



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

VOL: 36

ISSUE: 1

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1988

Annual General Meeting

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Thursday, March **17** 1988

TIME: 8:00 P.M.

PLACE: ARMOURIES – NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

Parking in City Hall Parking Lot

IF YOU ARE EVEN REMOTELY INTERESTED IN
YOUR ASSOCIATION YOU WILL BE THERE!

These Are Crucial Times For YOUR Association
WE NEED YOUR ADVICE AND SUPPORT

MELFA 88

MAY 14-15TH

PRESIDENT

Bruce Eaton
1223 52nd Street
Delta, B.C.
V4M 2Z1
Ph: 943-3097

SEC./TRES.

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Burnaby, B.C.
V3N 4R5
Ph: 420-1914

EDITOR

Ron Hurley
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Vancouver, B.C.
V5P 2G4
Ph: 321-8464

EDITOR'S DILEMMA

Getting out this newspaper is fun, but it's no picnic.
If we print jokes, people say we're silly
If we don't, they say we're too serious.
If we clip things from other papers,
We are too lazy to write them ourselves.

If we don't we are too fond of our own stuff.
If we don't print contributions,
We don't appreciate true genius.
If we do the pages are filled with junk.
Now someone will say we swiped this from another paper.
We Did.

The above bit of frippery really does express the difficulties of ALL the editors who have published your Groundsheet these past 40 plus years. Given our low dues structure of \$5.00 per year makes it more so than ever. Past history proves that the same loyal one third always pay their dues and also are the largest donation contributors. The cost of producing each issue is in excess of \$800.00 per issue. We currently mail out over 600 copies - obviously the loyal one third can not cover the costs of production. At this printing there are but 143 paid up members. No one will be denied a paper for inability to pay or forgetfulness. This Editor is asking you for your overwhelming support - particularly on this 125th anniversary of The Regimental Family.

R.H.

IMPORTANT COMING EVENTS FOR THE ASSOCIATION:

March 17, 1988 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION
OF OFFICERS

Please attend there will be some important discussion re. our participation of 125 Anniversary Celebrations Details of A.G.M. outlined on Front Page. Members will be given the opportunity of participation by proxy and more detailed information re: that subject contained in this issue.

May 14 & 15, 1988 - MELFA WEEKEND

Final details not fully confirmed at press time but Melfa Chairman Bob Grebinski will have full information in pre Melfa Edition which will be out in April. We can tell you the place and some changes in costs.

Place: Royal Towers Hotel - Across from Armouries.

May 14: Dinner - \$20.00 per person.

May 14: Golf Tournament Tee Off - 12:00 noon.

Green fees to be confirmed. Those ladies and gentlemen wishing to enter should send in their applications early.

May 15: Sunday Brunch - Armouries Officers/ Sgts. Mess.

Time: 11:30 a.m. Price: \$8.00 per person.

ACCOMMODATION

There will be some available at the Royal Towers Hotel but suggest early booking. Contact Bob Grebinski, Box 854, New Westminster via the Association or make personal contact with Royal Towers Hotel.

ITALIAN CAMPAIGNERS, (D-DAY DODGERS) - May 6 - 8, Orillia Br., RCL.
C. Evans, 336 Nottawasaga St., Orillia, Ont., L3V 3K6 (705) 326-2859.



INTENT OF PROXY

FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MARCH 17, 1988

Your executive have for some time considered ways and means of involving the membership at large more directly in the affairs, administration and policies of your Association. Particularly the many loyal members who are unable to attend our functions and meetings.

In this regard we are proposing to follow the examples of the majority of business and industry by achieving our proposal by way of proxy. This February/March, 1988 Issue of your Groundsheet contains such a proxy and printed as an insert separately so you may keep your paper intact. We trust this will afford you an opportunity to make your own personal contribution to the 1988 Annual General Meeting. Proxy sample printed below. You will receive yours on separate paper so please return promptly.


THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The undersigned, being a member in good standing of the above-mentioned Society, hereby appoints _____, or failing him _____ as proxyholder for the undersigned to attend, act and vote for and on behalf of the undersigned at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society to be held on the _____ day of _____, 19____.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____.

(Signature of Member)

Note: Forward this proxy to the member you wish to act on your behalf.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year of our Lord 1987 has ended. Was it a good year? For the Association I would venture to say yes.

In June we established a scholarship fund of \$5,000 to be administered in perpetuity by the New Westminster Secondary School Scholarship Committee. The award will be given in the Association's name each year. The annual interest earned from the fund to be awarded to a graduating student who must have a C+ or better average, show outstanding citizenship by participation in school affairs and be proceeding to enrollment at U.B.C., S.F.U., University of Victoria., a B.C. regional College or a two term course at B.C.I.T. To start it off we gave another \$350 which was awarded to the first student in June.

The Museum has been turned over to The Royal Westminster Historical Society, which was formed in December. It is chaired by the Honourable Judge A. Stewart McMorran. We hope the Museum Artifacts and archives will be housed in a civic museum in the City of New Westminster while there are still some of us around to see it. Time will tell.

Planning is well underway for the 125th birthday-anniversary of the regiment and its antecedents. These activities are listed elsewhere.

The Association is sponsoring the activities for November 20, 1988, which will be in the form of an "indoor picnic" at the Armouries. Bert Hoskins and his committee have the plans well underway. We would like to see all of you and your families present to make this the biggest party of the 125 years of the regiment.

The cost of this party to the Association and the activities leading up to it will be considerable. A budget is presently being worked on. We do not plan to hold a "Draw" this year but, as we still need funds, we are soliciting your financial support directly. All contributions will be tax deductible and we will issue an official receipt covering your donation.

On behalf of the directors of the Association and myself may we wish you all the very best for 1988. We hope to see you at the Melfa, May 14th and 15th, at the birthday party November 20th and at as many of the other birthday activities as you are able to attend.

Bruce Eaton

1988/1989 BUDGET

Groundsheet - 3 issues at \$825.00	\$2,475.00
Melfa - Golf, Dinner, Brunch, Net Cost to Association	1,250.00
Sick and Visiting	200.00
C.O.'s Fund	600.00
125th Anniversary Picnic, etc.	4,000.00
Change over Dinner	400.00
Poppy and Memorial	150.00
Assistant Secretary, Typist, etc.	1,500.00
Administration	<u>850.00</u>
TOTAL COST	\$11,425.00

INCOME

Dues	\$ 800.00	
Donations (To Date)	800.00	
Interest	<u>1,600.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$3,200.00	
NET DEFICIT		\$ 8,225.00

It is hoped that a large part of the deficit will be made up by donations. Tax deductible receipt will be issued for all donations.

Bruce Eaton - President

From the desk of the Secretary/Treasurer:

Thank you for the response to the "Just a reminder" notice mailed just before Christmas concerning dues and the due date. Many requests came along with cheques. Dues for the General Membership remain at \$5.00. The Association does not have any lapel pins or car decals or blazer crests available at this time. Royal Westminster Regiment blazer crests are available through the Regimental Orderly Room, The Armoury, 530 Queens Avenue, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 1K3.

I received a sum of money (cash) through the mail. There was no note or return address on the envelope. The sender will not have received a receipt or his Membership Card. Please identify yourself quoting the sum of money enclosed and I will issue a receipt and your card.

Dave Adlem

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NOMINEES FOR ELECTION MARCH 17, 1988

Bruce Eaton
Doug Glenn
Dave Adlem

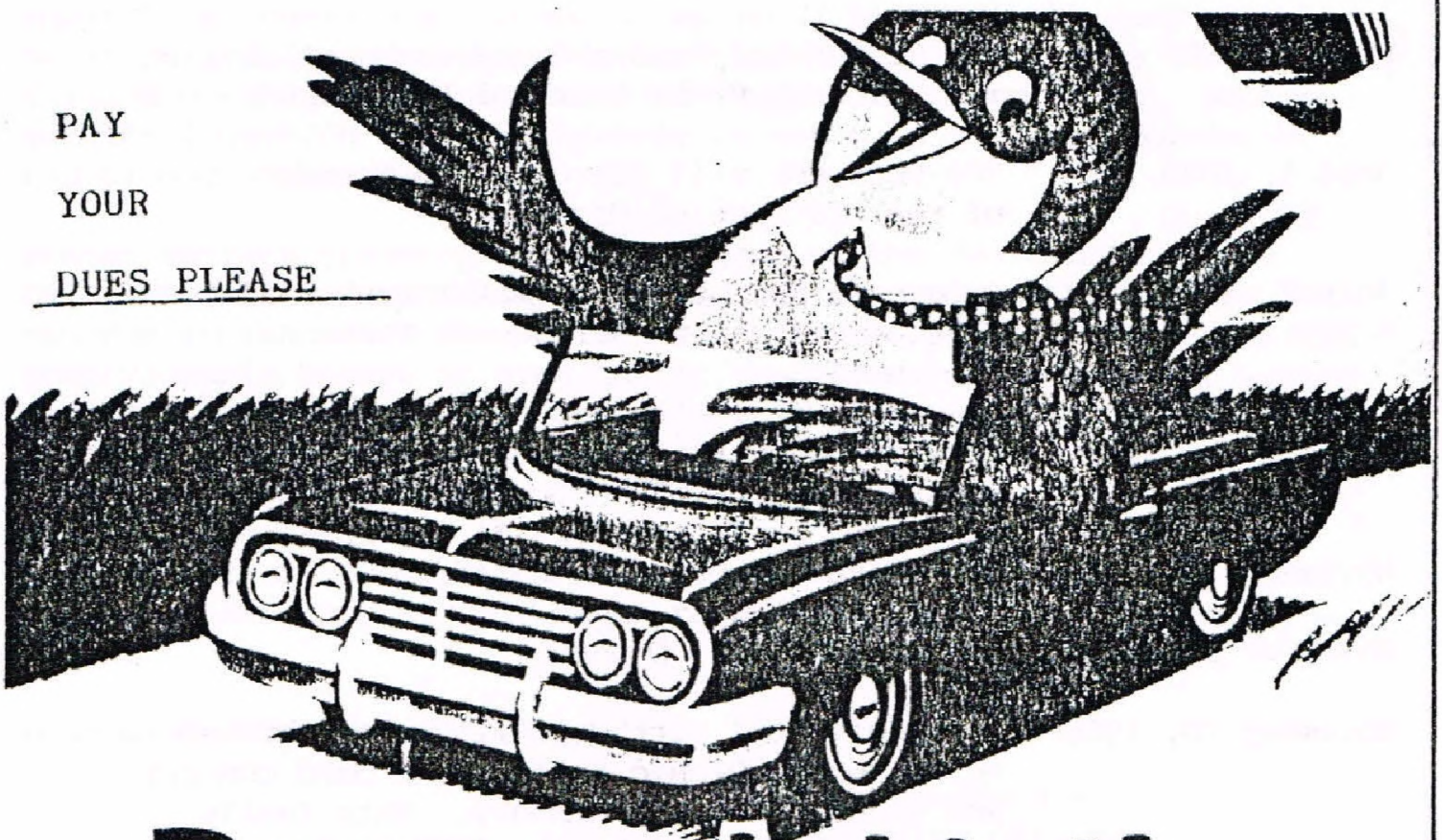
President
Vice-President
Secretary/Treasurer

Dick Armstrong
Bert Hoskins
Chuck Smithers
Bob Grebinski
Alex Gibson
Stan Conway
Eben Sweet
Stan Moorhouse
Walter Lyle

Regiment Representative

Doug Armstrong -
Chairman Nominating Committee

PAY
YOUR
DUES PLEASE



Be an early bird!



1988 IS 125TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

This year, 1988, marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of our Regiment and its antecedents in 1863. To mark this significant milestone, the Regiment has planned a number of major events. All members of the Regimental Family are urged to note these dates on their calendars and plan now to attend as many of the functions as possible.

- February 20, 1988 - Officer's Annual Mess Dinner. Maj Gen Hoffmeister will be attending.
- April 28, 1988 - Visit to the Armoury by His Grace The Duke of Westminster.
- April 30, 1988 - The Regiment will exercise the Freedom of the District of Matsqui.
- May 23, 1988 - The Regiment will celebrate The Queen's Birthday and exercise the Freedom of the City of New Westminster.
- May 28, 1988 - The Regimental Band and a detachment will march in the Hyack Festival Parade.
- June 5, 1988 - The Regiment will exercise the Freedom of the District of Mission.
- July 1, 1988 - On Canada Day, the Regimental Band will play a concert in the Queen's Park bandshell.
- August 5-7, 1988 - The Parachute Platoon is planning to do a para drop into the Abbotsford Air Show.
- November 11, 1988 - Annual Remembrance Day Parade.
- November 12, 1988 - WOs & Sgt's Mess Dinner.
- November 20, 1988 - The Regimental Birthday will be celebrated by an Indoor Picnic including a band concert and displays at the Armoury. This family event is sponsored by the Association.



The 125th Anniversary of the Regiment's service "Pro Rege et Patria" is a wonderful opportunity for all members of the Regimental Family to get to know each other better.

L. K. Deane -
Honorary Lieutenant Colonel

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT

Our Winter training program is going well albeit with some frustrations from such uncontrollables as the weather and the serviceability of the Canadian Armed Forces helicopters. We hoped to achieve a first on 30th January when a Hercules transport was flown in from Edmonton to allow our Para Ops tasked Platoon to do at least two jumps into Abbotsford Airport. The aircraft arrived in good order with plenty of assistance on board in the form of riggers and jumpmasters from the Canadian Airborne Centre and the weather was fine if a little chilly. Unfortunately, the wind was against us, gusting at speeds of up to 21 knots at the jump zone, so jumpers and spectators alike watched in frustration as the aircraft circled overhead with no chance of completing our mission. Having got the logistics right, lets hope it won't be too long before we can organize a repeat!

Winter Warfare training was also a case of the "alternate plan" being the one we eventually followed, as the Chinook helicopter than was due to transport our TQ 1 Platoon to the Chilcotins was declared unserviceable before it even got to Vancouver. This left our winter warriors battling the rain and mild temperatures in Chilliwack instead of the snow and sub-zero climate of the Northern Interior.

Now that the dates for the various "Freedoms" have been confirmed we look forward to seeing many members of the Association on these occasions and have already begun to sharpen up our parade ground skills.

Best wishes from the Battalian.

Chris Bradford -
Commanding Officer



TEN WAYS TO SINK YOUR ASSOCIATION

1. Don't attend meetings - but if you do, come late.
2. Always leave before adjournment.
3. Never speak up at any meeting. Wait until you get outside.
4. Sit in the back of the room where you can chat freely with others members.
5. Vote in favour of every action. Then go home and do nothing.
6. Find fault with the Executive, the Editor, and other leaders every chance you get. It keeps them on their toes and enables you to say "I told you so".
7. Take all you can get in the way of benefits and services. Give as little as possible in return.
8. Keep your ideas to yourself. But be a good listener and pick up all the tips you can from others.
9. Never ask anyone to join. Only fall guys serve on a committee.
10. Only serve on a committee if they make your chairperson. Do as little as possible and try not to call a meeting. You can always then report progress.

Huh?

OVERHEAD at a bus station after a passenger inquired about departure times: "They're meant to leave every thirty minutes - but they're all running half an hour late."

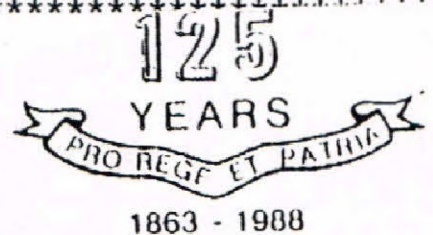
-"Petterborough" in
The Daily Telegraph, London

FROM THE POST

Thanks to Bob Boyd for the names of Warman and Ken MacDonald in Powell River. Your photos are well in hand. To loyal member Ted Hammersley. Thanks for the dues and the reminder of 'D' Day Dodger reunion in Orillia Ontario in early May also of Toronto Chapter Dinner. Will print the poetry when space permits. Belated thanks to Roger Hassard of Regina. You are most complimentary re. Groundsheet and look forward to hearing more from you and trust your health is improving. Belated thanks also to Ken Macgowan re. the interesting story of your father of the old 47th. Your letter was turned over to the Museum and trust it has been acknowledged. The Secretary/Treasurer has acknowledged much of your correspondence re. your dues etc. We thank him and you involved for your promptness. Keep the letters coming.

R.H.

WANTED BY MANY



Copies of Westminster (M) War Diary

FROM THE MUSEUM

It would be appreciated if all photos identified if possible, plus artifacts etc. that any may wish to donate be sent directly to Bas Morgan Curator at the Museum in the armouries in New Westminster. The Association no longer has administrative responsibility for same.

See you at the Annual General Meeting and The Melfa 88.

R.H.

Huh?

While waiting in line to check out at a paint store, my neighbour noticed the customer in front of her hold up a yardstick and ask the clerk, "Do these come any larger?"

- Terri Blazell

IN MEMORIAM

D.P. Lommer	No. L603950	Westminster Regiment W.W. 2
Jim Rorke	No. H195157	Westminster Regiment W.W. 2
Jim Rorke	AND	Spanish Civil War 1936 - 1938
W.A. Schalin	No. M105771	Westminster Regiment W.W. 2
N. L. Clapson	No. L103381	Westminster Regiment W.W. 2
J. Duke Wellington		Westminster Regiment W.W. 2
B.H. Bernie Lane		Westminster Regiment W.W. 2

