



# The Powder Horn

In Pace Paratus

Summer 2010

## The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada's 150th Birthday activities – 9 April to 17 July, 2010



Corporal Rui Saraiva, one of two recipients of the first education bursaries awarded by The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada - Princess Alexandra Bursary Fund, receives his award from the Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra, KG, GCVO at the Anniversary Ball during the Regiment's 150th Birthday Week in April. Toronto Branch

QOR Association President Bob Dunk looks on. Derek Costeloe, grandson of the late Major Geoff Costeloe, nominated by the Vancouver Island Branch, was also awarded a bursary. The bursary was created to mark the regiment's sesquicentennial and to honour HRH Princess Alexandra, who has stepped down as Colonel-in-Chief.



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The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada





# Powder Horn and Rifleman – Important Notice

This is an important notice to all recipients of the Powder Horn. Beginning with the next issue, due in November 2010, the publication will no longer be sent by mail but will be placed on the Regimental Website at qor.com. Readers who wish to have it sent by e-mail in downloadable form, should send a copy of their e-mail address to [qorpubs@sympatico.ca](mailto:qorpubs@sympatico.ca).

You are also reminded that, if you wish to receive the annual copy of Rifleman Journal, you MUST be a member of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada's National Association. Memberships can be purchased through your local Branch of the Association. The 2011 edition, which will be distributed early in the new year, will be a 150th anniversary souvenir edition, which I am certain you will be anxious to receive.

These decisions have not been taken lightly. Costs are mounting steadily for producing, printing and mailing each of these publications. These costs, borne directly by the Regimental Trust Fund, are among numerous

others the Fund incurs on an annual basis, with the celebrations surrounding the 150th anniversary and the visit of the Colonel-in-Chief being major ones in 2010. With few exceptions, funds for numerous regimental activities, including publications, are raised exclusively through tax-deductible donations from members of the Regimental Family. With each issue of the Powder Horn and Rifleman a pledge form is included which gives readers the opportunity to send tax-deductible donations directly to the fund.

We must move with the times as well as ensure that our financial resources are used wisely and well.

If you wish to comment on this new initiative I can be reached on e-mail at [mcc@sympatico.ca](mailto:mcc@sympatico.ca), by Canada Post at 1152 Ashcroft Court, Oshawa, ON, L1K 2N9 or by telephone at 905 743 0259.

Capt Charles McGregor, Editor, Powder Horn and Rifleman.

## Alberta's New Lt. Governor



Photograph taken following the induction ceremony (l to r) Linda Ethell, new Alberta Lieutenant Governor, Colonel The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD; LCol (ret) Laurie Hawn, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence and Rona Ambrose, Member, Alberta riding of Edmonton - Spruce Grove, Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women.

## 9 April, 2010. Vimy Day



On Vimy Day in Canada, 9 April, Mayor David Miller of Toronto invited The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada to a 150th anniversary ceremony in City Hall to mark the occasion. As Bugler Cpl Bob Frankling CD plays Last Post, the skirmishers present arms and salutes are given by the Commanding Officer, LCol John Fotheringham CD and MCpl Stephen Thomas MB.

In this issue of Powder Horn we are providing a quick look at the major events which have taken place so far this year in connection with the 150th anniversary of the founding of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. In an exceedingly small selection of the more than 1,000 photographs which we now have on file, readers will get a feel for how the celebrations were carried out in various parts of the country. We will be producing a souvenir CD which will contain many of those photographs and information on this can be found elsewhere in this issue.



## 20 April, Victoria, B.C. 22 April, Calgary, Alberta



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**qor.com**

*The photos on the pages of this issue of Powder Horn are among over 1000 which have been taken over recent months during the 150th anniversary celebrations. Check out the Regimental Website at [qor.com](http://qor.com) to view others which have been posted there.*



## 23 April, 2010. "Meet 'n Greet" at Moss Park Armoury



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#1 Toronto Branch President Bob Dunk, Birthday Weekend Events Committee Chairman, with his wife Deborah. #2 MCpl Adam de Bartok, a two-time veteran of the Afghanistan Task Force, wearing his Kandahar kit, shows some of the tools of his trade. MCpl de Bartok was wounded in Afghanistan and was awarded the Sacrifice Medal.

## Memoirs and anecdotal material required for history book

This is a request to all readers of The Powder Horn – particularly those who served in 1st and 2nd Battalions The Canadian Rifles and 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada – to give thought to providing material which could be considered for use in the writing of the updated Regimental History. As you are aware the first 100 years of the Regiment's life were documented in the excellent history published in 1960 written by LCol William T. Barnard, ED, CD.\*

The Regimental Trust believes it is now time to have a new book produced covering the years 1950 to 2010, and I have been asked to undertake this assignment. While LCol Barnard's book ended in 1960 it was not possible for him to do full justice to the early postwar years and the 1950s and the service of the Regular Force Battalions in the Korean War as well as in Cyprus and Germany as well as details on special assignments carried out in other world locations by members of our Regular Force regiments.

I would especially like to hear from those few survivors who were among the 40 members of The Queen's Own Rifles who participated in "Operation Plumbob" in 1957 who were exposed to radiation. This involved the explosion of nuclear bombs in the Nevada desert and many of those present have died of various forms of cancer suspected to have been caused directly by exposure to radiation.

Some of you have already offered memoirs but I am certain there are many more good stories out there that could be put on paper and used in what I am calling, at the moment, "The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Modern History Book."

This material can be provided in any form you wish, as a computer document sent by e-mail or typed or written in longhand and sent by Canada Post. At this point I am not asking for photographs, since the book will be almost all text, with a few photographs where felt appropriate.

E-Mail documents should be sent to my attention at [qor-pubs@sympatico.com](mailto:qor-pubs@sympatico.com). Material sent by Canada Post should be addressed to Charles McGregor, 1152 Ashcroft Court, Oshawa, ON, L1K 2N9. I can be reached by telephone at 905 743 0259.

The time to do this is **NOW**.

\*Although hard cover copies of the book "The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, 1860-1960, One Hundred Years of Canada," are now out of print and available only at rare book stores, soft cover reprint copies are available through Joe Drouin Enterprises Ltd. for \$15 plus postage. Contact [joe@joedrouin.com](mailto:joe@joedrouin.com) or telephone 819-568-6669.



## 24 April, 2010. HRH Princess Alexandra opens her visit with a large welcoming reception at Casa Loma



*Top Left) Mrs. Jane Strathy and LCol John Strathy CD greet and welcome HRH Princess Alexandra to Casa Loma.*

*Top Right) Mrs. Bev Hughes, wife of Col Paul F. Hughes CD.*

*Centre Left) Sgt Emily Kenny and Sgt Jonas Feldman of the QOR Band and Bugles.*

*Centre Right), Shilpi Banerjee, wife of LCol Sandi Banerjee (serving in Afghanistan).*

*Bottom Left) MGen Herb Pitts, MC CD, President QOR National Association.*

*Bottom Right) HRH Princess Alexandra inspects the Guard of Honour in the forecourt at Casa Loma.*





# 24 April, 2010. 150th Anniversary Dinner and Dance



*Top Left) HRH Princess Alexandra is escorted in to dinner.*

*Top Right) The Colonel-in-Chief wields a Pioneer's Sword to demonstrate her birthday cake-cutting skills.*

*Centre Left) HRH Princess Alexandra admires one of the gifts she received.*

*Centre Right) Sgt Jamieson Murray and friends.*

*Centre right) RQMS Craig Hood, Lt Ted Howard, Pioneer Sgt Jessie Behan and guest.*

*Bottom Right) Portion of the large attendance at the dinner during the address given by the Colonel-in-Chief.*



# 25 April, 2010. Regimental Church Parade well attended



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#1 Regimental Skirmishers lead the troops along Bloor Street to St. Paul's Anglican Church.

#2 "2010 Reunion Bugle Band" composed of former Regimental Bugle Band Members led by former RSM Mike Holland CD.

#3 The Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra lays a wreath at the Cross of Sacrifice.

#4 Honorary Colonel Paul F. Hughes CD and the Colonel-in-Chief bow in respect after the wreath is placed.

#5 St. Paul's Anglican Church Pastor Rev. Barry Parker with HRH Princess Alexandra.

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#1 and #2 Colonel-in-Chief HRH Princess Alexandra KG, GCVO and Honorary Colonel Paul F. Hughes CD on the saluting base for the marchpast following the service of remembrance.

#3 Regiment doubles past the saluting base, skirmishers in the lead.

#4 Regiment doubling past, led by LCol John Fotheringham CD.

#5 Proud marchpast by The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association, Toronto Branch members.

#6 Sgt June Parris CD chats with Princess Alexandra.

#7 New Lieutenants Sam Leibel (L) and Fadi Dar Ali are "Commissioned" by the Colonel-in-Chief.



## 25 April, 2010. Church Parade is followed by a reception at Moss Park for members of the regiment and families





## 26 April, 2010. The Queen's Own Rifles flag flies over the city



*On the 150th birthday of the founding of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, 26 April, 2010, the regiment was honoured by having its flag flown for the day from the flagpole at Toronto City Hall. Toronto Mayor David Miller read a proclamation declaring it "The Queen's Own Rifles Day in Toronto." Commanding Officer LCol John Fotheringham, CD and the Mayor hold the proclamation, flanked by Capt David Harms CD (left) and Capt Shawn Stewart.*

## 16 May, 2010. The Honorary Colonel at Canterbury Cathedral



*During a visit to England in May, Honorary Colonel Paul Hughes CD visited our Associate Regiment, the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (PWRR), in Canterbury. In addition to attending a number of regimental events he went to the Warriors' Chapel in Canterbury Cathedral where he turned a page in the QOR Book of Remembrance there. He is seen here with Col Crispin Champion, President of the Canterbury association chapter.*



## 6 June, 2010. D-Day veteran Bugler WO Ted O'Halloran is honoured at Toronto City Hall Square on D-Day+66



D-Day Veteran WO Ted O'Halloran, grandson Jimmy, 16, and daughter Joanne.



The Queen's Own Rifles buglers sound Last Post.



WO O'Halloran is interviewed by local TV station.



Guard of Honour led by Lt Dar-Ali and CSM Paul Martin.



WO O'Halloran and Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone.

D-Day Veteran Jack Hadley and Toronto Association President Dave Lavery salute on D-Day+66 before placing a wreath at The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Wall of Honour in Moss Park Armoury. A D-Day remembrance service was held prior to the public ceremony at Nathan Phillips Square.





# 17 July, 2010. Regiment's 150th anniversary honoured on Parliament Hill; wreaths laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



*D-Day veterans (l to r) Bill Bettridge, Jack Hadley and Alex Adair view the changing of the guard on Parliament Hill. Several members of The Queen's Own Rifles were serving in the guard and in the band as a QOR 150th anniversary gesture during the summer months.*



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#1 QOR members on guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

#2 (l to r) Preparing to lay a wreath, (l to r) D-Day veterans Alex Adair, Justin Onderkirk and his grandfather Jack Hadley, Bill Bettridge, Cpl Graham Humphrey and Linda Newton, grand-daughter of Rfn Buck Hawkins, KIA along with 15 other QOR members on 18 July, 1944.

#3 Hon Col Paul Hughes CD lays a wreath at the tomb.

#4 Sgt Emily Kenny sounds Last Post.



# Affiliate Regiment officers participate in 150th celebrations

(Excerpted from "The Journal," the annual publication of The Regimental Association of The Queen's Own Buffs (PWRR), a regiment affiliated with The Queen's Own since 1914. The following is taken from a report written by Captain Ham Whitty who, with fellow ex PWRR officer Lieutenant Colonel Richard Talbot now living in Toronto, attended the 150th anniversary celebrations of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, in April.)

By Captain Ham Whitty

One hundred years ago in 1910, Colonel Sir Henry Pellatt, at his own expense, took the 2nd Battalion The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada to England to participate in the annual exercises at Aldershot. It was during that visit that the affiliation with The Buffs was born, to be consummated in 1914.

The Queen's Own Rifles are proud of their active service history, from the engagement at Ridgeway in 1866 during the Fenian Raids, the provision of volunteers to the 2nd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment during the South African War 1899-1901, to distinguished service in both wars. The regiment contributed to the 3rd Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force which served with the 1st Infantry Brigade in France and Flanders when four VCs were awarded to members of the regiment.

So, on 26 April this year The Queen's Own Rifles celebrated its 150th birthday, and did so in style over three days in Toronto, following functions in Victoria and Calgary. Attending as representatives of The Queen's Own Buffs Regimental Association were Capt Ham Whitty and LCol Richard Talbot, both of whom had served as exchange officers with The Queen's Own Rifles in the 1960s. Thus the regiment's affiliation which began in London was recognized almost 100 years later, on The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada's 150th birthday.

Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief, was due to attend the functions in Victoria and Calgary but was defeated by the Icelandic ash. She was able to fly to Toronto, however in time to join a large gathering of Queen's Own Rifles, past and present, their partners and invited guests at a reception hosted by Honorary Colonel Paul Hughes at Casa Loma on 24 April, to tour the Regimental Museum there, and chat to all those present.



Princess Alexandra chats with Capt Ham Whitty (centre) and LCol Richard Talbot, former members of the British regiment The Queen's Own Buffs (PWRR).

The Princess was guest of honour that evening at a magnificent gala anniversary dinner in the huge Metro Ballroom at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. She spoke warmly after dinner of her affection for her regiment, of its fine history and traditions. She also announced that, after 50 years as its Colonel-in-Chief, she had made the difficult decision to retire and would be succeeded by Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. The following morning she attended a church parade at St. Paul's the regimental church, laying a wreath at the War Memorial and, following the service, taking the salute as the regiment double marched past her.

Captain Whitty and Lieutenant Colonel Talbot who, whilst at Colchester had been ushers at Princess Alexandra's wedding in Westminster Abbey in 1963, both laid wreaths on behalf of The Queen's Own Buffs and the Affiliated Regiments. In the course of the busy weekend programme, they also met many old friends and colleagues and were warmly welcomed and generously entertained throughout.

It is sad that The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada is now reduced to one militia battalion. However, it was quite clear to us that it is carrying on in the great traditions of the forebear battalions with huge efficiency and enthusiasm and that the regiment's affection for, and ties with, The Queen's Own Buffs remain as strong as ever.

## IN MEMORIAM

Elmer Blanchard  
RSM Sid J Byatt

Jasper Martin  
Joe Oggy

Peter Morris  
BGen John Richardson