



THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA



THE CAMERON ASSOCIATION IN CANADA
THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA
MINTO ARMOURY, 969 ST. MATTHEWS AVE WPG, MB R3G 0J7

2016/2017 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Past Pres	Taffy Gray	198 Seekings St Headingly, MB R4J 1B1		204-889-5655
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Sick, Visiting, and Last Post Director	Len Johnson	1094 Bay Rd St. Andrews, MB R1A 3L1		204-757-2023
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*** LAST POST ***



Holten Canadian War Cemetery 26 Aug 2016 by Wouter van Dijken

WILLIAM GUNN DOUGLAS

http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-239345/DOUGLAS_WILLIAM

WILLIAM (BILL) GUNN DOUGLAS Peacefully on Saturday, September 24, 2016, Bill beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather passed away in Winnipeg at the age of 96 years. Bill served in the Second World War with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, was a POW and a Proud Veteran. In accordance with Dad's wishes, cremation has taken place. There will be a private family interment at Brookside Cemetery at a later date. Friends and family are invited to join us in a memorial gathering at Cropo Funeral Chapel, 1442 Main Street on Monday, October 3, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's memory may be made to a charity of one's choice. Cropo Funeral Chapel, 204-586-8044

As published in the Winnipeg Free Press on Oct 03, 2016

Editor's Note: I spoke regularly with Bill over the years and he's going to be missed by many of those of us in his regimental family as well. Bill was a great guy, loved his westerns, attended the Cameron Reunion whenever his health permitted, and he, Tim Paryniuk, and Harry Long were quite the tour guides for me when we attended the 60th Anniversary of the Raid at Pourville in 2002.

ADAM KULCHYCKY

http://www.brandonsun2.com/classifieds_new.php?s=210&classified_category_id=1

(Please note that this was item #213 as the url seems to change)

Adam Kulchucky (Kulchyski). October 20, 1923 - May 15, 2016. With family by his side, Adam Kulchucky, age 92, formerly of Brandon, MB passed away on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at the Colonel Belcher Veteran's Care Centre in Calgary, AB. He was predeceased by his wife, Jean in January 2007. Adam is survived by children: Judy (Rick) Sample of Calgary, Murray (Alison) Kulchyski of Carp, ON, Marty (Glynys) Kulchyski of Calgary; grandchildren: Steven (Deanna) Sample, Scott Sample, Dan Kulchyski, Ray Kulchyski, Mark Kulchyski, Jacquie Lane, Michael (Michelle) Kulchyski; great-grandchildren: Elizabeth Lane, Tyler Kulchyski, Leah Kulchyski. He is also survived by his brother Alex (Pat) of Calgary, and sister Margaret Waters of Winnipeg. Adam served in WWII with the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders, was employed by Beverage Services (Coca-Cola) in Brandon, Portage and Dauphin. He enjoyed his family, hunting with his son, grandson, brothers and pals, a good bargain and Ukrainian food! Special thanks to the Gibraltar House staff at Colonel Belcher Care Centre and Glenn Cameron, for the care he received while there. A graveside service will be held at a later date in Brandon.

Expressions of sympathy may be made at www.memorieschapel.com.

JOHN KONIAK

October 15, 1921 – May 23, 2016

<http://cropo.com/tribute/details/4996/JOHN-KONIAK/obituary.html>

Peacefully, with his family by his side, John passed away on May 23, 2016 at Concordia Hospital.

John will be lovingly remembered and forever missed by his wife of 65 years, Mary, son Brian (Irene) and granddaughter Charlene (Glenn). He is also survived by his brothers Bill, Nick (Nettie) and sister Lena, as well as nephews, nieces and godchildren.

John was born on October 15, 1921 in Gardenton, Manitoba and grew up on the family farm until enlisting in the army, serving with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in World War II. After returning home from combat in Europe, he worked various jobs in Manitoba and Ontario before settling with his family in Winnipeg. He worked for many years for Flyer Industries before retiring at age 65. He was also a long-time member of the Independent Order of Foresters.

John and Mary's retirement years were enjoyed and active, involving summers at their Albert Beach cottage, travel to various parts of Canada and the United States, and getting together with family and their wide circle of very dear friends. He loved animals, new cars and especially sports. While he was still able, he golfed, bowled, and curled. He was a huge fan of the Blue Jays, the Jets and the Bombers and "Coach" (as Glenn called him) always had the answer when they weren't winning. Above all else, however, John's greatest joy in life came from the weekly (daily while in hospital) visits from his "Princess", Charlene.

The family would like to thank all of the family, friends and neighbours who showed so much concern and love for John throughout his stay in hospital. We would also like to thank Dr. Martin and the wonderful nurses and aides of Concordia Hospital, unit N3E, for their care and compassion. A special thank you to dear friend and neighbour, Rita, for her many early morning visits to help John with his breakfast and start his day off with a smile. This was a huge support to Mary and Brian.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in John's memory may be made to the Manitoba Lung Association or a charity of your choice.

A Funeral Service will be held on Monday, May 30 at 11:00 a.m. at Cropo Funeral Chapel, 1442 Main St., with Very Rev. Archpriest Fr. Eugene Maximiuk officiating. Pallbearers will be Dennis Koniak, Michael Koniak, Derrick Cheslock, Jonathan Cheslock, Myron Naumik, and Paul Lafreniere.

Vichnaya Pam'yat



WIDOW'S / WIDOWER'S SUPPLEMENT: There is income supplement for widows / widowers. They will mail out a form for the survivor to complete. You will need proof of marriage and the soldier's regimental number etc. and the spouse's income tax forms. If the financial situation is going badly the survivor should contact Veterans Affairs.

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/services/financial/cf-income-support>

* SICK & VISITING *

Gord Coutts (Korea, Militia) - Hugh visited Gord Coutts at home on 30 July. Gord is doing ok and still makes the odd trip to the Vic to get rebooted. His son Mike Coutts is back in town, and we may yet see him reappear at some Cameron function or other. Gord is still great to visit and chat with but isn't up for a long walk.

Glenn Fedoruk

24 Sept 2016

Well good news is I am being discharged from hospital today, with fractured rib and collapsed lung. Bad news is 6-8 weeks healing time.

Yes I am a klutz, and tripped going up my front steps late Thursday night, and ended up on my back on the driveway.

W.E. (Bill Gray) checked in at The Assiniboine Golf Course with Vi Miller. He's looking well and now lives over near Vi at 707 Setter St.

John Johnson (SWW) –Nothing new of late from Sir John. Hugh hopes to get by soon.

Vi Miller (Russ's widow) – Don Morrison passed word on 31 July that Vi and her son Mel are doing well and still enjoying life. To prove a point Vi made it out to the Reunion Golf and BBQ. She was in truly grand form and got to take home a prize courtesy of Bill Worden's Prize Collection Agency. I have no idea if she got to see the wedding ring bearing dog deliver his cargo at the wedding that day – can anybody provide the gory details please in case she missed it ?

Archie Moore (Korea, Post SWW Cameron) – Archie is now a resident at Deer Lodge and has been for some time it turns out. Don Collins has been to see him and he is doing poorly.

Don Morrison (Cold War Cameron and WPS P/M) – Hugh visited Donny on 31 July. Don is recovering at home after a 04 June tumble upset his plans for a Mid Canada Highland Dance demonstration of The Leaf Blower Fling. Seems Don was doing some yard work when he learned the steps. Take it easy and stay well Don !

Piper Bill MacKay (SWW) – Ken Smith was going to look in on Piper Bill but Hugh hasn't heard the update of late.

Tom Munro (Borneo with the Imperials, Militia) Nothing much new at this time.

Bill Naven (SWW, Post War) - Nothing new from Bill lately but he's planning on joining Hugh for their church's Remembrance Day service on 06 Nov.

Ken Smith (SWW) - Hugh O'Donnell spoke to Sir Kenneth on a number of occasions recently and is very happy to report that Ken is mostly well and active. Ken has also recently been made a Chevalier of The Legion of Honour. The Whalley Legion, Branch #229 in BC helped to look after the formalities of getting Sir Kenneth his due reward for services to Le Republic in her time of need. The event was a great hit too AND he'll be sending pictures our way soon too !!!
<http://www.consulfrance-vancouver.org/Ceremony-of-Legion-of-Honor-in-Vancouver-and-Nipawin>

Minor health issues continue but Sir Ken is planning to go and visit Piper Bill MacKay shortly. Piper Bill is reportedly doing well according to a fellow Shriner who reports in to the Cameron Association West Coast OIC (aka Ken Smith).

Roy Taylor (SWW RAF, Post SWW Cameron) – Brother Roy is doing reasonably well these days (18 Nov).

PTSD Help Line: The toll-free number 1-855-373-8387 will be manned by veterans who will

be available on a 24-hour basis. The callers will not be required to identify themselves. See also the Cameron "Links" section of the web page: [Cameron web site "Links" section](#)

*** PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ***

Steve says Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all of you ! He also hopes to see lots of smiling Association faces at this year's WITG Dinner at Minto on Saturday 10 December, 2016 NLT 1730 hrs !

*** VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ***

Mr. Fred Westphal also sends his holiday season regards !

*** RECONNECT WITH FORMER CAMERONS ***

This is an important thing to do for the health of the Association. There are still lots of former Camerons out there that we don't know about for various reasons. Just because you or they weren't Second World War or Korea veterans doesn't make them any less important to the Cameron Association. Please help us locate them and bring them back into the fold. The ranks of the SWW guys are almost non-existent now and the torch must pass to the following generations of Camerons that we may continue to serve our fellow Camerons.

We only have about 35 paid up members at this time. Thanks very much to those fine souls who have donated some of their hard earned dollars to keep hard copies of this newsletter going out to the guys without computers. Many are Second War men but some younger former Camerons who live in areas with poor internet service or dial up, or are just plain happy to be off of the grid.

*** WHERE ARE THEY NOW ? ***

Floyd Bowman hasn't been in touch of late so we'll assume that all is well with him for now. Take care and stay well Floyd !

George Carsted is off of the injured list and seems to be doing well enough. Good to hear it George !

Nic Curry has become a former Camerons' Political Officer. He needs to do his work at the Legislature properly and that won't square very well with junior officer duties and courses. It is a loss that will be felt most keenly some years from now but perhaps "in the fullness of time" as one well known officer puts it Nic will be able to resume his promising career driving his platoon NCO's crazy. In a good way that is of course !

In the meantime Nic has introduced a Private Member's Bill:

[Dear Friends,](#)

I have introduced Bill 213, Amendment to the Civil Service Act (Employment Preference for Reservists with Active Service).

Currently, veterans can apply for preferential hiring to the Provincial Civil Service, but only if they are released from the CAF. My Amendment will include Veterans who are active serving Reservists for preferential hire.

Happy trails Nic and may they always lead back to your regimental home !

Shaun Delamere is still out in God's Country, aka Alberta to the rest of us. He recently bumped into **Kent Griffiths**, another former Cameron from days of yore (1970's). Kent is now the RSM for the Algonquins and commutes every now and then to see if their new PL Comd, Mr. Babu, will be attending any EX's soon.

Kevin Fink is keeping himself busy with family. Enjoy it Grampa Fink !

Gordon Fonstad and some others had a 'wear your old military headdress to the bar' day yesterday (Nov 11th, after the ceremonies). Four of us did, and a fifth joined us without headdress. I wore my Cameron Glengarry (with my faded 47 year-old Royal Blue hackle); John (the Pro from Dover) wore his Engineer beret; 'Yukon' Dan wore his old RCEME (Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineer) beret; and 'Biker' Grant wore his old PPCLI beret. The fifth was an Airforce friend of John's, who was a 'Chopper Pilot', but who had lost her wedge-cap.

Greg Graham is still hanging his hat out in Ardath, SK. For those of you who have never traveled in Saskatchewan it is a ghost town "so small we don't even rate a Coke machine!" It is about an hour's drive from Saskatoon – or Camp Dundurn for that matter. Greg owns a fair piece of this ghost town so visitors can be sure of a place to stay. He helps out with a buffalo ranch and does volunteer work to pass the time. Greg is also making plans to establish a place out in Atlantic Canada too. If you'll be out that way Hugh can put you in touch and be sure to say hi !

C.R. Nipper (Guest News from Nipper 15 Nov) is that he's got his memoirs to the publishing company here in MB. Trust us, Steve Mac and I have read some of the advance copy, they're going to make an amazing read ! Nipper's book is titled "No Place for a Married Man With Kids". It will be priced at about \$15 or so and \$5 will be going to a charity of Nipper's choosing. Hugh needs to speak with Capt Warsza about maybe getting a few copies for the Kit Shop too because it would support a former Cameron. He's doing mostly ok but has a friend named C Difficile that bothers him.

Shannon Hancock and her husband Fred joined us at the Cameron reunion this year. Shannon's grandfather was killed while serving with the Camerons in The Second War. Her

dad was all of one year old when his dad was killed with us and of course never got to know him. Shannon decided to find out more about her grandad and has been in touch with the Cameron Museum for a bit now. Sadly the Museum was not open for this year's reunion as Parks Canada had other things in mind for Sgt Tyler.

Thanks for joining us Shannon and Fred !

Gary & Christine Hollingshead recently celebrated their 25th Anniversary. Congrats and many more you two ! They are in the process of moving to the Regina Beach area of SK. Once more details are available we'll share them with those who wish to get in touch.

Clayton Hunter hasn't been in touch lately. We hope that all is well and that he's gearing up for the curling scene.

Lloyd Jones Nothing new from Lloyd lately.

Joe Kveton made it out to the Friday night at the Reunion. Joe is looking to be happy, in top form, and is enjoying his retirement without falling into the trap of signing on to another job that doesn't know how to treat employees reasonably. Good for you Joe !

Jeremy LaBossiere and his Dad **Dennis LaBossiere** - Nothing new from Jeremy or his Dad since about 23 April 2016. We hope that all is going well.

Dave McCracken Dave has been a busy boy, so who better to tell his story ?
"I'll be doing something different tomorrow (11 Nov 2016). Allison is conductor of the Canadian Military Wives Choir. They'll be singing at a service at GD tomorrow. It isn't exactly a military service, but there are about 600 employees there, all on military contracts, so it's a work site with a vested interest.

On a different note, Hugh – I had a good chat with Kent Clapham at the CHofO Association dinner last weekend. We were on course with him for QL7 I think. He's now Army Reserve Sergeant Major. Before that he was CADTC Reserve Sergeant Major, which he took over from Bill Darling of the 48th, who was on the same course. I got an update from Kent about Kent Griffiths. After Grif finished as CA Res SM, he filled in as the RSM for the Algonquins, who were having succession planning challenges. He's since moved back to Alberta and was commuting to Timmins to finish up his time with the Gonqs. I knew about Grif stepping into that regiment, but not about him returning to Alberta, though I knew that that was his plan,
Dave"

Donny Morrison is doing well.

Paul Nemez Paul's grandson Isaac has put us in touch with Paul. Paul was a "C" Coy

reinforcement who was in England in the Holding Unit before the Dieppe Raid.

Robert O'Neil and his wife Mary Hugh got by to see them on 13 August. Robert was looking a bit tired but Mary was in good form.

Sgt. Gilbert "Gib" Renwick A number of years ago, I got to know a Sgt. Gilbert "Gib" Renwick who fought with the Cameron's at Dieppe. He was living in Coquitlam, BC at the time. While I am sure he has long since passed away, I was wondering if you had any information on him. I saw a reference to a photo of him on a French webpage but there was no image.

He was a kind man and a real character. I only wish now I had more time with him.

Kind regards

John Goheen

Art Ruddock has formally been awarded the rank of Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honour. He even made the local paper and Youtube !!!

http://www.kelownadailycourier.ca/news/article_2199cf92-8606-11e6-98d9-1bd7ea8d3118.html

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeNZ2uiiIE0>



The presentation at the Legion went very well - Jim McCaffery, the president, really did come through. We had a piper and a representative from the City was there and he was presented with the Medal by the Minister of Agriculture representing the premier of BC - Jim tried, but really there were no French nationals available.

They also had an afternoon party for him at his residence - and it really was lovely. We forget sometimes how much older people relate to WWII (that was their youth). A big black forest cake too. And Shaw community TV came to Dad's apartment and filmed him as well as attending the party. I am not sure when it will be aired but I will keep you posted.

Thank you so much for all your help and all your care to detail and for making my Dad feel special.

Happy Thanksgiving.

GAIL

(Art's daughter)

Editor's note: This medal is normally ONLY presented by a French national who has also been awarded the honour or one of comparable or higher rank. Fortunately it can also be awarded by someone approved by such a person to act on their behalf. That Pres. Jim McCaffery managed to get someone approved in short order by the French Consulate in BC was no easy feat. Well done Jim, and thanks for looking after one of our guys !

Mark Silver wrote: To all my Fellow Camerons;

I will be thinking of you tomorrow, and wanted to let you all know what an honour it has been to have shared time with you.

It seems as I get older (not as old as MacMillan thank God), the memories of the time in the Regiment is like a glue that keeps so much together.

Although we may be cities apart the bond is strong.

I'll be thinking of you, and all who have passed tomorrow at my Cenotaph.

With the going down of the sun, we will remember.

Talk to you soon, have a few drams, and don't piss on the Kilt!!

Take care,

Mark

11/10/2016

Roy Franklin Skelly

10/10/2016

Hello,

I am interested in getting some information regarding my grandfather. I believe he was part of your regimen in the 2nd world war. What are the hours of your museum and would I be able to speak with someone in regards to obtaining some information. I've included the picture of his uniform as well. His name was Roy Franklin Skelly. Any help you can offer would be most appreciated. He did not die overseas so I am having some trouble getting some info.

Thank you,

Corrine Bakun (Skelly)

corrine.bakun@icloud.com



Norm Sproll was in town for the week of Remembrance Day for his Dad's funeral. He managed to link up with some of the other early 1980's Camerons when time and family circumstances permitted. Norm is currently posted in the Cambridge area of the UK. He is now an LCol with the "Green Slime" and is hoping for a posting on the continent next.

Don Steenson is still heavily employed by the military doing B'sOI. He is going back to Edmonton until Christmas and then back after the goodies until the end of April.

LCol Brett Takeuchi has a new job. It's with "K" Div of the RCMP. Congrats sir !

Kevin and Joey Trick just recently celebrated 35 years together. Happy anniversary to you two ! For those who never had the pleasure Kevin was a WO with 1 PL back in the 80's before he took to religious life. He's one of the better Padres that we never had and more's the pity of it. Kevin recently completed another Ironman Calgary event. It was, if I have this correct, his 4th Half Ironman and he had previously completed a Full Ironman. Not at all bad Pastor Kevin and congrats from all of us from the 1980's Camerons !

Roy Vandenberg (1980's Cameron) - Things on this end of the ether or going well (18 Sept 2016) . I've submitted my paperwork for retirement from the regular army to take effect in

March 2017. This will bring to a close 30 years of RegF service. I am in the process of transferring to the PRes, specifically to the Hastings and Prince Edward Regt where I hope to finish my time before CRA throws me out for good :). Should the transfer to the PRes go off without a hitch, I'll be the unit's new DCO. This will mark my fifth cap badge demonstrating that Cameron's, like a virus, are ubiquitous!

Hope this finds you well !

Cheers!

Roy Vandenberg

Derry and Charlene Wakefield (Cold War) have just recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Congrats guys !

*** 2016-17 DUES (\$20) NOW PAYABLE AUG 2017 ***

As of any old time you can connect with Association Treasurer **David Gibson** (per the cover page of the Oatmeal Rag) who will take your payment. If you are not sure of your status please contact Dave and he'll either be happy to take your \$20.00 payment or be most unhappy that he doesn't get to take any money from you - yet - this year.

A newer method that can also be used is interact e transfer. Our Treasurer Dave Gibson has not got set up for it just yet but you can also do it through the Secretary, Hugh O'Donnell. It works rather like pay Pal for those of you familiar with that service. Here's link to the web page:

<http://interac.ca/en/interac-e-transfer-consumer.html>

A quick reminder that donations over \$25 to Association done through the Cameron Foundation will be given a tax receipt !

*** CAMERON ASSOCIATION REPORT ***

Amend the Association Constitution wrt the size of the Association Executive at the AGM

It passed ! Thank you for your help in assisting us to continue to serve our veterans.

***** LIFE MEMBERSHIPS in The Association *****

This was an item added to the agenda at the AGM by some very forward thinking members of the Association. It would be beyond rude to comment upon their age however I must point out that this is yet another case of elders and betters displaying flexible thinking. You have to get older, you can try to get wiser, but you do not need to allow your thinking to fossilize.

Short version, any member in good standing of at least 65 years of age will be allowed to buy a Life Membership in the Cameron Association in Canada for \$250 Cdn. This money is restricted to being spent on an "as earned" basis, which is to say The Association cannot have a

grand party one year and be broke the next. Thank you gentlemen, from the bottom of our wallets !

Raising the Association Dues

Our membership with authentic Scottish souls will no doubt be horrified to learn that the Association has finally caved to pressure to raise our association dues as of the Membership Year starting in August of 2017. The new subscription (or gouge if you prefer) will be \$20 per year. Those who have paid in advance have been and “grandfathered” and their years paid in advance will stand (Roy VDB, Rick Bales, et al).

This increase is to help to pay for the things that the Association supports, such as the Cameron Association Trophy, the Oatmeal Rag, and of course for those in town on the day, the Cameron Reunion. Speaking of which...

!!! The Cameron Reunion Date has changed !!!

The annual Cameron Reunion has a new date as of Stand To Sept 2017. For many decades now the Association has continued to run the reunion on the anniversary of the Dieppe raid. This had the virtues of being easy to remember, being a most appropriate day to remember our veterans both living and dead, and usually having great weather for the Association golf tourney. It had one drawback though by the mid 1990's – it was almost always during the expanded Summer Training Cycle for the troops.

This was less of an issue when our SWW veterans could come out to the Men's Dinner at Christmas but by the early 2000's this was asking a lot of those guys. Our new soldiers rarely or never got to meet the guys who had beat the SS and German Paras and lived to tell about it. Those guys are nearly all gone I'm terribly sorry to say so it's time to shift the date to a more suitable time frame.

The 2017 Cameron Reunion will be on the weekend of the WITG Stand To. It may cause some hiccups but the CO of the WITG is willing to give it a shot in the name of Unit Morale. More to follow in the next edition of The Oatmeal Rag.

Support to the JR's run Highland Games

This matter of how we spent \$200 of Association money to support the troops for the past few years came up because this event is now well supported by the Minto JR's Mess, as are functions by other Units. Gosh it's nice to see the troops get something of value from their Mess profits !

Anyhow, we have therefore decided to use this freed up cash to support the MB Highland Dance Society who run the big Highland Dance event – the Mid-Canada Championships and Competitions at the Forks most years.

As many of our senior readers will know, the MHDS have been the organization running the Cameron Association Trophy event for many decades (especially the Russ Miller years), an event long supported by the Association until it fell on hard times some years ago. Now that

we're back on our feet, if not terribly wealthy, it's time to support an Association founded trophy again.

100th Anniversary of the start of The Great War Bench Fallen Comrades Memorial

This project has kicked off, but it is still really in the feasibility study phase. Something like this takes big, big bucks and we need to see if this idea has a hope of completion.

The French Legion of Honour Medal Update

As above BUT with these pointers:

Major Ken Smith, a veteran of the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada battles during the Dieppe Raid, in Normandy, and on through to the end of the Second War is another of the latest recipients of the rank of Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur . He was so awarded the rank on 21 June 2016. Congratulations from all of us in the Cameron Association Sir Kenneth !

As noted above, Maj (Ret'd) Art Ruddock was also formally presented with his medal recently. Boy was he pleased !

Editor's note: Watch the video above to see a part of it for yourself but I'll tell you that when he and I spoke he was absolutely floored by just how highly this award is regarded.

*** REGIMENTAL WEB SITES ***

The Unit web site is still up running. The unit web site continues to be a point of contact between ourselves, the families of those who served in the Camerons, and those who become interested in the Camerons for one reason or another. We continue to have a few requests through the unit web site for information from families about former Camerons. If anybody can help out with them please feel free to do so. You can find the web site at:

<http://thequeensowncameronhighlandersofcanada.net/>

Our Picasaweb site is gone but ALL of the pictures were carefully stored by the Google staff and exist in a new file on Google Photo. The down side is that this new file is accessible only to Hugh at this time. He will be working as time permits to get this information posted again and will post the new link here.

The Cameron Highlanders of Canada Memorial Site, Recording the History of the Regiment, 1914-1919, web site is one that every Cameron should have a look at once during the 100th Anniversary of the Great War. The creator of this site, Mr. J. Stuart McLean has done a great job of helping out the Cameron regimental family. Thanks for sharing your hard work sir !

<http://www.cameronhighlanderscanada.com>

Wilfred Laurier University has a page devoted to the Canadian War Diaries of the Normandy Campaign. While not a complete collection at this time (The Fort Garry Horse are missing as are many of the supporting arms and services War Diaries), ours and the rest of the 6th Brigade look to be complete.

<http://lmharchive.ca/canadian-divisions-of-the-normandy-campaign/2nd-canadian-infantry-division/>

* UNIT EVENTS *

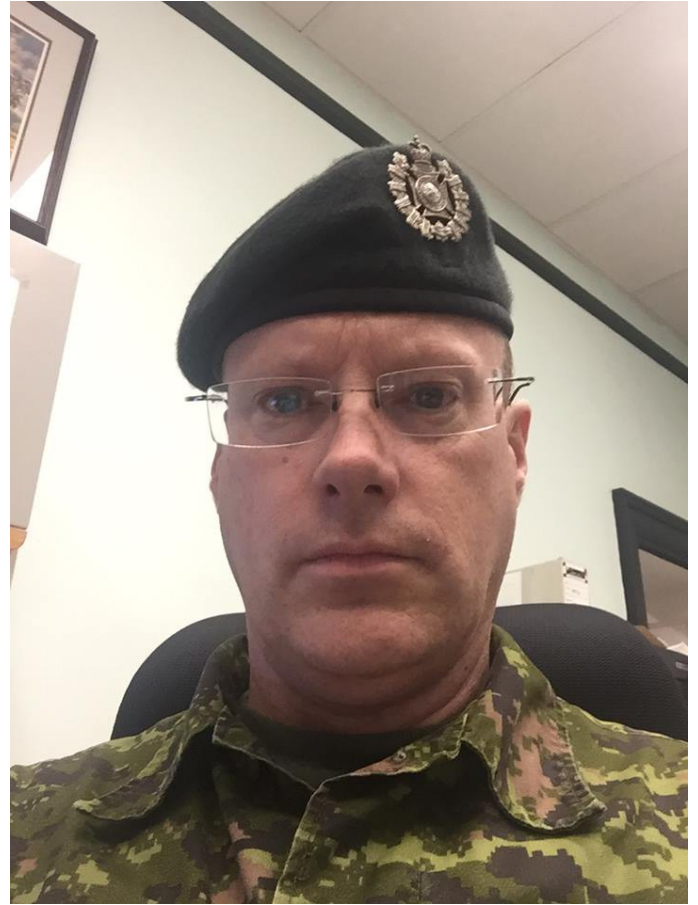
Battalion: At long, long, last, Acting HLCol Nick Logan's confirmation letter as new Honorary Colonel has come through. He has yet to be formally installed as HCol at this point but I'm sure that the WITG will make this happen in God's good time.

Also, in a move that shocked all present, our current HCol Bob Vandewater was FINALLY presented with his CD for long and meritorious service to Her Majesty. It was truly a day for remarkable events. Speaking of which the WITG also said goodbye to CWO Jim Seggie, a longtime friend of the Camerons and said hello to Incoming RSM CWO Chris Hayden, formerly of the FGH and perhaps best known there as "Ned" ?

Thanks for all of your help and support to the Camerons over the years Jim and happy trails !

Chris, welcome to the Cameron family. It's a big change from the Garries I know, numbers wise alone. We sure hope that you can make it out to our Robbie Burns Supper in January, and maybe your wife can join us too. There will definitely be room at the RSM's Table.





Pipes & Drums Update: The P&D have been and continue to be very busy showing the flag. After winning the World Pipe Band Championship at Maxville, ON this year in concert with the Cameron Band of Ottawa, they will be competing for the next Worlds, at the higher Grade 3 level as the QOCH of Canada — just us.

“A” Company Update: The Company has been busy with the start of the new training year, as always. There were 26 promotions so far this year CSM James Clark reports, and that’s a number from the Cameron Association AGM back in Sept ! Bearing in mind that there has been no Sgt qualifying courses run for our guys for 4 years things are finally going to get going again.

They will be running the MWO Wayne Nicholson March & Shoot Competition for the WITG Dinner. Association shooters are welcome but must tee up with CSM James Clark NLY 0830 at

the WITG lines on the day. See the Incoming Rounds section of this edition for more details about the rest of the day. Meanwhile, the Camerons have had a few of the lads go on foreign training.



Allied Spirt 2016 (Germany) - We got into a surprise contact with the enemy when they rolled into our staging area with tanks. They were just as surprised as we were. We "destroyed" 2 of the 4 tanks and we were one of the only light companies.

Editor's note: Reminds me of Germany days with 3 RCR during the REFORGER series of EXs

That's all for now. Ullamh!

*** REGIMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD NOTES ***

The Advisory Board continues to provide sound advice to the CO on all matters Cameron in "interesting times". The Board continues to try to support all ranks in their various endeavours. The Cameron Cadets Vimy Ridge pilgrimage continues to receive attention but the latest challenge may be to help with the resurrection of the Cameron Hogmanay.

The Regiment is hoping to bring back to the unit the traditions and fun of a Hogmanay which marks the last evening of each year for you Anglo types. To quote Maj. Fordham, “We are about the only Scots unit in Canada that does not mark it.”

The hope is the Camerons can have a Hogmanay celebration either at Minto, or perhaps at the Hotel Fort Garry. FYSA about 80 turn out each year for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada Hogmanay at [John W. Foote VC](#) Armory in [Hamilton](#).

“We would like to see a return of the Hogmanay tradition here and will probably be seeking some support for the idea from the Advisory Board”, Fordham said.

*** REGIMENTAL FOUNDATION 2016 NOTES ***

The Regimental Foundation has had several projects up for consideration again, one of which is the memorial to our Fallen Comrades.

On behalf of those recipients, which of course includes The Oatmeal Rag, here is a big thank you to all those of you who have donated to the Foundation over the years. It has been well spent and very much appreciated !

*** CAMERON CADETS ***

The Cadets will be busy again this year. In addition to whatever else they plan, they are still planning to send some cadets on a pilgrimage to Vimy Ridge of the famed Easter 1917 battle. The intent is that Canadian cadets are on hand for the 100th Anniversary of the battle. Vimy Anniversary fund-raising has already exceeded its target and two more Cadet has been added to the 10 assigned making a total of 12 cadets plus Lt Will and Capt Atkinson.

Our cadets fielded a team at the Army Cadet challenge in Shilo recently and did OK placing 8th in a field of 14. “It was a great exercise and very well received by all.” According to Capt. Andrew Flook one of their CIC officers.

The Cameron Cadets will be hosting joint exercise with the 2295 Rifles Cadets at Camp Amisk. It’s a location that the cadets haven’t worked out in that area for years, so it should provide a suitable challenge to the senior cadets.

Please visit their official web page and you will see how to sign up for REMIND. This will be a communications tool the Corps uses to notify all concerned of activities, notices, quick information etc.... sign up at: <http://www.407army.ca/>

*** REGIMENTAL REINFORCEMENTS ***

Nil known at this time.

*** OTHER REGIMENTAL NOTES ***

Rounds Completed:**Attended the annual Belgian Independence Day Parade**

On 17 July 2016 our President Steve MacMillan and long-time stalwart of the Association Bill Worden represented the regiment at the parade. Angel Fransoo (widow of SWW vet Gerry Fransoo) was, as always, delighted to have her late husband Gerry's regiment come by for a visit.

CAMERON REUNION 19TH AND 20TH AUGUST 2016

Another great get together and a few VERY impressive goodies were handed out. The Cameron WO's & Sgt's Club have for years been looking into getting very high quality miniatures done of our Regimental and Queen's Colours. They have in no uncertain way succeeded, as Sean Madden, Hugh O'Donnell, and Alan Lancaster can say first hand ! Thanks again from all three of us guys, words don't describe how amazing these look especially with the small personal plaques. The company that made them even does fractions of years such as "his 34 365/366 years of service". Now THAT is a class act !



Another key annual presentation was made, this one from Maj. (Ret'd) Sir Ken Smith. For the last 50+ years it has been awarded annually to the officer, NCO, or soldier who has tried to do the most for the Regiment over the course of the year.

This highly esteemed award usually consists (these days) of a classy tea towel (often from the hallowed links of St. Andrew's links, Scotland) and a bottle of good scotch, but more importantly the recognition from our Second World War generation that the current crop of Camerons are up to snuff. Murray Burt presents Bob Darling with Ken Smith's awards 2016 in the picture on the right.

CAMERON ASSOCIATION IN CANADA 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM and election of Officers of the Association took place on Monday, 19 September

2016 at #4 Legion, St. James Branch. The gory details are listed above in the Association Report section.

CHANGE OF RSM and Presentation of CD to HCol Bob Vandewater

Change of WITG RSM appointment from RSM Jim Seggie, MB, CD to RSM Chris Hayden, CD (Former FGH) took place on 17 Sept 2016 at Minto Armouries as noted above in the Battalion activities.

After several years' (decades ?) worth of digging through various box, bags, and God alone knows what else, somebody finally found the chocolate bar with Bob's CD in it and sent it our way ! Rarely has a CD been awarded to such a deserving Cameron. Congratulations from all of us sir !

Editor's note: Bob Vandewater may not be well known to many of the guys in the ranks but as a former RSM and a 34 and 365/366 year Cameron I can tell you that Bob has done a great deal for the Camerons as a regiment and for our highlanders in the ranks in his many years of service. And that's even before I mention his help with the inexpensive beer issue for the JR's Highland Games !

Incoming Rounds:

2016 SATURDAY, 10 DECEMBER WITG CHRISTMAS DINNER

What: The usual Christmas dinner with the serving members

Time: 1715 hrs for 1750 hrs, SEATED NLT 1755, on Saturday, 10 December 2016

Grid: Minto Armouries parade square

Dress: DEU 1A (medals) for those still serving, or dark suit & miniatures for the rest of us.

Cost: Nil

Special Instructions: Please let the Association secretary know if you plan to attend. If we have more than 10 members I'll need to let the QM staff know for planning purposes. Per RHQ, Capt Stan Warsza.

The Morning agenda is as follows:

0800 – 1300 Report to CSM "A" James Clark with your \$20 if you wish to take part in the Turkey Shoot, proceeds to Cancer Care MB.

Evening Agenda

1700 Unit Pictures on Parade Square

1800 Head Table Drummed In / Dinner begins

1805 Youngest Soldier

1810 Awards-Grace-Dinner-Toasts

2030 Head Table Piped Out

Clean up

FAQs: Any question please direct them to: Stanley.warsza@td.com or 204 470-5565

2017 SUNDAY, 01 JANUARY CAMERON LEVEE

What: The usual Levee event with the serving members

Time: 0700 hrs for 0745 hrs

Grid: Minto Armouries Officer's Mess

Cost: Nil

Special Instructions: Please be early, on time, or stay away until after the LG of the Province of MB has arrived. You are NOT to attempt to upstage His Honour. That is the mark of lesser people of lesser regiments and branches.

2017 SATURDAY, 21 JANUARY THE CAMERON WO'S & SGT'S ROBBIE BURN'S SUPPER

What: One of the finest Robbie Burn's Suppers in Winnipeg.

Grid: The Fort Garry Hotel

Time: 1830 for 1910 hrs

Cost: \$85 per ticket, see a member of the Cameron WO's & Sgt's Club for tickets. The secretary of the Association will be happy to help you to contact the members.

Dress: Mess kit, dark business suit, suitable attire for evening wear.

2017 SUNDAY, 04 FEBRUARY CAMERON KIRK PARADE

What: The usual Cameron Kirk Parade

Time: 1000 hrs for 1015 hrs at the Kirk.

Grid: 1st Presbyterian Kirk, 61 Picardy Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba

[1st Presbyterian web page](#)

Cost: Tuppence for the plate. Inflation you know.

Special Instructions: Please let the Association secretary know if you plan to attend. If we have more than 10 members I'll need to let the Clerk of Session staff know for planning purposes.

*** LINKS ***

Before You Go - Information for Reservists to assist their Release from the Canadian Armed Forces

This site is set up for guys like us. The P Res guys who are trying to figure out just what in the heck is supposed to happen. It is available to guys who are already releasing, are long out, etc.

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/caf-community-support-services-for-members-reservists/before-you-go.page>

The Canadian Centre for the Great War Here's a new link for some of you:

<https://greatwarcentre.com/>

SWW Cameron Padre F.W. Armstrong's helmet makes it to War Junk show

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/war-junk-finds-edmonton-connection-to-abandoned-wwii-helmet-1.3304251>

For those of you old enough to remember it, The Winnipeg Tribune used to be the other Winnipeg newspaper. After it was shut down it did get archived and you can look through some of the items here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/698658293632613/>

Do you know your AFV's of the World ?

Shoot or Don't Shoot ?

Iran's Defense Ministry is going to unveil an home-made helicopter Saba-248 and an advanced main battle tank Karrar in the near future, Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan said Wednesday, November 16, 2016.

http://www.armyrecognition.com/november_2016_global_defense_security_news_industry/iran_to_unveil_new_home-made_main_battle_tank_karrar_in_the_near_future_11811161.html

*** HISTORICAL NOTES ***

There are still families of First War Camerons are still asking for more information about their kin. If anyone can help out please send the Oatmeal Rag editor what you have or ask to be put in touch directly and he'll do so. On an interesting note SWW vet Art Ruddock met a granddaughter of our first CO, LCol Thomson at the Kelowna RCL following the presentation of his Legion of Honour medal. Here is a bit about our first CO and that day on the Somme in Oct 1916.

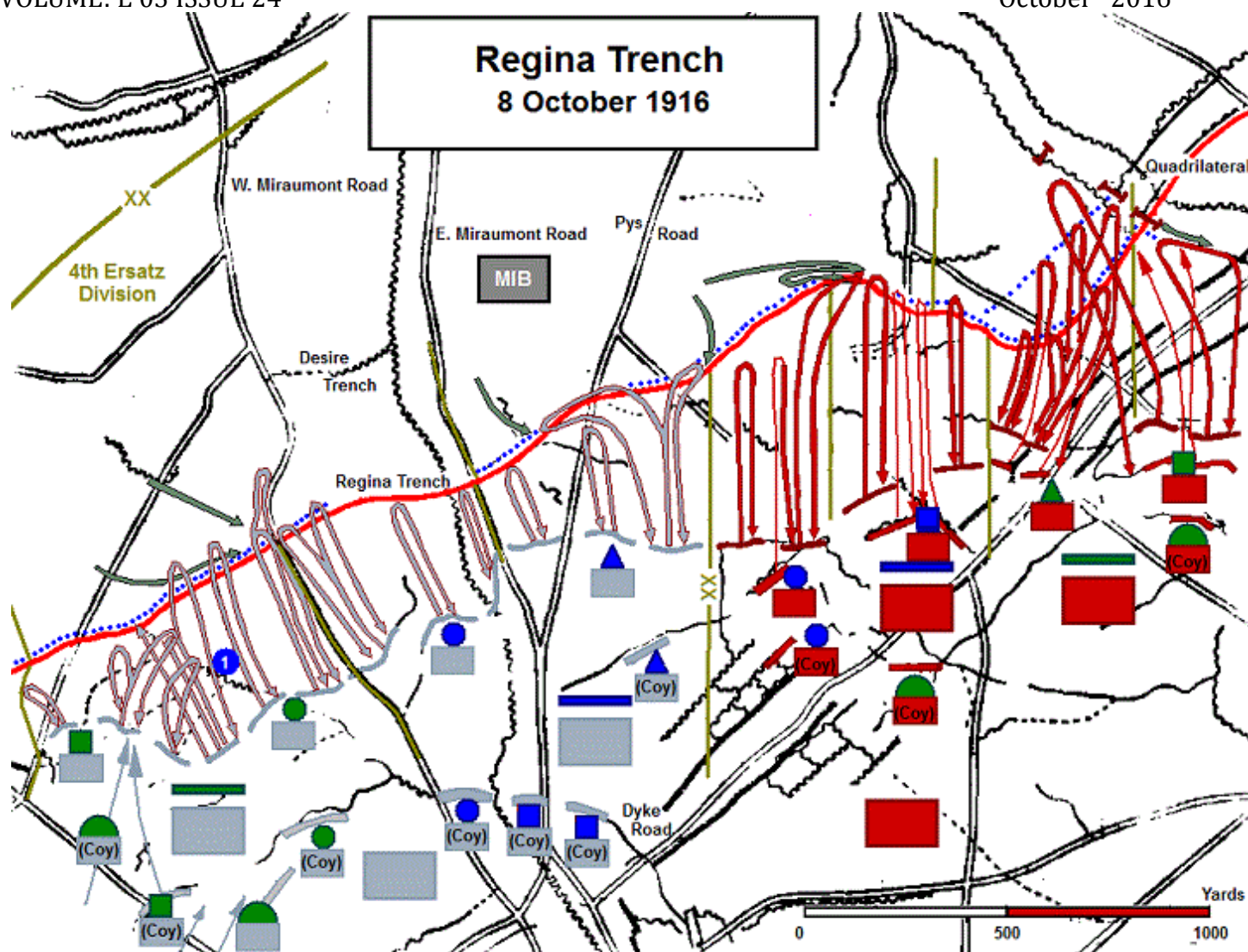
L to R Maj. W. Grassie, HCapt. Rev. Charles Gordon aka Ralph Connor/The Sky Pilot, LCol RM Thomson, Not sure at this time.



The story of Bob's death is full of tragedy, but is also full of splendid heroism. He went up with the Battalion on Saturday last, the 7th Oct. into the fight for what is known as the Regina Trench, reaching north of Courceleth and Thiepool - a very strong position, heavily fortified and strongly held. Instead of doing as other C.O's did, and as he might have done, i.e. remain in the reserve line, he went right up into the front line and made his battle headquarters there in a German dug-out. During the battle this dugout was fearfully shelled, the Germans, of course, having the range perfectly. The dugout was hit by four shells, entrances blown in, a number of men killed and buried in the ruins. Here the Col. was wounded in the leg rather badly and in the face slightly. Major Grassie who was with him, helped to dress his wounds and soon he was quite comfortable and very cheerful - joking about his getting off so easily, and his prospect of a trip to Canada.

It was decided to abandon that dugout and go back to another nearer the town. The staff, with orderlies, etc. under Major Grassie, effected the move in safety, the Col. insisting upon staying the last man, with his batman and runner. Shortly after he, with his batman and runner, set off to the dressing station (I ought to have said that shortly after his wounding, our M.O. Dr. Selby came up from the First Aid Post under shell fire to look after him, and saw that he was all right, assisted the wounded, etc. and then went back to his Post). With his arms on the shoulders of his batman and runner, Gray and Hunt, the Col. made his way down to our First Aid Post, where Major Grassie found him. For half an hour they stayed in a shell hole near by chatting quite cheerfully, then the Col. went on with his batman and runner to where the ambulances meet the wounded. The shelling was pretty bad on the road, and the road was such that they were forced to use horse ambulances. These somewhat conspicuous and unwieldy vehicles were rather specially exposed to shell fire. The O.C. of the ambulances advised the Col. to walk the few hundred yards that would bring him out to a safer bit of the road. But the Col. was about all in and decided to risk the ambulance. It was a fatal decision. After he had gone but a short distance a shell came, killed the horses at the front of the ambulance, and killed the Col. who was sitting in the rear - touching none of the other wounded. He was instantly killed, suffered nothing, knew neither fear nor pain. The pathos of it all is in this that after 16 months of splendid service, of fearless and self-sacrificing service, after being wounded and when he had done his part in one of the biggest battles of the war - the biggest,

Regina Trench: Canadian Corps Attack on 8 October (See map on next page)



1st Canadian Division

3rd Canadian Division

Marine Infantry Brigade

Unit Boundary

XXXX Army
XXX Corps
XX Division
Brigade/Regiment

Kenora Trench

Objective

Blocks

1st Canadian Infantry Brigade

1st Battalion, CEF

2nd Battalion, CEF

3rd Battalion, CEF

4th Battalion, CEF

7th Canadian Infantry Brigade

Royal Canadian Regt.

PPCLI

42nd Battalion, CEF

49th Battalion, CEF

3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade

13th Battalion, CEF

14th Battalion, CEF

15th Battalion, CEF

16th Battalion, CEF

9th Canadian Infantry Brigade

43rd Battalion, CEF

52nd Battalion, CEF

58th Battalion, CEF

60th Battalion, CEF

“In the 3rd Division sector, the 9th Brigade assaulted with the 43rd and 58th Battalions and also found the wire almost entirely intact, and what gaps existed were often missed in the early morning darkness. Some small groups on the flanks of the attacks managed to make their way into Regina Trench, but German counter-attacks outnumbered and overwhelmed them. Tiny numbers survived to make it back to the jump-off trenches, and brigade casualties for the day were 34 officers and 907 other ranks.”

<http://www.canadiansoldiers.com/history/battlehonours/westernfront/ancreheights.htm>



This year was the 100th Anniversary of The Somme, and was commemorated in much the usual fashion. The contingent also included our Cpl. Callum Daulby:

“Me (*Cpl Daulby, of course*) posing with the memorial just after the Beaumont-Hamel 100th anniversary parade. Basically the entire Royal Newfoundland Regiment was wiped out within the first 30 minutes of the battle. Super honoured to be representing the unit at such a big event, Ullamh!”

*** “IT WOULDN’T BE AN OATMEAL RAG W/O A WEE JOKE” (RUSS MILLER) ***

From [Lorne Warawa](#): [Hugh](#), did I tell you my embarrassing fake First Nations story from this year's Remembrance Day service?

OK, so I march in with the rest of the Black Watch association, and we stop, and then the VIPs show up, including Marc Garneau and the mayor of Montreal. So being politicians, they of course come over and glad hand. The Mayor shakes a few hands to my left, and works down the line. He comes up to me and rather than shake my hand, he grabs me by both shoulders and he says, "Are you OK?" and I say ya, of course, and he keeps asking me, like "really".. then he hugs me, like for a minute. People are freaking out.

So he again grabs me by the shoulders and says, "You know, this is the 350th anniversary coming up, and we're going to do a huge Reconciliation with all Autochtones." Well, what do I say to that?

I mean, I've been waiting a long time for reconciliation between French Canadians and the

Ukrainian community, but to build an entire 350th out of it?

Verification of Former Service DS Solution: You can make a request under the Access to Information Act, which will provide you with proof of your service with the Camerons. Please click on the recently confirmed (Jan 14, 2016) link:

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/tbsf-fsct/350-58-eng.asp>

Sponsorship

We are always seeking sponsors or advertisers to help defray the cost of this publication. If anyone is interested or has any suggestions as to whom to contact please let us know and we'll be happy to do the follow up.

Sponsors to date are: Mr. Max Katz, our very first sponsor, of the Oatmeal Rag and the Jewish War Vets; Mr. Greg Flom, a former Cameron; Maj. Bill Gray, Cameron Advisory Board; Sgt Tim Seeley, Drum Sgt Extraordinaire; MCpl (Ret'd) Mark Silver, our "Eastern Branch" contact; Sgt (Ret'd) Roy Taylor, the Cameron WO's & Sgt's #1 choice for reading "Rab" Burn's poetry; Maj. Ken Smith; Col. Bob Darling, President of the Cameron Advisory Board Mr. W L (Lloyd) Jones, SWW Cameron; P/M Donald Morrison; Major Ken Smith; Sgt. Bill Douglas.

Gentlemen, we thank you.



Camerons of C Tug of war Team Maxville Highland Games 2016



Roy MacGillivray, a former Cameron RSS WO is celebrating his 90th birthday this Sept. Roy started off in the RCR in 1947, was part of what was once called the RCR SAS (yes, I know that's not quite perfect but Hugh got it messed up a bit) at Rivers, MB, and did a bit of soldiering in Germany, the RCR's 106mm Anti-tank platoon, and the usual RCR stations.

Roy ended up in Wpg for family reasons and did a few years as a Patricia. It was during that stint that he served with us. Roy says hi to Art Sutton but most of the other names are a lot hazy these days. Roy wore the kilt and regimental kit during his time with us and his daughter thought that it would be grand thing, him being a proud Scot and all, for him to strut his stuff on his 90th in a proper kilt. The Association were able to help out without causing the RQMS any bother. Happy birthday Roy !

Our Sponsors for this issue of The Oatmeal Rag are the members named above and as always

our special thanks to The Commissionaires for their continued support !

