



# The GROUNDSHEET

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
THE WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

104th — 47th — 131st — The Westminster Regt.

The Royal Westminster Regiment

*Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeships We knew in Two World Wars*

Vol. 21, No. 4

Box 854, New Westminster, B.C.

October-November, 1972



## NEW MUSEUM SEEKS ITEMS

Now open to the public, The Royal Westminster Regiment museum in the Armourie on Sixth St. in New Westminster is looking for items to add to its collection. Examining a rifle used in 1896 are, from left, Pte. Kip Cates of the Regiment militia; Doug Glen, president of the Regiment Association, and Lt. Col. H. F. Hoskin, chairman of the Regimental Museum Committee.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

September 2, 1972

The Secretary,  
The Westminster Regiment Association,  
2229 Bonnyvale Rd.,  
Vancouver 16, B.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have the pleasure to inform you that at the selection meeting of the Scholarship Committee held on August

27, 1972, the committee chose two winners each to receive a scholarship of \$250.00 from the Association. The winners were Miss Judy Warne, 17, of Invermere, B.C., whose grandfather served in The Westminster Regiment; and Pte. Murray R. Atkins, 19, of North Delta, B.C., who is presently a serving member of The Royal West-

minster Regiment. Miss Warne will enter first year Commerce at S.F.U. to study to become a Chartered Accountant. Pte. Atkins will enter the computer programming technology at B.C.I.T. He plans to become an officer in the Canadian Armed Forces on the direct entry program.

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## THE GROUND SHEET

President ..... DOUG GLENN  
6666 Walker Ave., Burnaby 1, B.C. — 522-0890

Editor & Secretary ..... RON HURLEY  
2229 Bonnyvale Road, Vancouver 16, B.C. — FA 1-8464

## FROM THE SECRETARY and EDITOR

As you will see by the excellent reports in this issue we are already well into a heavy fall schedule. President Doug Glenn welcomed the executive back after summer vacation and immediately launched into "Operation Everything". Indeed to many such as Your Scholarship Committee, Museum Committee, the ever busy Draw Group and the Secretary and Editor, summer has meant but a continuation of an ever increasing work load. We trust we have done well on your behalf. Have received many good comments re: the publication of the last "Directory" Issue of the Groundsheet and pleased to hear that it has been of some help. I found it personally a real aid while taking a short swing through the Interior of B.C. recently. Like any effort it is only as good as its creator and I personally apologize to all those who I missed or listed incorrectly. Will do my best to rectify.

*I do need your help in this respect however. Please notify of any change of address. If you know of or hear of a death of a Comrade, please inform the Association. If you served in World War One, please let us know. This is vital so that we can up date your file and thus grant you free life membership in the Association. Please inform us when you reach age sixty. You may then apply for life membership.*

I trust the above will answer Nita Wickham's and Cecil Galley's enquiries. And thanks for the address of Bill Bales of 1837 Larch St., Vancouver, submitted by D. Furlot

I hope you enjoy the coverage of the Melfa and keep the dates of upcoming events in mind. Thank you again to the some 360 members who have paid 1972 Dues and can only hope you are joined by 360 more in 1973.

Secy. and Editor

## SCHOLARSHIP — Continued

There were eleven applicants for the scholarships this year and the committee was faced with a very hard task to select winners from the very well qualified and extremely high calibre people applying. I can assure you that the committee knew each applicant only by an identity number and that the real identity of the candidates was known only to myself and that I did not disclose the names of the candidates to the committee until after the winners had been chosen. The committee feel sure that anonymity of candidates is vital to a fair adjudication. It took the committee nearly four hours of hard deliberation to arrive at the final decisions.

Yours sincerely,

L. K. Deane,

Secretary,  
Scholarship Committee.

Room 222,  
Madge Hogarth House,  
Simon Fraser University,  
Burnaby 2, B.C.  
September 7, 1972

Secretary, Scholarship Committee,  
Westminster Regiment Association,  
Box 854,  
New Westminster, B.C.

Dear Lieutenant Colonel Deane:

Would you please express my deepest gratitude to the Scholarship Committee of the Westminster Regiment Association for awarding me a \$250.00 scholarship. As you can see by my return address, I am now at Simon Fraser University. The part you have played in helping me to come here, will never be forgotten. I will try my best to live up to your faith in me. Once again, please accept my sincere thanks for bestowing this honour upon me.

Yours very sincerely,  
Judy Warne

## MELFA REPORT

If you like your sleep, getting up at the crack of dawn and being ready to go means, steeling yourself first, just to get out of bed. Then after you find your shoes there is a sock missing so maybe your morning doesn't get away so well.

But after tippytoeing around getting breakfast without waking anyone, you finally get your eyes open. Right about now you look at the golf cart near the front door and it's here that making that hole in one is going to be real easy. It may be hard on the golf course but standing near the front door before you leave, it is real easy, anyway, a piece of toast and two coffees later, off. You may remember Jack Shorter, well, he rode to the course with me, and we had a very good day. He was a good companion and I'm sure he enjoyed himself tremendously. We had a fair contingent from Toronto, there was Pat McCarthy and his wife, Bill Dennis and his wife, John Summers who was there alone, (nobody is ever alone with our outfit) Jack Shorter's wife was here too. Of course there were no Ladies at the Tournament (if there were, our total at the course would have been ninety two. Until now the forty six that were there, totals the most we have ever had. Barney Jones who had the job of making up the foursomes had a fair amount of work to do and made a swell job of it. We got away from the first tee just like pro's and the tournament was on. There is a lot of good natured ribbing going on from here on and there is a lot of fun to be had as you pass the first few groups who by now are going the other way. All this time we were beginning to understand some of the terms like slices, hooking, rough, sand traps, and the fact that a golf ball doesn't float. Who hah, oboy did we find out, there is absolutely no need to mention that lake. Some of the scores were good and some of us would have liked to hide them. We forgot the scores as we refreshed ourselves at the coffee bar.

During this time, up came one of those funny incidents that we came to know as the spirit of our regiment, the much talked of esprit de corps that made some regiments so famous, part of it was such an incident as we saw that day. Some of our new friends in the active part of our regiment were

having a discussion and the subject of the cold water in the small creek that ran through the course came up. Eventually one of their group was challenged to go for a swim on a bet. So he marched right outside onto the bridge and jumped in. We managed a picture of him climbing out with a few bits of green clinging to his torso. As he collected his bet he was slowly turning blue, but there was a certain satisfaction on his face as he turned away to find some dry clothing. Anyway it made our day. In the evening we had our dinner at the Royal Canadian Legion on Begbie Street in New Westminster, (by the way the Legion has since burned down. It was completely gutted, however, they are building again but not in time for our next do.) We will probably have the next one in the Elks Club banquet hall.

Our banquet was a huge success. There were no relatable incidents but you just have to hear the babble of voices to get some inkling as to why most of us go there. We all like the food and the drinks, but we can do that anytime. Our main purpose is to meet all our friends and look for those faces we haven't seen for so long. There is also a time on Sunday and this gives us an opportunity to mingle socially and in a little more refined vein than on our previous day. Refreshments are served, both liquid and solid. The afternoon begins when everyone brings his wife or his girl friend to the Officers Mess which is open to us for the day. Our Museum is open on that day also and is well worth seeing. On this day we usually renew acquaintances with the ladies we already know after all a year is a year. This was a special time for we were to meet the wives of Pat McCarthy, Bill Dennis and Jack Shorter. They had flown all the way from Toronto. We had a most enjoyable time and spent most of the afternoon at the Mess. Everyone who has spent any time in New Westminster knows the Hotel Russel, and they seem to cater to our whims, because when any of our groups get there, the talking seems to be fairly loud. And this is one of the handiest places to the Legion, so, this was where we ended our day and said our fondest goodbyes to our very good friends from Toronto. It is our fervent hope that

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## RESERVE THESE DATES FOR THE FUTURE ARMISTICE and REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1972. BE AT THE ARMOURIES BY NO LATER THAN 9:30 A.M. — with medals polished and shoes shining.

## ANNUAL ASSOCIATION SMOKER and CHRISTMAS DRAW

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 7:00 P.M. AT THE ARMOURIES,  
NEW WESTMINSTER.

## COMBINED ASSOCIATION and SERGEANTS MESS DANCE

Sometime in late November. Date unconfirmed. More to follow.

## YES, IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR! PLAY IT AGAIN SAM!

"It seems to me I've heard that song before" might be the theme some of you members will relate to the contents of this letter.

However, this Association would not be where it is today if it was not for the support of our members, to the Annual Christmas Draw. Call it participation, call it support, call it anything you like, but your Executive would sincerely appreciate your cooperation to the extent that you dispose of the two books of tickets herewith.

To those of you who sell more than two books, our thanks — should anyone require more books, a note to P.O. Box 854, or better still a phone call to Scotty Scott at 521-3294 will produce the desired results.

Again this year, we are legal, the area of our legality is from Hope to the Sunshine Coast, plus Vancouver Island. In this area you may feel free to use publicity or the best tactical approach you deem necessary. To the rest of our members throughout British Columbia, you have the authority to sell the tickets, however, you must use the personal approach.

Play it again Sam!

You don't have to sell these tickets, they sell themselves if you will only show them to your friends or associates; the prize list is attractive and you do participate if you have the good fortune to sell a winner. This is the small contribution that you can make to the continued success of your Association.

DATE: — DECEMBER 9, 1972.

PLACE — ARMOURIES, NEW WESTMINSTER.

TIME — 7:00 P.M.

DON'T LET US DOWN.

GOOD LUCK.

W. N. SCOTT (Scotty),  
H. A. STEPHENS (Bert),  
Co-Chairmen,  
Draw Committee.

P.S. — THIS IS A MUST

If for some reason you do not or cannot dispose of the tickets, please return the books as we must account to the Attorney General for all books.  
Committee.

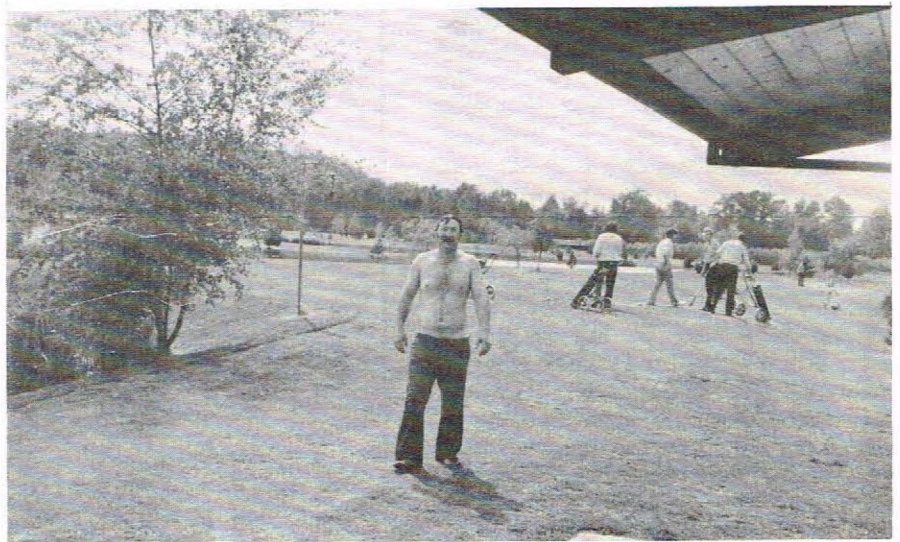
### MELFA GOLF - 1972

By Barney Jones

This year we had the largest entry since the inception of this event, a total of forty six bodies in all made up of 31 members of the Association, 5 members of the Regiment and 10 visitors. A good time was had by all and I am sure the change of venue namely Tsawwassen Golf Club proved to be quite popular. The calibre of golf was not much to write home about and at the end of the day it was found that yours truly was the over-all low net winner of the tourney and won the Westminster Regiment Trophy for the ensuing year. In addition to the trophy we gave out sixteen other very nice prizes. These prizes were all donated to our very capable prize committee chairman, Ron Mannering, who we all owe a vote of thanks for doing such a tremendous job re the prizes. Thanks a million Ron for a job well done. Sorry you were not able to compete for the lovely prizes you so very ably garnered for the event.

I would also like to thank the several members who assisted me at the tee-off time. Also, those who assisted at the end of the day helping so compile the scores to figure out who all the winners

Continued on P. 6, Col. 1



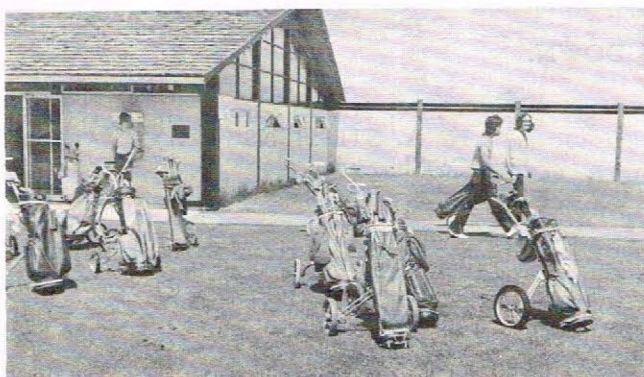
Terry Leith after Cooling Dip



Deserving Champion Barney Jones



Jack Laing; Ted Hammersley at the Real Objective.



Vehicles Ready Sir.



Fresh from the "Gold Trail"



**Col. Bill receiving Honorary Life Executive Membership from President Doug Glenn.**



**Who says there's a Generation Gap?**



**"Now Here's the Way it Was"**



**Action at the Head Table**



**R.S.M. Pickell of Royal Westminster Regiment and some of his NCO cadre.**



**Good Chow Johnny?**

## MELFA GOLF

— (Continued from Page 4)

were of the eight low gross and eight low net prizes were.

Thanks again to all who competed and made our little tourney a real success. I hope you will all compete again next year and if you do, bring another member or a friend.

Listed below are the prize winners names:

Low Net Field	Barney Jones (Trophy)
1st Low net	J. Reeves
2nd Low Net	J. Bush
3rd Low Net	D. Armstrong
4th Low Net	E. Shannon
5th Low Net	G. Johnson
6th Low Net	C. Marshall
Low Gross Field	D. Noble
1st	G. McGregor
2nd	Surford
3rd	Newman
4th	J. Lang
5th	P. Grossman
6th	Lost in shuffle
Closest to Pin	D. Noble
Long Drive	Ross Douglas
Low Gross Visitor	B. Curle
Low Net Visitor	P. Johnsen

## MELFA REPORT

(Continued from Page 3)

their stay here was enjoyable and that they will return again soon.

We had a meeting (our first for the year after a fairly nice summer). There were seventeen present and it took place on September 18. Some of the things coming up; a scholarship award for outstanding service by young people in the community. This is not yet firm but it is in the future. Bert Hoskins is the driving force behind this and the executive is in full accord. Our Christmas draw tickets are close at hand and you will be receiving them soon.

If you wish to get anything in the Groundsheet, send it to our mailing address and it will be published. We can always use lots of material. If your address was wrong in the Groundsheet send the correct one so the list can be amended. Armistice Day is coming around again and the service in the Armouries at Sixth and Queens is always crowded. So if you have made up your mind to go, be there early enough to get a seat. Around 9:30 should get you in.

At the meeting, just looking around the room from left to right, you would

## A Visit with the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

As you know, the Regiment has long enjoyed the privilege of an affiliation with a regiment in the British Army. For many years we were allied with The Royal Warwickshire Regiment. This regiment after several changes of name has become part of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. The RRF was formed by an amalgamation of four regiments, the Royal Fusiliers, The Lancashire Fusiliers, and the Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers. This new regiment still recruits from the areas from which the old regiments hailed, namely, the City of London and the three counties whose names the old regiments carried. The RRF had its regimental headquarters in Her Majesty's TOWER OF LONDON, together with a very fine museum belonging to the Royal Fusiliers.

Last May, at the officers' annual dinner of The Westminster Regiment, we were lucky to have as our guest the Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion RRF, Capt. Richard Brook. He was on exercise with the 2nd RRF in Wainwright, Alberta. As a result of Capt. Brook attending our dinner, an invitation was forthcoming to attend the Fusiliers annual dinner in London on July 14, 1972. As I was to be on holiday in England in July, I was able to have the privilege of representing the Regiment and the Association at that Dinner.

Because I was touring in Cornwall, I arrived in London late in the afternoon of the 14th, with just enough time to check into my hotel, shave, bath and change, and then rush out to find one of those wonderful London taxis to take me to the Hyde Park Hotel for the dinner. Upon entering the hotel, I mounted the flight of marble stairs

have seen: Doug Glenn, Ron Hurley, John Rosso, Trev. Whitehead, John Hou, Les Deane, Ron Mannering, Johnny Ford, Bert Hoskin, Stan Johnson, Stan Moorehouse, Clarence Huff, Gerry Pickell, Col. Bill Williams, Walter Lyle, Nelson Scott, and Bill Robson. After coffee and food you could plainly hear the rattle of chips—for some of us this was the signal to go home and that we did.

Bill Robson

ahead of me and was immediately seized and warmly welcomed by Colonel Bill Etches, the Regimental Secretary, who had been standing there for the sole purpose of looking out for the Canuck. I was then taken straight inside and presented to General Sir Kenneth Darling, the Colonel of the Regiment. I paid my respects and he immediately told me how very happy they were to have a representative of their affiliated regiment attend their annual officers' dinner. I soon learned that there would be 115 officers and ex-officers of the Fusiliers sitting down to dinner. They had hoped to have about forty more officers come over from Ulster, where both the 2nd and 3rd Battalions are on duty, however things were too hot in Ulster and none of the serving chaps over in Northern Ireland could be excused to come.

During the dinner, I was seated on General Darling's left hand as one of the guests of honour. This, I believe, was a very great compliment to our regiment and I was made to feel that they were very pleased to be allied with the Westies. Sitting on the General's right was the oldest Fusilier, Lt. Col. Sir John Dunnington-Jefferson, Bt., who is 89. I made a point of telling the oldest Fusilier that we had an oldest Westie and I told him about Col. Bill Williams. Colonel Dunnington-Jefferson was very interested to learn of his Canadian counterpart and later in the evening he wrote a note of greeting to Col. Bill which I was very happy to deliver when I came home. Everyone to whom I spoke was very anxious to learn more about the sister regiment in Canada, but none was keener or more pressing in his questioning than Maj.-Gen. R. C. MacDonald, the Deputy Colonel for Warwickshire. One of the most impressive moments of the dinner for me came with the reading of the telegrams and cablegrams from officers unable to attend due to overseas postings. It made me think that the Empire was not quite over when I heard greetings coming from such places as Gibraltar, Borneo, Malasia, and Hong Kong to name but a few. During informal chatting after the dinner I was invited by Brig. Paul Ward, Deputy Colonel for Northumberland, to

visit him at his home in Northumberland. At this point Bill Etches interjected that no one would want to visit Northumberland as ". . . they are all medieval and slightly feudal up there" However, I was not able to test the truth of this statement as my plans required me to leave for Leicester the next morning. After enjoying a very wonderful evening of great hospitality, I returned very late to my hotel.

After spending the next few days in Leicester having a reunion with some of my old friends in The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, I returned to London. Up early on the first morning back, I caught the underground and made my way to Tower Hill where I left the tube and walked to the Tower of London to pay my call on Regimental Headquarters. When I arrived, the chief clerk apologized but said I would have to wait a moment as Col. Etches was on the telephone. During the few minutes I had to wait, I passed the time by looking out the window at the hundreds of tourists who were flooding into the Tower to see the Bloody Tower, the ravens, the Beef-Eaters, and the Crown Jewels. Truly, the history books seemed to be coming alive before my eyes. I was not kept long before Co. Etches came to the door to welcome me, full of apologies for keeping me waiting. While we waited for coffee to arrive, he explained to me that he had just been on the phone to battalion headquarters in Ulster and had been getting the morning's casualty list. That morning the Fusiliers had had one officer and two fusiliers wounded by IRA snipers. Then I saw one of the things that make the regimental system such a great one. While I sat with him, Bill Etches began phoning regimental officers on postings near the home towns of the wounded men. These officers would set out immediately to notify the next of kin of the wounding and to make any arrangements that might be needed for mothers or wives to travel to the military hospital to be with the wounded son or husband. Bill Etches assured me that no Fusilier's family would hear he was a casualty by so impersonal means as a government telegram. If there is a fatality, as there is from time to time, the Colonel of the Regiment himself goes to break

the news. The Regiment is like a big family. After visitng the museum and meeting the other members of his staff, I took my leave of Bill Etches, but not before they had made special arrangements for me to see the very special "Ceremony of the Keys" which takes place each night at 10:00 p.m. when the Tower of London is ceremonially locked up for the night. Admission to this ceremony is only by special pass issued by the Constable of the Tower. At 9:45 p.m. my wife and I were admitted through the West Gate of the Tower by the Beef-Eater on duty. We then joined a party of about thirty who were to watch the ceremony.. We were taken in charge by a Beef-Eater who at once made his army senior NCO background evident by announcing in a voice intended to cow recruits, "Right now, I only want to repeat this once! There is to be NO talking, No smoking, and NO moving around!" Duly cowed, we all meekly followed our guide to a place in front of Traitor's Gate. From this point we could see the escort form up that would accompany the Chief Warder as he made his rounds locking the great gates of the Tower. When the Chief Warder arrived, carrying the great ring of jangling keys, he placed himself in the centre of the escort consisting of a corporal, two guardsmen, and a drummer carrying a lantern. The corporal gave "Quick March" and the party headed off to the West Gate. Upon reaching the gate, the party was challenged with, "Halt, Who goes there?" by the sentry on duty. In reply, the Chief Warder called out, "The Keys". To which the sentry challenged, "Whose keys?" The Chief Warder responded, "Queen Elizabeth's Keys". Upon hearing this reply, the sentry called out, "Pass, Queen

Elizabeth's Keys, All's well", and presented arms to the Keys as they passed. The Chief Warder then advanced to the gate and with a great creak and boom the gates banged shut and were locked by him. The Chief Warder and his party then marched on to the gate at the Bloody Tower and to Traitor's Gate. At each gate the challenge and answers were repeated and the gates locked for the night. After leaving Traitor's Gate, the party moved to the steps just below where the scaffold used to stand and halted. Formed up here was the guard, founded that night by the Scots Guards, under their officer with drawn sword.

Upon arriving in front of the guard, the Chief Warder announced that these were Queen Elizabeth's Keys at which the guard presented arms. The Chief Warder then raised his Tudor bonnet to arms length over his head and pronounced, "God Preserve Queen Elizabeth!" To which the guard replied, "Amen". The duty bugler then sounded the Last Post. The Chief Warder then returned to his quarters and the officer dismissed the guard. The ceremony over, the Beef-Eater who was our guide escorted us back to the West Gate (now locked) and after wishing us a hearty good-night, let us out through the small needle's eye in the gate. My wife and I were very moved by this ceremony especially since the Beef-Eater had reminded us that this identical ceremony had gone on every night — in peace and war — for hundreds of years, almost unchanged in form since the middle ages. So ended my very happy and memorable visit with The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

L. K. DEANE

**ASSOCIATION CRESTS PLEASE**

Please send me  Crest(s) at \$5.00 Each.

NAME ..... Address .....

Mail Orders to "Association Crests", Box 854, New Westminster, B. C.  
No return postage

## At Executive Dinner for their Ladies



Left to right: Col. Bill, Pres. Doug Glenn and Ruth Meek.



Mike Bond on right with the Secretary.

## WHAT BECAME OF KELLY?

Earl Ross, 866 E. 30th, Vancouver, B.C.  
 T. W. Fawkes, Box 316, Sechelt, B.C.  
 W. Curnow, Brighton, Sussex, England  
 George A. Bowie, 20805 River Rd., Haney, B.C.  
 Ralph M. Kenny, P.O. Box 606?, Courtenay, B.C.  
 R. H. Newman, Ste. 107 - 1970 W. 41st, Vancouver, B.C.  
 Don Motzer, Sechelt, B.C.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Stan Moorehouse, Ste. 704 - 700 Hamilton St., New Westminster, B.C.  
 E. R. Fisher, Burnahm Gen. Estates, 340 Mill Road, Apt. 704,  
 Etobicoke, Ontario  
 R. Reynolds, 2110, W. 37th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.  
 Capt. T. A. Harris, Apt. 302 - 975 Chilco St., Vancouver 5, B.C.  
 L. D. Bailey, Vanerneuk, Rd., R.R. No. 1, Lantzville, B.C.  
 D. R. G. Owen, 26 Eastbourne Ave., Toronto 7, Ontario  
 H. Art Miller, R.R. No. 2, Dallas, B.C. (Not Texas)  
 C. L. Shreives, 520 2nd St. Nelson, B.C.  
 W. J. Kerr, R.R. No. 5, 33261 King Rd., Abbotsford, B.C.



## LEST WE FORGET

ART HARGREAVES, Reg. No. 628492, 47th Bn.  
 BERNARD MAUCHY, 2nd Bn., W.R.  
 ANDRE REMILLARD, W.R.  
 THOMAS J. SINCLAIR, W.R.  
 HERAN HOGUE, W.R.  
 ED. PAT MUSKETT, W.R.  
 SGT. JACK LUCAS, W.R.  
 SYD. A. OGBORN, R.C.E.M.E., Attached to W.R.  
 LEWIS ARCHIBALD, Seaforths and Westminster Regt.  
 Dr. G. HOWELL HARRIS, R.R. No. 1, Duncan, B.C.  
 S. J. D. EVANS, Nanaimo, B.C.  
 JAMES V. HOLLINGHUM, San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.  
 GEORGE E. DAVIS, W.R.  
 of Fort St. James and Sorrento, B.C.  
 JACK HAWKSBY, W.R., Vancouver, B.C.  
 JACK GRAHAM, W.R., New Westminster, B.C.

RETURN  
REQUESTED

THE WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION  
 P. O. Box 854, New Westminster, B.C.



E.G. SHANNON  
 940 DIXON ST  
 RICHMOND BC