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November 2013



The Groundsheet

The Publication of
The Royal Westminster Regiment Association

*'Dedicated to the ideals and comradeship
we knew in wars and peace in our
services both home and abroad.'*

'Pro Rege et Patria'

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Lest We Forget

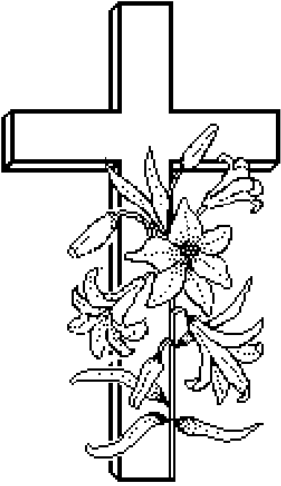
November 11, 2013

Service at the Armoury at 10 AM

“They shall not grow old, as we who are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
...We will remember them.”

-Laurence Binyon – *Act of Remembrance*

In Memoriam



Louis Reinhold Beglaw	Vancouver BC	May 2012	The Royal Westminster Regiment
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Health and Welfare

I believe that it is the responsibility of all members of the regimental family to report both positive and negative aspects on our membership and their families. I am sure with such a young Regiment there will be births to report. So please drop me a line if you know anything.

Editor's Report

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Kerry Malish

Hello all again. I hope all is well with everyone. The Regiment is back from summer training and our Association Executive is back to our regular meetings. Note there have been some changes to our executive. Most notably is The addition of 3 new members Dennis Keaton, Karyn Dyer, Kerry Malish, and Bill White. Additionally we are getting more support with mebers from the Regiment. Thanks to Eric Skrebski and Andrew Buikema for coming on board.

I believe the 150th celebration is going very well. It is hard to believe we had so many members at the Melfa Weekend. It was good to see members from the 1930's through to the present decade. I have included a few images of our associate at the dinner. There are other activities still going on and I encourage all members to visit the website <http://150.royal-westies-assn.ca/>. Look at the events, project, history, and shop at the Kit Shop.

It was sad to hear of the passing of Louis Beglaw. Louis was a young Platoon commander of mine. He was very capable and had an earnest interest in the Regiment and men. He will be missed greatly.

This issue includes our financial report and our budget from our AGM, the usual reports from the Regiment and our President, and several images of things that have been going on.

Finally, we are trying to get information out faster to our members. To do this we would like to have every members email. Please forward this to my email at tedwohl@telus.net.

Len Wohlgemuth
Editor

Plaque Presentation



Earlier this year CP Rail and its employees presented a plaque to the Basons that is displayed at Colin's school. The people in the picture are from left to right Mr Galloway (CP Rail Manager), Gary Bason, Anne Bason, and Darrel Sundholm CD (President Division 355 Teamsters).



Melfa Dinner 1970's

Presidents Report

The Association is back after a long Hot summer. We put on an exceptional Melfa Dinner with a crowd of 240 people. A lot of old friendships were renewed, and quite a few came from out of town. I haven't heard any negative comments so everyone enjoyed the Dinner. My thanks go out to Des Carr and the Dinner committee who did an excellent job.

I attended a presentation of a Plaque to Mr. and Mrs. Bason. The plaque is presented by CP rail for mounting in the schools of those soldiers that were killed in Afghanistan.

The Bren Gun Carrier project is moving along and Hnas Mulder and Major McKinnon have been working hard at it. The next stage is putting the pad down outside of the Armoury. Donations have been coming in and we are about \$2000.00 shy of our goal. The good news is that the Historical Society Has had its Charitable Tax status reinstated and Tax receipts can now be issued.

The C150C is holding a Gala Ball on the 23rd of November to celebrate our 150 years of service to Crown and country. There will be a table for Association members who wish to attend. See details on the C150 Website.

The Association is looking into establishing a Bursary for Members of the Regiment and their families. More details will follow on the progress of this endeavor.

The next gathering of the Association will be on Remembrance Day. I would like to see a great turnout from Association members marching in the parade. Lets show the community that this Association is strong.

The Regiment and the West Vancouver Police Department gave a very moving Funeral service for Major Loius Beglaw CD. Major Beglaw was a dedicated member of The Regiment and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

I look forward to this next year of activities with the Association and The Regiment

Pro Rege et Patria

Terry Leith

The Regiment

The soldiers of the Royal Westminster Regiment have completed another effective and successful summer of training and have moved into this new training year with a mix of good and sombre news. Capping off a great summer of training the Westies proudly took first in the 2013 39 CBG Patrolling Competition this past August up in Chilliwack. The regiment also had its banner year for the awarding of the Westie Cap Badge with a record 27 cap badges given out to new fully qualified Westies after a successful summer of training. The regiment was also extremely proud to celebrate the selection of Mcpl. Chau and Mcpl. Thiessen to the Canadian Special Operations Regiment (CSOR). Both Mcpl. Chau and Mcpl. Thiessen have achieved what few others have and have the honour in representing the country and the regiment with CSOR and the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command.

But not all the news was as celebratory and on the 27th of September the Westies bade a hard goodbye to our dear fellow soldier in arms and family member Major Louis Beglaw who tragically passed away on the 16th of September while on duty with the West Vancouver Police Department. The regiment was proud to have had such a strong and dedicated officer in Louis and was deeply proud to have hosted his celebration of life with the West Vancouver Police Department on the 27th of September at Queens Park arena. More than two-thousand people showed up to celebrate and pay respects to Louis amongst the mourning party of the Royal Westminster Regiment and the West Vancouver Police Department. With full military honours, flying colors, bag pipes and the gun salute it was a fitting tribute to Louis Beglaw.

The Royal Westminster Regiment also bade farewell and good luck to our Adjutant Captain Greaves who ended his tenure with the Forces and our Regiment in order to take up an offer for Law School with the University of Victoria. Captain Greaves was an integral part in the ability of the Regiment to operate so effectively these past two years. As such we also welcome our new Adjutant Captain Robert Pettigrew who comes to us from the PPCLI to replace Captain Greaves. With Captain Pettigrew's help the regiment will successfully and efficiently soldier on and through another great year.

This year will be unlike any other in our history for a number of reasons.

As October draws to a close the Westies are preparing for the grand event of November 20th 2013 in which we shall celebrate the 150 year anniversary of the Regiment. While celebrations started late of last year the seminal event of the 150 anniversary is upon our door step. The unit has served with pride, responsibility, courage and leadership in the county of New Westminister since 1863.

The Westies have come a long way since then, but have still kept true to their values and honouring those that have severed and scarified before them. There have been many new and exciting things that have come about over the last training year. The regiment recently held its most attended and successful Melfa Dinner in recent memory to celebrate the 150th anniversary. Additionally Sgt. Harley's many hours and long work have paid off and in 2012 the regiment

took receipt of the fantastic 150th Anniversary Regimental History Book, the Regimental Book chronicles the important events over the last 150 years in the regiment's history. In addition to the celebrations and work going into the 150 anniversary the Westies bade goodbye to D coys stay at CFS Aldergrove and took up a new residence replacing the vacating AUS Chilliwack. D Coy operating out of Chilliwack perpetuates the old B Coy of Aldergrove under the command of Lt. Singer and 2Lt. Nicola respectfully.

As you can see while The Royal Westminster Regiment has served both our nation and our community for 150 years, in true Westie fashion we have never stopped moving forward and developing. We carry on through the end of this year and onto the next, bringing with us the Westie traditions of service, valour, leadership and integrity.

Klassen D.M.
OCdt
R Westmr R



Melfa Dinner 1980's

Our Cadets

1789 Agassiz-Hope – No report.

1838 Maple Ridge – No report

1922 Abbotsford – No report

2316 New Westminster – See thank-you note on page 9.

2822 Surrey-Delta - 2822 RCACC has hit the ground running since we have come back to cadets in September. We have several new cadets and recruits ranging in ages 12-16 and presently have approx 45 cadets on parade!

2822 participated in their first FTX of the year during the weekend of Sept 27-29. It was raining but we were training!

The cadets participated in lessons, and learnt everything from how to build an improvised shelter to how to predict weather through the formation of clouds.

The corps has started up range on Sundays for the year and we currently have approx. 10 cadets attending each Sunday morning to participate and also qualify for badges, as well as for the biathlon team!

Last weekend our cadets were out doing tag days on Saturday and Sunday, and we raised a whopping

\$2100 along with a personal donation to our corps of \$5000!! We are on track for poppy sales next weekend, and looking forward to remembrance day and other training activities!

OCdt. Onkar Dhillon
Training A/T
2822 RWMNR RCACC

Are Your Dues Up To Date?

The Royal Westminster Regiment Association depends on your dues and donations. Yearly dues are \$15 and a Life Membership is \$100.

How about a tax deductible donation? You can identify where you want the donation to go.

The Future Fund, Cadets, Health & Welfare, or whatever you feel is worthwhile. Whatever you support, it is appreciated. Send in your dues today. Thanks.

MIA/AWOL

Bruce Eaton
Jordy Anderson
Terry Orser
Rick Cable
Kirsten Luomala
Joe Swift
Ray Pattenden
Jeff Courson
Travis Meade

2012 Melfa Golf Winners

Low Gross - Bruce Marshall – 81

Low Net - Brian Knipstrom – 73

Low Net Serving Member - Chris Henneberry – 73

Longest Drive – Bruce Marshall

Closest to the Pin – Greg Bell

Foursome Challenge – Association Foursome

Terry Leith,

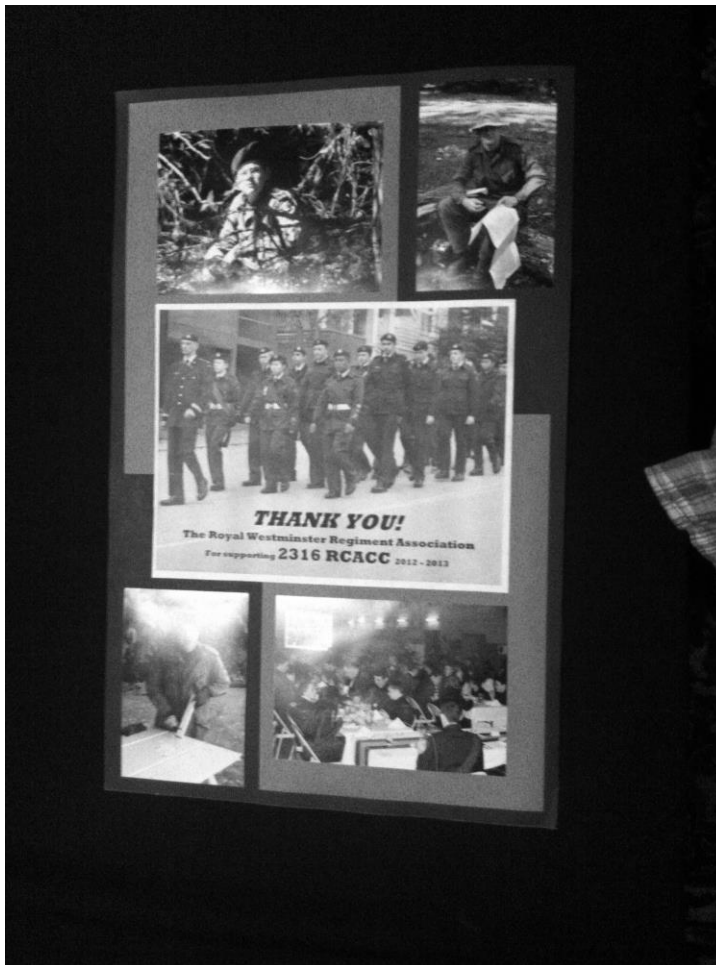
Lee Cooke,

Bruce Howells &

Alan Morton

Total Gross Score 400.

Thank-you for Support of 2316



Financial Statements 2012

Assets		Liabilities	
General Ledger	\$ 24,862.59		\$24,862.59
Bank Statement	\$ 7,902.03	150 th Committee	\$ 1,601.00
Prepaid Expenses		Honour House Donations	\$ 240.00
Melfa (Wine)	\$764.00	Assn. Equity	\$ <u>23,021.59</u>
Caterer	\$500.00		
Accoutrements	<u>\$15,696.56</u>		
Total:	<u>\$ 24,862.59</u>	Total:	<u>\$ 24,862.59</u>

<u>Statement of Income</u>		<u>Statement of Expenditures</u>	
Vancouver Foundation	\$ 3,639.03	Vancouver Foundation	\$ 1,000.00
Membership & Dues	\$ 4,030.56	Health and Welfare	\$ 265.30
Donations-Assn.	\$ 375.00	Groundsheet	\$ 2,281.24
Donations-Bren-Gun Carrier	\$ 5,201.00	Melfa Weekend	\$ 5,540.98
Accoutrements	\$ 402.00	Military Conference	\$ 500.00
Melfa Weekend	\$ 5,650.54	Legal	\$ 129.03
Silent Auction	\$ 1,601.00	Website	\$ 168.74
Bank Interest	<u>\$ 1.09</u>	Bren-Gun Carrier	\$ 5,500.00
		150 th Committee	\$ 2,000.00
		Regiment	\$ 500.00
		Regimental Family Fund	\$ 400.00
		Walk For The Fallen	\$ 300.00
		Poppy Fund	\$ 65.00
		P.O. Box / Misc Postage	\$ 278.88
		Remembrance Day/Vimy Wreaths	\$ 183.00
		150 th Committee Mailout	\$ 249.16
		Sundry: Stamps, Certificates, Picture Discs	<u>\$ 496.38</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 20,900.32</u>	Total	<u>\$19,724.71</u>

Budget for 2013

<u>Budget 2013 Income</u>		<u>Budget 2013 Expenditures</u>	
Donations	\$ 600.00	Regimental Grant	\$ 500.00
Dues	\$ 2,000.00	Afghanistan Packages	\$ 500.00
Interest	\$ 5.00	Health and Welfare	\$ 200.00
Vancouver Foundation	\$ 2,500.00	Cadet Corps	\$ 1,000.00
Melfa Weekend	\$ 3,000.00	Certificates	\$ 200.00
Life Memberships	\$ 200.00	Accoutrements – Purchase	\$ 1,000.00
Accoutrements –Sales	\$ 1,000.00	Memorial Preservation	\$ 300.00
John Ford Bursary	\$ 250.00	Change Over	\$ 400.00
TOTAL	\$11,555.00	Poppy Fund	\$ 100.00
		Future Fund	\$ 600.00
		Groundsheet	\$ 3,400.00
		Melfa Weekend	\$ 3,000.00
		Sundry	\$ 225.00
		John Ford Bursary	\$ 250.00
		TOTAL	\$11,675.00



Melfa Weekend After Party Westminster Quay



Melfa Dinner 2013

MUSEUM

The museum requires more volunteers to assist in its operation. If you can spare some time, it would be greatly appreciated. We are open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. If you are interested, please contact Terry Leith or Herb Hamm or drop in to the Museum. Free coffee.

BUSTER'S BOOSTERS

The following people have made donations to the Association this year.

Gerry and Linda Pickell

Doug McNaughton

Numerous anonymous cash donations

Len Wohlgemuth

Herb Timpe

L.K. Deane

Tax receipts will be issued