



PHOTOGRAPH BY PHOTOGRAPHIE PAR JOHN EVANS

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA



## DESCRIPTION

Within an annulus inscribed "DILEAS GU BRATH", the numeral "48"; above the numeral and resting on a bar, a falcon's head, couped; below the numeral a curved scroll inscribed "HIGHLANDERS".



## BATTLE HONOURS

of

the 48th Highlanders of Canada

(those Battle Honours in capitals are emblazoned on the Regimental Colour)

SOUTH AFRICA 1899 - 1900

- |                   |                        |                         |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| YPRES, 1915, '17  | DROCOURT-QUEANT        | Gustav Line             |
| Gravenstavel      | Hindenburg Line        | LIRI VALLEY             |
| St. Julien        | CANAL DU NORD          | HITLER LINE             |
| FESTUBERT, 1915   | Pursuit To Mons        | GOTHIC LINE             |
| MOUNT SORREL      | France And Flanders,   | LAMONE CROSSING         |
| SOMME, 1916       | 1915-'18               | Misano Ridge            |
| Pozieres          | LANDING IN SICILY      | RIMINI LINE             |
| Thiepval          | Valguarnera            | Torella                 |
| Ancre Heights     | ASSORO                 | San Leonardo            |
| Arras, 1917, '18  | Agira                  | The Gully               |
| VIMY, 1917        | Adrano                 | ORTONA                  |
| Arleux            | Regalbuto              | San Martino-San Lorenzo |
| Scarpe, 1917, '18 | Sicily, 1943           | Fosso Vecchio           |
| HILL 70           | Landing At Reggio      | Italy, 1943 - '45       |
| PASSCHENDAELE     | CAMPOBASSO             | APELDOORN               |
| AMIENS            | San Nicola-San Tommaso | Northwest Europe, 1945  |
|                   | Cassino II             |                         |



# THE FALCON

THE JOURNAL OF THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

DECEMBER, 1981

## EDITORIAL

In the business world, it is a well known fact that 90% of the sales are made by 20% of the salesmen.

Similarly, in many businesses and organizations, it is a fact that 90% of the work is done by 20% of the employees.

A regiment does not function at all with such disproportionate ratios. A regiment, like the army to which it belongs, must function as a totally committed team.

There are many occasions when we feel we can't be bothered going on a church parade, or we don't feel like going to the Armouries tonight, or our uniform is in the cleaners, and so on, ad infinitum.

We've all heard the excuses, and to a greater or lesser degree, we're probably all guilty of having used one or more of them at one time or another.

Her Majesty the Queen, in her message to us (see page 16) says, in part -

"and (I) express my confidence that the Regiment's next 90 years will be as distinguished as the first".

This Regiment is a proud Regiment, and it has been made that way by men and women who give 100% of their effort to it, not 20%, and if we are to be as distinguished in the next 90 years as our forebears were in the first, it is up to each and every one of us to give 100% all the time.

The body of an organization has four kinds of bones:

1. The WISHBONES who spend all the time wishing someone else would do his job.
2. The JAWBONES who do all the talking but very little else.
3. The KNUCKLEBONES who knock everything that everybody else tries to do.
4. The BACKBONES who get under the load and do the job.

The 48th Highlanders of Canada have never in the past lacked either a SENSE OF PURPOSE or a SENSE OF URGENCY, and ONE CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT THE OTHER.

Editor Major JA Brown, CD

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## COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY

Another year is fast coming to a close - and for us, our 90th.

The distribution of this winter issue of the Falcon coincides with yet another anniversary - and one of our major Battle Honours - **The Lamone Crossing** - December 1944.

Thirty-seven years ago, to the day, 16 December, the Regiment again distinguished itself by showing the spirit of our soldiers and the commitment of the Regiment in the lines of deteriorating morale in the seemingly fruitless Italian Campaign.

Nicholson, the author of the Official History of the Canadian Army - The Canadians in Italy quotes:

"16 Dec. 1944.... At the end of the first day's fighting the RCR was still east of the canal, while Lt. Col. MacKenzie's Highlanders had gone only 800 yards from Boncellino, and had suffered 37 casualties."

Among these (casualties) was Bren gunner, Pte JA Bray, who although seriously wounded in the stomach took charge when his section leader became a casualty, and with line fire drove off two counter-attacks (during the second of which a German bullet broke his leg), therefore saving his platoon position. His great fortitude and resolution brought Bray the DCM.

Reflecting back again to the same place and time, 37 years ago just prior to Christmas, Kim Beattie quotes Dileas - referring to **The Bitter Lamone**:

"The saving grace for the 48th Highlanders in the mental uncertainty and stress of December 1944, was that the blood brotherhood of the infantry had long been real, and powerful adhesive within the Regiment. Their months of shared hazard and hardship had created for them the hard, unyielding personal pride of the fighting men. They had faith in each other if in no one else, which gave them a fierce sort of "esprit de corps", a regimental and infantryman's conceit which in turn added to each man's strength. As the morale of the Canadian Infantry in Italy was now seriously assailed, the 48th Highlanders were one of the most solid units which remained resolute, despite bitterness; they were merely proving the infantry truth that the pride of an individual fighting soldier is both the key to morale, and the steel in a Regiment's spirit.

This same spirit that started 90 years ago has repeated itself over and over again. This characteristic has become a Regimental "Tradition"; it is these customs, practices and doctrines that keep our Regiment and the 48th Family strong.

I hope in our List of New Years Resolutions for 1982 we save a place for our confirmation of Support, Loyalty and Dedication to the Regiment.

To all members of the Regiment and your families, Best Wishes for a Merry and Safe Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

DG Temple  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
Commanding Officer 48th Highlanders of Canada

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sturgeon Falls, Ontario  
June 8, 1981

Dear Sir,  
I am pleased to read The Falcon which I got at the Reunion last weekend.

It is indeed well arranged, and I give credit to the Regiment, although I'm a bit surprised that nothing was mentioned about 'B' Company. I sure hope that the Company still exists.

Here is my contribution and subscription to The Falcon.

Sincerely yours,  
RJ Lamontagne (Regimental no. B 145320).

Toronto, Ontario  
June 9, 1981

## A Disclaimer

Dear Sir,  
I was very privileged, and somewhat flattered to find a picture of myself on page 21 of the May 1981 issue of "The Falcon", but must hasten to advise you that I did not attain the rank of R.S.M. while serving with Her Majesty's Royal Marines.

A little known fact is, that most of the R.S.M.s of my circa, were occasionally inclined to cannibalism in it's various forms, and, should I allow this error to go uncorrected, I could well become a victim of their ire, should I again set foot on "blighty's shore".

After discussion with Stu' Montgomery, we agreed, that in exchange for a small donation to the Continuing Sgt's Fund, I would be prepared to disclose the

actual dizzy heights I achieved in H.M. "Jollies", Dileas.

Yours truly,  
J.W. Phillips CD,  
CWO, Retd

## DONATIONS

The Editor gratefully acknowledges donations to The Falcon from the following Highlanders:

Pte RJ Lamontagne  
Maj AS LeMesurier CD  
Lt DAG Murray

## \$100 REWARD

1st prize \$50  
2nd prize \$35  
3rd prize \$15

in a photographic competition, the winners to be announced in the June 1982 issue of "The Falcon".

Here are the rules: the photographer must be a Highlander, past or present, and the subject must be something to do with the 48th Highlanders, person, object, scene et al.

The judging committee will be The Editor, 1 Sr NCO, 1 Jr NCO and 1 OR.

Please send your black and white entry, size 3" x 5", to the Editor, complete with caption. Closing date is 31 March 1982.



## PIPE MAJOR

The original painting of a Pipe Major of the 48th Highlanders of Canada was presented to LCol RJ Simmons, CD, when he retired as Commanding Officer in 1979. With his permission, a limited number of prints have been reproduced, and are now available at a cost of \$35.00 each (Ontario residents please add \$2.45 Provincial sales tax).

Your cheque should please be sent, alongwith your full mailing address, to: Maj JA Brown, CD

PMC, Officers' Mess  
48th Highlanders of Canada  
Moss Park Armouries  
130 Queen Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5A 1R9

## OBITUARY

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo,  
No more on life's parade shall meet  
The brave and fallen few.  
(Theodore O'Hara)

## Lieutenant Colonel IMR Sinclair OBE, DSO, MC, VD

Ian MacIntosh Sinclair, who commanded three infantry battalions, died on 4 September 1981 in the veterans' wing of Sunnybrook Medical Centre.

Col Sinclair, 90, was born in 1891 in Toronto and attended Harrow House in Halifax and Upper Canada College in Toronto before enlisting with the Queen's Own Rifles.

After graduating from University College of the University of Toronto with a bachelor of arts degree in 1914, he joined the 48th Highlanders of Canada as a lieutenant. He then transferred to the 13th Canadian Battalion (the Black Watch), serving them overseas during the First World War.

He was wounded four times in two years, at Festubert, Sanctuary Wood, Zillebeke and Vimy Ridge, and was promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1918, commanding the Black Watch. He was awarded the Military Cross and the Distinguished Service Order and was twice mentioned in dispatches.

He married Leah Victoria McCarthy in 1920, and from 1921 to 1932, he served with and commanded the

48th Highlanders militia regiment in Toronto.

With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, Col Sinclair joined the infantry Training Centre at Exhibition Park, and a year later was given command of the training centre at Camp Borden.

In 1941 he was given command of the 1st Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and travelled with the regiment to Kingston, Jamaica.

He returned to Canada in 1943, giving up his command when the battalion went overseas, as he was considered too old for field action. For his efforts in the Second World War, Col Sinclair was made an officer of the Order of the British Empire.

From 1947 to 1952 he was provincial secretary for St. John Ambulance, and until 1962 he was commissioner of the ambulance society's Ontario council. For his work he was appointed a commander in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Col Sinclair leaves his wife, Leah, son, D'alton, and four grandchildren.

The following Highlanders also passed on during 1981, and our sincere sympathies go to their families and friends:

WC Barclay	AH Cox	JA Hiley
F Bromley	WH Gemmell	J Kirk
R Bush	JT Hatton	N Lowe
R Collis	W Hawker	L McCabe

P McCaul	J Noble	C Shackley
AG MacDonald	CM Padget	HJ Smith
AJ MacDonald	R Parker	GM Stephen
W MacDonald	LL Querie	JCP Stirling
W McIntyre	AB Robertson	KC Watson
H McLaughlin	WK Ross	A Weatherstone
W McWilliams	F Ryan	C Youmans

Lieutenant Colonel Donald A MacKenzie DSO  
Commanding Officer, 48th Highlanders of Canada  
1944-1945

LCol DA MacKenzie DSO, a World War II Commanding Officer of this Regiment, was killed, in Holland, on 12 April 1945.

In June of this year, LCol ME George, also a former Commanding Officer of this Regiment received a letter from a Mr. Robert C de Bruin, formerly a Royal Netherlands Air Force Officer, and here is his letter, in part -

"Since 1945 I have taken a great interest in the battles fought by the Canadians in Eastern and Central Holland. In 1970 I wrote a letter to the Local Council at

Twello, suggesting that a street or lane in Wilp should be named after the late Lt. Col. Donald A. MacKenzie D.S.O. of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. I never received any reaction to my proposal.

When I met Sterken last year I told him about my efforts in 1970 and I suggested that I should try again. He fully supported the idea and the letter to the Local Council, dated February 1, 1981 also bore his signature.

On March 26, 1981 I was officially told by the Mayor, Drs. P. Zevenbergen and the Aldermen of the Council that my proposal had been accepted and that a "woonerf" in Wilp will be named after Lt. Col. Donald A. MacKenzie

continued on page 10

## THE WEDDING OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCE OF WALES AND LADY DIANA SPENCER, PRINCESS OF WALES

As one of the affiliated Regiments of The Gordon Highlanders, of which His Royal Highness is Colonel-in-Chief, we were asked if we would like to be included in the wedding presentation which they, the Gordons, were going to make.

We naturally said we would be honoured to be included, and accordingly sent a cheque, from all ranks, as our donation towards the purchase of a sterling silver statuette of a Gordon Highlander Officer in shirt sleeve order.

Our Commanding Officer, LCol Temple, who has asked me to express his thanks to all Highlanders who contributed, has received a letter of thanks from Brigadier JRA MacMillan CBE, Colonel of the Regiment, The Gordon Highlanders, and his letter says in part -

"I enclose a copy of the letter Prince Charles sent to thank me for the wedding present to which you all subscribed. The Statuette was handed over by Ian Martineau, the Assistant Regimental Secretary, when he attended the Garden Party shortly before the wedding.

"The fact that our Colonel in Chief wrote so much of the letter in manuscript when he had several thousand other presents to acknowledge is typical of the close personal attention he has always given to Regimental matters.

"The generosity of all who subscribed to the wedding present has been magnificent, and is a great reflection on the way that Prince Charles has made himself an active member of the Regiment in the three years that he has been our Colonel in Chief, despite the number of other calls on his time.

"Thank you very much for all you did to gather the subscriptions".



and warm in London, England, perfect weather for the "wedding of the century". Numbered among those who rose before daylight to watch The Prince of Wales take Lady Diana Spencer as his wife in a glittering ceremony later described as "the stuff of which fairytales are made", were LCol John C.C.Z. Iversen and his wife Judy.

For them, the occasion held a special significance. Only four weeks previous, they had presented His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana

now the Princess of Wales, with The Royal Regiment of Canada's wedding gift during a fairytale visit of their own to Buckingham Palace, June 24.

They strolled through the Palace grounds accompanied by the young couple that day and, three days hence sat with them in the Royal Box during the 1981 Wembley Military Music Festival. A rare honour.



LCol JCCZ Iversen, CD, started off his Canadian Army (Militia) service in the 1963 48th Highlanders Student Militia. He was commissioned in the 48th Highlanders in 1965, and rose to the rank of Captain before joining The Royal Regiment of Canada as Training Officer. Colonel Iversen has been Commanding Officer of The Royals since 1979.

### A gift for a future queen

According to Col Iversen: "The engagement of Prince Charles created a problem for me. As the Commanding Officer of The Royal Regiment of Canada, I report to the Regiment's Colonel in Chief who, since 1979, has been HRH Prince Charles. He is also the first Prince of Wales to marry since 1863 so a very special regimental wedding gift was required.

"Many people thought we should present Lady Diana with our regimental brooch, the one originally commissioned for Princess Mary, sister of the late King George VI, when she was our Colonel-in-Chief. After her death in 1965, it was returned to us.

"Tradition dictates that officers' wives wear brooches in the shape of their husbands' regimental cap badge on special occasions. Since the return of Princess Mary's pin, it has been worn by the Commanding Officer's wife; Judy has worn it for the past two years.

"We approached Birks to duplicate Princess Mary's brooch but the intricate design could not be copied. Besides, the general consensus was: 'new bride, new brooch'.

"Absolutely stunning is the only way I can des-

cribe the finished piece Birks fashioned of 11 diamonds, 14 sapphires and 22 rubies set in platinum and gold. Donations for the gift came from the Regiment's officers and men, active and retired, including its three cadet corps.

"I was going to be in England for the 1981 Military Musical Pageant at Wembley Stadium on June 27 and 28 so Buckingham Palace scheduled the presentation of our gift three days earlier; it travelled to England with me encased in a specially designed pink suede box.

"After the presentation we attended the Wembley Pageant, the 'biggest band show in the world'. I was a little disappointed the Royal Wedding overshadowed this year's festival. For the first time in the history of the event, which is only held every other year, a band from one of the Commonwealth countries was invited to play - the band from the Regiment of which The Prince is Colonel-in-Chief. Our acceptance set a precedent.

"As the Commander of the Canadian Contingent, 160 members from the Military Band of The Royal Regiment of Canada, the Pipes and Drums of the Toronto Scottish Regiment and Military Band and Pipes and Drums of the 48th Highlanders of Canada, I was delegated to make all the arrangements for the Canadian group. Their appearance involved a great deal of time and attention to detail, believe me! But that's another story.

"The impending marriage added an air of excitement to the proceedings. Prince Charles took the salute of the Bands at the opening ceremony on June 27. Judy and I were standing with the royal couple in the Royal Box while 70 massed bands played and 80,000 people sang, 'God Bless The Prince of Wales'. Unforgettable.

"To me, the pageantry of the Wembley Music Festival equalled that of the royal wedding with each performance ending at a fever pitch. During the finale, the massed bands played the 1812 overture; the stadium was darkened and dim spotlights glittered off their instruments; a 200 foot high replica of St. Petersburg was set aflame; the Royal Artillery fired in unison and Polish Hussars galloped at full pace around the stadium, swords whirling. I only wish words could recapture the colour and excitement for everyone.

"Through my volunteer association with the Militia, I have had the good fortune to get acquainted with Prince Charles on three occasions now. He has a great personal affection for his Regiment; it is not uncommon for us to receive letters from him in his own hand

## THE ROYAL WEDDING as seen by LCol JCCZ Iversen CD

The following article about The Royal Wedding, written by Janis Newton, appeared in The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce "The News" in summer 1981, and is reprinted with their kind permission.

The predictions were right; July 29 dawned sunny

writing.

"Lady Diana and The Prince put us completely at ease during our visits. When we watched their wedding, we felt like spectators at the marriage of two personal friends."

**A tight schedule and a close call - but all ends well**

On June 23, Judy E.Z. Iversen was on leave from the firm of Goodman & Goodman where she is a legal secretary and at 6:00 p.m., was on board a flight bound for England.

"John had accompanied the bands on a military plane two days before. Two hours into my flight, we were diverted to Goose Bay and our 'three hour delay' stretched into six - I was afraid I would miss our visit to Buckingham Palace entirely.

"I eventually landed at Gatwick Airport at 1:00 p.m., June 24. We were scheduled to be at the Palace at 5:30.

"By 3:30, we had just reached our hotel in London and had only enough time for a bath and a change of clothes. When I pulled the dress I planned to wear to the ceremony out of my case, I was horrified to find it was so badly wrinkled I couldn't possibly wear it. While John was dressing, he discovered he had forgotten his cufflinks and had to make a mad dash out for another pair - not an auspicious start!

"We had been instructed to allow ourselves plenty of time to reach the Palace and we arrived early, without mishap. John gave his card to the policeman in front who promptly swung open the great iron gates to admit us.

"We were ushered to a private room to await the Prince's equerry, Major Winters. He arrived expressing his concern over the weather - the gift presentation and performance by 40 members of The Royal Regiment's band was to be outside and it appeared likely to rain at any moment. After a short deliberation, we decided to go ahead with the outdoor plans - we refused to believe it would dare rain on The Prince of Wales - and - the band's new uniforms.

"Footsteps echoed down the corridor and we almost collided with Lady Diana as we rounded a corner. Major Winters made the introductions and Lady Diana promptly admired my regimental pin, which pleased us; soon she would have one of her own.

"At one point, when Lady Diana turned to talk to one of the servants in another room, John said, 'Talk to Lady Diana. She is so natural you can't possibly be afraid to talk to her.' I replied that I was in shock - the informality of it all had left me tongue-tied.

"We heard footsteps behind us and turned to see Prince Charles bounding down the staircase. Major Winters had left the room so we had no choice but to introduce ourselves. Before we could speak however, The Prince walked up to John and said: 'Hello, Colonel Iversen. Good to see you again.'

"Turning his attention to me, he welcomed me to Buckingham Palace and to my surprise, I managed to execute a perfect curtsy.

"The four of us stood talking and laughing. We knew they were looking forward to their wedding when they asked how long we had been married.

"Prince Charles tends to make you feel so comfortable that you almost forget who it is you are talking to. I had to make a conscious effort to maintain the protocol required in his presence. When he peered over my head, both John and I were caught off-guard. There, at the top of the staircase stood Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

"The Prince chatted with his parents for a few moments before asking if we would like to meet the Queen?

"Introductions and another curtsy followed his remarks. After an unexpected ten minute visit with them, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh excused themselves to attend another Palace function.

"We were heading outside when the weather decided not to cooperate after all - rain poured down in sheets. Surely the garden performance would be cancelled.

"On the contrary, The Prince was very anxious to get outside. His band had been invited to play for them and play they would. Picking up an enormous umbrella, about four feet across, he escorted me outside while John followed with Lady Diana safely covered by another 'brolly'.

"The Director of Music suggested that in view of the inclement weather the band should play only two selections; The Prince agreed saying, 'The extra time will give us a chance to get to know each other better.' Naturally, one of the numbers was 'Diana'.

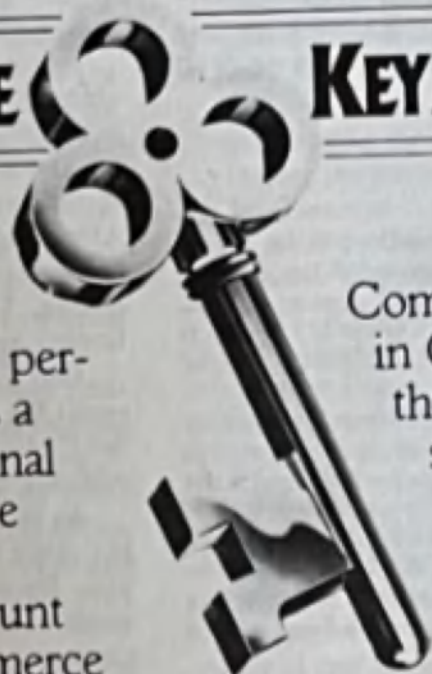
"Major Winters indicated when it was time to present the gift and I told John that I was so comfortable with the royal couple I would like to present it. Now John was shocked. I had refused this honour all along saying I would be much too nervous.

"Everyone gathered around and I stepped forward, presenting the pin on behalf of the family of The Royal Regiment of Canada. I know I explained a little of the history behind it, but I honestly cannot remember what else I said.

"When I opened the box The Prince asked Lady

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Diana to put it on, which he did for her.

"After everyone had been thanked, John and Prince Charles headed off together while Lady Diana and I followed. Of course, we talked about weddings but she also said how impressed she was that so many of the volunteer band were teachers; she found the profession a rewarding one.

"All told, we spend 1½ hours in the company of The Prince and Lady Diana that day, 45 minutes privately and 45 minutes with the band. As we said goodbye, I couldn't help thinking that there was a volunteer soldier and his wife talking to the Colonel-in-Chief and his fiancée; a banker and a legal secretary from Toronto chatting with the future King and Queen of Canada as if we had known each other all our lives.

"We're still on Cloud Nine."

continued from page 5

D.S.O. This woonerf (a kind of square) will be called: "MacKenzieplaats" (Plaats is another word for square). Below the name the following text will appear: Lt. Col. Donald A. MacKenzie, Commanding Officer of a Battalion of the 48th Highlanders of Canada, killed in action 12 April 1945 during the liberation of Wilp.

Naturally I am very happy with the outcome of my request, not for my sake, but with the fact that we now have a lasting memory to that gallant soldier who brought the supreme sacrifice giving his young life on foreign soil.

A few weeks ago I was in Twello and visited the Town Hall where I was told that on April 12, 1982 the name will be officially unveiled and from then on Wilp will have a MacKenzieplaats, which incidentally is a brand-new part of the village."

It is perhaps fitting that a Highlander who gave his life in the last three weeks of the war should be remembered in this way, and it is indeed a great honour to this Regiment.

## D'YE MIND AULD LANG SYNE?



Cadets of Toronto Rotary Highlanders Cadet Corps #1625  
May 1944

## CADETS

by Cdt Lt Robert Lepore

This past summer, the Corps had many of the Cadets on senior summer courses.

To name a few - the writer was selected to participate in CFE Flyover in West Germany. While there, he took part in the brigade level Exercise "Simple Venture III", and received training based in Militia TQ1 standards. This involved the use of all types of weapons and armoured vehicles. At the same time, Cdt Lt Seles was holding the fort in glorious CFB Borden as a platoon corporal in the Rifle Coaching course being held there.

Again this year we had a graduate from the Outward Bound course, held in Kapuskasing, Ontario, in the person of Cdt Sgt Paterson.

Two of our pipers, the Boast Brothers, successfully completed the Cadet Bandsmen course at Ipperwash Army Cadet Camp. Also there was Cdt. WO Reid who was successful in passing the Cadet Leader Instructor course. This now gives him the Silver Star with wreath qualification.

Our Commanding Officer, Capt C Calverley, CD, spent his summer as Officer Commanding Trenton Air Cadet Camp. We are told he enjoyed his sojourn with the junior service!!

As far as the Corps as a whole is concerned, the big news is that we won the Strathcona Shield this year, for the second time in 10 years. This award is made to the best overall Cadet Corps in the Central Ontario Region, and it is thanks to ALL cadets that we were able to win this important trophy. Our final mark was 92.5%

## MY CONTACTS WITH THE CANADIAN FORCES DURING WORLD WAR II

by Brigadier James A. Oliver, CB, CBE, DSO, TD, ADC, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

First Contact 1940

When we were stationed in Deeside in Aberdeenshire, in 1940 and early 1941 before going overseas, we met a lot of the Canadian Army foresters who had come across from Canada to help to fell some of the woodlands on Deeside owing to the extreme shortage of timber in this country with no imported timber then being available.

My recollection is that the Canadian forces referred to above, although solely employed on forestry duties at the time, were all enlisted men and wore uniform although they had not been issued with arms which were later to be supplied in this country.

Scotland, in fact the whole U.K. has always been very short of timber and, as a result, the trees that are available for felling are always felled as close to ground level as possible. In Canada, where there would, I imagine, be no shortage of timber, the felling was done about two feet above ground level which speeded up the felling. Scottish foresters were horrified at this apparent waste!

Second Contact Sicily

We, in the Highland Division, landed not very far from the 1st Canadian Division on D Day and we saw quite a lot of the Canadians at the time. For some reason or another, the axis of advance of the two Divisions appeared to cross on one occasion and I met the present Lord Tweedsmuir who was a son of John Buchan, later Lord Tweedsmuir and a Governor General of Canada. The son was commanding a squadron in a Canadian armoured regiment.

Third Contact Normandy 1944

When the battle to close the Falaise started, my Brigade (154 Brigade of the Highland Division) was put under command of 2nd Canadian Corps, which was commanded by a most excellent Canadian General called Guy Simmonds. He later became CGS in Canada but then had a row with the politicians and left the army. By the time my Brigade came under his command for operation "Totalize" he realised that

most infantry casualties were sustained in the very early stages of an attack when the German artillery and mortar fire were very intense. He, accordingly, stripped out the guns from a regiment of self propelled artillery and used the stripped out armoured vehicles to motor the infantry on or very nearly on to their objective. This was the first time this device was used and it proved to be so successful that special regiments of these armoured troop carrying vehicles were then formed and were known as Kangaroos. I understand that a modern version is very much in use nowadays.

I used to meet Guy Simmonds when he visited the U.K. after the war and we all had the highest opinion of him.

Fourth Contact Dunkirk 1944

During the autumn of 1944, the main supply route for 1st Canadian Army and the British 2nd Army ran fairly near to Dunkirk which was then, although completely surrounded, strongly held by a German Garrison. It appeared from a wireless interception that the Germans were intending to make a strong sortie from Dunkirk in order to cut the main supply route and my Brigade was ordered (with a Dutch Brigade under command) to investigate Dunkirk and prevent any German sortie from it. As my Brigade was to be under the direct command of the Canadian Army I had to go to Army Headquarters and had the pleasure of meeting General Crerar for the first time.

It was everyone's ambition in the British Second Army at that time to own a suit of Canadian battledress, a darker green colour, much better material and much better cut than our own battledress. At the Conference at Canadian Headquarters before our Dunkirk role at which I was briefed about communications, supplies etc., I was asked if there was anything else I would require and I said "one suit of Canadian battledress please". This was very willingly supplied and I wore it proudly right up to the end of the war. Some weeks later, I met General Brian Horrocks, a very distinguished British Corps Commander, who I noticed was also wearing Canadian battledress. He said to me "I see that we both go to the same tailor, Crerar by name". I replied in the affirmative!

Final Contact Rhine Crossing

Under the original plan for the Rhine Crossing in the 21st Army Group sector, there were to be two crossings on the right by Brian Horrocks' 30 Corps and a further crossing on the left further down stream

by the Canadian First Army. Owing to a shortage of bridging equipment the Canadian crossing had to be abandoned. As my Brigade was on the extreme left of 30 Corps for the assault crossing this meant that I would have an exposed left flank when we had crossed the Rhine and this worried me a bit. I accordingly asked for a fourth battalion to be put under my command in order to deal with this situation. The H.L.I. of Canada were put under my command for this purpose and did it quite excellently. Although all three battalions of my Regiment were across the Rhine early the following morning there was one enemy strong point which held out and which we were able to deal with. I accordingly ordered H.L.I. of Canada to capture this strong point which they proceeded to do most competently.

**SORRY NO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA!!**

## THE GORDONS

by Gordon Sinclair

The following "Let's be personal" was presented on Toronto Radio Station CFRB last September 8th, and is reproduced here with their kind permission.

"The exhibition closed yesterday with a belated rush and as before, the Tattoo which came early, was one of the highlights.

The Watch, better known as the Black Watch, was the last here, and it may be that the Gordons will come to next year's Tattoo, so let's take a brief look at them.

Surnames were first introduced into Scotland in the 11th century, and the Gordons were among the first to adopt a name... any name. They were one of the few clans that held land in both England and Scotland. There was also a considerable tribe of Jews using the name Gordon.

The cap badge or banner was a boar's head... sometimes 3 of them... and a family taking the name Swinton also used the boar's head.

Indeed certain animals or birds pop up in scores of Highland banners... elk, falcon, stag, thistle, even a bobcat.

MacFarlane uses Neptune, god of the sea, Galbraith a camel, MacGregor a lion and MacKay an unsheathed dagger.

The first chieftain of the Gordon was Adam.

In one of the hand to hand Scottish wars, Adam, the Gordon of Gordon, was stabbed by Robert the Bruce. He recovered and for some fickle reason became a follower of the Bruce for the rest of his life.

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Unlike some clans... Sutherland for one... the Gordon land is scattered while Sutherland is in one large area and has been ruled by a woman longer than any other clan although the McLeod was led by a woman for many years.

King Robert the Bruce was an old time kill or be killed warrior who believed that to the winner belong the spoils. Therefore on the very suggestion that a laird was disloyal, he would send a bloodthirsty band to seize livestock and often set fire to buildings, although clan records indicate no rape of the maidens. In one of these raids... less than 100 men took part in most of them... King Robert seized all the land of the McDuff and gave it to the Gordon. Not satisfied with that, he also took 120 square miles of the laird of Strathbogie and gave these to McDuff.

There may have been a reason. McDuff's wife Annabell was of the Gordon and his mother also. Part of the land taken from the laird of Strathbogie is now the home of golf; the Royal and Ancient Club of St. Andrews. One of Chief Adam's sons... also named Adam... married Margaret, sister of Robert the Bruce, who had been married before to a Fraser.

In one of their countless border scuffles where human heads were often carried down the street on long pike poles, Margaret was a captured prize as had her grandmother been before her. Margaret was kept in a chilly castle for a few weeks but her grandmother was put into a cage resembling the tumbrel by which nobility were driven to the guillotine in France. Her cage was moved from time to time and the public encouraged to jostle and poke her with sticks in the hope of making her react like a tigress. The history from which I've re-written this material is listed as being written "By Moncrief and that Ilk and by David Hicks."

## WEMBLEY - SUMMER 1981

The following message was received from the Adjutant General, Ministry of Defence, United Kingdom:

"For 48th Highlanders of Canada. HRH The Prince of Wales has asked me to pass on his sincere thanks and admiration to all those taking part in the 1981 Pageant. To this I must add my personal congratulations to all ranks who contributed to this enormously impressive display, the proceeds of which will provide much needed support for the Army Benevolent Fund. The long hours involved in rehearsals resulted in a spectacle that those who were privileged to witness will remember with pride".



THE CANADIAN CONTINGENT Wembley, June 1981

## WEMBLEY - AS SEEN BY THE PIPES AND DRUMS

by WO DS Pringle, CD

Here we are in December all raring to go again, but it is time to reflect back on the many activities of this summer past, which the Pipes & Drums & Military Band were engaged in.

June 19th seems to be a good day to kick off with, because it was on that particular Friday that the stalwarts of both bands headed down to the Delco Highland Games near Philadelphia.

First it was by bus from Moss Park to a U.S. Military Base just across the border, and then by Flying Box Car compliments of the U.S. Air Force. Undaunted by the fact that there were no refreshments served on the flight by beautiful attendants, nor parachutes provided; when we arrived at a U.S. Naval Air Base we all climbed aboard school buses for the last fifty miles of our journey. If you have been seated in a school bus at all for any distance, you will realize that this took courage.



Practice, practice and more practice!

We arrived at our bivouac under the cover of darkness, where both bands roughed it out for the remainder of the night at a Holiday Inn.

The next day, Saturday June 20th, the combined bands performed at the Delco stadium fair grounds before a large, enthusiastic audience. The musical presentation and drill of both bands was of the highest standard. The performance was so good that, as the bands were leaving the field, D/M Larry Fullerton & Capt. Tom Whiteside grew in stature and grinned from ear to ear. The crowd was most appreciative and gave a standing ovation for three or four minutes.

After this excellent performance, both bands were treated to a hot buffet dinner in a large air conditioned reception hall under the stands. As it had been a very hot afternoon the fellows did not need any coaxing to partake of the abundant liquid refreshment that was also provided.

That same evening it was all aboard the school buses and back out to the Naval Air Base for our flight back. In the darkness and still of the night, as we stood by the aircraft on the tarmac, 500 yards from the nearest building and waiting to climb aboard, W.O. Bob Taylor ensured that our military standard remained high. We were all in our jolly green C.F. trousers for departure and Bob was observed making his rounds telling people that the pockets on these trousers were not for warming hands.

On the flight and subsequent bus ride back to Moss Park, most people were observed to be conserving energy, no doubt for what lay ahead.

The next day, Sunday June 21st it was everybody down to Moss Park for 1330 hours. There were four buses lined up ready to take the Canadian Contingent for Wembley to C.F.B. Trenton. As everybody knows by now, the contingent consisted of the military bands of The Royal Regiment of Canada & The 48th Highlanders along with the Pipes & Drums of the 48th Highlanders & The Toronto Scottish Regt. The 48th provided 80 of the 150 bandsmen for the contingent.



*If we're not ready now, it's too late.*

An hour and a half after arriving at Trenton we were on our way by C.F. military aircraft to England. Good flight, good service, but none of that liquid stuff our fellows are used to, allowed on the plane.

The contingent arrived the next morning at Gatwick Airport where the four bus loads of men were put aboard three buses and then off to Aldershot.

The bands were put in modern concrete buildings, four to a room, on the Aldershot Army Base. (Buildings reconstructed after 1965). The section of the base where our buildings were located was called the RHINE BARRACKS.

It was a heavy schedule that followed all the next week for the bands, up at 0500 hours, breakfast at 0600 hours, on the buses for 0700 hours, arrive at Wembley for Tattoo rehearsal until dark then back to Aldershot for about 2100 hours. The hospitality of various messes on the base was extremely good, most of the time staying open until all of our stalwarts had quenched their thirsts, and then on to breakfast and so on.

It was an hour and a half to two hours every morning by bus from Aldershot to Wembley Stadium and the same of course going back in the evening. It was while caught in this twilight zone that most took the opportunity to recharge their batteries.

The Tattoo on the Saturday had 70,000 watching a

cast of 2000, and this crowd received the Canadian Contingent very well, which apart from participating in other segments in their show put on a 17 minute display of its own. During that evening performance, the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana (now the Princess of Wales) were in the Royal Box.

Just to be on the field during the evening performance for the finale while 1800 permanent force British Army musicians were playing the 1812 Overture and God Bless The Prince of Wales (known to some people as "No Surrender") was something that I am sure no member of the contingent will ever forget. There was a short audience held by Prince Charles and Lady Diana for a few members of the contingent afterwards.

Our own Pipe Major Reay MacKay played a large role in the arranging of music for the selections played by the Canadian Contingent, both military and pipe tunes. The people from the U.K. wanted our contingent to play all selections including pipe tunes which were either composed by Canadians or composed in Canada. Apart from the arranging, one of the pipe tunes used was a strathspey composition of P/M MacKay called "The Whisky Runner". The two reels which were used were composed by another member of our own Pipes & Drums, Drummer (who is also a piper) Angus MacDowell. The tunes - - Christie McLeod and Angus Stewart.

The bands were allowed to have a little sleep in on Sunday morning and then it was back to Wembley Stadium for the Sunday afternoon performance. All went very well, but in the daylight the effect was not quite the same.

The next day, Monday June 29th many of the contingent, due to job commitments, etc, had to fly back to Canada.

On Tuesday June 30th around noon those of us from the 48th Highlanders who remained, were honoured with having audience with our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in the grand reception room of Buckingham Palace. Our CO Col Temple, Lt Stewart and Mr. Henry Shannon attended this function with us.

Her Majesty was very gracious and spoke informally with as many of the group individually as her busy schedule would permit. It was noted that during audience with Her Majesty, she was wearing the brooch presented to her by the Regiment when she was in Toronto as the Princess in 1952.

On the days that followed the audience with The  
continued on page 18

## PRESENTATIONS TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,

WEMBLEY STADIUM,  
27 JUNE 1981



*LCol DG Temple, CD, Commanding Officer*



*Pipe Major Reay MacKay, CD, and Drum Major L. Fullerton, CD.*



*Capt Thomas Whiteside, CD, Director of Music*



# 90TH ANNIVERSARY



Head table - l to r  
L Col Temple, L Col Simmons, Col F F McEachren.



4 RSMs  
from left to right - RSMs Montgomery, Boggiss, Chappell and Elms.

The following messages were received on the occasion of the 90th Anniversary of the inception of the Regiment:

From Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Colonel in Chief

"Thank you for the loyal and affectionate greetings which you have sent on behalf of all ranks of the 48th Highlanders of Canada, who celebrate this year the 90th Anniversary of the inception of the Regiment. As Colonel-in-Chief I send my warm congratulations to all of you on achieving this anniversary, and express my confidence that the Regiment's next 90 years will be as distinguished as the first".



L Col Cam Fraser (left) lays down the law.



A good dinner enjoyed by all



More war stories.

# REUNION 1891 - 1981



WO Headley (extreme right) and friends.

From MGen GH Spencer, Colonel Commandant, Canadian Military Engineers

"I would like to wish the 48th Highlanders of Canada a happy ninetieth birthday this 16 October. We of the Military Engineering Branch would like to take the opportunity to recognize the long history of dedicated service given to the Regiment both in war and peace. May your Regiment continue to prosper in the future. Slainte".

From The Colonel Commandant and Director of Infantry

"Best wishes on the occasion of the Regiment's 90th birthday".



Colonel Iain MacKay (foreground) has obviously just told another tall tale.



Informal gathering at the bus.



The ladies, bless them.



Drinking buddies.

Queen, all remaining members of the contingent took the opportunity to take various trips in the U.K. for sights to behold, or to visit our relatives, some even to climb mountains.

On July 3rd the C.F. flight that was to take another forty members of the contingent back was cancelled. As luck would have it, we had to fly back that day on an Air Canada Jumbo, direct from Heathrow to Toronto International. The service on this flight was very good. Need I say more???

All the remaining members of the contingent, after the first leg of their journey on July 10th found themselves at CFB LAHR, West Germany. There they learned that the aircraft needed some maintenance

## WEMBLEY AS SEEN BY THE MILITARY BAND

by Capt TH Whiteside, CD, ALCM

The Military Band of the 48th has completed another successful summer, the highlight undoubtedly being our trip to England and subsequent performance at the Wembley Musical Pageant in London, as part of the Canadian contingent, comprising also our Pipes & Drums, The Royal Regiment of Canada and The Toronto Scottish to make up a total of 150 musicians.

Our bands were flown to England via military aircraft and were based at Aldershot for the week prior to the pageant. Accommodation and food were excellent and everyone was treated very well by the British Army. Veterans will be interested in knowing that the change in present day conditions, to their memories of Aldershot during the war years, is so vast to be incomparable.

Long hours of daily rehearsal, from 0900 hours at Wembley Stadium, under the excellent direction of Major Duncan Beat and Band Sergeant Major Dave Williams of the Scots Guards proved most compensating, for the marching ability of our bands improved 100%. Band Sergeant Major Williams was more than pleased at the way our bands took to his direction and to him personally, as their instructor. Because of this extra arduous effort and cooperation by all, our bands were able to perform admirably at the concerts.

Boosted by the knowledge that a large audience of approximately 75,000 for the first show and 50,000 for the second, including a couple of hundred Canadian relatives and friends, were waiting with high expectations to see and hear Canadian musicians perform for the first time ever at Wembley, the bands performed well and with hardly a hitch!!? We will never forget our proud feelings during the first moments when we

work and they would not be able to leave for another three days.

Just to keep themselves busy this hardy group volunteered and in fact played for a change of command parade for one of the Canadian Forces Air Squadrons stationed on the base. Well, as one good turn deserves another, this group subsequently found themselves on a bus, loaded with cases of bubbly, and touring the Black Forest, etc., etc. A lot of thanks is due to Pipe Major Hugh MacPherson and his CO for hospitality shown the group in Germany.

This last group of ours came back to reality on July 14th.



The cast at rehearsal.

marched on to the field after Henry Shannon, our announcer, proclaimed with great enthusiasm, "and now, THE CANADIANS"! The Canadian segment was very favourably received. Later, our Pipes & Drums and Military Band combined with the Toronto Scottish, Irish Guards, Irish Rangers and Gordon Highlanders and took to the field to do the "Shamrock and Thistle" presentation which was put together in three days of constant rehearsal, and which resulted in being one of the more popular selections on the programme.

During the intermission period, a few of us were greatly honoured to be presented to Prince Charles and Lady Diana. They were a most engaging couple, and Lady Diana immediately stole our hearts with her charm and friendliness. Prince Charles expressed his interest in music and surprised us with his astute knowledge of Canada.

Another memorable experience was our visit to Buckingham Palace on the invitation of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. This included both bands and the officers of the 48th. On this unusually bright, sunny day, shortly after noon, as we gathered in the Palace

courtyard, the band of the Scots Guards, under Band Sergeant Major Dave Williams, marched through the gates playing "The Maple Leaf Forever". One can imagine the emotion and pride which charged through each of us, making us feel at least ten feet tall! Once inside the magnificent Reception Hall, we gawked at everything in sight until the RAF officer opened the large double doors and announced the entrance of Her Majesty. She appeared, wearing our 48th brooch, and welcomed her regiment to her "home". She chatted with each officer in turn, and told me The Prince of Wales spoke highly of the performance of the Canadian bands at Wembley. She then walked among the line of musicians and some comments obviously amused her for peels of laughter could be heard. The 40 minutes spent with her will not be forgotten by any of us.



Capt Tom Whiteside swings a mean baton.

I would like to give special mention to the students of St. Andrew's College and their escort, John Clements, who displayed a fine showing of discipline and musicianship, and in every way were a credit to the 48th and to their own school system.

We wish to gratefully acknowledge the financial and moral support given to us by the Cadets of the 48th, the Senate of the 48th, Capitol Records, and all who assisted us in many ways. We are thankful that their support enabled us to take this trip, and in turn, hope that our bands, in being the first to perform at Wembley and having our name permanently engraved on a record, have contributed in placing the name of the 48th Highlanders of Canada in the musical annals of British pageantry, and we hope, too, that the rapport established between ourselves and the British musicians will be long remembered in the future.

## THE EDITOR REQUESTS

That:

- articles for "The Falcon" be submitted to him on time; by 30 March for the June issue, and by 30 September for the December issue.
- articles be TYPEWRITTEN, and double spaced on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. (at least 50% of articles appearing in this issue were hand written and had to be typed by his two finger method).
- as many photographs be supplied as possible to supplement your article. They should have a caption advising names of the persons or an explanation if a scenic photograph. They will be returned providing your name is on the back of the photographs. They should also, if possible, be in black and white; colour however, is also acceptable.

By following the above suggestions, you will help enormously in keeping unnecessary work to a minimum.

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St. Andrew's Church, Toronto.

## THE KIRK AND THE REGIMENT

by Dr. Douglas Stewart, Honorary Chaplain

The annual Memorial Church Parade of the 48th Highlanders to St. Andrew's Church on Sunday, October 18th, reminds us of the close ties between the Regiment and the Kirk of which new recruits may not be fully aware.

This parade to St. Andrew's Church is held on that Sunday nearest to October 16th being the date when, in 1891, the then called 'Militia Department of the Federal Government' gave official approval to the establishment of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. Behind a seemingly innocuous announcement in the Military Gazette, a long and arduous battle was waged against the ramparts of lethargy and indifference in the Military Department.

Colonel DM Robertson, a life member of St. Andrew's Church and immortalized in Pipe Major Farquhar Beaton's march tune "Colonel Robertson" gave strong and persistent leadership in the repeated delegations to Ottawa that finally breached the fortifications of officialdom and won the establishment of the regiment.

From its very inception the fabric of the 48th has been interwoven with the fabric of St. Andrew's

Church, its regimental spiritual home.

Col "Hielan' John" I Davidson, Chairman of the Board of Managers of this church for many years, was the first Commanding Officer of the Regiment. A plaque to his memory may be seen on the wall of St. Andrew's church to the left of the doors as you leave the church. In respect for Colonel Davidson, the Falcon's head of the Davidson Crest was chosen for the crest of the 48th, the Old Davidson Tartan was chosen for the Regimental Kilt and the Colonel's favourite pipe tune "Highland Laddie" was established as the regimental march.

The first Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Regiment were chosen largely from St. Andrew's Church. Their names and rank, too numerous to be mentioned, are listed in Dr. Stuart Parker's *History of St. Andrew's Church* on page 59.

The first 152 men of the regiment were sworn in by General Sir William Otter in the hall of St. Andrew's Church.

The first Chaplain of the Regiment was the late Reverend DJ MacDonnell, then minister of St. Andrew's church and a strong spiritual supporter of the upbuilding of a Regiment of devoted and loyal Canadian men. Since his day, every senior minister of St. Andrew's church has been either the active Padre or Honorary Padre of the 48th Highlanders.

Still today many Old Comrades of the 48th are in positions of leadership in this congregation. The present Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment, LCol Hamilton (Tony) Cassels, is one of our esteemed Elders.

On May 24, 1892, less than one year after its establishment, and on the birthday of Queen Victoria, Governor-General Lord Stanley of Preston presented the Queen's, and Regimental, Colours to the 48th Highlanders.

Thereafter the names of the victorious battles in which the 48th fought were sewn on the Regimental Colours. When in 1959 new Colours were presented to the Regiment by the Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Old Colours and Regimental Colours were laid up in St. Andrew's Church. Queen Victoria's Colours hang in St. Andrew's Church to this day.

In his prayer offered when Queen Victoria's Colours were presented to the 48th Highlanders, the late Reverend DJ MacDonnell prayed thus: "In the name of our God we will set up our banners, may these colours never be displayed on the side of injustice or tyranny or wrong; but only and always in the cause of freedom and righteousness and our country's weal."



The Rev. H. Douglas Stewart BA, DD (left) Honorary Chaplain Maj HF Roberts BA, ADC Regimental Padre.

## A WORD FROM THE PADRE

by Maj HF Roberts, AdeC

As Christmas rapidly approaches, I think back over the activities of the Regiment during this past year. In many ways it has been a year like all years with usual training and social activities. For many of us with long standing association with the Regimental Family, the year has seen the passing of several of our comrades in arms.

But if it has been a year of "sameness", it has also been a year of the exceptional. I remember with joy the attendance at our 90th Reunion in May. The OCA outdid themselves both in members and sharpness. I remember with affection the service of Holy Communion with the students of our summer programme at CFB Borden. I remember with pride the church parade to Old St. Andrew's. It was the best attended parade I have seen in a long time.

All these events centre around the gathering together of our Regimental Family. When the families gather, there is joy. When people absent themselves, they are missed.

At this Christmas season, the Regiment traditionally remembers those less fortunate members of our Family. This to me is simply one expression of our love and concern for one another. I hope that all Highlanders find friendship and support from the Family at this special time, and throughout the coming year.

May God bless each and every one of you.

## U.S. ADVENTURE

by MWO V Goldman

The Green Berets and John Wayne may have gone to Viet Nam as advisors, but the 48th went to Grayling, Michigan. The last week of June saw Captain Young, WO McGuffin and the writer serving with our friends in the 3rd Squadron, 107th Armoured Cavalry.

The U.S. Armoured Cavalry has no Canadian equivalent so a short run down on squadron organization should explain the intricate, self sustaining nature of this formation. A squadron has its own helicopters, tanks, infantry, artillery, repair shops, kitchens, MPs, recovery vehicles; in other words it is completely self sufficient.

The squadron has a helicopter troop, howitzer battery, tank company and three troops. Each of the

three troops is made up of three platoons which each has 4 wheel/track recce vehicles, 2 tanks and 1 section/squad of infantry in an M113 carrier.

After a very warm welcome, we settled down to business; drawing M16 rifles, we departed for the field.

Captain Young was assigned to Squadron HQ but managed to escape from the rear echelon to serve as an M60 Machine gunner and infantry advisor with K Troop. It was quite a sight watching him instruct his M113 crew in vehicle camouflage and the correct method to site in and man an MG position.

WO McGuffin served the entire time as a scout with 3rd platoon of K Troop passing on many valuable tips on wheeled recce.

The writer hopped, skipped and flew his way around the squadron serving in a variety of positions, thus gaining a good impression of what makes up an Armoured Cavalry Squadron. From a rifleman/advisor in an infantry carrier, he changed hats and became a 4.2 inch mortarman. Another change saw him aboard attack helicopters as they fired SS11 missiles and Gatling guns. The remainder of the exercise saw him serving aboard an M48 tank



MWO Vic Goldman tells his US counterpart how it should be done.

continued on page 25

## OFFICERS' MESS

by Maj JA Brown, CD, PMC

Since the last issue, the following officers have been officially welcomed to the Mess: Greg Young, Tom Birchall, Steve Howarth and Keith Forgie. We are delighted to have them.

Congratulations to David and Jennifer Somerville in the Land of the Kangaroo, who have recently brought a son, hopefully a future Highlander into the world. Well done Jennifer, and David.

Our photo, somewhat blurred we are sorry, shows Captain George W Elms being presented with the



left to right  
Capt G Elms, B Gen J A Cowan, Capt (ret'd) G Elms, CWO (ret'd) W Elms.

Canadian Efficiency Medal at the Officers' Dinner last April. Making the presentation is BGen JA Cowan, CD, Director General Reserves and Cadets, who, as a Rotary Highlander (48th) Cadet, began his military career some 40 years ago under Captain (then RSM) Elms.

George Elms served a total of 39 1/4 years with the Regiment, and although he was previously awarded the colonial Auxiliary Forces Medal for long service (20 years), the balance of his service was not recognized until this year.

Looking on are his son, CWO (retired) WP Elms, MMM, CD, and his grandson Capt RG Elms, CD, both of whom are Highlanders.

We have just heard of the honour accorded one of our Associate Officers, Maj Joe Potts. Joe has very recently been appointed to the Supreme Court of Ontario, and in future will be known as Major The Honourable Mr. Justice JH Potts CD. We understand His Lordship hopes not too many of the Regimental Family will find themselves in front of our new Judge, otherwise he will spend half his time disqualifying himself, due to conflict of interest!

## SERGEANTS' MESS

The following menu was used at a Sergeants Mess Dinner in 1909.

### FALL IN

Blue Points in Shell Jackets  
Iced Celery      Sour Plums—No "Pitts"

Scotch Broth frae the "Goats"

Broiled Salmon—"Groundsell" Dressing  
De Hart "Cotties"

Haggis (Allison's Address)  
"Just a Wee Nip"

A Wee Saft Mealie frae a Coo—Wi' Toadstools  
Mair Talties

Young Bubbly Jock Roastit—Jelly on th' side

Green Things

Sergeant-Major's Duff—McMaster Dressing  
Apple Tairt      "Chocolate Soldier"  
Scotch (Short) Bread—Page's Size

Oh Lord, sine we hae feasted then,  
Whick we an' little mair,  
Let lassies tak' awa' the plates,  
And bring us hen th' spilt.  
—Burns

### TOASTS

The King

"The King can do us wrong."

Canada

Come, and be joyful with us,  
Eat of our salt and bread;  
Make haste and get in with the lion men,  
And remember you're dead when you're dead.

Our Commanding Officer

Long live our Commanding Officer!  
We'll be the regiments' strength;  
God bless you and may you fill his place,  
Ere you're a long time dead.

The Regiment

Come, and live the life of a free man,  
Work and battle in life, it is said;  
Come, work and be merry with us,  
For it surely brings us to the dead.

The Staff

Leave your growth in a hole in the wall,  
Gie your birkie all up to the chad;  
Remember there's naught in every heart,  
And it don't come out when you're dead.

Our Guests

Live now while the heart springs are flowing,  
And the smile on your face can be read;  
For there's something that tells us, we know not what,  
That we may be a long time dead.

Brither Non-Coms.

So live while life is worth living,  
Be a leader, don't wait to be led;  
It's good to be doing your best while you can,  
For you'll soon be a long time dead.

The Ladies

Women, that movement of hands, of soft exhalation, of sweet curves,  
Of graceful feet,  
Woman, the being we cannot live without, and the being it dotes on  
craves to the death.  
God bless her! God help her! She needs it.  
—Lightfoot.—Gwendolyn Stewart.

## D COMPANY

by Capt JH Sandham, CD

Since September, D Company has recruited 15 men. This is an excellent start to the training year, and the best fall recruiting in the past five years. The credit for this performance must go to the Company Sergeant Major, WO McGuffin and the company staff. The recruiting paper work is handled by MCpl Price and Pte Ham, both of whom have done a magnificent job fighting the paper war.

Excellent training is being provided by CSM McGuffin and MCpl Bean. Captain Wright, the 2 i/c, is looking after the paper work, and is being ably assisted by CQMS, Sgt Cormack.

We are delighted to welcome 2Lt Keith Forgie to the Company, and to give him an insight into the

workings of a company, we have asked him to look after the processing of non effectives, being ably assisted by Sgt Cormack.

On a personal note, we all wish Cpl Love our best wishes on the impending birth of her first child. Congratulations, too, to Sgt Cormack, who has recently received his 25 year award from the Scarborough Board of Education.

The young men of D Company are working hard to complete their training, and we are especially pleased to have Pte Jones back in the Company.

In closing, I would like to thank all members of the Regiment for their efforts in recruiting. I would also like to thank the Instructors from the other Companies for assisting in the training.

## THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

by LCol CE Fraser, CD (Ret'd)

While most of us are familiar with the Regimental Museum, may do not know just where it belongs in the Regimental Family, so a brief explanation might be in order.

The museum is housed in the Memorial Hall, but it is the property of the "Regiment in Trust". The Chairman of the museum committee is answerable to the Regimental Trust and to the Commanding Officer.

We are fortunate that CWO Bill Elms is Chairman of the museum committee as there is none with a better knowledge of Regimental history, customs and dress. The members of this committee are appointed by the Chairman, and those now serving were selected because they all have long service with the Regiment, are all retired and have time to work in the Museum. The committee is comprised of the following gentlemen - Cam Fraser, Art Johnson, Gord Hale, Walter Peddle and Al Young.

Most of the work by this committee is not immediately apparent as it consists of long hours spent in identifying, filing, sorting, cleaning and related chores. These tasks are necessary if we are to have a more informative Museum in coming years. Some of their efforts were noticeable during our reunion in May when the Museum had a "new look", and you may be assured that bigger and better changes are planned for the future.

While we have an appointed, working committee, there are others in the Regimental Family who contribute time, special skills and even out of pocket expenses to help things get along. Special thanks must go to Captain Frank Dowe (the Jeep) of Ottawa, and to ex-RQMS George Jeffrey (a born again RCR) who have each had a set of our medals plated, properly mounted, and on occasion have come up with a replacement for a missing item. Thanks must also go to the many Highlanders and families of deceased Highlanders who continue to donate items of value for display in the Museum. There are also those who sent cash donations to the Chairman, through the Regimental Trust, for use by the museum Committee. Such donations are very much needed and are put to good use.

The committee is now planning the best way to change items in the display cases several times each year. They also plan to introduce a new style of label for each exhibit, and these will be far more accurate with better descriptions. It is hoped that these changes will not only add interest for

the "Old Sweats" who wander through, but will be of greater interest to new recruits who visit the Memorial Hall. Through the courtesy of the Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, we now have on loan four mannequins and these are being put to good use for the display of uniforms worn by the Regiment over the past 90 years.

One other service is to provide records of service of former and present Highlanders such as proof of service, confirmation of rank, length of service, copies of citations for gallantry or related information. Any request for this service must be in writing to the Museum Committee giving all available particulars about the subject. Some members of the Association have made use of this service in the past. All have expressed appreciation and some have shown this in the form of small donations to the Museum Committee. Such donations are indeed welcome, as the committee would like to be self supporting rather than appeal for funds from other sources.

When material with a specific value such as medals, weapons or other identifiable items are received, they are permanently marked to identify them as being the property of the Museum, and their description is added to the inventory held by the Regimental Trust. All other valuables such as pictures, books, programmes and so on are rubber stamped or otherwise identified to indicate ownership. These precautions are taken to ensure that property of the Museum does not fall into the wrong hands, and to assist in recovery should there be a loss through theft. One other point is that all items contributed to the Museum must be outright and permanent donations. When items are accepted by a museum "on loan", it results in additional administrative work and our committee are not in the position to take this on. All donations should be sent or delivered directly to The Regimental Museum, 48th Highlanders of Canada. These will be acknowledged.

At the present time the Committee is in need of:

- All articles of uniform or equipment
- Medals, decorations, badges and insignia
- Documents, records, orders, etc.
- Any other items relating to the 48th

To sum up, the Museum Committee is planning a future when the Regimental Museum will be a live and active place of interest to all members of the Regimental Family.

## CONTINUING SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION

by G Jeffrey

We continuing Sergeants usually meet about twice a year in a completely informal way. We give five draw tickets with the entrance fee - which is as low as possible to still cover expenses - and have a number of draws during the evening. This is followed by a very good buffet provided by Jerry Worth.

The purpose of our Association is really to keep in touch with not only each other, now that we've been put out to pasture, but with the active members of the Mess in as relaxed a way as possible.

Due to the unusual pressure around this time of

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Training with the US Army.

working as a loader. (Was the crew ever surprised when they were told to "dig in" after occupying a defence position).

The end of camp saw 3 Highlanders march on a squadron parade where K Troop was presented with a trophy for being the best troop Regular/National Guard or Reserve in the entire U.S.

A rousing send off saw the kilted warriors limp across the border with many fond memories and old friendships renewed. Never to be forgotten events such as the incident at the Red Barn, midnight Communion, the sleepout courtesy of the Michigan State Police all combined to make this a memorable event not easily forgotten.



The Continuing Sergeants at Play!

year, I've decided to postpone our next gathering until late January or early February.

Best of luck in your endeavours with "the Falcon".

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

by Margaret Attwells, President

No where in the Association is the word "DILEAS" more appropriate than to the Ladies Auxiliary. They have served for 32 years and this year had their first reunion, 1949-1981. This affair was very successful, due to the hard work of Mrs. Dorothy Shiers and her committee.

The Honourable Pauline McGibbon, an honorary member, attended and presented a Past President's pin to Margaret Hobson, our first President. Mrs. Hobson, who at age 78, is a very active member of the Auxiliary.



The Honourable Pauline McGibbon being greeted by Mrs. Margaret Attwells.

Afternoon tea was served by Muriel Bull and Mary Driver. Later on a buffet was served as well as a late night snack.

Many members attended from out of town as well as former members. This event will be carried on in the future and can only get bigger and better.

This year the Auxiliary donated a Resusi-Anne Torso to the Regiment and it was presented to them by Mrs. Margaret Ritchie and Mrs. Marie Nelson on Friday May 29, 1981, at the opening of the Regimental Reunion.

After 32 years, the Auxiliary were wined and dined and entertained by the Life Members of the O.C.A. on September 21. This was Ladies Night in every sense of the word. The men cooked, waited on tables and put on a variety show. The Ladies were honoured guests and they sat and enjoyed. We are ever grateful to these fine gentlemen.

With roots stemming from the Regiment, the Auxiliary tries to carry on the traditions that have been handed down from past generations. Many mothers now have their daughters in the Auxiliary. The family of Private James Blencowe has his wife Doreen, Past President, daughter Marie, Past President, daughter Margaret, Vice President and granddaughter Patricia on Executive. This is one of the meanings of DILEAS.

## LIFE MEMBERS

by J Brannan, Secretary

With the passage of time it was only natural that the numbers of Life Members would increase. The regulations to become a Life Member are, you must have reached the age of 65 years and been paid up member of the O.C.A. continuously for the previous five years. Simple isn't it.

As our numbers increased it was brought up frequently that an Association should be formed. However discussions dragged on and on with nothing being accomplished. Finally, Bernie Whyte the President of the O.C.A. called a meeting of a few "Old Timers" and Col Mike George who was an Honorary Life Member. No time was lost. After a little discussion the date for an organization meeting was set.

There was a real turn out at this meeting. It was agreed there would be very few regulations. Meetings on the first Monday in the month, a committee of four, Chairman (so as to avoid confusion with the President of O.C.A.), Treasurer and Secretary. Dues were set at \$5.00 annually but if you wished to make a donation at any time it would be gratefully received.

The first committee was chosen rather than elected (elections at the January Meeting) Chairman, Jim Rae; Treasurer, Al Young; Secretary, Jim Brannan. At a later date a Vice-Chairman was added.

There are 92 active members and it was agreed that if the President of O.C.A. wished he could be considered for Associate membership, so there are two, Bob Harding and Leo Trudelle.

We have had many suggestions as to activities, but so far we have had several trips arranged by Stan Lamb, to the Cullin Gardens, Sutton Legion, Kitchener Market and Safari Park and many more suggestions.

We have had "home and home" visits with Baron Byng Legion and Woodbine Heights Legion.

Gordon Sinclair, a member, has visited us a couple of times and given very interesting talks. We also spent a wonderful day at his cottage.

Someone came up with the idea that the ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary had never been shown real appreciation for their work around the club, so we gave them a dinner organized by Stan Lamb. The Life Members called for volunteers and sufficient turned up to peel potatoes and other vegetables, set tables etc. and serve the Ladies a real sumptuous repast including wine. After dinner all drinks were free gratis to our guests.

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An entertaining programme was presented with Pop Fraser as M.C. It really was a wonderful night.

This is a brief outline of we "Old Timers" and we do enjoy ourselves.

I hope to keep you up to date on our activities in future Falcons.

## OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

by GL Cassaday, President

As with every New Year, 1981 was greeted with optimism which, unfortunately did not come to pass.

We experienced a loss, through death, of the following members of the Association:

Capt WC Barclay

LCol IMR Sinclair, OBE, DSO, MC, VD

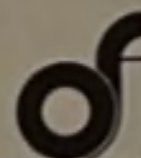
and in addition we have had a future loss in participation by our members.

The turnout of Associate Officers at the reunion in May was particularly disappointing since such an event is held only once every five years. It is difficult for our Executive Committee to come up with functions throughout the year that meet with sufficient res-



Association Members,  
Ted Ruthven, Cam Fraser, "Cass" Cassaday.

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ponse so as to make it the exercise worthwhile.

I am taking this opportunity to once again solicit your interest in, and support of, the Association and the Regiment.

Please feel free to contact the Secretary, Major JA Brown, or any Member of the Executive, with your comments or complaints, but preferably your suggestions for a more successful future.

## OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

by Leo Trudelle, President

"Whatever use shall be made of this place, may we remember the sacrifice which it commemorates. Within its walls may spirit ever be fostered which lived in our fallen comrades, and kept them faithful even unto death. In the lands where they fell, their bodies lie buried. But here in this place they called home their spirits are very near us, and our fellowship with them is unbroken".

Those are the words spoken at the opening ceremony of our Memorial Hall in 1946.

Our Club is not only in memory of our dead, it is in memory of all those men and women who have seen service of some kind in our Regiment. It is through dedication, hard work and cooperation of all members and all branches of our Regimental Family that we have this Club.

The Memorial Hall has always been self supporting and over the years it has donated funds to the Regiment to help maintain our regimental uniform, which is not subsidised by the Department of National Defence.



Some of the OCA at the 48th Memorial, Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto. Remembrance Weekend, Nov. 1981.

We, the OCA, take great pride in our past and present association with our Regiment.

For those of you who have never visited our Club rooms at 284 King St. East, make it a point to do so in the near future. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

We have dances, dinners, wine and cheese parties, cribbage, darts and company reunions. We also have rooms for hire for any kind of occasion; call the Club and ask for Arnold Lea - he will work with and for you in any way he can.

In closing, I wish to thank all of you who have helped and supported us in the past, and hope you continue to do so in the future.

## 48TH HIGHLANDERS CHAPTER IODE

by Mrs WB Turner, Regent

The 48th Highlanders Chapter IODE (Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire) was formed on 7 May 1907 through the efforts of Mrs. John I. Davidson, wife of the first commanding officer of the 48th Highlanders of Canada, and the object of the Order - Welfare and Education - were to be confined largely to the Regiment for the benefit and welfare of the men.

Membership in the Chapter is confined to wives, mothers, sisters, daughters of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Regiment.

We will be celebrating our 75th Anniversary in 1982 which makes the Chapter the oldest member of the "Family" after the Regiment.

Over the years the Chapter has continued the work as set out by the aims of those who organized it.

In the past dances were held to raise money for the various projects of the Chapter and in recent years cocktail parties, "carnival" theme activities, card parties, bazaars, garage sales, etc. were held.

During the years following World War II the Chapter provided numerous food hampers for the members of the 48th Family, sponsored many children at the Bolton Camp and have assisted many students with bursaries to further their education.

Since World War II two of the members of the 48th Highlanders Chapter IODE who were involved with IODE at the National Level went on to be National Presidents of the IODE. These two ladies were Mrs. Chipman and Mrs. P.E. Robinson. Mrs. Chipman is deceased but Mrs. Robinson still contributes to the 48th Highlanders Chapter and at present is our Honorary Regent.

In order to keep the Chapter existing we look to the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of the serving Regiment, to support the chapter and continue with the work started in 1907 by the founding members of this Chapter.

We would like to think that those who joined the Chapter can say with a great deal of pride that they belong to the 48th Highlanders Chapter IODE who are the second oldest active Chapter in the Municipal Chapter of Toronto and making a contribution to the work of the Order.

## THE PIPES AND DRUMS ASSOCIATION

by LCol CE Fraser, CD

This Association is now in its eighth year and now has a large up to date mailing list with just over 100 paid up members. On a pro-rated basis, this puts us in the category of one of the strongest groups in the Regimental Family.

At the present time there is a good strong Executive with Bill Elms as President, Archie Dewar as Vice President, Lloyd Tucker is our very wordy Secretary, and Penny Pinching John Williams is Treasurer. We also have Cam Fraser as Past President, along with a strong and interested Executive.

This year started off with the Annual Dinner, for members only, and the only time we have ever made an exception to this rule was in January 1980 when we had twelve members of the Gordon Highlanders join us as guests for the evening. This year the guest speaker was Colonel Iain MacKay, the one and only Honorary Member of the Association. In civilian life Iain specializes in putting people to sleep - temporarily - but at the dinner he was most entertaining, kept everyone wide awake, and all who attended had a most enjoyable evening.

During March, the Association took care of the planning and administrative details of the annual competition for Junior Pipers and Drummers of the Regimental Pipes and Drums. By assuming these duties, the Association leaves the Pipe Major free to concentrate on the technical aspects of the competition. As usual, the competition was a success, the quality of the piping and drumming by these young contenders was very good, and as a diversion, our Cadet Corps Pipes and Drums put on a demonstration during the afternoon. This is one event where the Pipes and Drums Association feel they are making a worthwhile contribution, as there is nothing like



Niagara Falls Parade, Pipe Major Archie Dewar, Drum Major Bill Booker.

competition to improve the quality not only of individual contenders, but also of the entire band.

The next major activity was in May when we provided a "pick up" pipe band for CSM Stan Clark and the OCA Drill Team. The occasion was the annual Magna Carta Parade from Niagara Falls, Ontario to Niagara Falls, New York. They managed to muster a band of one Drum Major, nine pipers, one base drummer and three side drums under the able leadership of Pipe Major Archie Dewar. The weather was good, the band was well taken care of, and a very enjoyable day was had by all. It was an added bonus when they brought home the trophy for "best Pipe Band in the parade". Once again this Association had a feeling of accomplishment in being able to provide a service to another member of the 48th Family.

In June the Association again assisted the Drill Team by providing a band for a Warriors' Day Parade in St. Mary's, Ontario. On this occasion Jimmy Strachan was Pipe Major and they managed to muster a band of One Drum Major, ten pipers, one base drummer, and four side drummers. Although this made up band had never practiced together, they played very well indeed, but unfortunately placed third. At Niagara the band had six old age pensioners, but at St. Mary's there were only five, so maybe age and experience does count. As you know there has always been friendly competition between the bands of the 48th and the Toronto Scottish, so our geriatric band were elated, and the TorScots chagrined at St. Mary's when we were placed ahead of them in the competition.

At the end of September we held our Annual Dance in the Memorial Hall with both modern and

continued on page 32

# YESTERDAY



*Aldershot, England 1908*



*"B" Company London Ont. 1926*



*"D" Company London Ont. 1926*



*Sergeants Mess Picnic, Long Branch 1908*

# TODAY



*With 107 Armoured Cavalry, Stow, Ohio.*



*"But I'm your commanding officer!!"*



*With 107 Armoured Cavalry.*



*Who said the girls only do office work?*



*Off to Borden for the weekend.*



Scottish dancing. The event was well attended, those present appeared to enjoy themselves and the duty pipe band was made up of old timers. The members of the band had a hell of a good time, but we cannot speak for the audience.

This is the Association's one and only money making activity of the year and most of the profit from these dances is used for the good and welfare of the Regimental Pipes and Drums. In spring of this year, we were pleased to purchase \$400 worth of uniform items which helped Reay MacKay and his merry band look a little more "tiddly" for the Wembley Tattoo.



*George Baker, Cam Fraser, Bill Booker, Nick Birch and Lloyd Tucker.*

On the first Sunday of November of each year, the Association closes the year with a wine and cheese party held in the auditorium of the Memorial Hall. This is a well attended event and during the afternoon more old piping and drumming stories are bandied about than are heard during the rest of the year. In 1981, the feature event was a display by the Pipes and Drums of the Cadets. These lads will be the strength of the Regimental Pipes and Drums in future years, and they do need exposure such as this to encourage them and to keep their interest at a high level.

One other fact of which we are justly proud is that we were the first group in the Regimental Family to far exceed the quota set in the recent capital fund raising campaign.