme cold conditions and as there were a store of sandbags in the pillbox, I decided to sew several of the sandbags together to make a blanket, and believe me those sandbags did keep me and a cobbler [comrade] warm for the four nights we stayed in that pillbox."

The kit came in handy for Sergeant Ryan Davidson of the Department of National Defence's Directorate of History and Heritage, in the 1990s. "I had to sew on my own rank insignia after being promoted in the field."

Ross, undoubtedly like many other veterans, admits he is no longer a dab hand with a needle and thread. He chuckles. "I've got a real housewife now," Marion, his wife of 52 years.



A rust stain is the only evidence of the needle in the sewing kit used at sea during the Cold War by navy veteran Jim Ross.



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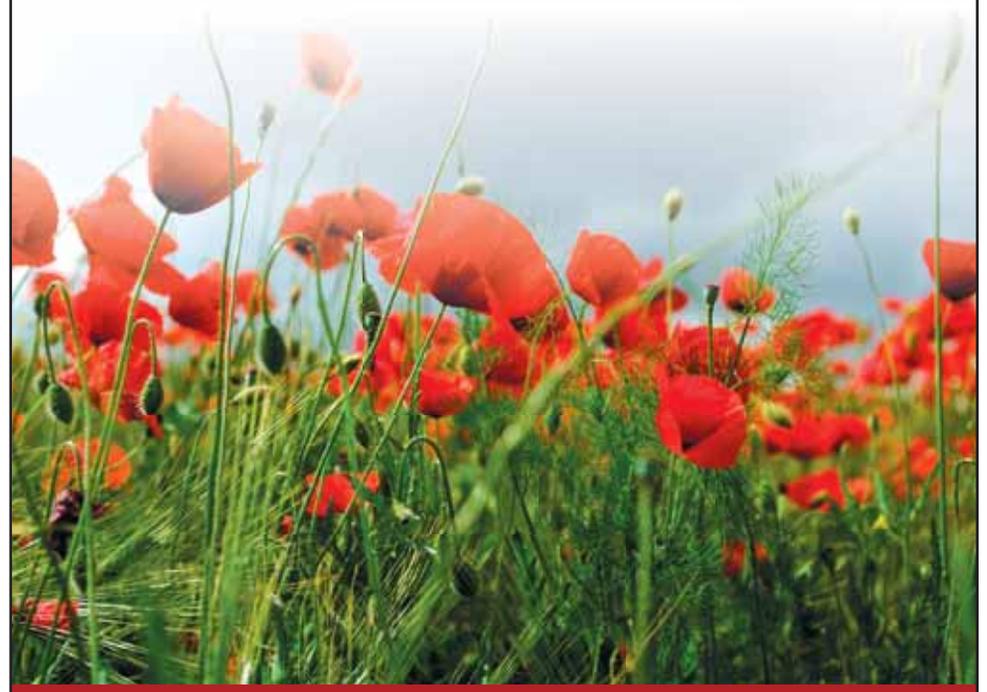
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FOR BRAVERY: FRANCES WALSH

Major W.A. March
Historian, Air Force
History and Heritage

It was a typical fall day on Nov. 10, 1941, when school mistress Ms Frances Walsh arrived at the Big Hill Springs School located in the Simmonds Valley near Calgary.

As Ms Walsh brought her class to order in that one room school house, she had no idea this day would be anything but routine.

She and her students would have paid scant attention to the noise of an approaching aircraft. After all the school was located near No. 2 Wireless School, which operated from the Calgary airport as part of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, and teacher and pupils were used to hearing the sound of aircraft passing overhead.

Engrossed as they were in the middle of a class, it is doubtful that Ms Walsh or her students heard the sound of an aircraft in trouble. Yet in a split second, their peaceful contemplation of the lesson at hand

was shattered by the crash of a Tiger Moth training aircraft mere yards from the school.

The aircraft exploded, jarring teacher and students from their desks. Rushing through the door into the school yard, the screech of crumpling metal torturing their ears, Ms Walsh and her young charges confronted a horrific scene. Almost unrecognizable as an aircraft, the Tiger Moth was engulfed in flames.

And, unbelievably, they saw a man, Leading Aircraftsman Karl Gravell, himself on fire, struggling to fight his way back into the heart of the inferno in attempt to rescue the pilot, Flying Officer James Robinson.

Even as she moved the children away from the fire, Ms Walsh dispatched the oldest student, Lloyd Bowray, to call for help. As the boy pedalled madly towards the nearest phone, located a mile away, Ms Walsh turned back towards the wreckage.

Through the smoke and flames she could just



barely discern Gravell who was still trying to reach Robinson. Disregarding the danger, Ms Walsh plunged into the burning wreckage seeking to help the young airman. Grasping the only thing that she could reach that was not on fire, the straps of Gravell's parachute harness, she dragged him towards safety. Once clear of the Tiger Moth, she

rolled him on the ground, batting at the flames with her bare hands, extinguishing the flames that ate away at the injured man. In doing so she sustained serious burns to her face, hands and arms.

Ignoring her own injuries for the moment, with assistance from her students and neighbours, Ms Walsh managed to carry

Gravell into the school house. Once inside she did everything she could to make the severely burned and injured airman as comfortable as possible until medical help arrived.

Recalling the event later, Ms Walsh remembered that Gravell was more concerned with the fate of the pilot asking, "Did I get Jimmy out?" before slipping into unconsciousness. Unfortunately, there was little that could be done for Gravell who succumbed to his wounds four hours later at Calgary's Colonel Belcher Hospital. For his bravery that day, Gravell was posthumously awarded the George Cross.

Treated for her injuries, Ms Walsh soon returned to the classroom and eventually moved on to other pursuits. It was not until June 1943 that she learned she was to be awarded the George Medal for her actions on that November day in 1941.

Instituted in 1940, the George Medal was the second highest decoration that could be awarded to

either military or civilian recipients for bravery not in the face of the enemy.

On Dec. 3, 1943, Frances Walsh became the first Canadian woman to be so recognized when the Governor General presented her with this medal at Rideau Hall, Ottawa. In part the citation read: "She displayed great personal courage and coolness in circumstances which were entirely strange to her."

Although honoured, Ms Walsh noted in a newspaper interview that, "Anyone would have done exactly the same as I did... My only regret is that such a thing had to happen."



Photo Credit Pte Laplante; T.M.
The late Karl Mander Gravell.



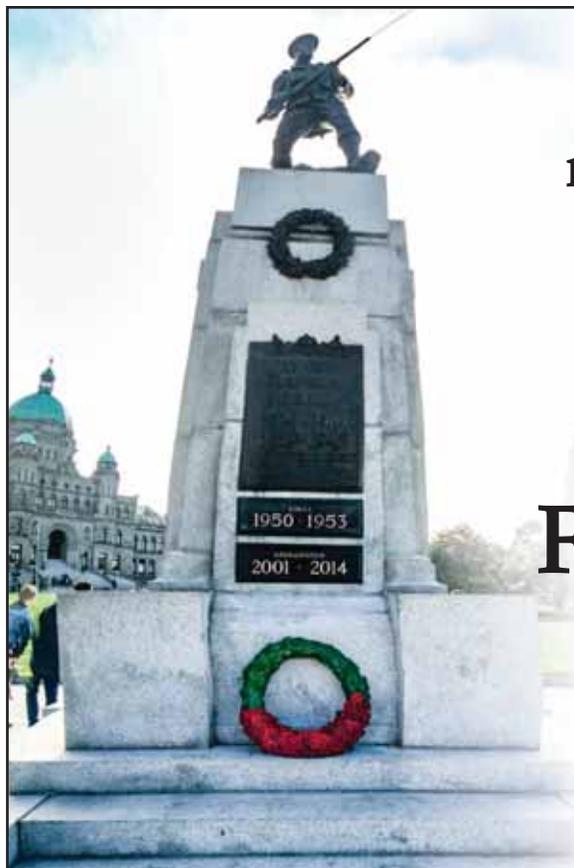
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Allison "Sparky" MacKenzie, née Sparks, wears her Royal Canadian Air Force uniform and her Sparks badge with pride.

Sparky MacKenzie beacon of hope



Photos Courtesy of Allison MacKenzie
Allison MacKenzie, (right) and another RCAF member (centre), enjoy coffee and a doughnut upon their arrival in back in Canada.



Ross Lees CFB Trenton

Allison "Sparky" MacKenzie served as a wireless operator in England during the Second World War, and was doubtlessly a beacon of hope for bomber pilots returning to England after a sortie over Germany.

She joined the military at 19, continuing a military tradition in her family.

"Somebody in my family had been in every war since the Crimean War," she says.

For nearly three and a half years, beginning in 1942, she sent the time signal to bombers flying missions over Germany, using the best wireless set and the most powerful transmitter in England.

"I would send out the signal every half hour," she recalls from her Belleville, Ontario home. "Then I would listen for SOSs or O for emergency. They couldn't send messages to headquarters unless it was something like that."

Because her wireless set was so powerful the Germans could receive and monitor it, so messages were kept to an absolute minimum, she says, adding she often received messages from downed aircraft in the ocean.

"It was always in code," she says. "It went straight up to operations. It was quite exciting, but we kept our cool. It was war."

Sparky, whose maiden name was, coincidentally, Sparks, remembers D-Day vividly.

"D-Day was fantastic. We never went off duty. We could hear the bombers."

However, she did not see them coming back because she was in headquarters.

"Some of our girls lost their husbands in the war. I lost a few boyfriends."

Much of her time in the military is recorded in pictures, which she has spread throughout her apartment.

She married twice. She met her first husband Fred (Tommy) Tucker in England. They met as

wireless operators working alongside each other. They married in an 11th-century church on the station and spent their honeymoon at Trafalgar Square, a marriage that lasted 50 years.

"He was a 'sparky' too," she says, and remembers him getting the badge depicting their trade. Her husband remained in England when she came back to Canada. He was over there almost until VJ Day.

"He came home before that, and then we went on (a real) honeymoon to Niagara Falls on VJ Day," she says.

Her second husband was Squadron Leader Andy MacKenzie, the hero of *Mayhem to Mayday*, a book for which she supplied much of the information. A press release about the book described her second husband this way:

"Andy MacKenzie's dream of flying came true when he graduated as a pilot in the RCAF. He desperately wanted to be a fighter pilot, but first had to spend two years as an instructor.

Finally overseas, he quickly became an ace when he downed three enemy aircraft in 90 seconds, winning the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He was shot down by American friendly fire over the Normandy beachhead. His final count was 8.5 kills before returning to Canada to command a squadron of Kitty Hawks for the Pacific war.

The atomic bomb shut down his chance to fight again and he left the air force. Soon after he rejoined, he had ground jobs before taking command of 441 Squadron flying F-86 Sabres. On exchange duty with the U.S. Air Force in Korea he was shot down by a wing mate and spent two years of torture in a Chinese prison – 465 days in solitary confinement for refusing to reveal military secrets. With the Korean War over, he returned to Canada 70 pounds lighter but still in charge of his ebullient sense of humour."

Sparky describes him as a "wonderful man" and takes every opportunity to talk about him.

"He really had a distinguished career. He was the squadron commander of 441 (Squadron)," she says. "He enjoyed himself and never took himself too seriously. The men just loved him. When he went missing, they were really upset. His wife (at the time) said, he isn't dead and she wouldn't sign any papers. She spoke to a diplomat and he spoke to Zhou Enlai, and he said he would look to see if they had him as a prisoner. He let them know they had him and that they would let him go in due course. Two years to the day, to the hour, to the minute, they let him go in Hong Kong."

He earned 15 medals, which she still has. She also has a picture of him with England's leading ace, Johnny Johnston, taken at the last fighter pilots' reunion at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa.

All we have of freedom,
all we use or know -
This our fathers bought for us
long and long ago.

- Rudyard Kipling

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The Carley float - hope in a boat

Sharon Adams
Legion Magazine

75: Weight in kilograms
9 x 14: Dimensions, in feet, of a float to support 67.
30 to 90 minutes: Life expectancy for survival in water off Halifax in April.

Many sailors owed their lives to this durable, quick-launching raft, such as Able Seaman Budd Parks.

Corvette HMCS Louisburg was on escort duty off the coast of North Africa when it was hit by a torpedo dropped from an Italian plane at sunset on Feb. 6, 1943.

In minutes, Able Seaman Parks found himself injured, swimming in the pitch black, covered in oil, and one of dozens struggling for survival against time and the elements as darkness settled around them, he recalled in *Corvettes Canada: Convoy Veterans of WW II Tell Their True Stories*.

Forty shipmates, including the captain, did not survive. Some were sucked under with the ship, more died when the boiler, torpedoes and depth charges exploded underwater.

As darkness deepened, shipmates' cries grew fewer and fainter. Fighting panic, AB Parks heard voices.

"Voices meant a group. A group could mean a Carley float, and a float would give me the required support for survival."

And so it was proved as AB Parks was among 50 survivors plucked from the Mediterranean that night, one of thousands of Canadian sailors who owe their lives to a Carley float.

Inventor Horace Carley, a whaler in his youth, began commercial production of the floats following news of a collision in dense fog in 1898 that sank the passenger liner La Bourgogne, says Clare Sharpe on the CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum website entry about its restored float.

Newspaper reports at the time said only 165 of 714 aboard survived, largely because passengers and crew could not free the lifeboats in the 50 minutes it took the ship to sink.

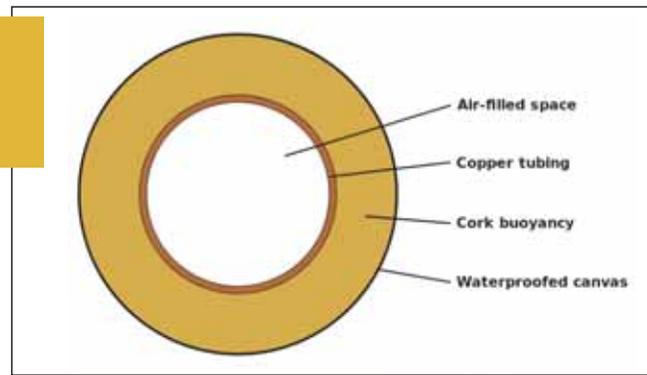
However, HMCS Louisburg, which sank in four minutes, there was enough time to get Carley floats into the water.

"Horace Carley's float was an important innovation," says Sharpe.

They were inexpensive, came in different sizes, and could be nested for compact storage. Yet they were sturdy enough to take a "cruel battering." Indeed, a shrapnel-riddled float, believed the sole relic of HMAS Sydney, was recovered weeks after the ship was sunk in battle with the loss of all 645 aboard in November 1941.

The float could be tossed into the water with no special equipment. It could be used immediately, no matter which side was up, and was so buoyant it could keep afloat many more men than it was designed to handle. AB Parks said the float he joined "lay about two inches below the surface due to overweight."

The Carley float was made of large-diameter copper tubing divided into individual watertight compartments - something like an ice cube tray - then wrapped with cork and waterproofed canvas. It was shaped like an oblong doughnut and wrapped round with ropes,



which served as handholds.

A wooden floor supported by rope webbing could be extended, basketlike, below the water line.

But this open design was also open to the elements. Many who survived a sinking succumbed to cold before they could be rescued. Such was the fate of survivors of the minesweeper HMCS Esquimalt, sunk by a German U-boat within sight of the coast of Nova Scotia in April 1945, the last Canadian ship lost to enemy action.

Esquimalt sank in four minutes. Forty-three sailors went into floats, but only 27 survivors were rescued from the frigid waters more than five hours later.



Lt(N) Coote, Royal Navy official photographer from the collections of the Imperial War Museums
Nested Carley floats are visible on HMS Rodney.

We remember.

∞

Remembrance Day Services will be held 11 am, Friday November 11

<p>Randall Garrison MP Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke 250-405-6550</p>	<p>Alistair MacGregor MP Cowichan-Malahat-Langford 1-866-609-9998</p>	<p>John Horgan MLA Juan de Fuca 250-391-2801</p>	<p>Maurine Karagianis MLA Esquimalt-Royal Roads 250-479-8326</p>
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Dale Dhillon
Business Manager:

Advertorial

To all of our Canadian Forces Members who serve this country from coast to coast, we are please to announce that a new brewery and distillery has opened up in Saanich, located on beautiful Vancouver Island.

Here at Victoria Caledonian we are a Scottish-style single malt whisky distillery and craft ale brewery and would like to show our support for the Canadian Military Community by offering a "buy one tour, get one tour free" for the months of November through January for military members and their families in honour of those who have served and continue to serve our beautiful country. We will continue offering our services at a discounted rate year-round by providing all military members, with valid Military ID, a 10% discount on tours and 5% discount on non-alcohol merchandise from our Visitor Centre gift store.

We are located just off the Pat Bay Highway at 761 Enterprise Crescent



New Brewery & Distillery in Saanich offers military discount

in a 17,000 square foot facility. Just 18 minutes from CFB Esquimalt simply come via Admirals & Mackenzie, then left onto Glanford and then right on to Enterprise.

We invite you to join us in a world-class tour of our production line, including beer produced under our Twa Dogs banner, a

name inspired by a poem by famous Scottish poet Robert Burns. Our hand-crafted beers include a Pale Ale, IPA, Robust Porter, and Saison, with a Pilsner coming soon. All of these fine brews are now available in six packs, through growler fills and, of course, available by pint at our Visitor Centre bar.

A distillery cannot be complete without mentioning our whisky, more specifically we are making Scottish-style single malt whisky, as traditionally made by our very own 3rd generation Scottish Master Distiller. During a 45-minute guided tour by our engaging and informative kilt clad (Cameron

Highlander tartan) tour guides, you will be able to follow the whole distilling process from the first moments of malted barley, all the way to it's end where you can sample our "Clearach" or pure spirit before it goes into the cask to sleep and age.

The tour also includes the whole beer brewing

process from barley to bottle, a great opportunity to see every stage of production for both beer and whisky. No tour is complete without a tasting and we provide a free sample of whisky, as well as samples of 3 of our beers.

Our space is also available for private events with a capacity of 85 people, so please consider our distillery & brewery for hosting your event.

Whether it is for a tour, or to fill up your Growler of craft beer, to buy a bottle of Scotch or design your own 30L cask of whisky, or to pick up some Christmas gifts, please pop by and give us a visit!

We once again want to thank all members of the Canadian Forces and their families at home and abroad for their continued dedication and service. We hope to see you soon. Stay safe and thank you for all that you do.

- The Victoria Caledonian Brewery & Distillery

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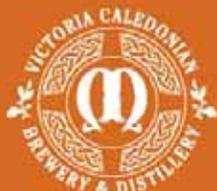


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Teens pen their thoughts of Remembrance

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Earl Clark, WWII and D-Day veteran, and current resident at the Lodge at Broadmead, second row down from top, seventh from the left.

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"I'll never forget D-Day. Boom! I close my eyes and I can be back there in an instant. I'll tell you it was hell."

Earl Kitchener Clark, WWII Veteran, Resident at the Lodge at Broadmead

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WWII veteran,
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and survivor of the Nagasaki atomic bomb

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The writing assignment was preparation for their participation in last Friday's No Stone Left Alone ceremony at Veterans Cemetery, God's Acre.

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

In an effort to place themselves in the worn, muddy boots of First World War soldiers, Grade 8 students at Rockheights Middle School in Esquimalt have written letters from the trenches.

The essay assignment had young teens imagining themselves on the frontline, living in the water-filled shabby battlefield trenches, longing to be home with their loved ones.

"It is absolutely horrendous here," writes one student as soldier Johnny. "I cannot believe the lies we were told. Nothing is the way they said it would be...We spend all day crouched in the mud and trench water. The smell is unbearable. Gunpowder, human feces, rotting food and dead bodies are a constant reminder that this isn't a nightmare but surviving what war is like."

Another fictional soldier named Robert attempts to be positive about their plight in his letter home.

"The calm deceased bodies of those who have fallen lie at our feet while we fight to stay from lying dead among them. I am here to serve my part and to keep a future for all that live. I am here to keep you safe; to fight for a future. Please know you two are my everything, you both are what is keeping me alive every moment."

The writing assignment was preparation for their participation in last Friday's No Stone Left Alone ceremony at Esquimalt Veterans Cemetery, God's Acre.

Since mid-October, the 75 students have been learning everything they can about the bloodiest conflict in Canadian military history that claimed 60,000 lives in the brutality of trench warfare.

"Social Studies teacher Todd Hallett starts the lesson by telling a true story of two local Esquimalt teens who signed up for war, thus helping students to have a local connection and age related connection to war times" says Maryanne



Photo credit: Rock Heights Middle School
Students from Rockheights Middle School prepare poppies for a No Stone Left Alone ceremony with Sgt (Ret'd) Jim MacMillan-Murphy, 1st Vice President, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 172.

Trofimuk, Rockheights Middle School Principal. "Then the children learn about war and the end result of their writing assignment is both heartwarming and heart wrenching."

One letter, penned by student Gerry Duffy was selected by a panel of teachers at the school to be read aloud during the No Stone Left Alone ceremony. The gathering included current and former military members, emergency services workers, Esquimalt Legionnaires, Esquimalt Lions Club member, a SD61 School Board Trustee and a member of the SD61 Senior Leadership Team, and other community groups.

No Stone Left Alone campaign was founded in Edmonton in 2011 in an effort to recognize the nation's fallen soldiers by placing a poppy on the headstones at military fields of honour. Rockheights Middle School became the first school in British Columbia to participate in 2014. Trofimuk, a former military reservist who served with Victoria's 11th

Service Battalion in 2002 and 2003, noted 20 per cent of her student body have family members in the military and already have "a great understanding of the sacrifices made by today's Canadian Armed Forces personnel because of their personal connections."

This year's ceremony also involved all 215 of the school's Grade 6, 7 and 8 students cutting over 3,000 paper poppies to place on fallen soldier's graves. at God's Acre. The burial ground was originally built by Rear Admiral George Fowler-Hastings in 1868 as a place of rest for Royal Navy Sailors, but has since expanded to encompass all members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The ceremony also included a First Nations drumming performance by students and an extended moment of silence to remember the dead. At the end of the ceremony students proceeded into the graveyard and pinned their hand-made poppies on fallen soldier's grave markers.



Rockheights Middle School Grade 8 students work on their Remembrance Day essays in the school's library.

Sent: 5/12/1918

Dear my lovely Elizabeth,

I am writing you from the front lines of this terrible war. I want to come home so badly. This is torture, absolute torture. We live like animals, lying amongst our own dirt and filth, not to mention the food we are served. Our food is wet old and moldy mostly going to the rats with which we share the trenches. I long for your delicious home cooked Sunday roast chicken.

I feel that I'm going mad, scrambling to accept the harsh reality that I'm forced to live in. We live in constant fear of bombs raids and disease, just barely getting through the day. Instead of waking up to birds chirping, the rising sun and the cool winter air, we are awakened by gunfire, screams and the disgusting stench of pure death. Our days are spent fighting the opposition and praying we live to see our families again. I wished I never signed up for this romanticized war.

I was so blinded by wanting to protect our country, I failed to see the actual damage this would cause on all of us. My best friend I've seen shot and killed in front of my very eyes. The only thing that keeps me going is the drive to see you and our children again. Well, I can't talk for too long so I must end this letter. Goodbye Elizabeth. Just know my love is always with you.

Your loving husband, James Cain.

Essay written by Gerry Duffy.

Local sailors honoured on Navy Day

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

MS Brett Poulin was one of three sailors from CFB Esquimalt honoured with the Exceptional Sailor Award during Navy Day celebrations on Parliament Hill.

Lt(N) Krisztina Rekeszki, the Operations Officer in Maritime Forces Pacific's Joint Logistics Operation Centre, and CPO2 Andre Aubry, Ship Service Officer with Fleet Maintenance Facility, also received scrolls from Senator Terry Mercer and were honoured for their service.

MS Poulin, who works as a naval communicator, Lt(N) Rekeszki, and CPO2 Andre Aubry were among a larger group of seven Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) sailors and three Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) personnel from across Canada recognized in the Oct. 25 ceremony in the Red Chamber of the Senate of Canada.

"It was an amazing experience, definitely the highlight of my career, and I am truly honoured to be selected for this special award," said MS Poulin. "It

feels great and gave me a sense of pride and appreciation for my hard work and dedication. There have been a lot of long hours and days to get me the point where I am."

With 12 years of service in the RCN, MS Poulin has worked as an IT (Internet Technology) support worker and was recognized for his efforts in trouble shooting computer issues aboard RCN vessels, his role as Unit Security Supervisor, helping oversee the largest removable media account in CFB Esquimalt, and participating in community outreach programs such as Yukon Sour Days in Whitehorse where he helped educate the public about the navy's role and responsibilities.

"The whole team were thrilled that he was chosen as a recipient of the award and the office is now inundated by visitors wanting to congratulate him," said Base Information Services (BIS) Commanding Officer, Cdr Byron Derby. "MS Poulin is at the heart of every aspect of life here in BIS, whether it be in the incredibly professional way he conducts his day-to-day duties, the

way he gets involved in many sporting events and social functions, or how he represents the RCN when outside of work as a volunteer for the Navy Outreach Program."

The Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable George J. Furey; Senators Terry Mercer and Daniel Lang; Commander of the RCN, VAdm Ron Lloyd, and CCG Commissioner Jody Thomas participated in the ceremony. The annual award, now in its third year, recognizes outstanding ability, devotion to duty, leadership, loyalty, courage, integrity and professionalism, for those with at least three years of service, and having made a major contribution to enhance the profile and reputation of the RCN.

During his address to the delegation about the recipients' service records, Senator Mercer noted the important role played by the RCN and CCG in keeping Canada safe.

"When it comes to performance, Canada's Navy and Coast Guard are second to none. They are giants amongst much bigger nations, both in performance and capability, with



Master Seaman Brett Poulin enjoys a moment in Parliament.

some of the most professional and well-trained sailors in the world."

The honorees itinerary in Ottawa also included a Navy Day Reception attended by numerous sponsors of the event, along with a visit to the House of Commons and a surprise meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"Meeting the Prime Minister was very special, it wasn't initially part of the day's agenda and it was great to listen to his kind words that recognized us for our hard work and dedication to the military," said MS Poulin.

Lt(N) Rekeszki was recognized for her work in the logistics community and her efforts in managing support to deployed ships, along with organizing the 20th anniversary celebration for HMCS Calgary.

CPO2 Aubry was honoured for his contributions in the RCN, local communities and specifically for how he fought a large fire on board HMCS Protecteur on Feb. 27, 2014.

"The ceremony was incredible and the sponsors did an amazing job putting together a truly fantastic experience for the 10 award recipients," said

Lt(N) Rekeszki.

The day before they received their awards, the recipients enjoyed dinner with VAdm Lloyd and Commissioner Thomas.

CPO2 Aubry said it was a privilege being recognized and said the highlight for him was meeting RCN senior leadership.

"Just to get an opportunity to network with them and learn about their experiences in Ottawa was phenomenal and truly one of the highlights of this event for me," said CPO2 Aubry.

The award and event is organized by the Navy League of Canada.



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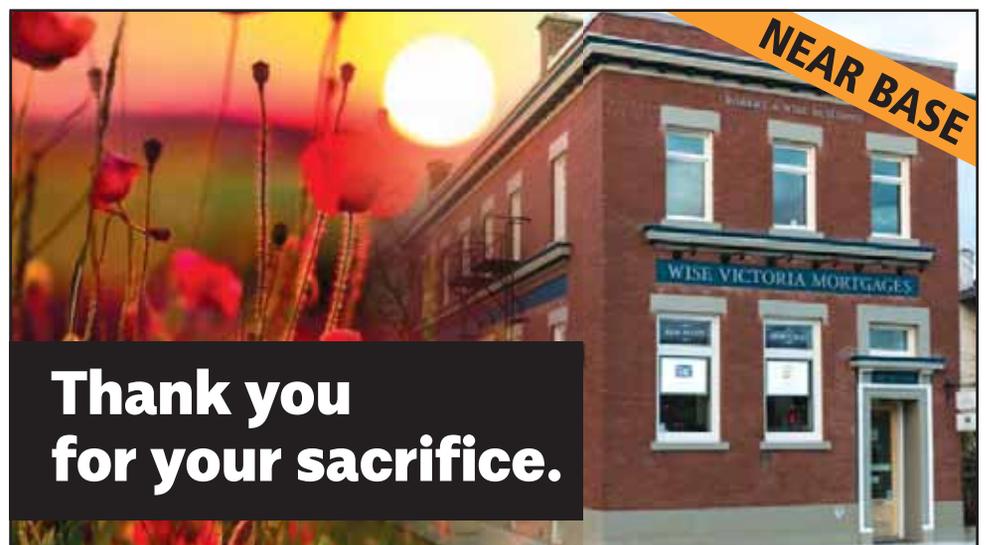
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Photograph of piper James Cleland Richardson, wearing his 72 Seaforth Highlanders of Canada uniform. As a member of the 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish), Canadian Expeditionary Force, he became the youngest Canadian to win the Victoria Cross at age 20 during the Battle of the Somme, Oct. 8, 1916. The decoration was awarded posthumously.

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Remembering two extraordinary non-Canadian soldiers

Bart Armstrong
www.canadianmedalofhonor.com

At this time of remembrance, we ought to give thought to these two non-Canadian born men, one who earned the U.S. Medal of Honor and the other a Victoria Cross.

Charles Ernest Hosking Jr.
 May 12, 1924 – March 21, 1967

Charles Ernest Hosking Jr. really was a junior when, at age 17, he ran away from home, entered Canada, and joined the famed Black Watch.

Trouble is that just three months after “escaping” home he bragged to much while in uniform in a Montreal pub about his birthplace. At a nearby table, by fluke, was a holidaying New Jersey insurance salesman and one of his clients was the Hosking family.

The family contacted their Congressmen who helped get young Hosking home. He would run a second time, but was rejected at the border. Home again, and still underaged, he managed to join the U.S. Coast Guard, but was soon released due to ailments.

Determined to be back in uniform,

he joined the U.S. Army in 1944, fought in the Battle of the Bulge and elsewhere, got wounded, but continued to serve, for over 25 years.

He then served in Vietnam as a sergeant first class in Company A of the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces Regiment.

On March 21, 1967, he was working as an advisor to a Civilian Irregular Defense Group battalion in Đôn Luân district, Phuoc Long Province, when a Viet Cong sniper was captured. As Hosking prepared to transport the prisoner to base camp the enemy managed to struggle free, grab a hand grenade from Hosking’s belt and run towards a group of soldiers in a suicide dive. But Hosking block-tackled the sniper, and landed on top of him with the grenade pressed between them. The grenade exploded and both men were killed. He would later receive the posthumous Medal of Honor, the U.S. military’s highest decoration.

James Cleland Richardson
 Nov. 25, 1895 – Oct. 8/9, 1916

James Richardson was born in Bellshill, North Lanarkshire Scotland, but moved to British Columbia as

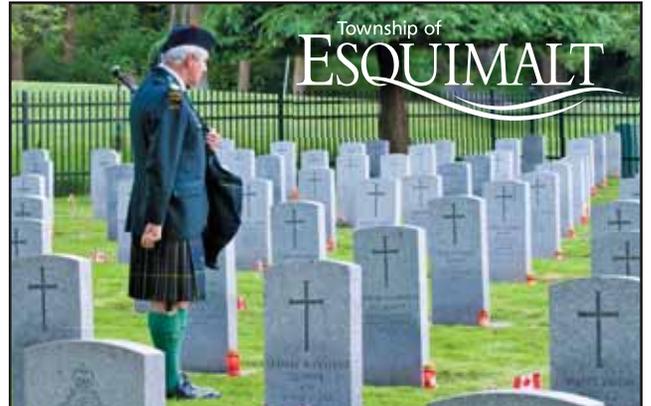
a young man. He joined the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Canada as a piper and then proceeded overseas as part of the large Seaforth contingent of the 16th (Canadian Scottish) Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, during the First World War.

While the regiment fought during the Somme offensive, Piper Richardson could often be seen at the front playing his bagpipes and motivating the Highlanders to carry on into battle, despite being unarmed and under constant enemy firing.

At times he would be asked to help evacuate the wounded. It would be on one of these missions that his fate was sealed when he laid his bagpipes down to help the evacuation of wounded comrades. When he returned for his pipes he was shot dead.

Richardson would be awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously for his repeated bravery on the front line.

Thought to be lost to history, the pipes were discovered in 2002 at a preparatory school in Scotland. They had been found in 1917 by a British Army Chaplain and brought back to the school. They were identified and returned to Canada in 2006. They are on display in a Chilliwack museum.



On behalf of the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt, historic naval and garrison community, home of the Queen’s Navy since 1837, we extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of our Country’s Veterans, in recognition of their contributions past and present.

- Mayor Barbara Desjardins and Members of Council

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PROJECT REMEMBRANCE **ART**

Jennifer Morse
Legion Magazine

Brian Lorimer paints big, vivid pictures. Over two years he dedicated his talent to capturing and commemorating the First World War.

His series of paintings titled Project Remembrance was completed just in time for the centenary.

Lorimer was born in Belleville, Ont., in 1961, studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design for three years, and a decade later founded a studio focusing on mural design. He sold the business in 2002 and concentrated on his art.

He has painted works as large as 76 feet long and Project Remembrance continues the tradition. It is made up of 36 canvases, most measuring five feet by six feet. But, it wasn't enough to simply paint the war, the artist wanted to experience life in the trenches, albeit without the rats and artillery.

So Lorimer dug a 40-foot ditch on his land.

"I needed to feel the trench, see it, make a connection with it to try and understand what I was about to undertake... Sitting within those tight confines made me just crazy enough to want to paint this painting (Winter Trench), plus 35 more."

Then in the spring of 2013 he travelled to Belgium and France.

"You can't do a series of this magnitude without going there...it is amazing how close the lines are to each other," he said.

Inspired, he returned home and transferred those emotions into oil on canvas. Bold colour is splattered like blood over many of the compositions. The treatment works; it is energetic and raw, bringing to mind victims, violence and devastation.

The colours in the painting Unknown Soldier (on the Lookout cover) gives an unintentional nod to war artist Eric Aldwinckle's bold painting, The Survivor. Both artists rendered war in brash, splintered colour.

A percentage of the profits from Project Remembrance has gone to Support Our Troops, The Vimy Foundation, and The True Patriot Love Foundation.

The artist has related items, prints and books, online at www.projectremembrance.ca or at www.brianlorimer.com.

These days, Lorimer paints full-time from his studio on the shores of Lake Mississagagon, Ont.



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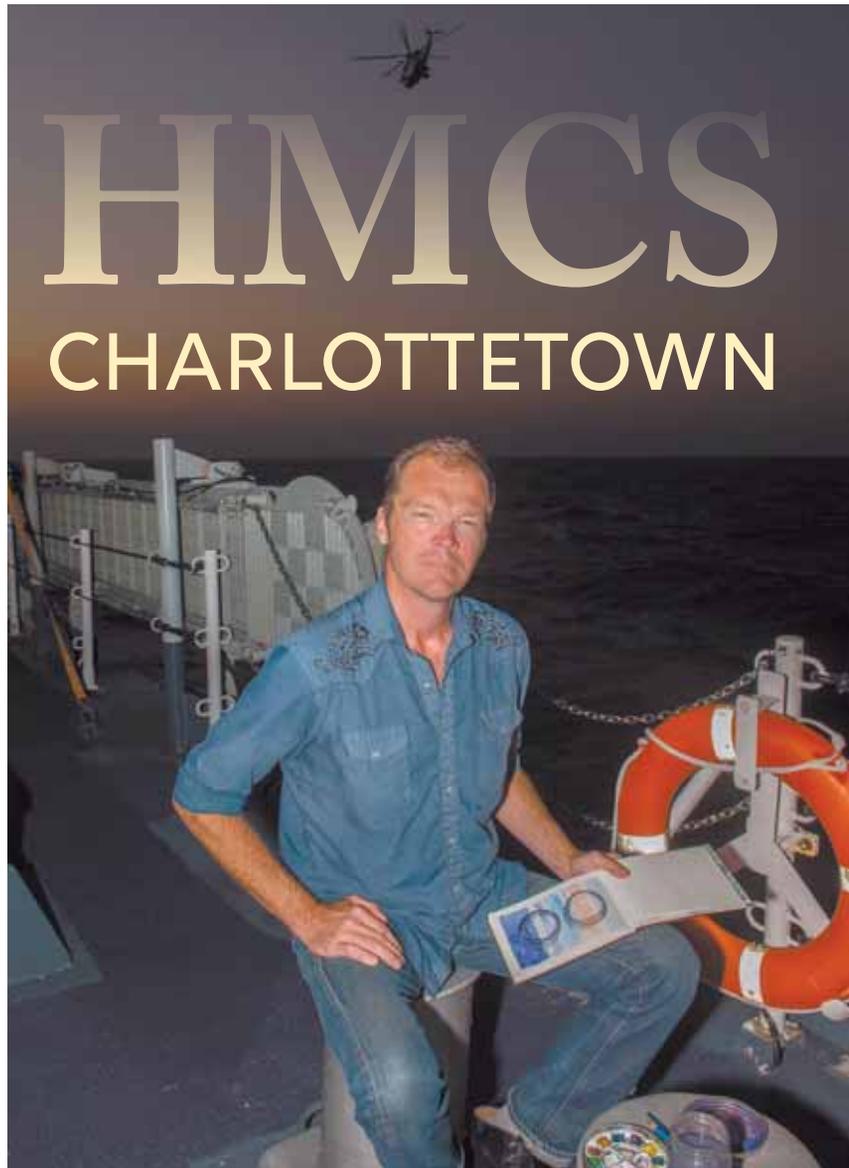


Photo: Cpl Blaine Sewell, Formation Imagery Services
Ivan Murphy, a member of the Canadian Forces Artist Program, plies his trade on board HMCS Charlottetown in the Mediterranean Sea during Operation Reassurance, Sept. 17.

Platform for the

Creative Process

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The Canadian military has a long and valued tradition of engaging artists to paint, draw, and photograph Canada's military actions. In 2001, the Canadian Forces Artists Program (CFAP) was created to allow Canadian artists the opportunity to follow Canada's military in Canada and around the world.

Artists such as Ivan Murphy and Ramses Madina continue to create Canadian military art in a new era.

Deployed aboard *HMCS Charlottetown* on Operation Reassurance, the two found themselves challenged to steady their equipment on a fast-moving warship with a crew of approximately 250 Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) personnel operating in the Mediterranean Sea.

According to Murphy, a painter from Halifax, Nova Scotia, the experience was rewarding.

"A frigate is a very demanding environment," he said from aboard the ship. "I'm looking forward to building a body of work worthy of the experience."

Murphy's work is displayed in national and international collections, including the Nova Scotia Art Bank, TD Canada Trust, and the U.S. Consulate. His large-scale abstract paintings are usually based on observation and

memory; however, given this unique opportunity, he will be using sketches, photography, and conversations with sailors as reference material.

Paintings will be completed post-deployment for an exhibition at the Canadian War Museum in October 2017.

Both artists expressed their gratitude for having been given access to such a unique opportunity.

"Being aboard *HMCS Charlottetown* during a NATO operation in the Mediterranean has left a big impression on me," said Madina.

Madina's photography and videos have been shown at leading venues such as the Toronto International Film Festival, the Honolulu Museum of Art in Hawaii, the Cinémathèque Québécoise in Montreal, and the Musée de la civilisation in Quebec City.

He is the recipient of grants from the Canada Council for the Arts and was awarded a Chalmers Fellowship in 2014. Madina's work is held in public and private collections as well as leading educational institutions such as McGill and York Universities.

Although the CFAP was created in 2001, the production of Canadian military art is marking its 100th anniversary, having officially started in 1916 with the creation of the Canadian War Memorial Fund. Various programs have existed since that time.

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Experiences in *Paint*

Anne Duggan
Army Public Affairs

“My art is not just art, but also history,” says military artist Sergeant (Retired) Roger Chabot.

Details are everything he adds, and his 50 paintings are a testament to this. On average, he spends five months doing just research before dipping his brush into paint.

His most recent work is a commemoration of the Battle of Fiers-Courcelette, which he donated to the museum of the Royal 22e Regiment, Citadelle de Québec.

This battle in the Somme offensive of the First World War marked the debut of the tank in warfare, and was the first contribution of the Canadian Corps to the Battle of the Somme.

“There are so many details with this kind of art and people will notice if I get something wrong,” he says.

Another painting marks the 100th anniversary of the Royal 22e Régiment (R22eR). It depicts two Canadian soldiers in front of the Citadelle in Quebec City, one from 1914 presenting the regiment colours to the second soldier who is from 2014.

Both soldiers in the painting, which Sgt (Ret'd) Chabot named *Un Passé Glorieux*, are wearing a uniform from their era, accurate down to the puttees and body armour.

Puttees are the long strips of cloth

worn on the lower leg by Canadian soldiers in the First World War. The foreground differs on each side of the painting: a field of poppies or a bombed hinterland, depending on the era.

“This is probably the best painting I ever did,” says Sgt (Ret'd) Chabot.

The painting now hangs in the R22eR Regimental Sergeant Major's meeting room at the Citadelle in Québec City.

Sgt (Ret'd) Chabot joined the infantry with the R22eR in 1984 and was posted to the Canadian Airborne Regiment in 1985. Parachutes were a common theme in his early works, mostly due to his experience with the Airborne, and these paintings drew immediate interest among his co-workers.

“Military members are passionate about their work. I could have painted anything and if I put a parachute on it, then it would sell,” he says of his early paintings.

While training with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in 1998, the focus of his hobby broadened after an injury sustained in a light armoured vehicle incident left him unable to perform physical activities for more than six months. This left time to paint during his recovery, and an eventual shift to a new trade as an Imagery Technician.

“The trade change from Infantry to Imagery Technician made me a better artist in terms of lighting and composition,” he says.

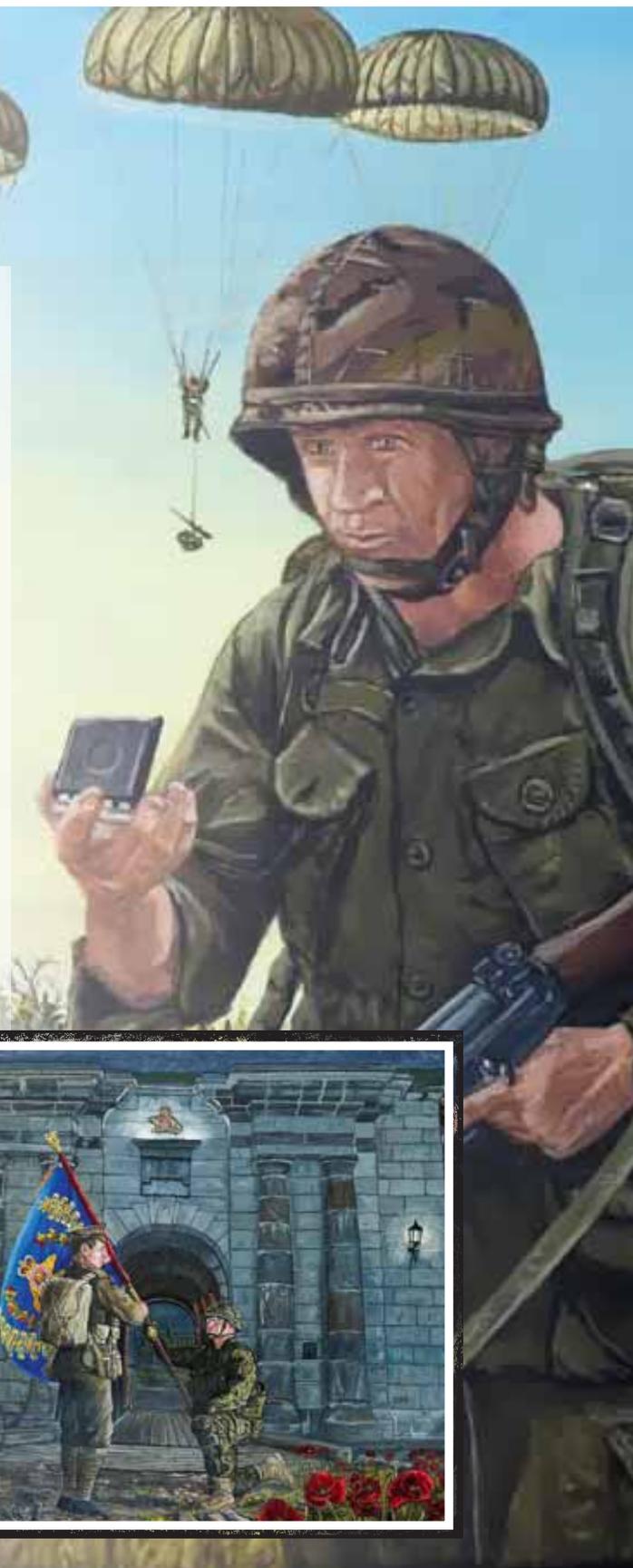
In the years since 1998, the range of Chabot's subject matter has ballooned and now includes portraits, Canadian Special Operations Regiment, Vimy Ridge, and the Battle of Anzio.

Sgt (Ret'd) Chabot is very much part of his paintings, given his 32 years of military service.

He is currently the training and operations sergeant with the 2nd Canadian Division Support Group, was deployed internationally four times to Cypress (1986-87), Somalia (1992-93), Croatia (1994) and Kosovo (1999), and twice domestically during the Manitoba floods of 1997 and the Québec ice storm of 1998.

To ease his feelings of guilt when not chosen for deployment as a photographer in Afghanistan he painted *The Valley of Shadows*, undertaking countless hours of research and interviews to prepare for the creation of the painting, which commemorates his fallen comrades. The painting now hangs in the main office of the National Field of Honour, a cemetery for Canadian and Allied veterans in Pointe Claire, Québec.

“What makes my paintings special is my life experience. When I paint, I paint the emotion.”



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Black Canadians in uniform - A proud tradition

Veterans Affairs Canada

Pre-First World War

The tradition of military service by Black Canadians goes back long before Confederation. Indeed, many Black Canadians can trace their family roots to Loyalists who emigrated North in the 1780s after the American Revolutionary War. American slaves had been offered freedom and land if they agreed to fight in the British cause and thousands seized this opportunity to build a new life in British North America.

This tradition of military service did not end there, with some Black soldiers seeing action in the War of 1812, helping defend Upper Canada against American attacks. A number of volunteers were organized into the "Company of Coloured Men," which played an important role in the Battle of Queenston Heights.

Black militia members also fought in many other significant battles during the war, helping drive back the American forces. Black soldiers also played an important role in the Upper Canadian Rebellion (1837-1839). In all, approximately 1,000 Black militia men fighting in five companies helped put down the uprising, taking part in some of the most important incidents such as the Battle of Toronto.

First World War

Like so many others swept up in the excitement and patriotism that the First World War (1914-1918) initially brought on, young Black Canadians were eager

to serve King and country. At the time, however, the prejudiced attitudes of many people in charge of military enlistment made it difficult for these men to join the Canadian Army.

Despite the barriers, some Black Canadians did manage to join up during the opening years of the war.

On July 5, 1916, the No. 2 Construction Battalion was formed in Pictou, Nova Scotia—the first large Black military unit in Canadian history. The segregated battalion was tasked with non-combat support roles. After initial service in Canada, the battalion boarded the SS Southland bound for Liverpool, England, in March 1917. Its members were sent to eastern France later in 1917 where they served with the Canadian Forestry Corps. There they helped provide the lumber required to maintain trenches on the front lines, as well as construct roads and railways. After the end of the First World War in November 1918, the men sailed to Halifax in early 1919 to return to civilian life and the unit was officially disbanded in 1920.

In addition to the men of the Black Battalion, an estimated 2,000 Black Canadians, such as James Grant, Roy Fells, Seymour Tyler, Jeremiah Jones and Curly Christian, were determined to get to the front lines and managed to join regular units, going on to give distinguished service that earned some of them medals for bravery.

Second World War

Little more than 20 years after the end of the "War to End all Wars," the Second World

War (1939-1945) erupted and soon spread across Europe and around the globe. The Second World War saw considerable growth in how Black Canadians served in the military. While some Black recruits would encounter resistance when trying to enlist in the army, in contrast to the First World War no segregated battalions were created. Black Canadians joined regular units and served alongside their white fellow soldiers here at home, in England, and on the battlefields of Europe.

In the early years of the war, however, the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force were not as inclusive in their policies. This did not mean that trail-blazing Black Canadians did not find a way to persevere and serve. Some Black sailors served in the Navy, and Black airmen served in the Air Force as ground crew and aircrew here at home and overseas in Europe.

Korean War and the Post-War Years

Since the end of the Second World War, the tradition of Black Canadian service in the military has expanded and evolved.

In the Korean War (1950-1953), Canadians returned to the battlefield scarcely five years after the end of the Second World War, travelling halfway around the world to join the United Nations forces fighting to restore peace in Korea. Black soldiers were among the Canadian Army troops that were sent to fight so far from home.

While some last traces of discrimination continued in Canadian military recruiting

practices into the mid-1950s, Black Canadians became more established in the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force, as well.

For example, Raymond Lawrence joined the Navy in 1953, rising to become the first Black Petty Officer First Class and first Black coxswain on a Canadian warship.

The Air Force's Major Stephen Blizzard was a flight surgeon and also got his wings in the 1960s as a jet pilot during a long and varied career in the Canadian military—a trailblazer both in the air and in medicine. He also made important contributions to aviation medicine in both the military and civil fields.

Over the decades since the Korean War, Black Canadians have gone on to serve in every branch of the military, in duties both here at home and in operations around the world during the Cold War, and in international peace support efforts (right from the first large-scale United Nations peacekeeping mission to Egypt during the Suez Crisis of the 1950s).

Today, Black Canadians standing on the shoulders of the trailblazers who led the way continue to serve proudly in uniform where they share in the sacrifices and achievements being made by the Canadian Armed Forces.

Our country's efforts in Afghanistan have come at a high cost, one that has been borne by Black soldiers, as well. Brave men such as Ainsworth Dyer and Mark Graham are among the 163 Canadian Armed Forces members who have died in Afghanistan since 2002.



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FLIGHT LIEUTENANT'S HEROIC ACTIONS

Major W.A. March

Historian, Air Force History and Heritage

In September 1940, the Royal Canadian Air Force, (RCAF), anxious to recruit additional pilot applicants for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP), decreed that recruits up to the age of 31 would be considered.

This simple administrative decision allowed David Ernest Hornell, just three weeks shy of his 31st birthday, to join the RCAF on Jan. 8, 1941. Just over three and a half years later, Hornell would be awarded the Victoria Cross.

On Feb. 4, Hornell reported to No. 1 Wireless School, Montreal, Quebec, for general duties while he waited for a slot to open up at an Initial Training School.

Over the next several months Hornell moved through No. 3 Initial Training School, Victoriaville, Quebec; No. 12 Elementary Flying Training School, Goderich, Ontario; and No. 5 Service Flying Training School, Brantford, Ontario.

As the pilots were slated to operate multi-engine aircraft, flight training was done on the Avro Anson. Hornell completed this phase of his training on Sept. 22 and received his wings during a graduation ceremony three days later.

Then after a short course at No. 31 General Reconnaissance School, a Royal Air Force (RAF) unit located at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, he was posted to 120 Squadron of Canada's Home War Establishment, Eastern Air Command, on Dec. 2, 1941.

For the next two years Hornell served as a line pilot conducting anti-submarine patrols, and as a staff officer at Eastern Air Command Headquarters, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Then in October 1943 he

was sent to 162 Squadron just down the road in Dartmouth. He arrived mere weeks before the squadron, operating Consolidated PBV-5A "Canso" amphibious aircraft, received orders to proceed to Reykjavik, Iceland, having been seconded to RAF Coastal Command.

For the next five months Hornell flew with various crews over the North Atlantic. Then towards the end of May 1944, three 162 Squadron Cansos began operating from Wick in northern Scotland to prevent German submarines sorting from bases in Norway to attack the Normandy invasion fleet.

On June 24, 1944, Hornell and his crew of seven prepared for their third flight during this particular stay at Wick. The experienced, all Canadian crew went airborne at approximately 0930 hours and after almost 10 hours of unproductive searching, the aircraft, being well north of the Shetland Islands, turned for home.

Then at approximately 1900 hours, two members of the crew spotted a surfaced submarine not more than eight kilometers off their port side. Hornell swung the aircraft around to attack. The crew of U-1225 opened fire on the Canso and Hornell took what evasive action he could without deviating too far from his attack heading.

Accurate fire destroyed the radio aerials ending any communication with base. Other shells tore chunks from the starboard wing shattering the engine, which burst into flames. Hornell, using every bit of his skill and every ounce of his strength, struggled to keep the aircraft on track.

At 1,100 meters the Canso's gunners opened fire trying as best they could in the bucking aircraft to silence the German guns.

Hornell brought the burning aircraft overtop the U-boat at an altitude of less than 16 meters straddling the enemy vessel with depth

charges. The bow of the submarine was thrown aloft in a mountainous plume of water, before settling back down, mortally damaged. Although some of the German crew managed to flee their sinking boat, eventually all 56 officers and men would perish.

The attack over, Hornell's only concern was the safety of his men. Pulling hard on the control column he forced the heavily damaged Canso to climb, clawing for every extra meter of possible attitude. It proved too much for the fiercely burning starboard engine, and it tore away from its mounting, releasing fuel and oil to feed the fire on the wing. At a height of less than 80 meters, with smoke filling the cockpit and fuselage, Hornell turned the aircraft into the wind and prepared to ditch.

Twice the aircraft "bounced" while trying to land in the rough before coming to a rest, its starboard wing a mass of fire. Within five minutes, all of the crew safely evacuated the sinking Canso, but there was only one four-man survival dinghy. As darkness descended, the crew took turns either resting in the dinghy or half-submerged in the frigid waters clutching its side. The seas grew steadily rougher and the crew crowded together aboard the raft struggling to stay warm.

At midnight, by the remotest of chances, a Catalina from 333 Norwegian Squadron passed nearby and alerted to the Canadian's plight with signal flares sent an urgent call to Air-Sea



David Ernest Hornell

Rescue. Hornell did what he could to keep up his crew's spirits. Sadly, before the night was out, Sergeant Fernand St. Laurent, the 26-year-old flight engineer from La Pointe au Pere, Quebec, succumbed to exposure. His friends gently placed his body into the sea and watched it slowly drift away.

After 16 hours adrift in the ocean, an Air-Sea Rescue Warwick aircraft arrived and attempted to air-drop a lifeboat. The release mechanism malfunctioned and the lifeboat landed almost 500 meters away from the Canadians. Weak, blinded by the salt and crippled by the cold, Hornell nevertheless attempted to swim towards the lifeboat, but was restrained by his crew. Three hours later, Sergeant Donald Stewart Scott, the 22-year-old second flight engineer, from Pakenham, Ontario, died and

his body was committed to the sea.

Another 90 minutes had passed when a Short Sunderland flying boat came roaring across the sea guiding a high speed rescue launch towards them. The launch crew gently hoisted Hornell, and two other members of the crew aboard while the remainder, somehow, had the strength to board on their own. Hornell was unconscious and unresponsive, and despite everything the rescue team could do, he died during the 14-hour voyage to the port of Lerwick in the Shetland Islands.

The surviving crew were decorated for their actions during and after their successful attack on the German submarine.

St. Laurent and Scott, in accordance with the honours policy of the day, were Mentioned in Dispatches.

Hornell, one of the older graduates of the BCATP, was awarded the Victoria Cross for "pressing home a skillful and successful attack against fierce opposition, with his aircraft in a precarious condition, and by fortifying and encouraging his comrades in the subsequent ordeal, this officer displayed valour and devotion of the highest order".

He was 34.



David Hornell's flight crew by Nissen hut. Left to right: Sgt F. St. Laurent, Sgt Donald Scott, F/O Graham Campbell, F/Sgt I. J. Bodnoff, Back: F/O S. E. Matheson, and F/L D. E. Hornell, Insert: F/O B. C. Denomy, and F/Sgt S. R. Cole.



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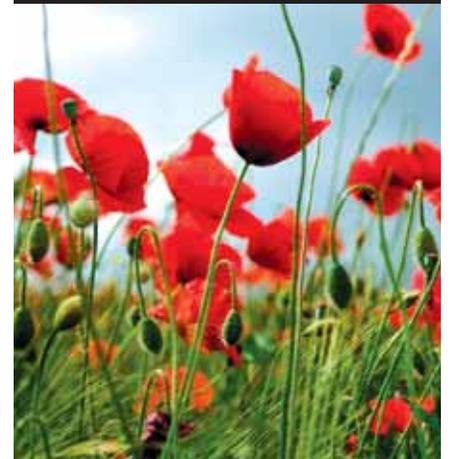
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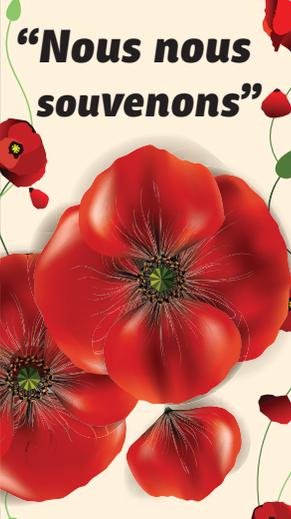
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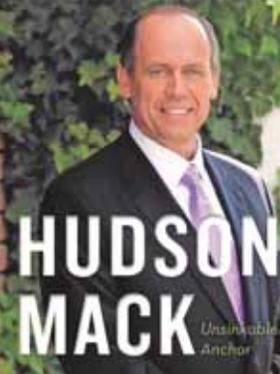
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Women in the Canadian Military

Veterans Affairs Canada

Canadian women have played an important role in our country's military efforts over the years, overcoming many barriers to serve in uniform as nurses and in an expanding variety of other roles. This service continues today, with females now serving alongside their male counterparts in all Canadian Armed Forces trades.

The First World War

Canadian women's first military contributions were as nurses who tended to the sick and wounded in times of conflict. They were called "Nursing Sisters" because they were originally drawn from the ranks of religious orders.

More than 2,800 Canadian Nursing Sisters served with the Canadian Army Medical Corps during the First World War, often close to the front lines of Europe and within range of enemy attack. With their blue dresses and white veils, they were nicknamed the "bluebirds" and were greatly respected because of their compassion and courage. Canadian women were not permitted to serve in other military roles during the First World War.

The Second World War

The Second World War would see Canadian women returning to serve again as nursing sisters. This time, approximately 4,500 nurses were attached to all three branches of Canada's military, with more than two-thirds of them serving overseas. Second World War nursing sisters wore a military uniform with a traditional white veil. These young women were commissioned officers and were respectfully addressed as "Sister" or "Ma'am."

In fact, Canada's military nurses were the first in any Allied country to have officer status. Canadian women would also serve in other military roles during the war and some 50,000 eventually enlisted in the air force, army and navy.

Royal Canadian Air Force - Women's Division (RCAF-WD)

On July 2, 1941 the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) was created—a first for our country. By the end of the war it totaled some 17,000 members.

Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC)

The CWAC was officially established on Aug. 13, 1941, and by war's end it had some 21,000 members. Initially, CWAC members' duties were quite traditional; they worked as cooks, cleaners, tailors and medical assistants. However, these duties would expand to include more traditionally male jobs such as driving trucks and ambulances, and working as mechanics and radar operators. While most CWACs served in Canada, three companies of female soldiers were posted overseas in 1943.

Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS)

The Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (whose members were familiarly known as the "Wrens" after the nickname of their British Royal Navy counterparts), was officially established on July 31, 1942. The last Canadian military branch to recruit women, the Wrens grew to number some 7,000. They initially performed clerical and administrative tasks so more men could be made available for duty at sea. Eventually, Wrens would expand on these roles as well to do things like being on-shore radar operators and coding technicians.

Post-Second World War

After the Second World War, the Canadian military shut down the women's organizations. With the onset of the Cold War and the Korean War; however, the military soon faced a shortage of personnel and some 5,000 women were again actively recruited. While only a handful of nursing sisters were sent to Korea, some servicewomen back in Canada filled the same kinds of roles they had during the Second World War.

With the unification and modernization of the Canadian military in the late 1960s, the doors finally began to open for good for women to enlist and enter non-traditional roles. Today, women deploy on combat missions, captain vessels and command flying squadrons—their career paths as open as those of men.

Professor captures war memories in new documentary

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

A new documentary created by Royal Roads University professor Geoffrey Bird explores the stories of those places across Canada related to the the Second World War.

The newly released film, his second of a two-part series, *War Memories across Canada: Sites of the Second World War* made its debut in a one-time engagement at the Vic Theatre on Oct. 11.

Funded by Heritage Canada, Parks Canada and Royal Roads University, the documentary comprises 27 short stories that explores both soldiers' and civilians' personal attachments to war monuments and historical sites across the nation.

"We are at a point in time where the witnesses to the Second World War are passing on and we are trying to get their stories now," says Bird. "Otherwise, we rely

on others to recount the story of what happened, what we can call 'guardians of remembrance'."

Raised in Victoria, the former naval reservist started his service with HMCS Malahat, and worked as a reservist between 1984 and 1992.

He now heads Royal Roads' Tourism Management graduate program as an Associate Professor. Bird first realized the power of standing in the footsteps of those who fought while he worked at Vimy Ridge in France as a tour guide in 1990.

"Later in life, as a doctoral student working at battlefields in Normandy, I was interested in the relationship between tourism, remembrance, and the landscapes of war," says Bird. "The experience people have when they stand at Vimy Ridge, Juno Beach, or the many sites of memory across our nation and the world trigger a strong connection to the past."

His latest war memories documentary embodies this connection with places, and

personal and historical accounts of the world wars.

"Travelling to places and exploring monuments and memorials becomes one of the most powerful ways we connect the past and learn about it," says Bird. "In this case tourism isn't about entertainment it's about education."

One story is that of a Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reservist, Russell McConnell whose name is engraved on the Naval College war memorial located on the university grounds. McConnell did his training at the former military college before his deployment aboard HMCS Raccoon in 1942. The vessel, an armed yacht, was sunk by German U-boat 165 in the St. Lawrence River as it made its way from Quebec to Sydney, N.S. Everyone on board was killed.

"There is a lot of information we tell in the documentary that you don't see when you look at the inscription on the monument," says Bird. "This guy went to McGill University and was MVP on the

school's hockey team before his death, but this kind of information is soon forgotten when we don't know the story behind the name."

Another vignette expands on gravestone inscriptions in Victoria's Jewish Cemetery located near the Cedar Hill Rd. and Hillside Ave intersection. Graves of Holocaust survivors who settled in Victoria and their tombstones paint a vivid picture of their experiences.

"Some of the markers tell of the survivor's horrific times in concentration camps such as Auschwitz," says Bird. "This period was a significant time in their lives, they survived it, and they wanted people to know they lived their lives and ultimately defeated their captors."

Bird is travelling to Ottawa for a Nov. 10 screening of his latest work at the War Museum. Both of his films can be viewed free of charge on the university's web page: <http://warheritage.royalroads.ca/war-memories-across-canada/>



The Class of 1941 at Royal Roads Military College in Colwood included young Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Russell McConnell, who died in a German U-Boat attack in 1942 in the St. Lawrence River.

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Memorials and cenotaphs in Canada

Veterans Affairs Canada

Since Confederation, Canadians have served around the world in the cause of peace and freedom. Many of them made the ultimate sacrifice and their final resting places are typically located near the place where they died.

In communities across Canada, there are cenotaphs and monuments to remember the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served our great nation.

A few memorials:

Alberta

Buffalo Park
Peacekeeper Park
The Military Museums of Calgary

British Columbia

Canadian Memorial Church
Memorial Statue to Canadian Peacekeepers
Mountain View Cemetery
Veterans Cemetery, God's Acre
Victoria Memorial

Manitoba

Royal Canadian Air Force British Commonwealth
Air Training Program Memorial

Newfoundland

Newfoundland National Memorial

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Memorial Chamber
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Ottawa Cremation Memorial
Reconciliation: The Peacekeeping Monument
South African War Memorial
The Men with Two Hats
The National Military Cemetery
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Wall of Remembrance

The Lucky Ones

Veterans Affairs Canada

Captured and Imprisoned:

In the spring of 1944, the Second World War was not yet over and Allied Airmen were still risking their lives by flying through enemy fire.

In June 1944, amongst those shot down over France were 168 airmen from Canada, the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. They were captured by the Gestapo and temporarily incarcerated in Fresnes Prison, a civilian jail just outside of Paris.

Instead of being classified as military prisoners-of-war, they were accused of being spies and saboteurs. Though they were subjected to beatings and other forms of cruelty, they did not lose hope of being liberated by the approaching Allies.

On the morning of Aug. 15, 1944 – 10 days before the liberation of Paris – they were herded into cattle cars and sent into the depths of East Germany. There was the last train to leave Paris for Buchenwald Concentration Camp.

The airmen tried to establish themselves as military personnel in the concentration camp; however, they were not recognized as such for several

long, difficult months. Instead, they were subjected to the subhuman conditions of life in Buchenwald. They witnessed horrific beatings, hangings, and torture, as bodies were piled like cordwood awaiting the crematorium. Suffering, starvation, disease and constant threats were the order of each day.

Several of the airmen became ill, two died and all were deeply disturbed by the horrors they witnessed – but they were The Lucky Ones.

In the National Film Board of Canada's film, *The Lucky Ones*, former Allied airmen recount their personal and collective stories of life before, during and after Buchenwald. *The Lucky Ones* is the Allied airmen's final testimony to the horrors they experienced in Buchenwald, an eloquent rebuttal to those who claim the holocaust never happened. A clip from the film is a glimpse into the memories of these airmen, including reflections from Ed Carter-Edwards, one of the 26 Canadian Airmen who was incarcerated in Buchenwald.

Buchenwald was liberated on April 11, 1945, the first such major camp to be reached by the Western Allies.

About the Memorial Statue to Canadian Peacekeepers

A memorial honouring Canada's peacekeepers stands outside the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada building in Sidney, British Columbia. The bronze statue was designed by local artist Nathan Scott. The memorial is an eight foot statue of two peacekeepers with a 40 foot flag pole at the back. The soldier standing on the granite base is dressed in a 1980s uniform. The second soldier is kneeling on the base with a C-7 rifle in his hands and is wearing a uniform and a helmet of the 2000s. The text on the plaque reads: "Commemorating Canada's Peacekeepers deployed in support of the United Nations and NATO."



Photo courtesy of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada Sidney Unit #302

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In an image taken in Uplands, Ontario, in 1943, Flying Officer John Newell receives his pilot's wings from then Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, the Earl of Athlone Prince Alexander.



Flying Officer (retired) John Newell studies a Second World War-era image of himself standing on the wing of his aircraft.

FLYING INSTRUCTORS UNSUNG HEROES

Alexandra Baillie-David
Air Force Public Affairs

Flying Officer (retired) John Robert Newell always knew he wanted to be a pilot.

From the moment he saw an R100 airship drift over his hometown of Ottawa, Ontario, as a child in the early 1930s, he began building wooden model airplanes in the hopes that one day he could fly too.

That dream would soon become an unfortunate reality when Canada declared war on Germany nearly a decade later, and the Allied forces were in desperate need of aircrew.

After finishing high school in 1942, Newell marched into the recruiting office and enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) to become a fighter pilot.

"When we joined, we all wanted to go overseas," says Newell, now 93.

He completed his pilot training in three stages (initial, elementary and service flying training) under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP).

Based in Canada, The Plan was the principal aircrew training program that trained pilots, navigators, flight engineers, bomb aimers and wireless operators, many of whom went on to serve overseas.

By the end of the war, the BCATP had graduated more than 131,000 aircrew from Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, and other British Commonwealth nations. Its success was recognized by United States President Franklin Roosevelt, who famously called Canada "the aerodrome of democracy."

After training on the North American Harvard at No. 2 Service Flying Training School in Uplands, Ont., near Ottawa, Newell received his pilot wings as the sixth top student in his class. He then eagerly awaited his fighter training so he could be sent to Europe.

But he never got the overseas posting he hoped for.

"I was told I was going to be an instructor," he says with a hint of resentment in his voice. "I gave them hell. I said, 'I didn't spend all this time training to be a fighter pilot to end up being an instructor'."

"We used to give our name in to the chief flying instructor for overseas postings," he adds. "But we knew they were thrown in the garbage before we even got out the door."

Newell recalls some instructors being so unhappy they took out their frustration where they wanted most to be: in the air.

"One fella was asked to pick up a guy and bring him back to Ottawa," he recalls. "When he went into Camp Borden, he flew low-level, lower than the flag pole. He did aerobatics, everything that you're not allowed to do over an airport."

"So when he landed, he was charged with low flying and dangerous driving and every other thing you could think of. At his court martial, they asked, 'Why did you act so stupid?', and he said, 'I'm so goddamn sick of being an instructor. I joined the Air Force to be a fighter pilot and I'm just fed up to the hilt'."

Disappointment was high among the men who became instructors. These young pilots were some of

the best in the world, which made it more difficult for them to accept that their superior flying skills were most needed on the home front instead of overseas.

"They felt that teaching was not doing," says Ted Barris, author of *Behind the Glory: Canada's Role in the Allied War*. "They were eager to go [to war]. They didn't want to be towing around a bunch of young men."

Barris adds that instructors were also plagued by feelings of guilt after their students graduated.

"Here were young men who were teaching other men the skills of war," he says. "They always had that fear that was capsulized in the question: 'Did I give them enough? Did I give them the skills to survive?' That was a horribly difficult thing to live with if you sensed that maybe you hadn't."

Danger in Canadian skies

While there were no air raids or dogfights in the skies over Canada during the war, instructors never-

theless faced their own dangers on a daily basis.

"If you flew into storms, thunderheads on the Prairies, lightning storms in Ontario, or fog on the coasts, you could be lost there, and the weather was just as much your enemy as any enemy aircraft," Barris explains.

In fact, more than 1,700 instructors and students were killed in Canada in training accidents, which were often caused by severe weather, pilot error, or mechanical failure.

"There was an instance in St. Catharines where some of the first Fleet Finches were not properly balanced as they rolled off the line in Fort Erie," Barris says. "They were not set to fly yet and the two guys who went up in them were doing an inverted spin or a loop, and the imbalance of the aircraft caused them to crash, and killed them both. So there was the problem of technical bumps that had to be smoothed out."

On and off duty, 2,367 pilots died while serving in Canada, yet their deaths did

not elicit the same sympathy as those of the nearly 15,000 air crew who died overseas. This troubles Newell, who was no stranger to losing a comrade in a crash.

"A dead airman in Canada is just as dead as a dead airman in Europe," he says firmly. "It's a loss to the family."

It was for this reason that Newell tried to keep a strictly professional relationship with his students. At just 21 when he became an instructor, he was teaching 18-, 19- and 20-year-old men who, under different circumstances, might have been his friends.

"I treated them all nicely," he says. "But I tried not to befriend them because you never knew if something was going to happen to them."

The unsung heroes of the BCATP

Despite their tremendous skill, patience and sacrifice, BCATP instructors were not given the same recognition as their comrades in Europe.

"There was a myth that men who were instructors were second-class, not as good flyers as those who went overseas. It was just the opposite," says Barris. "These people had experienced weather, and they had experienced the challenge of learning to fly themselves."

The BCATP legacy

In the modern RCAF, flying instructors continue to play a critical role in shaping the next generation of airmen and airwomen. Without their knowledge, skill and guidance, today's operational pilots would not be equipped to complete their daily missions.

And it all started with the BCATP.

"The level of professionalism [in the Air Force] is such a long tradition," says Major Riel Erickson, a CF-188 fighter pilot and chief flying instructor with 2 Canadian Forces Flying Training School in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. "We are known as one of the best training nations. We train to this day pilots from other countries and I think that says a lot about what we've created over those 75 years."

Major Erickson adds that an important part of being an instructor is being able to pass on what she has learned, both in and out of the cockpit.

"To this day I carry a lot of the lessons that my first instructors taught me and I think about them on a daily basis," she says. "I am responsible for the pilot that these people become. So if I set a bad example for them and they go off and make a mistake down the road, it's on me."

Looking back on his time as a flying instructor, Newell says he is proud to have served his country. Though he did not become the fighter pilot he had intended, having the chance to fly the Harvard every day was enough to keep him going.

After retiring from the RCAF in 1945, Newell worked for the British-American Banknote Company, which was responsible for printing Canadian money, certificates and other documents. He and his wife Lois reside in Ottawa, Ont., and have been members of the Royal Canadian Air Force Association of Canada for more than 60 years.



Photos by Alexandra Baillie-David

Flying Officer (retired) John Newell's memorial stone is located outside the National Air Force Museum of Canada in Trenton, Ontario, one of 10,000 such stones that honour the airmen and airwomen who served in the Second World War.

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Canadian Rangers take the reins on Exercise Choke Apple

Steven Fouchard
Army Public Affairs

The Canadian Army may have plenty of high technology and complex vehicles at its disposal, but there will always be situations that demand a much simpler approach.

In Quesnel, B.C. this summer, Choke Apple brought together personnel from the army's 3rd Canadian Division, including members of 4 Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (4 CRPG) and Regular Force and Army Reserve troops, to learn skills associated with using one of the world's oldest forms of transportation: horses.

The exercise name was a decidedly tongue-in-cheek choice. Newcomers to horse riding are prone to grabbing the pommel, the raised part of the saddle in front of the rider. Pommel is derived from 'pomum,' Latin for 'apple.' Seasoned riders therefore refer to novice riders as "apple chokers."

The exercise is aimed mainly at Canadian Rangers, a sub-component of the Army Reserve that carries out national security and public safety missions in Canada's sparsely settled northern, coastal and more isolated areas.

"Primarily horseback riding is mobility training for Canadian Rangers," explained Lieutenant-Colonel Russ Meades, Commanding Officer of 4 CRPG. "A lot of our terrain is extremely rugged and there are places even ATVs or snowmobiles can't get to. And one viable alternative is horses."

Canadian Ranger Paul Nichols hosted Choke Apple with his wife

Terry at their Pen-Y-Bryn Farm near Quesnel.

"With the long legs that a horse has, it can step through country that would snarl up a wheeled vehicle," Ranger Nichols said. "And the other part of it is that we can move very quietly. And they have incredible senses. They're constantly aware, constantly scanning for noises or any kind of disturbance in the bush. And if you're in tune with your horse they will tell and show you much more than we can see or feel."

Canadian Rangers are most likely to be first on the scene of remote search and rescue missions and other similar scenarios. But there is good reason to include Reservists and Regular Force members in this training, says LCol Meades.

"There's a lot of scope for Canadian Rangers, Regular Force, and Reserve troops to interact together," he said. "The more they do, the more they're used to each other, and the better integrated and cohesive they will be when it comes to doing it for real."

Terry Nichols is well-regarded in the field of equine-assisted therapy, which has documented benefits for soldiers who have experienced trauma. The animals are highly sensitive to a rider's mood and more responsive to commands when he or she projects strength, so riding can help a trauma-



Photo provided by Lindsay Chung, Pen-y-Bryn Ranch
MCpl Charles Pietracupa from CFB Shilo takes his horse downhill.

tized soldier regain lost confidence.

Therapeutic work was not officially part of the exercise, but was among topics discussed by participants after the formal daytime activities ended.

"The energy that the human is giving off to that horse will decide in large measure what the relationship is going to be like," said LCol Meades. "The horse is capable of drawing out certain issues in a person's life. I've personally seen a person brought to tears simply by being in the presence of a horse. It is quite amazing."



Photo by Capt Chris Poulton, Public Affairs Officer, 4 CRPG
Canadian Rangers from 4 CRPG and soldiers from 3rd Canadian Division practice their riding skills along the Fraser River.

Signage promotes Remembrance Day and HMCS Alberni Museum in Comox

Peter Mallett
Staff Writer

They won't help sell the family house or declare your support for a political candidate, but Remembrance Day lawn signs are one unique way Comox Valley residents are commemorating Nov. 11.

The signs are a fundraising initiative by the HMCS Alberni Museum and Memorial (HAMM) and boldly feature the words "I Will Remember" in English, or in French "Je Me Souviendrai", below a field of poppies. The placards can be affixed to store-front or apartment windows, mounted to fences, or placed on lawns or in gardens, and come in two sizes, the standard 18" x 27", which cost \$35, and the smaller store-front sign which measures 12" x 18", which sell for \$25.

Lewis Bartholomew, Founder and Executive Director of the Alberni Project and HAMM, developed the idea for the lawns signs over four years ago. He says the signs hit the right note with a newer generation of Canadians who haven't completely abandoned the past mantra "Lest we forget" but wanted to express their feelings in a different tone.

"I wanted something that was progressive and proactive, yet still maintaining the dignity of what the poppy represents," said Bartholomew. "So I

decided that our slogan would be about commitment, a promise to remember."

His group uses proceeds from sales of merchandise, donations, and other fund-raising initiatives to help fund the non-profit society and its museum. The museum is dedicated to the memories of the sailors who served aboard the Royal Canadian Navy's flower-class corvette, and the preservation of Canadian military history.

Bartholomew said the idea for the sign design grew out of a 2011 idea he introduced for souvenirs such as coffee mugs, hats and shirts, which he sells in the museum gift shop. The following year, he decided to experiment with other merchandise and the idea for lawn signs was hatched.

HAMM usually sells approximately 1,000 signs per year, but this year sales have trickled to a crawl. The decline isn't due to lack of interest, but instead because the museum was served an eviction notice in June, abruptly closing its location in the Comox Mall, before eventually finding a new home in the Courtenay Mall. But with the future of the museum recently reaffirmed, interest in the signs is beginning to pick up again as Remembrance Day approaches.

"We currently average two or three signs sold per day at the moment, but the good thing is people are finding



Credit Lewis Batholomew/Alberni Project
Salsbury House B&B owner James Derry places a I will Remember sign on his lawn.

our new location," said Bartholomew. For more information about HAMM, its hours, or how purchase lawns signs, visit their website: www.alberni-project.org

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Photo: MARPAC Imaging Services

The Commanding Officer of HMCS Edmonton, Lieutenant-Commander Lucas Kenward sends a signal to HMCS Brandon during Operation Caribbe in the Eastern Pacific Ocean on Oct. 27.



Photos by Royal Canadian Navy Public Affairs

An engineer aboard HMCS Brandon attaches the Naval Ensign to a rigid hulled-inflatable boat along the Pacific coast of North America.

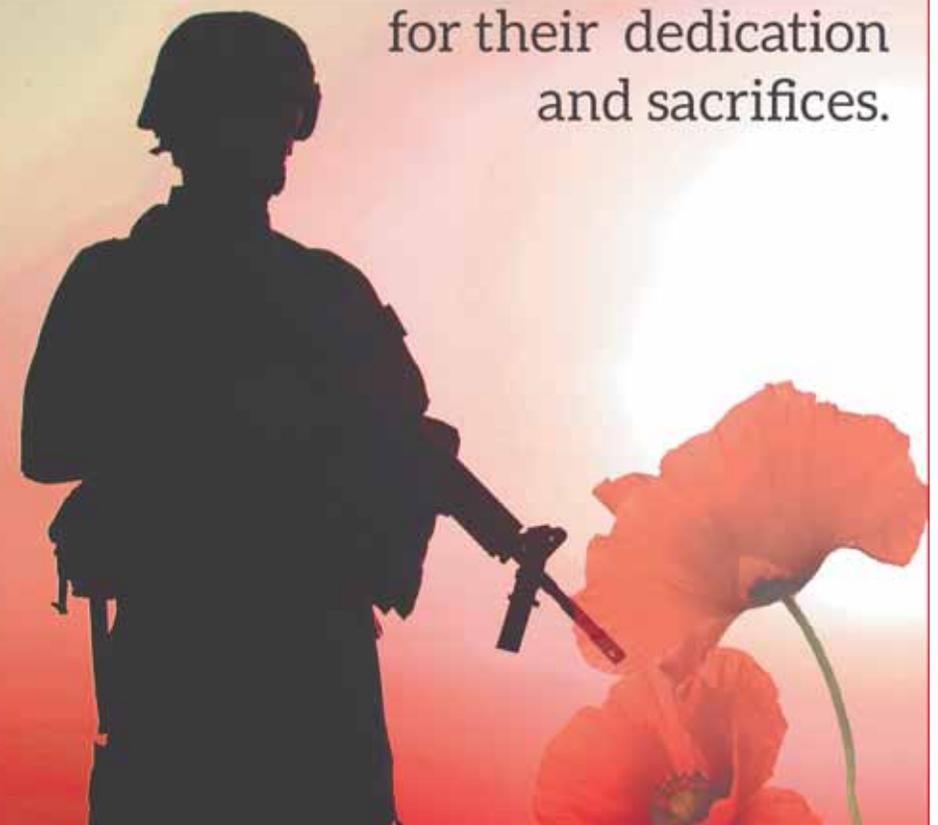


Photos by Royal Canadian Navy Public Affairs

A Boatswain onboard HMCS Brandon performs routine maintenance on one of the .50 calibre weapons.



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DND

If you are a Regular Force or Primary Reserve member and receive an email with a link to the 'Your Say' Survey, please take the time to answer. This is important, as what you say can help shape the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

The 'Your Say' Survey is administered twice a year, in the spring and the fall, to large randomized samples of the CAF. Because of this, not everyone receives a survey each time it is administered. This fall, Primary Reservists will be surveyed for the first time in accordance with the CDS directive on 'Strengthening the Primary Reserve'.

The 'Your Say' Survey looks at the effectiveness of the Department of National Defence (DND) and CAF from the perspective of individual CAF

members. Senior leaders use the results of the survey to evaluate existing and proposed policies, procedures and programs in the CAF. All responses are kept strictly confidential.

Regular Force and Primary Reserve members selected for the survey will receive an email containing a link to the website where the English and French versions of the survey are hosted. Primary Reservists will also be mailed an invitation letter and a postcard to their unit address containing a link to the survey.

The 'Your Say' Survey is administered by Director General Military Personnel Research and Analysis, which provides an integrated personnel research program for DND and the CAF.

The fall 'Your Say' Survey will stay open until 15 December.

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New command for the Naden Band

Q&A

SLt Vincent Roy speaks about his past, his new position as Commanding Officer of the Naden Band, and his hopes for the future.

The musicians of the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy are preparing for the daily morning rehearsal at the band room by warming up and practicing.

At nine on the dot the tuning 'A' is given; then all sound ceases.

Immediately afterward, SLt Roy strides into the room and assumes his position on the podium.

"Good morning!" he beams. "Let's get into music!"

On July 19, command of the Naden Band was passed from Lt(N) Matthew Clark to SLt Roy. Accompanying

him for this event was his wife, Marie-Lucie Mathieu and his children Alexia, Olivia, and Benjamin.

Since taking command, SLt Roy has travelled with the band to Vancouver

for the Pacific National Exhibition, Nanaimo for the Nanaimo Military Music Festival, and to Oliver, Osoyoos, Chemainus, and Sidney for public outdoor concerts. The highlight of

his tenure so far has been conducting the band during the Royal Visit at the B.C. Legislature. There he had a chance to speak personally to Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, when he came to inspect the band.

Exuding infectious energy and quiet passion, SLt Roy is thrilled about his posting to beautiful Victoria. Adding to the excitement is the fact that this is his first appointment as Commanding Officer of a Regular Force band. His career path, from joining the reserves in his home province of Quebec to his latest posting to the West Coast, has been meteoric; he is currently the youngest commanding officer serving in the Band Branch.

He was asked to reflect on what compelled him to join the Forces and his inspirations and thought process as a Director of Music.

Q. What made you decide to become a professional musician? Was there a particular concert/moment that particularly inspired you?

A. When I was about six years old after listening to the church organist, I told my parents that I wanted to be a musician and learn the piano. I'm very fortunate that they listened and did enroll me in piano lessons. I eventually played the organ professionally while in University.

Q. At what point did you realize you could pursue a musical career in the

Canadian Armed Forces? What convinced you to join?

A. Although I was exposed to some performances by La Musique du Royal 22e Régiment at a young age, I never really thought much of it as a career until some friends convinced me to join the Naval Reserve, more specifically the HMCS Montcalm band. The CAF offers the best summer jobs that music students can get. That was in 2001. But even then, I was not necessarily thinking of the CAF as a full time career. It was while completing my music performance degree (tuba) in 2005 that I decided to audition for the Regular Force, thinking that performing an audition would be a good experience. I ended up being offered a full time position with the Vandoos Band in Quebec City.

Q. Where has your military career taken you?

A. Chile, Germany, France and multiple times to the United States. But most importantly, to numerous locations around our beautiful country (from coast to coast), the latest one being here in Victoria.

Q. Now that you are here, what do you enjoy most about your new home?

A. My family and I have been very fortunate to move in to a beautifully located Residential Housing Unit in Signal Hill. Close to work, school for the kids and down-

town. The proximity to the water is an amazing feeling. We can't wait to discover more of Vancouver Island and British Columbia.

Q. You have inherited one of the finest bands in Canada as your first posting as Commanding Officer and Director of Music. What excites you most about your new position?

A. This is truly a privilege to have the opportunity to conduct such a talented ensemble. I have heard so many great things about the Naden Band and its strong connection to sailors, their families and the community. I'm very happy to be here and to be a part of the great work the band does on so many levels.

What excites me the most about my new position is the endless possibilities and unique versatility that our band has. But above all, to be able to make music at the highest level every day with professional musicians is the ultimate goal of any music director. Music making is all about the team, and I have the best team here I could ever ask for.

Q. What is involved in programming music for a concert such as the one at the Royal B.C. Museum on Nov. 10?

A. The Royal B.C. Museum concert is very special for the Band. For all concerts I want to showcase the talent and versatility of the ensemble, but in this particular one we want to pay tribute to our veterans and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. There will be a great variety of music that evening including pieces by Glenn Miller, Aaron Copland, Frank Ticheli and Gustav Holst. A medley of songs popularized by Vera Lynn will be performed by guest vocalist Stephanie Greaves, and of course, some fantastic marches. This concert is open to the public and begins at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

All eyes are on the future and where SLt Roy and his Naden Band will go next.



SLt Vincent Roy, new Commanding Officer for the Naden Band, with his family.





Remembrance Day

is a sacred time when we come together as families, as friends and as Comrades.

It is a time to reflect on our shared values with dignity and respect.

And it is a time to honour our Fallen and the selfless sacrifices and valour of all who served.

After attending your local Remembrance Day ceremony come join us at the Langford Legion Branch #91, and help honour the sacrifices of our Veterans. All families are welcome.

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Banner program promotes Victoria Medal recipients

Bart Armstrong

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It is that time of the year when we traditionally give thought to those who once wore our many uniforms, to those that put them on today, and to those of future generations to which the torch shall pass.

The folks at the University of New Brunswick's Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society have done just that.

Last year, the Department of Canadian Heritage gave their program a grant of \$500,000 to commemorate Canada's experience in the First and Second World Wars.

This funding was spent on what they call the "Toll of War", a two-part package designed to honour Victoria Cross recipients from across the country who earned the medal for their heroism between 1915 and 1945.

The first part involves a banner program

and the second consists of educational materials for students, but accessible to all through www.canadavc.ca

For the banner program, military experts and historians were consulted from the Canadian War Museum, the Department of National Defence, and universities from across Canada. A Victoria Cross recipient was chosen from each province and the collection of banners were installed in Canada's capital cities and in Ottawa.

In Victoria, lamp banners are displayed at the corner of Douglas and Belleville, just a few steps away from the Legislative buildings. They will be placed in storage after the Remembrance Day ceremonies.

British Columbia's banner features Pte Michael O'Rourke, a First World War hero who earned the Victoria Cross for his actions in August 1917 at Hill 70 near Lens, France. For three days this 39-year-old stretcher bearer went out day and night to

help treat and bring to safety the lads that had fallen. The area was under constant machine gun and rifle fire. He was even knocked over at one point, and almost buried when a shell landed near by.

Along with O'Rourke, Frederick Harvey (Alberta), David Curie (Saskatchewan), William Barker (Manitoba), Ellis Sifton (Ontario), Paul Triquet (Quebec), Herman Good (New Brunswick), John Chipman Kerr (Nova Scotia), Frederick Peters (PEI) and Tommy Ricketts (Newfoundland) are featured on the banners located across the country.



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Unique Battle of Britain paintings donated to Air Force

Captain Wright Eruebi
17 Wing Winnipeg PA

Major-General Christian Drouin, Commander of 1 Canadian Air Division / Canadian NORAD Region in Winnipeg, accepted three Battle of Britain paintings on behalf of the Royal Canadian Air Force from the Intrepid Society on Battle of Britain Sunday – Sept. 18.

Colonel (retired) Gary Solar, president of the Intrepid Society, donated the paintings to mark the 76th commemoration of the Battle. Known as the Trilogy, the paintings are the rare work of Robert Taylor, better known as a Canadian wildlife photographer.

Major-General Drouin expressed gratitude to the Intrepid Society for the gift. He told Gary Solar and the audience in attendance that the paintings would join an already impressive collection of historical artifacts in the 1 Canadian Air Division / Canadian NORAD Region Headquarters atrium.

The collection includes three themed paintings.

Summer depicts a German pilot inspecting his Messerschmitt 109 aircraft in the English countryside on an English summer day, after apparently losing a dogfight to a Spitfire.

Hurricane Force captures the

day the tremendous air battles between the Royal Air Force and the Luftwaffe reached a climax on Sept. 15, 1940. The artist skillfully depicts the sky as it was embroiled in a mass of aerial warfare on the day Churchill was told: “There are no reserves!”

Finally, *Eagle Attack* portrays an attack by the Luftwaffe’s highly capable Messerschmitt 109 fighters (Me 109). *Eagle Attack – Aderlangriff* – was the second phase and major Luftwaffe assault during the Battle of Britain. It was marked by attacks on radar positions and massive attacks against airfields to destroy Great Britain’s fighter capability in the air and on the ground. The launch of the main assault took place on August 13, called Eagle Day (Adlertag) by German High Command – this is the day portrayed in the painting *Eagle Attack*.

“Ultimately, the Battle of Britain was won and the Germans were stopped from invading Great Britain, but it came at a cost,” said Major-General Drouin. “The Royal Air Force lost 1,542 aircrew and 1,744 aircraft were destroyed. Of the losses, 23 were Canadians. Luftwaffe losses were severe: 2,585 aircrew and 1,977 aircraft destroyed, and they too will not be forgotten.”

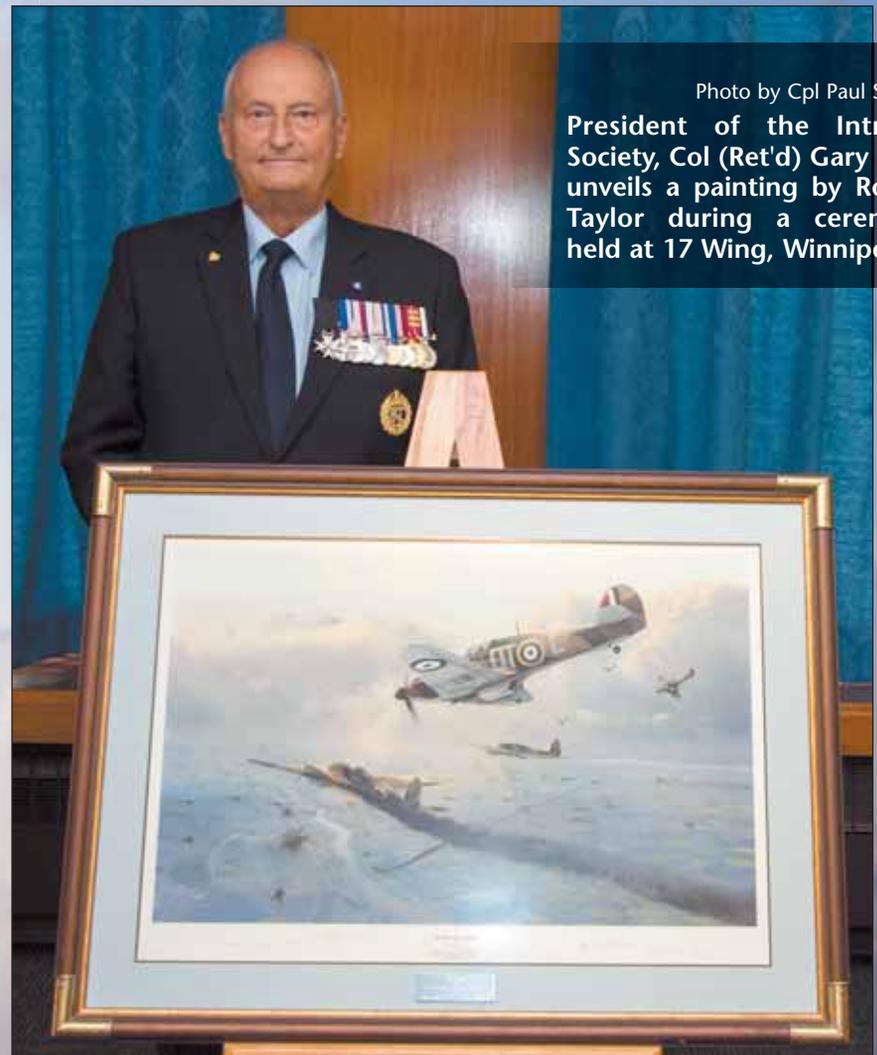


Photo by Cpl Paul Shapka
President of the Intrepid Society, Col (Ret'd) Gary Solar unveils a painting by Robert Taylor during a ceremony held at 17 Wing, Winnipeg.



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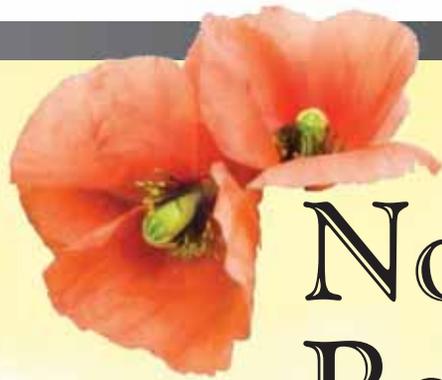
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November 11th, Remembrance Day.

It was our great-great grandparents, our
grandparents, uncles and aunts, moms and dads.

It was our friends and neighbours, and now
it's even our children.

It's time to give gratitude for those who have passed.
It's time to give thanks for those who still serve.

It's time for peace.

It's November 11th, Remembrance Day.

Let us not forget.



*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them..."*
- from 'For the Fallen' by Laurence Binyon

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