



The Powder Horn

Volume 6

APRIL 1996

Issue 1

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Destination Calgary...

Major-General Barry W. Ashton, has retired from Canada's Armed Forces after a long and distinguished career which began with The Queen's Own Rifles. Immediately prior to retirement, Barry served with the U.N. Peace Forces in Zagreb, Croatia as the Commander of the Canadian Contingent and Deputy Force Commander of the U.N. Peace Forces. Barry and his wife Carol have taken up residence in Calgary where Barry has been appointed Executive Director of Canada 2005 Exposition Corporation which hopes to bring the World Fair to Calgary.

Police Service Board

Appointment...

The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario signed an Order in Council on 31 January 1996 that appointed B. Graham Baskerville as a member of the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Service Board. Graham is best remembered as the likeable Commanding Officer of the Battalion in Toronto from April 1984 to September 1987 after a distinguished career in the Regular Force.

Parliamentary

Appointment...

On 23 February 1996, J.A. (Jack) Richardson,

Member of Parliament for the Ontario riding of Perth-Wellington-Waterloo, was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence and Veterans Affairs. Jack served with the 2nd Battalion in Germany during 1957-1960 and then left the Regular Force to pursue an academic career. He joined the Militia shortly after leaving the Regular Force and rose to the rank of Brigadier-General as Commander of Central Militia Area in Toronto. He retired in 1990 from his position as the Superintendent of Instruction with the Perth County Board of Education in Stratford and was elected to Parliament in October 1993.

Error of Omission...

E.D. (Ted) Hughes of Brockville has noted that Colonel N.A. (Robbie) Robinson's account of the 2nd Battalion which appeared in the August 1995 issue of *"The Powder Horn"* omitted to mention the Victoria Rifles of Montreal which formed part of the 1st and 2nd "Panda" Battalions as "A" Company. Moreover, to put the record straight, the Battalions served in Valcartier and Wainwright before being posted to Ipperwash.

B.C. Bound...

John L. Sharpe, the incumbent President and General Manager of the Ontario Safety League, has announced his retirement from that position in July when he will be moving to take up residence in Cranbrook, B.C. with his wife Joan.

Prior to his appointment with the Ontario Safety League, John was the Chief of Operational Plans and Force Development at NDHQ in the rank of Major-General.

John's Departure from the League probably ends a Queen's Own dynasty at the League where two of his former brother officers headed the organization, namely, BGEN S.F. Andrunyk (1975-1988) and MGEN H.C. Pitts (1988-1991).

Canada Museum...

Canada Museum, the first of its kind in Europe, was opened on 28 June 1995 in Adegem, Belgium by Gilbert Van Landschoot, builder and curator of the Museum.

The Museum was built in gratitude to the Canadian Army to whom Van Landschoot's father owed his life.

Canada Museum's entrance hall is decorated with unit crests, depicted in stained-glass windows, of the Canadian regiments which took part in the liberation

PEOPLE AND PLACES
Cont'd

Canada Museum Cont'd...
of Belgium.

The Museum is now attempting to acquire the head dress and uniforms of those regiments which took part in the campaign. It is also interested in acquiring World War II memorabilia in the form of badges, shoulder flashes, medals, photos, etc. for display in the Museum.

Potential donors should contact Mr. G. Van Landschoot, Curator of the Canada Museum, at Heulendonk 21, 9991 Adegem-Maldegem, Belgium for additional information.

HIGHLIGHTS

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

The Regimental Band and Bugles of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada will present their 3rd Annual spring Concert at the Metropolitan United Church in Toronto at 8:00 o'clock P.M. on Friday, 26 April 1996.

As part of the Regimental Birthday weekend, the Band and Bugles will present a program of music from anything to Atkins, Bach to bugles marches.

Admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age.

Come out and help celebrate the Regiment's 136th birthday with a musical tribute to one of Canada's finest infantry regiments.

DEDICATION CEREMONY

The City of York will rename Jasper Park to "Westlake Memorial Park" in memory of three Westlake brothers who were killed in Normandy in 1944. Albert and Thomas served with the Queen's Own Rifles and George served with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders. Dedication of the park and the plaque will be held on Sunday afternoon, 9 June 1996.

The Queen's Own Association is looking for a good turnout of members. Form-up will be at Cordella School at 1400 hours with the dedication service commencing at 1430 hours. Royal Canadian Legion Branches in the area will also participate in the ceremony.

For more details contact Art Gay at Regimental Headquarters.

**CANADIANS.....
A BATTALION AT WAR**

The most recent book on World War II, "Canadians... A Battalion at War" is of special significance to the Queen's Own family since it is primarily a collection of personal memoirs of members of the Queen's Own Rifles who served in the Regiment during the war. Alex Adair, David Arksey, Stanley Biggs, Wally Brewer, Orville Cook, Barney Danson, Hank Elliot, Harry Fox, Doug Hester, Nick Kalyniuk, Charlie Martin, Archie McQuade, Allen Nickson, Ted O'Halloran are just a few of the veterans who have recorded their personal experiences in vivid and touching words. Published by Burlington books. "Canadians... A Battalion at War" is now on

sale in bookstores at a cost of \$34.95, however, it may also be purchased from our Regimental Kit Shop at a special price of \$25.00 which includes GST and mailing costs. Don't miss the opportunity to order your copy now.

AN OFFER TOO GOOD FOR WORDS

In an effort to encourage more members of our Regimental family to support our Regimental Trust Fund, contributors who make a donation of \$100.00 or more between 1 April 1996 and 1 October 1996 will be entitled to receive either a free copy of "Canadians... A Battalion at War", or a free copy of a print of the D-Day Assault Landing painting by Captain Orville Fisher. Please state your preference when you make your donation to the Trust Fund.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are planning to move or you have moved, please let Regimental Headquarters know of your new address.

POSTPONEMENT

Word has been received from Regimental Headquarters of the PWRR that presentation of new colours to 1st Battalion of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment scheduled for this summer has been postponed until further notice. The Battalion has been placed at notice to deploy to an operational area necessitating the postponement.

5/10
5/11
5/12

QOR OF C ASSOCIATION NEWS - TORONTO

CWO Brian Budden, President of the Queen's Own Rifles Association in Toronto has provided *"The Power Horn"* with the following information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN 1996

27 April

136th Regimental Birthday celebrations.

Annual Association Meeting at 1500 hours in Moss Park Armoury.

Parade, Dance and Buffet Dinner in the afternoon and evening in Moss Park Armoury.

1/2 June

130th anniversary of the Battle of Ridgeway.

6 June

52nd anniversary of D-Day. Parade forms up at 0700 hours at the Memorial in Moss Park Armoury.

20 July

Tentative weekend in Kingston.

QOR of C Pioneers and Skirmishers to be involved with Fort Henry Guard for a Sunset Ceremony.

Travel to Kingston will be by bus for an overnight stay. Interested persons should contact Brian Budden at (416) 266-0342 for details.

17 August

Warriors' Day Parade at Canadian National Exhibition.

Forming up will be in front of Fort York Armoury at 1000 hours.

Parade will be led by the Regimental Band and the Bugles.

14 September

Annual Association Rifle Shoot at CFB Borden.

Bus will depart Moss Park Armoury at 1000 hours. Cost is \$20.00 per person which includes lunch.

Interested shooters should contact QOR of C RHQ at (416) 362-3946.

MEMORIALS

The memorial plaques for the Bernieres-sur-Mer bunker and at the D-Day House are being planned for the June 1997 time frame. Donations to cover the cost of these memorials are needed. Donations should be made payable to the Trust Fund and mailed to RHQ with a notation that the donation is earmarked for the "1997 Memorials".

"EXERCISE RAMBLING RIFLEMAN"

Several Committees of the Regiment are planning special events to raise money to send 22 riflemen to England to train with our three allied regiments this summer. A contingent of similar size from the allied regiments will travel to Canada to participate in the Militia Concentration. This is an excellent opportunity for the Association to get involved in this program.

"VALOUR IN THE VICTORY CAMPAIGN"

The above titled book by T. Robert Fowler tells the

story of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, supported by the 2nd Armoured Brigade, from January to May 1945, through the decorations awarded for gallantry in Battles. It is the story of SGT Aubrey Cosens who posthumously won the Victoria Cross and includes the awards to other members of the Queen's Own Rifles, namely, CSM Charles Martin, and MAJ (now LCOL) Ben Dunkelman.

This book and *"Canadians... A Battalion at War"* will be available at the Regimental Kit Shop during the Regimental weekend in April.

"Valour in the Victory Campaign" may also be procured from T.R. Fowler, 92 Starwood Road, Ottawa, Ont. K2G 1Z5 for \$19.95 plus \$5.00 for GST and mailing costs.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE

Two British military historians, angered by the perception that generals of World War I were buffoons who lagged behind the lines, have made a six-year study of casualty lists.

In their recently published book *"Bloody Red Tabs"*, Graham Mado克斯 and Frank Davies report that at least 78 British generals were killed in the conflict, compared with only 20 in World War II.

THE CROSS OF SACRIFICE AND THE MEMORIAL SHRINE

As part of the ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of VE Day, the Regimental Trust fund undertook the restoration of the Cross of Sacrifice which stands on the grounds of St. Paul's Church in Toronto. Since many former Regular Force members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions and more recent members of the Regiment may not be familiar with the history of the Cross of Sacrifice and the Memorial Shrine, this short article may be of interest to them.

In the late 1920's, a Queen's Own Rifles Memorial Association, under the chairmanship of Brigadier-General J.G. Langton, was formed to undertake the erection of a memorial in tribute to those members of the Regiment who died in the service of King and country. The Memorial Association decided that the memorial should be of a two-fold character following the example of the Regiment's allied regiment in England, the Buffs. The Buffs had erected a memorial reredos in their chapel, the "Warriors Chapel" of Canterbury Cathedral, and within the Chapel they also placed a book of remembrance.

Thus, the Memorial Association determined to erect in the open air on the grounds of St. Paul's Church, a replica of that cross of sacrifice in Canterbury Cathedral. Permission was obtained from the architect, Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and the Imperial War Graves Commission, to proceed and Mr. E. J. Lennox freely gave his services as architect to supervise the execution of the design and to plan the setting and surroundings of the Cross of Sacrifice which was to be done in solid Canadian granite.

The Cross of Sacrifice was unveiled and dedicated at a special service on 18 October 1931.

The unveiling and dedication of the Memorial Shrine took place in St. Paul's Church on Sunday, 13 March 1932 when, in his address to the congregation the Rector of St. Paul's Church and senior Chaplain of the Regiment, Reverend Canon Cody, described the memorial as follows.

"There is a background of granite, the same material out of which the Cross of Sacrifice is made, to indicate the connection between it outside and the Book of Remembrance within. There is a gable, and on its top a miniature cross of sacrifice, a perfect reproduction, even to the slender bronze sword which had to be carefully hammered out by hand. In the gable dominating everything is the regimental crest of the Queen's Own Rifles deeply carved in the granite. When you look at it, try to visualize the green maple leaf, the golden crown with crimson velvet underneath, and a red background around the magic figure "2" in the centre. Underneath is the motto "In Peace, Prepared". (In Pace Paratus)."

"There are in front, three deeply-cut niches, with exquisite canopy work above. Behind them, cut into the alabaster, is a laurel wreath, the symbol of victory, and on it the battle honours of the Regiment."

"On top of the table or stand is a rich bronze casket, made very much on the lines of the casket in Canterbury Cathedral. The base has, as its motif, the poppies which are symbolic of sleep or rest after the gallant soldier has done his best; reminiscent too, of the poppies in Flanders Fields. The case is lined with scarlet, and there is a plate-glass cover. Within will be deposited the Book of Remembrance."

"Just a word about its contents. It contained a title page dedicating the book to those members of the Queen's Own Rifles who were killed in action, or who died from wounds received in active service from 1866 to the end of the Great War." (Editor's note: today the Book of Remembrance contains names of 1730 all ranks who, from the Fenian Raid to Korea, have died in the service of their country).

"In this book, General and Rifleman are found side by side; names only, not ranks are given, and the date of death. This is symbolic of the great equality of sacrifice."

THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund was established in 1959 for the purpose of raising funds to be used "exclusively for the efficiency, welfare and well-being of the Regiment and its members". Initially, the Trustees directed that the funds raised should be directed toward:

- a. the maintenance of a Regimental Museum;
- b. the cost of writing and publishing a Regimental History;
- c. the maintenance of the Cross of Sacrifice at St. Paul's church in Toronto;
- d. the enlargement and maintenance of the Book of Remembrance;
- e. the expenses of the 1960 Regimental Centennial Celebration; and
- f. the sending of soldiers' comforts to Regimental units in action.

LCOL John G.B. Strathy, President of the Trust fund, and the twelve Trustees who are elected annually to manage the Trust Fund are dedicated to maintain the spirit of the Trust Fund's intentions. Donations that are received are only used for activities which are deemed to be for the overall benefit and well-being of the Regiment.

During the past two years when the Regiment had good reason to mark the 50th anniversaries of D-Day and VE Day, the Trust Fund expended slightly over \$30,000 to cover the costs of memorial plaques in Wons, Holland and Moss Park Armoury and the restoration of the Cross of Sacrifice in Toronto. As mentioned in the Queen's Association report by CWO Budden, additional funds are needed to place memorial plaques at Bernieres-sur-Mer probably in 1997.

Discussions are now taking place on the up-dating of our Regimental History which will require special funding before the end of this century.

In addition to the above mentioned special projects, the Trust Fund requires approximately \$20,000 per year to maintain the Regimental Museum at Casa Loma, to operate Regimental Headquarters, to pay insurance premiums on Regimental property valued at \$500,000 and to print and distribute "*The Rifleman*" and "*The Powder Horn*".

The importance of receiving donations, regardless of amount, from every individual on our mailing list which totals about 1,050 cannot be over-emphasized. It is in the interest of every member of our Regimental family to support the Regiment to ensure its preservation.

Your financial support will be gratefully acknowledged with a receipt for income tax purposes.

T O M O R R O W

WITHER OUR WORLD, WHEN TOMORROW COMES,
WITH THE THUNDROUS BEAT OF A THOUSAND DRUMS,
AND A VENGEFUL PIPER, WHO MUST BE PAID
FOR THE TRUST, AND TOLERANCE, LONG MISLAID,
LOST IN A MAZE OF DECEIT AND LUST,
TO CRUMBLE AWAY, IN A CLOUD OF DUST.

THIS IS OUR WORLD, WITH ITS TEEMING THRONGS,
A SEETHING CAULDRON, OF RIGHTS AND WRONGS,
WHERE THE GOOD AND THE EVIL WALK SIDE BY SIDE,
IN TRUST AND JUSTICE IS OFT' DENIED.
FOR THO' THE COMMANDMENTS WERE CARVED IN STONE?
MANKIND HAS CHOSEN TO WRITE ITS OWN.

DOWN THRU' THE AGES, SINCE TIME BEGAN,
THERE ARE WATCHFUL EYES, ON THE DEEDS OF MAN,
FOR IN THE BEGINNING, THE LORD DECREED,
THAT A PRICE BE PAID, FOR THE LIFE WE LEAD,
AND AS WE SOW, ALONG LIFE'S WAY,
SO SHALL WE REAP, COME JUDGEMENT DAY.

Written by Edith Kenn
Copied from the March/April 1996 Bulletin of
The Queen's Own Rifles Branch (Ontario 344)
The Royal Canadian Legion

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund

Donor's Name _____

Street Address _____

Apt. #, if applicable _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Amount of Donation _____

Please make donations payable to: **The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund and
mail to Regimental Headquarters, QOR of C, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen
Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9**

Ex Rambling Rifleman Update

As you will have seen in other portions of the Powder Horn, this year the unit is undertaking a series of exchange visits with our allied regiments in the UK. In Canada, we will be hosting 10 members each from the 4th Bn Royal Green Jackets, the 5th Bn the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment and the 10th Bn (V) the Parachute Regiment. These soldiers will be training with the unit at CFB Petawawa during our summer concentration, Ex Trillium Phoenix. In return, we will be sending unit members to each of these units for three weeks to participate in their summer exercises. The unit band will also be involved with an exchange with the Light Division Band.

In order to make all of this happen, the unit has planned three fund raising events to cover the airfare for our soldiers. The first of these will occur during the Regimental Birthday weekend. All birthday events will take place on Saturday the 27th of April 1996. In the morning, the unit will be conducting continuation parachuting activities at our local drop zone located just north of the Markham airport. For more information on this event, please contact the Unit Orderly Room. The unit will also be holding a birthday parade that day. It will take place at 1600 hours at Moss Park Armoury. This is a parade that should not be missed as the unit will be conducting the first double past in some time. That evening, starting at about 1930 hours, the unit will be hosting an all ages dance at the armoury. A full buffet will be provided. Music will be supplied by both the Regimental Band and by disk jockey. The dress for this event will be casual. Ticket information is available through the unit orderly room at (416) 973-3281. **All profits from this event will go toward the trip fund.** Ticket prices are:

Serving Master Corporals and Below	\$30.00 per couple
Serving Officers and Senior NCOs	\$40.00 per couple
All other members of the Regimental Family	\$40.00 per couple

The next event planned to support the trip will be an auction. This event will be held in the Officer's Mess at 1900 hours on 21 June 1996. The auction will include such items as tickets to various Toronto sporting events, items of unit or general military significant or the use of the services of the Regimental Musical quartet for a social event of your choosing. Items for the auction are still actively being sought. For information about this event, please contact Capt John Fotheringham through the unit orderly room. This event will appeal to people of all ages and promises to be a fun event.

The final fund raising activity will be the holding of a Black Net Dinner. This event will be held the evening of the 22nd of June 1996. This dinner, held in honor of the 130th anniversary of the Battle of Ridgeway, will include displays of period uniforms and equipment, a Sounding of Retreat from the Regimental Band and an exquisite dinner in the Officer's Mess. Tickets for this event are available for \$150.00 each. Charitable donation receipts will be issued from the Trust Fund for a substantial portion of this amount. Attendance for this event will be limited to ensure a close, friendly atmosphere is maintained throughout the evening. For more information, please contact Maj Eric Simundson through the unit orderly room.

In combination, these three events will allow us to send 25 members of this unit on a trip that they will not soon forget. All members of the Regimental family to get involved in one or all of these activities to ensure that our soldiers are taken care of and that our unit continues to strengthen our historic ties with our affiliated units.