



THE FALCON

ISSUE NO. 19

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA REGIMENTAL FAMILY

WINTER 2009

REMEMBRANCE ISSUE 2009

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE 15TH BATTALION CEF RECCE REPORT FROM FRANCE & BELGIUM

by: BGen (Ret) G. Young OMM, CD
15th Battalion Project Team

Editor's note: In early November this year, two members of the 15th Battalion Memorial Project Team (BGen (Ret) Greg Young and Capt (Ret) Vic Goldman) traveled to Belgium in order to finalize arrangements for the installation of the first two of several memorial plaques intended to honour the Great War battles fought by the 15th Battalion (48th Highlanders of Canada). The following article is the report of this visit, which was submitted to HLCol John Newman, who has generously funded the cost these first two plaques and of other aspects of this memorial project.

The Project Team returned Saturday 14 Nov from what proved to be a very successful and extremely worthwhile recce in France and Belgium. Once again I thank you for the generous support you have provided to the Project in general and now the recce. The old saying "time spent in reconnaissance is never wasted" was never more true than in this case and I am convinced that the Project and ultimately The Regiment will benefit a great deal from its success.

To review, the purpose of the recce was threefold in priority. First, to conduct a confirmatory recce of the two Belgian sites in the Ypres salient, which we have already acquired for the erection of the St Julien and Gravenstafel Ridge (Locality C) memorials. Second, to conduct an initial recce of The Crow's Nest site south of Arras and if possible secure a land acquisition agreement for the third memorial. Third, to conduct a preliminary recce of future memorial sites, specifically those at Festubert (the North Breastworks) and Hill 70 (Bois Hugo).

Departure was 05 Nov and return was 14 Nov. 06 to 09 Nov was spent in the area around Arras. Upon invitation of the Vimy-Beaumont Hamel Site Director, we attended Remembrance Day activities at Beaumont-Hamel on 07 Sat and thereafter spent the balance of the time doing a thorough recce of the Crow's Nest. This involved a full day with Michel Gravel (our Canadian historian from Cornwall), local guides and assistants doing a complete walk through of the 15th Bn's move from Arras up to the assault of the Crow's Nest and then the follow-on assault on the D-Q Line



Captain Goldman, at Nine Elms Cemetery, places flags in memory of the sacrifice paid by members of the 15th Battalion CEF (48th Highlanders), who died in the assault on Vimy Ridge in 1917. More than 70 members of the unit are buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

INVISIBLE HEROES

by David Archer, Regimental Museum

Every year, in thousands of towns across Canada, citizens unite to honour the men and women who gave their lives while serving in the Canadian military.

They stand in silence on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month, as a tribute to these Invisible Heroes. They gather at local cenotaphs and read the names that are carved in stone, not knowing the faces behind those names.

I attend these services in the memory of my Great Uncle, Anthony Smith, who fell on the battlefield on August 10th 1918 as a member of the 72nd Battalion CEF.

I know of no cenotaph that bears his name, but he is honoured with a memorial page on the Canadian Virtual War Memorial (CVWM), hosted by Veterans Affairs.

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

INSIDE:

Message from the CO 2
Promotions & Awards 2
48th POWs during WWI 3
Invisible Heros cont'd 3

15th Btl Memorial Project Recce cont'd .. 4-5
Your Regiment Needs You!..... 7
Regimental Future Events 7
Remembrance Weekend Photos 8-9

A Symbol of Service 10
Drummer's Gold 11
Important Historical Dates 11
Confined to Barracks & Last Post 20



Happy Holidays Highlanders!

This is a time of year when people begin to reflect on the past year and evaluate their accomplishments. It is no different for the Regiment. This was a year of development with few major changes. Many soldiers completed career courses and have been promoted or are filling new leadership roles in the unit. We have upgraded the Regimental Stores to be more efficient and to ensure that our soldiers continue to represent you and the Canadian Forces well at formal parades. The Pipes and Drums Band and the Military Band continue to be the face of the Regiment performing at some of the largest concerts and venues in Ontario. Most importantly this year, we have had our soldiers from Task Force 03-08 return to the unit and they have begun to pass on their experience and training to the new soldiers.

This has also been a year of growth for the unit. The active unit is back up to full strength, with over 80% of all the leadership positions filled with qualified and experienced NCOs and Officers. The Cadets have had one of their largest intakes in years and continue to provide invaluable experiences and opportunities to the young people who participate in its programs. I have noticed an increase in participation and activities by the Regimental Family. The hard work that goes into planning BBQs, the Kids Christmas Party, the Falcon, running the museum and countless other activities does not go unnoticed. To all the people who volunteer their time and energy to keep all these activities going you have my sincere thanks and congratulations on an excellent year.

As I look towards 2010 I see another year of growth and development for the Regiment. We will dispatch more contingents of soldiers for missions around the world and right here in Canada. We will continue to work on building the Regimental Family and lean on it to support our soldiers and their families. I wish everyone the best of the season and look forward to seeing all of you next year.

DILEAS

J. McEWEN
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
COMMANDING OFFICER



Promotions and Awards

Below is a list of Regimental personnel who were promoted to their current rank or awarded medals since the last issue of the Falcon:

PROMOTIONS

WAS
Cpl
Pte
Pte
Pte


NOW
MCpl Alban J.
Cpl Britton J.
Cpl Hobbins-Burgess
Cpl Kim S



AWARDS

On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai awarded the State's Medal for Bravery to former Commanding Officer Brigadier-General (Ret) G. Young OMM, CD. Commander LFCA BGen J. Collins made the presentation at LFCA HQ in October (in the photo above).

2Lt Friedberg J. was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal by his Member of Parliament on 27 Nov 09.

Cpl Phillips B.B. was presented with the Sacrifice Medal on 4 Dec 09 by the Bde Comd. 

If you would like to contribute to future issues, please e-mail your stories and pictures to:

falcon_newsletter@hotmail.com

Thank you to all those who made submissions to this issue.

This issue of the Falcon published by:

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REGIMENTAL POWs DURING WORLD WAR ONE

by Capt (Ret) Vic Goldman CD

The recently published book "GUESTS OF THE KAISER" by **Edward H. Wigney** brings to light an aspect of our Regimental history that is often overlooked.

During the Great War 269 members of the 15th Battalion (48th Highlanders of Canada) were captured and held in captivity as Prisoners of War (POW). The vast majority of our regimental POWs (254) were captured during the 2nd Battle of Ypres on 24 April 1915 when the enemy unleashed chlorine gas, a horrific bombardment and then smashed through our trenches on Gravenstafel Ridge. The balance of our losses (15) were suffered throughout the next three and half years of combat.

The vast majority of our POWs, after suffering through their captivity, were released following the Armistice in 1918. The following five Highlanders, however, were successful in escaping from POW camps and were awarded the Military Medal for this act of bravery:

Pte Herbert Batchelor – captured 3 June 1916 during Battle of Mount Sorrel – escaped 19 April 1917

Pte Charles Cotton (original member of 92nd Bn) – captured 23 September 1916 during Battle of the Somme – escaped 10 September 1918

Pte Hozner McArthur – captured 24 April 1915 during 2nd Battle of Ypres – escaped 12 October 1917

Pte Ernest McCormick – captured 24 April 1915 during 2nd Battle of Ypres – date of escape unknown

Pte William Russ – captured 24 April 1915 during 2nd Battle of Ypres – date of escape unknown

Two Highlanders, **Pte Samuel Knowles** and **Pte James Watson**, both captured at 2nd Ypres, showed their spirit by participating in a mutiny at the Bokeloh POW camp on 26 May 1916. Twenty British and eight Canadians refused to work and as a result were manhandled and tried for mutiny by their captors.

One Regimental member, **Pte John Murphy**, who was captured at 2nd Ypres, was interned in Switzerland and played on the camp hockey team.

We clearly owe a great debt of thanks to **Mr Wigney**, who passed away in September 2008, for bringing this little known, but important, aspect of our military history to light.

LEST WE FORGET. 🇬🇧

Invisible Heroes ...continued from page 1

CVWM honours over 116,000 men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice in defense of our country, and each person listed has their own memorial page. As part each page is a place where you can add a photo so future generations will know the Veterans names, as well as see the faces of those who went to war and did not come home.

To complete his file and as a lasting memorial to my uncle Anthony, I added a family photo, which contains the only known picture of him.

After doing some research on some of the others listed on the CVWM, I noticed that many of these fallen heroes did not have a photo on file, including some very important people. Absent, for example, were photos of several of the recipients of the Victoria Cross, Canada's highest award for bravery. Also, Sir Frederick Banting, the co-discoverers of insulin, did not have a picture in his file.

It was then I decided to undertake a mission that I call Operation Picture Me. The mission was to find photos of these people and attach them to their files at the CVWM, which I have done. I then figured why stop there, everyone listed should have a picture on file and over the past several years I have found over 3000 photos added them to individual CVWM files.

Several photos that I am currently trying to locate are those of the six Canadian members involved in the "Great Escape" during World War II, including Gordon Kidder and Patrick Langford. Another photo that would be nice to get, is that of James Teskey, who was the Great Uncle of Laureen (Mrs. Stephen) Harper.

Another group of photos that are at the top of my list, are those of the sons and daughters of National Silver Cross Mothers. Each year, The Royal Canadian Legion selects a Silver Cross Mother to represent all mothers who lost a child who was serving in the military and the mother selected lays a wreath at the National War Memorial in Ottawa.

For many of the mothers chosen, there are no photos of their children on file. They include Mrs. Mary Stodgell of Norwood, Manitoba (formally of Fisherton MB). She was the Silver Cross Mother of 1963. Three of her children Cyril, Garnett and Stanley went to war but failed to return. It would be a nice gesture if the local high school in Norwood adopted the local cenotaph and located pictures of these local men to send into the CVWM.

In fact, wouldn't it be nice if every high school across "Our Canada" adopted a cenotaph, and one day, every one of these Invisible Heroes had a picture in their file, so their faces, as well as their names will be remembered forever.

WE OWE THEM NOTHING LESS. 🇬🇧



Roll call on the morning of 25 April 1915, after the gas attack at Ypres. In front Sgt. "Billy" Millar, 212 answer the roll call. From the rifle companies fewer than 150 respond "present". From No. 1 Company there were just six and from Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Companies only those who were on carrying parties or on sick leave. Only three officers responded, the Colonel and doctor, who had been in Battalion HQ, and the second-in-command, Major W.R. Marshall, who was awarded the DSO for stopping a mass attack after the forward companies had been overwhelmed. Many of the missing were taken as POWs.

including the 15th at the Bois de Bouche and the Apex where Lt Haldenby won his MC. We met with the farmer who owns the actual Crow's Nest and did a complete inspection of the wooded hill itself as well as the Chateau and woods which was also part of the 15th's objective on 01 Sept 1918. We were the first people in living memory to have actually walked The Crow's Nest itself (Michel Gravel himself has never been able to get access to the hill which the locals refer to as Le Mont) and it is still cratered and littered with artillery shells and fragments. I am pleased to report that we were able to get an agreement from the landowner to place a memorial on his property and in fact we situated the exact spot, which will be on the forward slope of the Crow's Nest itself. It is on the well-traveled road between Hendecourt and Cagnicourt and there is an area for visitor parking. We met with the local Mayor who is also supportive and as it is on private property, things here should proceed very quickly. Subject only to fund raising from the Regimental family, next spring is entirely feasible along with the Ypres plaques.

The 9th involved the move North to Belgium but along the way we located and did a site recce for a potential plaque site at Hill 70 (Bois Hugo) near Loos. We were able to locate the exact site of Bois Hugo and the portion of it that the 15th captured on 15 August 1917. This site is feasible as parking is ample and the location in terms of road access is good. However, it needs further exploratory work as the property is adjacent to an airfield site and ownership has to be determined. A resident British guide who accompanied us for the Crow's Nest study is willing to undertake a search to establish ownership and determine owner and local community interest.

The period 10 to 12 Nov was focused in the Ypres area. On the evening of the 10th we were VIP guests at the town of Passchendaele's evening Remembrance Day ceremony at Crest Farm - the site of the Canadian Passchendaele Monument. An annual event and very heavily attended by the local community and officials as well as national and foreign VIPs. We laid a wreath to the 15th Bn and I was asked to recite the 'Exhortation', hence the 48th were front and centre throughout the evening's activities. The Canadian Military Attache from Paris and the 50 man Canadian guard from SHAPE HQ in Brussels were surprised to find a Canadian General and his 'aide' taking part. On the 11th the Menin Gate ceremony literally packed the center of the city so we decided to travel to Liyssehoeth Military Cemetery outside Ypres near the French border for a more personal 15th Remembrance Day and we did a small ceremony there at 11AM at the grave of LCol William Marshall DSO and about 40 other 15th Bn members. We made good contact there with the local community and in particular the local historical society who are working on a cemetery project, which we have been requested to link into.

Remainder of the time was spent focused on the two Ypres sites at St Julien and Gravenstafel Ridge (Locality C). We finally met the lady who owns the Locality C site. She is happy and all is good to proceed. Accompanied by our main Belgian contact Mr Freddy DeClerk, Head of the Passchendaele 1917 Museum and Society, we did a thorough recce of that location. The site is approximately half way between Vancouver Corner (The Canadian Brooding Soldier monument) and the NZ monument in Gravenstafel village. So access, travel, visibility, etc is good. As was mentioned in earlier reports by Mr Andrew Iarocci



Project recce team (BGen Young & Capt Goldman) finalize acquisition of Crow's Nest site with landowners



Photos of LCol Marshall's grave at Lijssehoek Military Cemetery Belgium with closeup of remembrance message left by recce team.



of the Canadian War Museum, the site is a perfect vantage point for excellent visibility of the entire Ypres salient.

The same was done for the St Julien site at the Municipal building in the centre of that town. Good location, accessibility, security, parking, etc and the Regional Council is keen to proceed. They will have their contractors look after construction of the support base and they have provided a well below market value cost for materials/labour/etc. So the local Historical Society, Regional Government and community are all in support and ready to proceed. Tentative time periods for dedication were discussed and preliminary discussion of responsibility and protocol for invitations, was held with municipal officials. The Town has offered to host a reception on dedication day next April.

I was able to acquire an excellent map in Ypres that shows Canadian



*Chateau captured by 15th Bn
Below: Wreath to 15th Bn laid by team at Ypres*



*'Death Mill' -site of 15th Bn Advance HQ and support element at
2nd Ypres gas attack*

dispositions on 22 April 1915 down to platoon level and shows many of the smaller tracks and roads in the area. None of us (including Mr. Iarocci of the war Museum) had ever seen a map of the area at that time with such detail. With it and the help of a local historical society member we were able to locate the exact positions of the 15th and all its sub-units on the eve of the gas attack. We stood in that actual forward line positions where the German attack hit the 15th on the morning of 24 April 1915. I suspect many 15th MIA from that day are still in that ground somewhere. At the position of the 15th's Advance Bn HQ and depth support element commanded by the then DCO Maj William Marshall (exactly at the site of what was known as 'Death Mill') there is currently a Regional historical site with a rebuilt windmill. It sits at a "Y" junction halfway between Vancouver Corner and the proposed Locality C memorial site. The road leading the other way was the inter-unit boundary between the 13th and the 15th Bns and leads directly up to their respective front line positions which as I said we were able to locate. We did not think we could locate the 15th positions this closely as most maps didn't show the smaller local tracks/roads which existed then and now. There now exists the possibility of third Ypres plaque at the Windmill site and local authorities are supportive. Our Historical Society point man and the local tourism officials will investigate ownership and protocol on the site. This would be a nice acquisition if possible.

Extensive digital photography of all five sites referred to above was completed as was thorough, narrated video recording in order to provide a detailed visual analysis of the sites to those concerned back here.

So the recce confirmed that both the St Julien and Locality C sites are suitable and planning should proceed. Direction to Behrend's Bronze for production should be given subject to final proofing by The Project Team. Planning for support construction and dedication ceremonies should move ahead. Should the acquisition of



the third Ypres site be successful, I recommend we proceed ASAP into narrative and map development for a third plaque. Similarly, the unexpected success of the Crow's Nest acquisition now allows us to proceed concurrently with a fourth plaque for that site. Narrative work has already been started and map development should be relatively easy. With a drive to acquire funds to support two additional plaques and suitable support bases, it is possible that the erection of four memorials is possible for next year.

In addition the recce produced some 'spin-off' benefits. Good contacts were made with three local

museums: Cagnicourt; Liyssehoeck and Passchendaele (particularly the latter which is a large and well attended Museum) and excellent opportunities exist there for linkage to our Museum including donations of items and exhibit exchanges and/or loans.

Prior to the recce the Project Team identified those Commonwealth War Grave sites in France and Belgium that contained graves or memorials to 15th Bn members and were along the route of the recce. Photos were taken of over 250 individual grave markers as well as close up shots of all names on the panels of the 15th on the Menin Gate. It is the Team's intention to place everyone of these pictures on the files of every one of these individuals on the Canadian Virtual War Memorial. In addition to laying two wreaths, individual Canadian flags were placed on everyone of the individual grave sites of those members of the 15th we located in Commonwealth War Grave cemeteries and memorials throughout the course of the recce.

Lastly, contact was made with authorities at St George's Church in Ypres regarding the placing of a plaque to the 15th Bn inside the Canadian Chapel of the Church alongside that of the 16th Bn CEF (Canadian Scottish Regiment), which served in the same Brigade as the 15th.

In summary, this was a very successful recce. 🦅

A FUND RAISING REQUEST

The 15th Battalion Memorial Project was initiated two years ago with a simple objective: to commemorate all of the members of our Regiment who served, especially those who gave their lives, in the 15th Battalion C.E.F during The Great War 1914-1918.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of The First World War and the passing of that watershed event from memory to history, our Regimental Family would like to recognize the part that the 15th Battalion played in Canada's contribution to the war effort on the battlefields of The Western Front. The Project proposes to do this through a series of memorials placed in locations where the 15th Battalion won a number of the 21 Battle Honours it was awarded for actions during that war. A memorial plaque template has been designed and approved; the first three sites have been identified; land for memorials has been secured and the target date for dedication is during April 2010. The first two memorials will be erected in the Ypres salient at St Julien and Gravenstafel ridge (Locality C) and the third at The Crow's Nest, the Drocourt-Queant Line.

The 2nd Battle of Ypres 1915 is particularly important to us for several reasons: first, it was the first significant action of the war in which the Canadian Expeditionary Force, as whole, was engaged and it is recognized by many historians as Canada's 'baptism of fire'. Of course in a broader sense that battle is known for the first use of chemical gas in modern war and the Canadians were at the centre of the Allied effort to react to it and hold the Germans back. Second, the reputation that the Canadians won at 2nd Ypres came at a very price in terms of casualties; the 15th Battalion suffered the highest number of casualties of any Canadian unit in a single engagement. So Ypres holds a special place in the collective memory of Canadians and especially in the Regimental memory of the Units like ours that fought there. The Crow's Nest was a formidable German forward position that the 15th Bn successfully assaulted to allow the main attack on the D-Q Line to go forward.

Funds have already been secured to cover all costs associated with the production and erection of the two memorials in Ypres, but the project is looking for donations from members of the Regimental Family, its various Associations and friends of The Regiment, in order to help finance the memorial for The Crow's Nest location. The target is \$6000 and donations in any amount will help. Any donations over \$25 will receive tax deduction receipts. Donations are made to: the 48th Highlanders Trust.

Details on how to make a donation and obtain a tax receipt are outlined for you below the information poster on this page.

LEST WE FORGET 



HIGHLANDERS THE 15TH BATTALION MEMORIAL PROJECT NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Please make your cheques out to:

48th Highlanders Trust and indicate, by a separate note or by a memo on your cheque, that your donation is in support of the 15th Battalion Memorial Project.

Mail donations to:

48TH HIGHLANDERS TRUST
CO LCOL G. D. TURNER
1780 LISTOWELL CRES
PICKERING ON L1V 2Y3

PLEASE NOTE:

THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 16, 2009 AND REOPEN ON JANUARY 6, 2010.

Your 48th Highlander Museum welcomed two new volunteers recently, Mrs. Margaret Attwells and David Archer. They both have already made an impact on our daily efforts

We can always use more volunteers as our work load gets larger with every donation of artifacts that we receive.



Calendar of the 48th Highlanders of Canada Regimental Family



FUTURE EVENTS

01 JAN 10 – NEW YEAR'S LEVEE

Location - Sgt's and Officers' Messes
Timings - 0900 – Messes open to members and associates
- 1000 – Sgts visit Officers' Mess for New Year's Greetings
- 1100 – 1200 Messes open to public
Dress - Blues, Morning Suit, Suit, medals
Contact - WO Peter Ross
647-295-9300
peter.ross1@rogers.com
Contact - Capt Pat Shea
416-369-7399
shea@gowlings.com

23 JAN 10 – DAVIDSON DINNER

Location - Officers' Mess: by invitation only
Timings - 1800 – 2300
Dress - Mess Kit, Black Tie, Suit
Contact - Capt Pat Shea
416-369-7399
shea@gowlings.com

07 FEB 10 - 48TH CHAPTER IODE WINE & CHEESE

Location - Sgt's Mess: Regimental Family members invited
Timings - 1400 - 1600
Contact - Karen Barker
416-466-4695
karenbarker4@sympatico.ca

24 APR 10 - 48TH HIGHLANDERS REGIMENTAL BALL

Location - King Edward Hotel
Timings - 1800 for 1900 – 0100
Dress - Mess Kit, Blues, Highland Dress, Suit
Cost - \$80
Contact - RSM (WO1) Paul McIntyre
416-635-2765 (BOR)
MCINTYRE.PWG@forces.gc.ca

25 APR 10 – ROYAL NFLD REGIMENT COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Location - Victoria Square
Timings - 1030 – 1230
Dress - White Shell, DEU, Suit, medals
Contact - John Dunne 905-839-6487
john063@webtv.net

15 MAY 10 – OFFICERS ANNUAL DINNER

Location - Officers' Mess
Timings - 1800 for 1900 – 2300
Dress - Mess Kit, Black Tie, Suit, medals
Cost - \$100
Contact - LCol JH Sandham (ret'd)
416-203-2027
jh.sandham@sympatico.ca
Contact - Capt Pat Shea
416-369-7399
shea@gowlings.com

16 MAY 10 – CHURCH PARADE

Location - St. Andrew's Church
Timings - Form up at MPA
1045 hr Service at St. Andrew's
1300 hr Reception in Messes
Dress - Association Members: Blazer, tie, glen, medals
Contact - RSM (WO1) Paul McIntyre
416-635-2765 (BOR)
MCINTYRE.PWG@forces.gc.ca

05 JUN 10 – 48TH HIGHLANDERS CADET ANNUAL INSPECTION (DATE TENTATIVE)

Location - MPA
Timings - 1300: be seated by 1230; reception to follow in Officers' Mess
Dress - Suit, Regimental Blazer, DEU
Contact - WO Peter Ross
647-295-9300
peter.ross1@rogers.com

10 JULY 10 – PACHINO DAY, LANDING IN SICILY (48TH, RCR, HASTY P OF 1ST BRIGADE)

Location - Hastings & Prince Edward Armoury,
187 Pinnacle St., Belleville
Timings - 1000 hrs parade and ceremony;
Spaghetti luncheon to follow
Dress - Old Comrades: White shirt, medals and glen. Guests: relaxed
Cost - Small \$5 donation for luncheon
Contact - John Dunne
905-839-6487
john063@webtv.net

24 JULY 10 - REGIMENTAL PICNIC (OPEN TO ALL) (DATE TENTATIVE)

Location - HMCS York
Timings - 1200 – 1800
Dress - Relaxed
Cost - Nil
Contact - CWO (ret'd) Kevin McGuffin
416-606-1795
kevinmcguffin@aol.com

02 OCT 10 – WO'S & SGT'S MESS DINNER

Location - Sgt's Mess
Timings - 1800 – 0200
Dress - Mess Kit, Blues, Highland Dress, Suit, Medals
Cost - tbc
Contact - WO Peter Ross
647-295-9300
peter.ross1@rogers.com

15 OCT 10 – 48TH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION - COCKTAIL PARTY

Location - Officers' Mess: Officers Ass'n Members and by Invitation
Timings - 2000 – 2200
Dress - Regimental Blazer, Business Suit
Cost - Nil

Contact/RSVP - LCol (ret'd) JH Sandham
416-203-2027
jh.sandham@sympatico.ca

OCT 10 – MASSED MILITARY BAND SPECTACULAR (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)

Location - Roy Thomson Hall
Timings - 1400 hrs; Doors open 1230 hrs
Dress - Mess Kit, Blues, Highland Dress, Suit
Cost - tbc
Contact - Roy Thomson Hall
www.roythomson.com
Contact - Capt (ret'd) Mike Lawson
905-898-3438

06 NOV 10 - MOUNT PLEASANT REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Location - Mount Pleasant Cemetery, east entrance off Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Timings - 1030 parade assemblies
Dress - Regimental Blazer, medals, Glengarry
Contact - CWO D. Chappell (ret'd)
416-446-6373
chappell@idirect.com

06 NOV 10 – OCA REMEMBRANCE DINNER

Location - York Reception Centre
Timings - 1800 – 2400
Dress - Mess Kit, Blues, DEU, Suit
Cost - tbc
Contact - OCA: tbc

07 NOV 10 – REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE

Location - Queen's Park Circle
Timings - 0930 - OCA buses at MPA
- 1030 - form up on Wellesley Street
- Messes open at MPA after March back
Dress - Old Comrades: Blazer, tie, medals
Contact - 48th Highrs BOR
416-635-2765

26 NOV 10 – ST. ANDREW'S BALL (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)

Location - Royal York Hotel
Timings - 1800 – 2400
- Dance Practices at MPA: 1900 hrs – 17, 20 & 24 Nov
Dress - Mess Kit, Blues, Black Tie
Cost - tbc
Contact - Capt Pat Shea
416-369-7399
shea@gowlings.com

10 DEC 10 – REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS DINNER (DATE TENTATIVE)

Location - Moss Park Armoury
Timings - 1800 – 2100
Dress - DEU

CPL DYERS CEREMONY, SATURDAY 7 NOV 2009



Photos by Major Best & Sgt Hanson



REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY, SUNDAY 8 NOV 2009



REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY, SUNDAY 8 NOV 2009



Photos by Sgt (Ret) Bernard





SYMBOL OF SERVICE

by Major (Ret) G.L. Pearce CD

The 48th Highlanders of Canada, first and oldest kilted regiment in Ontario, celebrated 118 years of illustrious service on 16 October 2009. No other regiment of unchanged title in the Primary Reserve of the Canadian Forces has amassed more battle honours than Toronto's own 48th and only one unit of the regular army, the Royal Canadian Regiment, has been awarded more than our regiment's precious total of forty-nine. There is no more revered and hallowed possession in an infantry regiment than its colours, the Queen's Colour and the Regimental Colour and it is upon the latter that the most important battle honours, 21 in all, are emblazoned. Selected by the Regiment, they trace the valour forged in fire from South Africa 1899-1900 through Vimy Ridge 1917 to Apeldoorn, Holland in 1945. The Colours are a living symbol of service and sacrifice that remind us of the links that we have to God, Sovereign and Country as well as to church, city and community.

Colours are presented, as required and as often as possible, by the Colonel-in-Chief in a ceremony in which they are consecrated by presiding chaplains, "to the glory of God," which leaves no doubt as to their intrinsic value.

St. Andrew's Church, in the heart of downtown Toronto, has a special place in the heart of the Regiment. Here, its architectural design allows the dramatic appearance of the regimental pipers above the altar on special occasions for special services. It is here that

one sees the impressive stained-glass window of a 48th Highlander resplendent in full dress and the regimental colours of bygone years laid up in reverent grace for all time.

And it is here that the regimental church, most appropriately, houses the regimental museum where impressive records display its story for all to see.

The Regiment was raised on 16 October 1891 by a group of prominent and influential Toronto citizens and this year's birthday was marked by a significant event reminding us of the ties that bind citizen-soldiers to church and community through history, heritage, service and the arts.

An oil portrait of the Reverend Thomas Crawford Brown (wearing the uniform of the 48th Highlanders - 1918) by John Wentworth Russell CAC has been kindly loaned to the Regiment by the owner Mr. Robert G. Kearns of Toronto. Reverend Brown was also a prominent and influential citizen with impressive scholastic credentials and connections. A double gold medal graduate from Queen's University (BA) and a Master's Degree from Edinburgh University, he was appointed Assistant Minister at St. Giles Cathedral, regarded by many as the mother of the Presbyterian Church. He came to St. Andrew's in 1905 where his energy and innovations made a lasting impression on the local and national church communities.

His first congregation read like a "Who's Who of Toronto". It included the parents of William Lyon Mackenzie King, the Strachan family and the Gooderham family. His marriage to Eallien Melvin-Jones, which took place in 1909, was witnessed by Sir Wilfrid

Laurier.

The First World War greatly affected St. Andrew's Church which, by 1918, had lost 19 members as well as 113 Old Boys of St. Andrew's College, where Rev. Brown had become Chaplain of the college's Rosedale campus. These fatalities had a profound emotional effect on him compounded by failing health, which prevented his serving as a military chaplain overseas. In 1915, he was compelled to resign as minister at age 41, but his innermost dedication impelled him to accept the appointment of Chaplain of the 48th Highlanders.

On October 16, 2009, in celebration of the Regiment's 118th anniversary, the Commanding Officer, LCol John McEwen, was pleased to accept the portrait from Mr. Kearns in the company of other special guests of the Officers' Association. Present were HCol Geordie Beal, HLCOL John Newman, LCol Andrew Paterson, the Rev. Will Ingram, Capt David Tsuchiya, and Major Brian McCue, Commanding Officer of St. Andrew's College Cadet Corps.

Approximately 80 guests attended the event in the Officers' Mess.

The portrait will be displayed in the Church Hall where it may be seen by members of the Regiment, the church congregation and the general public as a visual symbol of service by Rev. Thomas Crawford Brown and as a lasting example of the link between the Regiment, its church and community. 🐾

DRUMMERS' GOLD

by Major (Ret) G.L. Pearce CD

From ancient times gold has been the king of precious metals. Gold was first among gifts from the Magi who paid homage to the King of Kings at the first Christmas more than two thousand years ago. In the Modern Olympics, the gold medal is supreme.

The regimental badge of the 48th Highlanders of Canada, like many others, is one of silver and appears on every form of headdress and on every accoutrement requiring the badge except one. The drum carriage (commonly and incorrectly called the drum "sling")

bears the cap badge in gold-plate. The reason for this is that the drummers carry on the drum shells the regiment's most precious memorial for safe-keeping- the Battle Honours - emblazoned in gold, as they are on the Regimental Colour, the Queen's Banner

(carried by the Pipe Major) and the Drum Major's sash.

It is most appropriate that the regimental drummers be honoured with this distinction because they were, historically, part of regimental establishments long before the inclusion of pipers and other musicians. History tells us that the drum was the standard instrument of communication in barracks and in the field before being replaced by the bugle. It is for this reason that drummers wear the regimental tartan and scarlet doublet. The distinctively different tartan of pipers (Fingask in the 48th) is a carry-over from the days when pipers were not on regimental rolls but were retained by the officers whom they served. Each would wear a different tartan according to the clan of the officer to whom they belonged.

The gold badge of the drummers is a constant reminder of the high honour and trust bestowed upon them to carry the battle honours of the regiment. 🦋

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 21 - COLONEL-IN CHIEF'S BIRTHDAY (1926)

JUNE 2 - QUEEN'S CORONATION DAY (1953)

OCT 16 - REGIMENTAL BIRTHDAY (1891)

DEC 1 - COLONEL-IN-CHIEF DAY (1947)*

* The appointment of Colonel-in Chief, if approved, is at the personal request of the individual regiment. Two regiments of the Canadian Army (of many) have been honoured to have Her Majesty The Queen as Colonel-in-Chief for a longer period of time than any others. They are the 48th Highlanders of Canada and Le Regiment de la Chaudiere from Quebec, both having received Royal approval from HM King George VI for his daughter HRH The Princess Elizabeth to accept the appointments on 1 December 1947. The appointments continued upon Her Majesty's accession to the throne on 6 February 1952. 🦋

HIGHLANDERS CONFINED TO BARRACKS

SUNNYBROOK HOSPITAL - VETERANS WING

WATERSON, Bill	K1 West 21
McKENNA, Jack	K2 East 02
McMAHON, Jim	LG East 23
GRAHAM, Jack	LG East 36
LEONARD, Stanley	LG East 41
JACOBS, Don	L1 East 162
COOPER, Vic (Cyril)	L3 East 322

SPECIAL CARE UNITS

BILLINGS, Henry David	905-646-5665
GREEN, Stuart	Not Listed
McCRON, Don	Not Listed
CARTER, Clifford	c/o Susan Hampson 519-424-9784
WALKER, George	

CONFINED AT HOME - PROBLEMS GETTING AROUND

COLTON, G.E.	.819-683-2323
SOPER, Kenneth	.416-757-5497

*These Highlanders will be pleased to hear from you.
Give them a call or better still, pay them a visit.
Don't forget, they are Dileas, as are we.*

LAST POST

SMITH, Albert Denis (Bud)	May 20, 2009	Toronto	Ont
FLEMING, Duncan	September 16, 2009	Toronto	Ont
WIGNALL, Harry	September 24, 2009	Innisfil	Ont
FOLLET, Jack	October 12, 2009	Toronto	Ont
POTTEN, Charlie	December 01, 2009	Kingston	Ont

*At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them. 🐾*



DILEAS GU BRATH

