



Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeship
We knew in Wars and Peace and in
Our services both Home and Abroad.

THE GROUND SHEET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 854, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 4Z8

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April/May 1986

PRES.,
SECTY.,
EDITOR,

PRESERVING THE
HISTORY OF:
ROYAL ENGINEERS
NEW WESTMINSTER
VOLUNTEER RIFLES
SEYMOUR BATTERY OF
GARRISON ARTILLERY
104th WESTMINSTER
RIFLES OF CANADA
131st BATTALION
CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE
47th BATTALION
CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE
THE WESTMINSTER
REGIMENT (INF)
THE WESTMINSTER
REGIMENT (MG)
THE WESTMINSTER
REGIMENT (MOTOR)
THE ROYAL
WESTMINSTER REGIMENT





<u>PRESIDENT</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>EDITOR PRO-TEM</u>
Stan Moorhouse #704 - 700 Hamilton St., New Westminster, B.C. V3M 2M6 PH. 522-3507	Jerry Gangur 2015 Hyannis Dr. North Vancouver, B.C. V7H 2E5 PH. 929-5785	Ron Hurley, 2229 Bonnyvale St., Vancouver, B.C. V5P 2G4 PH. 321-8464

Hail, Farewell & Congratulations:

A reluctant farewell to former Editor Ed Shannon and congratulations to him for loyal and tireless efforts as Editor of YOUR Groundsheet. It is noted that Ed is soon to be married and, if that be true Ed, sincere best wishes from us all.

I have accepted this position on an interim term only; so it is to be hoped that some member will step forward on a more permanent basis. I have occupied this post on many occasions in the past, some short term, but mainly for periods of 10 to 12 years consecutively. We need some new blood. How about some of you younger members who have served, or are serving, with the unit since W.W. 2? There must be a wealth of talent out there. To use an old but relevant cliché 'We have, indeed, thrown The Torch To You'.

Personally, I missed Melfa 85 at New Westminster but had justification. I actually crossed The Melfa on 24th May 1985. Shortly after high noon to be precise and crossed unhindered in approximately 27 seconds. The famous, or to some infamous, HOUSE is the only recognizable landmark from those long gone years. The Via Del Sol Autostrada spans the Melfa a few short metres from The House on its Northern Side and gives no indications of the horrors it presented in 1944....

R.H.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 1986

PRESIDENT: Stan Moorhouse, #704-700 Hamilton St., New Westminster, B.C.
V3M 2M6

VICE-

PRESIDENT: Ted Usher, #802-4390 Grange St., Burnaby, B.C. V5H 1P6

SECRETARY : Jerry Gangur, 2015 Hyannis Drive, North Van., B.C. V7H 2E5

TREASURER : Vern Ardagh, 3689 Nico Wynd Drive, Surrey, B.C. V4A 5Z5

MUSEUM

DIRECTOR: Bert Hoskin, 4736 - 62nd Ave., Delta, B.C. V4K 3L7

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EXECUTIVE MEMBERS - 1986

Alex Gibson - 820 Norfolk St. Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 4T4
 Geo. Gibson - 709 Regan St., Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 3A5
 Bruce Eaton - 1223 52nd St., Delta, B.C. V4M 2Z1
 John Ford - 3757 W 35th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6N 2M6
 Dave Adlem - #905-9380 Cardston Court, Burnaby, B.C. V3N 4R5
 Walter Lyle - 614 - 4th Ave., New Westminster, B.C. V3M 1S4
 Ed Shannon - 20250 - 43A Ave., Langley, B.C. V3A 5L8
 Doug Glenn - 6666 Walker Ave., Burnaby, B.C. V5E 3B9

ANNUAL REPORT
 SICK & VISITING COMMITTEE
 1985/86

Mr. President:

Your Committee has had a fairly busy year maintaining contact with our Members, who in most cases were confined to hospital or Care homes.

There have not been as many hospital cases as the previous year. We have 5 Members who are hardly capable of mobility. These Members have been our constant concern throughout this past year.

Our ranks are again showing the wear and tear of life. According to our records twenty six of our comrades have passed on. These names have been posted in the Groundsheet. What we are unable to ascertain is the full number, as likely many have been unannounced to our Association.

The lack of contacts with Members' family diminishes our chances of keeping up to date in this regard. We are spread far and wide. We were hopeful that more contacts would be established with the introduction last year of the phone-in procedure whereby telephone charges would be reversed to the Chairman no matter where, providing of course it was information vital to our Committee and Association. The results have not been too good. The procedure is still valid.

Expenses have been kept within the Budget. These are for the most part confined to mileage, cigs, chocolate, books and soft drinks.

It now remains the task to carry on displaying our concern towards the plight of our Members in need. To this end an energetic Sick & Visiting Committee should be sustained both in a moral sense and a disciplined approach. Though often the task seems fruitless and the spirit lags, the attention and interest shown towards those in need offsets, and appears trivial by comparison to the pick-up in spirit it gives to the patient. If any Member can find time to visit here is a list and addresses: .../4



Joh Drake (Ducky)....4th Floor (Brock Fahrni Bldg
 Elmer Markle.....3rd Floor {4500 Oak St.
 Tom Fawkes.....Ward C4, {Shaugnessy Hosp. Bldg
 {4500 Oak St.
 Malcolm Stewart.....Intermediate Care Home5 Corners, Coquitlam
 Ernie Winding.....Centennial Nursing Home.....99th Ave., Surrey
 W.K. Godwin, Chairman.



MELFA '86 PROGRAM

SATURDAY MAY 24, 1986

10:30	- GOLF	- Mylora Golf Club 9411 Sidaway Rd., Richmond Doug Glenn, Chairman.
14:00	- NO-HOST HOSPITALITY BAR Museum Open - All Welcome	- Armouries - Sgt's Mess
18:00	- CENOTAPHE SERVICE Wreath Laying Last Post	- City Hall
19:00	- COCKTAIL HOUR	- Royal Canadian Legion
20:00	- DINNER	- Legion

DINNER FORMAT

20:00 - Be Seated at this time
 - Grace
 - Dinner
 - Toasts - Loyal
 - Fallen Comrades
 - Comrades in Arms
 - Regiment
 - Ladies
 - Melfa
 - Closing Remarks

(Program Melfa '86 Cont'd)

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1986

BRUNCH - Armoury
11:30 - Champagne/Orange Juice
12:00 - Brunch

DRESS - CASUAL

MELFA - 1986

This is your last notice for the Melfa Dinner, Golf and Sunday Brunch. To attend the Dinner and Brunch you MUST send the tear off section attached below to me before May 10, 1986. Again I must advise you that we are limited to about 200 people so send your reply today. Also please send your payment for the functions you plan on attending. We will not be accepting payment at the door this year so don't delay. You are all probably aware by now that EXPO '86 will be underway by Melfa time so come and enjoy the festivities in the Royal City.

Note: PRICES - Dinner \$12.00 per person
Brunch \$ 6.00 per person
Golf \$12.00 per person

ATTN. ALL GOLFERS: TEE OFF TIME 10:25 A.M. SATURDAY, MAY 24. BE EARLY.

MELFA RESERVATIONS

To assist in planning we would like an early confirmation of your attendance.

GOLF: YES _____ NO _____ NO. IN PARTY _____
DINNER: YES _____ NO _____ NO. IN PARTY _____
SUNDAY
BRUNCH: YES _____ NO _____ NO. IN PARTY _____

Please send to: Melfa Chairman
Ted Usher
#802 - 4390 Grange
Burnaby, B.C.
V5H 1P6

Attendee



SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

FROM: ELSIE BALDWIN, MARY & SAM SOUTAR
 TO ATTEND
 BRANCH #3 ('D' COY) ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

DATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1986 TIME: 12:30 P.M. - ??

Ladies and Gentlemen bring your own picnic baskets and your personally desired liquid essentials. Picnic type folding tables and chairs would be an asset to all who can bring them.

DIRECTIONS: Not too difficult - Proceed around south side of Cultus Lake past golf course, then look for large flag on your right. Easy access from Hwy. #1 via Cultus Lake to Circle 6 Ranch, Lindell Beach.

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

MELFA 1985
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 1985 MELFA DINNER was held in the Armoury at 8 pm 25 May 1985. It was attended by approximately 175 people, which included a good number of active unit members along with their wives and girlfriends. The dinner was enjoyed on a very pleasant summer evening in a freshly painted drill hall. The food was plentiful and all seemed to enjoy the way it was presented and served.

After dinner we were presented with a selection of short but well deserved toasts and replys. The most remembered being the toast to the Melfa by Ian Douglas. This followed by a report on his trip to Holland by Col. McKinney,

The dinner concluded with a no host-bar and friendship get-together. It appears that the idea of having the ladies attend the dinner is popular and should continue in the future.

The only complaint received was that people giving toasts were not able to be heard clearly due to the lack of a public address system. It was felt that with the small number of people and the area, a public address system would not have been beneficial. The acoustics in the drill hall are about the worst you will find.

The Sunday Brunch was held the next morning with approximately 60 people enjoying champagne and orange juice brunch. Again the caterers



did a splendid job in presenting an exceptional display. It appeared that all who attended enjoyed the casual get-together.

In all the Melfa 85 weekend of golf, dinner and brunch appeared to be enjoyed.

It was a difficult task to arrange the functions and I enjoyed the opportunity of organizing it. It would not have been as successful without the help the young group of unit members who assisted me in setting things up. Also a special thanks to Basil Morgan for his ideas.

The comments I received from those who attended were greatly appreciated and it's those positive comments that make the effort worth it.

I look forward to serving you as your Chairman for the Melfa 1986 and hope the attendance is as equal if not better than Melfa 85.

Ted Usher,
Melfa Chairman 1985.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN
RWRA MUSEUM 1985

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF:

Royal Engineers	104th Wesminster	The Westminster
New Westminster	Fusiliers of Canada	Regiment (MG)
Volunteer Rifles	131st Battalion	The Westminster
Seymour Battery of	Canadian Expeditionary	Regiment (Motor)
Garrison Artillery	Force	The Royal Westminster
The Westminster	47th Battalion	Regiment
Regiment (INF)	Canadian Expeditionary	
	Force	

GENERAL

Our Annual Report is divided into three parts, First to inform the membership of our operations during the Year 1985, to give a financial accounting of our funds, and to report on the success or otherwise of our Special Museum Committee (SMC) in its efforts to meet with the City to explore the possibility of the City of New Westminster ultimately assuming responsibility for the operation of a joint civilian-military museum depicting the civilian and military contribution to the history of the County and City. Such facility to be in the type of accommodation both histories deserve and must have!

(RWRA Museum Cont'd)

THE YEAR 1985

As Chairman I cannot express too highly my thanks to those members who agreed to serve on the committee regardless of age or infirmity. Without them we would never have been able to keep the museum open the two days and one night per week we have managed so far.

We have not been idle in other areas as well, for a sub-committee has developed a first class plan for a much more effective display layout. Considering the priceless material we have, it should be shown in an area at least three times the size of what we have. By a careful husbanding of our funds we have a significant contingency reserve, more on this later under the financial section.

However, with the opening of EXPO on May 2, 1986, I am appealing to you all, we must open at least four days a week during this six month period, and we must have at least ten volunteers to swell our staff. Surely with so many members living within the local area many should be able to give us at least two or three afternoons per month! More on this from Vernon.

FINANCIAL

I am pleased to report that by careful management we have a considerable balance in our Contingency Reserve against the future. Our Treasurer, Vern Ardagh, will present our Annual Audited Statement to the meeting and I will close with a few remarks as to the future.

SPECIAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE


I wish I could report real progress with the Mayor and Council of the City of New Westminster as the future home of the Museum, which we have all agreed will ensure the continuation of the museum and our contribution to the history of the County and City, and equally important to ensure the integrity of our artifacts, archives into the twenty-first century.

Some unfortunate problems have surfaced which seem to preclude the City responding to our last meeting in September, 1985. As Chairman I am not in a position to go into detail tonight and must seek guidance from our 1986 Executive Committee before taking any further action.

CONCLUSION

I, therefore, ask for a motion signifying approval of my report.

H.F. Hoskin,
Chairman,
Museum Committee.


 THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
 as of 31 December 1985

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Cash	\$4881.12	Due to Commanding Officer	\$ 411.51
On hand - for deposit	150.64	Golf - Trust Fund	10.00
Petty Cash	100.00	Proceeds - '84 Draw	3375.46
Due by Ground Sheet		<u>Contingency Reserve</u>	
Trust Fund	365.89	Fwd - Jan 1/85	\$4718.00
Advance - Melfa '86	250.00	Loss - for period	
Suspense a/c	27.21	(see below)	552.76
Inventory (see note)	<u>2187.35</u>		<u>4165.24</u>
	<u>\$7962.21</u>		<u>\$7962.21</u>

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES
 for period 1 January - 31 December 1985

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Draw (1984 Draw)	\$1800.00	Administration (inc. bank charges)	\$1153.00
Dues	1580.00	Commanding Officer	1000.00
Donations	2570.00	Melfa Dinner	2319.00
Interest - Bank	264.00	Smoker	281.00
- Trustees	1622.00	Cadets	500.00
Write off long outstanding cheques	152.00	Ann. Gen. Meeting	68.00
Take on - 17 sections - folding dividers	479.99	Poppy Fund	100.00
Recovered - '84 Smoker	45.00	Sick & Visiting	73.00
To adjust	1.00	Museum	850.00
		Write off bad cheque	10.00
		Executive meetings	118.00
		Negotiating Committee	294.00
		Change over dinner	406.00
		To Trustees	1259.00
		To Close out Draw '84	31.00
		Groundsheet -prior to set up of Trust	604.00
	<u>\$8513.00</u>	To Surplus a/c	<u>\$9066.00</u>
LOSS FOR PERIOD:	<u>\$ 553.00</u>		



BANK RECONCILIATION
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
31 December 1985

Canada Trust - Savings Account	\$5122.90	
- Current Account	4782.00	\$5170.72
Less: Outstanding cheque - Jackson Printing		289.60
		<u>\$4881.12</u>

SMOKER - 1985


<u>Budgeted</u>		\$ 400.00
<u>Cost - Food only</u>		280.83
Under Budget:		<u>\$ 119.17</u>

INVENTORY

20 Tables and 97 Chairs		\$1168.00
Typewriter		540.35
17 Sections - folding dividers		479.99
		<u>\$2187.35</u>

SUGGESTED BUDGET - 1986

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Draw	\$3375.00	Administration \$1300.00
Dues	1000.00	Museum 1500.00
Donations	1500.00	Melfa 1500.00
Interest - Bank	225.00	Smoker 350.00
- Trustees	1200.00	Cadets 500.00
		Christening 100.00
		Ann. Gen. Meeting 100.00
		Poppy Fund 100.00
		Executive Meetings 150.00
		Sick & Visiting 200.00
		Change over dinner 500.00
		To Surplus 1000.00
	<u>\$7300.00</u>	<u>\$7300.00</u>


 TRUSTEES REPORT
for the year 1985

TRUSTEES: Allan Coe, Chairman
 Pat McCarthy
 Bert Stephens

We take pleasure in submitting the following report for your approval.

On January 1, 1985 the trustees were administering two certificates of deposit with a total value of \$26, 241.23.

On May 6, 1985 the trustees at the request of the executive of the Royal Wesminster Regiment Association established three trust funds which were to be funded from the amount already held in trust plus the accrued interest to May 6, 1985. This amount was established at\$26,797.33

The new trust accounts were to be known as:

1. Commanding Officers Trust Account	\$10,000.00
2. Museum Trust Account	10,000.00
3. Groundsheet Trust Fund	<u>6,500.00</u>
Total.....	\$26,500.00
Balance credited to Association Account	297.33
Total.....	<u><u>\$26,797.33</u></u>

The total amount of interest received from all trust accounts for the year 1985 amounted to\$ 2,300.83

We, the trustees, recommend your acceptance of this report.

Allan Coe, Chairman

THE RETURNING MAN

Down the old road, alone he reappears,
 His promised word he keeps,
 All's well, for over there among his peers,
 A Happy Warrior sleeps.

J.C. Jones

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MAIL CALL

Apologies to any that I fail to acknowledge but this is the correspondence received at press time. R.H.

Appreciation to his worship Tom Baker, Mayor of The City of New Westminster. Many thanks re your kind remarks of 'The Groundsheet'. You can be assured you will be on future mailing lists....

Sincere thanks to old friend Doug Furlot for your nice letter and also for the inclusion of Al Grieves' dues and also Al's address viz. Al Grieves, #106-55 E 14th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V5T 2M4. And Doug, it was a personal pleasure to have met you and Al at the 40 Ann. Celebrations held in Apeldoorn Holland in May of 1985. It was a grand ceremony indeed A nice note and dues from loyal and long standing Member from Ontario, John Somers. Always nice to hear from you John and we certainly hope that some of you will get together in Toronto at Melfa time. Some kind thoughts from Geo. Harkness of 112 Colley St., Trail, B.C. V1R 2M2. Have seen Ducky Drake, George, and will make sure that your words reach him. He is still in Hospital but seems to be holding up reasonably well. From Shuswap country by way of Salmon Arm a letter from C.W. Moorwood, R.R.#3, Site 38 A C 2 Salmon Arm, B.C. V1E 4M3. Sorry to learn of your illness and the misfortune of your wife re her drastic surgery. We wish you both well and trust the future will bring more pleasant news from you. A most interesting and informative letter from A. Sandy McDonald, Huron Country Library, 66 Waterloo St., Goderich, Ontario N7A 3P3. Thank you for the news, albeit sad, of W. Straiton & Wm. Nelson. We congratulate you on your publishing of '161 Huron Gt War Vets'. You are on our mailing list and we would welcome communications from you.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, BACK IN SEPT. R.H.

