

Legion

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED



IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED
À LA MÉMOIRE DE CEUX QUI SONT MORTS

WWI 1914 — 1918

ALCORN, CARLTON S.	GOULD, NORMAN C.	PEARL, AMOS
BEST, HAROLD J.	HILTON, H. ELTHEN	PINED, HENRY H.
BURGESS, RHULAND	HUTCHINSON, REG. H.	RAFUSE, A. CLYDE
BLACKBURN, MAX	HUDGINS, MAJOR	REDDEN, RAYMOND B.
BUTLER, KENNETH J.	ILSLEY, C. PRESTON	SALTZMAN, STANLEY
BEECH, GORDON K.	JONES, HENIGAR	SMALL, R. LAURET
BEECH, HERBERT F.	JONES, STEWART	SEATON, JEFFERY S.
BISHOP, HAROLD F.	KEDDY, WILLIAM O.	SWIFT, OTIS F.
BEALS, LESLIE L.	KEDDY, FRANK N.	SAUNDERS, EDMUND B.
BEALS, PHILIP S.	KENNIE, R. MELVIN	SANFORD, KENNETH L.
BEALS, HOWARD L.	KENNIE, E. FLOYD	TUPPER, CLARENCE
BARTEAUX, ERVINE	MCNALLY, CHARLES	TUPPER, L. MURRAY
BORDEN, JAMES D.	MCLEAN, WILLIAM B.	TUTTS, RALPH D.
CHASE, JAMES R.	MCNEILL, PERRY G.	TIMMINS, EARL H.
CHARLTON, WALTER	MCBRIDE, CHARLES I.	USHER, HENRY A.
CHARLTON, ROY W.	MURRS, LAURIE	VEINOTT, HERBERT O.
COLEMAN, SWITHIN	MIDDLEMAS, R. SOMERVILE	WOODWORTH, WALTER
COLEMAN, JOHN H.	NORWOOD, BASIL D.	WILSON, VERNON S.
CLARK, BARRY W.	NEAVES, WILLIAM L.	WILSON, DON C.
DAVIDSON, RONALD H.	OGILVIE, END W.	WESTHAVER, CEO. W.
DAY, GEORGE A.	PICKAVANCE, ALBERT	WENTZELL, JOSEPH H.
FELCH, DANA W.	PATTERSON, ALBERT E.	WARHURST, JAMES
FANCY, JOSEPH L.	POWER, HARRY S.	SPITTLE, JOHN A.

WWII 1939 — 1945

ARMSTRONG, JOHN	FELCH, EDMUND	PETTIFER, ERNEST
ARMSTRONG, RAYMOND	FOOTE, RAYMOND	PINCH, WARNER
BALTZER, GEORGE	GENIE, JAMES	PORTER, BURGESS
BALTZER, SABLE	GRAY, KENNETH	RAFUSE, CEDRIC
BALTZER, WILLIAM	HALL, BLAKE	ROBINSON, VICTOR
BANKS, JACK	HALL, MAXWELL	SALTZMAN, BUDD
BENT, HOWARD	HOWARD, HOLLIS	SCHORFIELD, DONALD
BLIGH, ORLAY	HUTT, KENNETH	SKINNER, JOHN
BRENNAN, JAMES	IRWIN, CLEMENT	SLAUENWHITE, LESTER
BRYDON, FRANCIS	KEDDY, OLIVER	SNOW, WILLIAM
BURNS, DILONG	LACEY, LAWRENCE	STEADMAN, GARMAN
CHARLTON, CHARLES	LLOYD, MERLE	STEWART, ROBERT
COOK, CHARLES	LLOYD, WILLIS	TONEY, LEO
DAKIN, ALLISON	MAPPLEBECK, JOHN	VANBUSKIRK, DOUGLAS
DEWINTER, ROBERT	MCELLELLAN, CLYDE	WEST, JAMES
DYKENS, WILLIAM	O'NEILL, CLARENCE	WOODWORTH, CHARLES
EATON, ARTHUR	PERRY, CLARENCE	SPICER, ROBERT
EDWARDS, JOSEPH	PETERSON, MURRAY	BANKS, HEDLEY

KOREA 1950 — 1953

RYAN, ROBERT

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD, AS WE THAT 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.

L'ACTE DU SOUVENIR
ILS NE VIEILLIRONT PAS COMME NOUS QUI LEUR AVONS SURVÉCUI;
ILS NE CONNATTRONT JAMAIS L'OUTRAGE NI LE POIDS DES ANNÉES;
QUAND VIENDRA L'HEURE DU CRÉVUSCLE ET CELLE DE L'AURORÉ,
NOUS NOUS SOUVIENDRONS D'EUX.

The Royal Canadian Legion
NOVA SCOTIA / NUNAVUT COMMAND

VETERANS' SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK
Volume Fifteen

Premier's Message



This year we reflect on the contributions and sacrifices made by our soldiers 75 years ago during the allied invasion at Normandy, D-Day.

We never forget the courage and bravery of those who served on behalf of our country, and the support of those at home, to ensure our freedom as Canadian citizens. We are proud to support veterans of the Second World War and more recent military operations, including Afghanistan.

I would also like to acknowledge the important work of the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command of the Royal Canadian Legion in providing outreach and support to our veterans by producing the annual Veterans' Service Recognition Book.

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I would like to express heartfelt thanks to those who are currently serving, and their families, for their bravery and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen McNeil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.
Premier





About the front cover

In 2017, RCL Ortona Branch #069, located in Berwick, N.S., started a project to erect a War Memorial in front of the Berwick & District School, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Confederation, and the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Remembrance Day services have been held at the school since 2015. The monument was erected in November 2018, and dedicated in April 2019 during the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

The monument was erected to honour the memory of the 154 men from western Kings County who gave their lives serving Canada in the First and Second World Wars, and the Korean conflict; the 114,000 Canadian service men and women who died in all wars; and in appreciation for all who have served, or who presently serve in Canada's Armed Forces.

On the centre panel at the top is a maple leaf, the same style of maple leaf that is on every headstone of every Canadian soldier who is buried overseas. Also, on the centre panel are the names of the 154 men from western Kings County who gave their lives serving Canada in the First and Second World Wars, and the Korean conflict. Below the names is the Act of Remembrance. On the left side is a symbol of a woman. She is one of the statues at the Vimy Ridge memorial, sometimes called Mother Canada, or Canada Bereft. She represents all of the family members who lost a son, brother, husband, or father in military service. On the right side of the monument is a picture of a First World War soldier who is doing sentry duty. This sentry represents all service men and women who remember their fallen comrades in arms.

Table of Contents - Volume 15

Premier's Message	Inside Front Cover	Veterans	
President's Message	3	ABELL, George E.	119
Project Chairman/Editor's Message	5	ACKER, Robert W.	119
Features		ADAMSON, Russell	119
Veterans Outreach Program	7	ALLISON, Timothy Enock	121
Nova Scotia Veteran License Plates	15	AUSTIN, Walter Edward	121
Veteran License Plates Project	17	AUSTIN, William John	121
2019 Pilgrimage of Remembrance	19	BAKER, Donald Forbes	123
Private Roderick Alexander MacLennan	27	BAKER, George Herman	105
NS War Dead: D-Day	29	BARDWELL, Marcus George	123
Nova Scotia Pilots	35	BATES, Adrian Bernard	123
High Flight by John Gillespie Magee Jr.	37	BENNETT, Cecil	73
The Dieppe Raid - 1942	39	BENNETT, Harold	73
Story from a Dieppe Veteran	45	BIDART, Maurice Rene	125
Letters from the Front - WWI	49	BLAND, Edward Albert	125
A Father's Pride by E.M. Dove	53	BOYD, John Anderson	125
Nova Scotia Soldiers of the North Shore (NS) Regiment	55	BROWN, Neil	127
First Nations Soldiers	69	BURNS, Mitchell David	127
Colonel James L. Ralston	71	CHASE, Maurice	127
Sgt. Cecil Bennett & Cpl. Harold Bennett	73	CHRISTIE, Hugh Ells	129
Our Brave Boys by Rev. J. Web	75	CLEVELAND, Frank Scott	129
Private Charles Doucette	77	CLEVELAND, Percy Roy	129
Three Generations of the Gorman Family	81	CLISH, William Gardner	131
Nursing Sister Harriet Graham and No. 2 Stationary Hospital, France	85	COCHRANE, Stuart Percy	131
William Eugene Ford	93	COCHRANE, William C.	131
Sergeant Herbert Peppard	99	COLDWELL, Miriam Jean	133
Finding Private Baker	101	COLDWELL, William Terrance	133
George Herman Baker - The Soldier on the Coin	105	COLE, Joseph	133
Private Stewart Smith	107	CORMIER, Roy Edward	135
Private Fred Storey	109	COTTON, Roger T.	135
Sacrifice by G.R. Allerton	113	CREIGHTON, H. Terry	35
Missing by Wing Commander G.L. Creed	117	CUDMORE, Doris Eleanor	137
		DAUPHINEE, James Allison	137
		DEE, Gordon	137

Table of Contents - Volume 15

DOUCETTE, Charles	77	MOORE, Henry C.	167
DRAGAN, D. Barrie	139	MORASH, Arden Ennes	169
EWING, Amos Milton	139	MULHALL, William Frederick	169
FARGUHAR, Donald	139	MUNROE, Cecil Herman	169
FARRELL, Michael Joseph	141	MURPHY, Timothy Richard	171
FOGARTY, Harry Philip	141	NAUSS, Clyde Welslie	171
FORD, William Eugene	93	NEWLAND, Leonard C.	171
GEORGE, Kenneth Charles	141	PALMER, Charles Edward	173
GILLIS, Colin Robert	143	PARKER, Herbert W.	173
GILLIS, Daniel J.	143	PEACH, Rexford C.	173
GLANCY, Michael	145	PEPPARD, Herbert	99
GLOADE, Sam	69	PINKERTON, William	175
GODDARD, Kevin Christopher	145	PORTER, Irvin Howard	175
GORMAN, Alexander B.	81	PORTER, Reginald F.	175
GORMAN, Blair J.	81	PULSIFER, William Raymond	177
GORMAN, John R.	81	RAFUSE, Edward Murray	177
GRAHAM, Harriet	85	RALSTON, James Layton	71
GRAVES, Charles Everett	145	RAMFPERGER, Arthur	177
HARDACKER, William Everett	147	RIGBY, Peter Alexander	179
HATT, Creighton Wellington	147	ROBARTS, Reginald C.	179
HAWKENS, Fred	147	SCOTT, Colin	179
HENDERSON, Eugene E.	149	SEARY, James Ellis	181
HILCHIE, Frank G.	149	SHAY, George	183
KELLEY, Glendon	149	SHEPARD, Percy Vincent	183
KEOUGH, Andrew Patrick	151	SMITH, Garwin P.	183
KEOUGH, Daniel Francis	151	SMITH, Guy M.	185
LACUSTA, Leo W.	45	SMITH, Malcolm	185
LANDRY, Clarence Bernard	151	SMITH, Olden Andrew	185
LANTZ, Rodney Harrington	153	SMITH, Percy Frederick	187
MacDONALD, Bruce	153	SMITH, Raymond A.	187
MacEACHERN, Tara	153	SMITH, Robert Bruin	187
MacKINNON, Martin Alexander	155	SMITH, Stewart	107
MacLENNAN, Roderic Alexander	27	SMITHSON, Raymond	189
MacLENNAN, Stephen Ward	155	STEVENS, Merton Avery	189
MacNABB, Bruce William	155	STOREY, Fred	109
MacNEIL, Beverley Elaine	157	SULLIVAN, William Joseph	189
MacRAE, Roderick MacKenzie	157	SURRETTE, James Joseph	191
MANNING, Philip William	157	THOMPSON, Allister Moore	191
MARTIN, Jean Elizabeth	159	TONEY, Stephen	69
MARTIN, Peter David	159	WALSH, William Joseph	191
MARTIN, Ralph Charles Edward	159	WEAGLE, Isaac Zenas	193
McCULLY, Gordon Lewis	161	WEBER, Donald E.	193
McKINNON, John Francis	161	WHITE, Joseph Leonard Maries	35
McLEAN, Malcolm Robert	161	WHITFORD, Walter Lyon	193
MEISNER, Harris Bent	163	WHITFORD, William Foster	195
METCALFE, Betty Adola	163	WILLIAMS, Cecil R.	195
MILES, Arthur Kingsman	163	ZELWARD, Jason Edward	195
MILES, Donn Ray	165	Advertisers' Index	204
MILES, Earl Kinsman	165	Submission Form	208
MILES, Malcome Leslie	165		
MILES, Paul Basil	167		
MILES, Roy Arthur	167		



President's Message



On behalf of the Executive and Members of Nova Scotia/ Nunavut Command it gives me great pleasure to introduce the 15th issue of the Veterans' Service Recognition Book. 2019 is the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands and we are proud of our service men and women who contributed greatly to this effort.

This book is one of the many ways we honour and remember those Canadians who have served or are still serving in the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP.

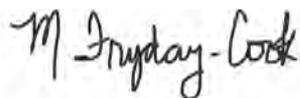
I would like to extend a tremendous thank you to all the many advertisers, private donations and contributors for helping to once again make our Veterans' Service Recognition book a huge success.

I would like to thank our Chairman and Editor, Comrade Steve Wessel, for all the hard work that he carries out to ensure that our Veterans are honoured in the manner that they deserve. His dedication, since its inception, of the VSRB is second to none. Special thanks to Mark Fenety and Fenety Marketing for their continued support of this project within our Command and across the country.

Please continue to send in submissions honouring our Veterans and members of the RCMP so that their contributions to our great country and peace around the world will never be forgotten.

Lest We Forget

Yours in Comradeship



Marion Fryday-Cook

President

Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command

The Royal Canadian Legion



Scotiabank is honoured to thank the many brave Canadian veterans and volunteers for your dedication above the call of duty.



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Project Chairman's/Editor Message



Another year has quickly passed, and as project Chairman, it is an honour and a privilege to present the 2019 edition, the 15th book in our Veteran Service Recognition Book (VSRB) series. All of these books are produced in an effort to honour, acknowledge and remember the contributions made by so many brave Canadians who have served, not only in times of war, but also during many peacekeeping and peacemaking missions. We also recognize and support those men and women who continue the proud tradition of service to Canada throughout the world in the Canadian Forces and the RCMP.

In this, and future editions, we continue to feature extended stories and biographies of our Veterans, paying tribute to their wartime contributions and military experiences, as well as sharing historical newspaper articles recalling the more personal aspects of our Veterans' service and sacrifices. We have also included a couple of stories featuring our NS/NU Command programs. I hope you enjoy them!

As always, I offer my sincere thanks to all of the Legion branches and members of the general public who continue to support these publications by contributing biographies and photos. I would also like to thank the many businesses, groups and individuals who generously support these publications through advertising and through personal financial donations.

I again, as always, wish to thank Fenety Marketing for their continued partnership and shared expertise in the production of these books. I would also like to recognize and thank Comrade Gary Siliker, CD, former member of 2RNBR (NS) and 40-year member of Mahone Bay Branch #049, for his outstanding contributions to this issue.

In closing, we look forward to issuing the 16th edition of the VSRB series in the fall of 2020, and if you would like to contribute to the 2020 edition, please use the form at the back of this book and send it to our Command office.

In Comradeship,



Steve Wessel
Project Chairman / Editor

Legion and Arbor Alliance

Remembering our veterans
with respect and dignity



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VETERANS OUTREACH PROGRAM

Nova Scotia / Nunavut Command, R.C.L.

By Steve Wessel

The NS/NUC Veterans Outreach Program - where did it come from? When did it start? What does it encompass? And who does it serve? Many in our Command are unaware of the answers to these questions.

In September 2011 NS/NUC Executive Council made the important decision to stand up a new committee - the Veterans Outreach Committee, or VOP. The 1st Committee had 2 co-chairs, Comrade Les Nash and Comrade Steve Wessel. In the following years, 2012 – 2018, it was chaired by Comrade Wessel. The VOP is now a Command standing committee, but prior to its formation, all matters dealing with Veterans' issues were dealt with through the Veterans Services and Seniors Committee and through our Command Service Bureau.

During the early days of the VOP mandate, the committee dealt with the growing situation of homelessness, or near homelessness caused in part by operational stress injuries and post traumatic stress. The mission statement of the committee was clear:

Mission Statement

To extend a helping hand to Veterans who are homeless or near homeless by promoting recovery oriented care and connecting them with vital human resources and social services.

“A Hand Up - Not a Hand Out.”

This was addressed through various initiatives, such as:

- Fostering and forming mutually supportive partnerships with established community resources, health care professionals, all levels of government and like-minded individuals.



Legion backpacks

- Development of the “We Care” backpacks, given free of charge to any needy Veteran presenting themselves to, or being located by, NS/NUC. Backpacks contained essential personal items as well as a community bus pass and food voucher.

- Development of an information poster program which provided necessary contact information for the Veterans.
- Presenting information seminars throughout our Command and its branches to the benefit of our membership and their communities.
- Ensuring the provision for access to emergency funds through the Command Poppy Fund and Benevolent Fund,
- Coordination and administration of the PorchLight Program – a program for ill and injured Veterans helping their peers through meetings and social gatherings.
- And, the Institution of the Veteran Transition Program.



continued ...

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Many of these listed initiatives grew wider in scope while some were discontinued because they were not financially sustainable. NS/NUC's sponsorship of the Veteran Transition Program (VTP) for example, was cancelled because the cost to deliver the program rose from the original of approximately \$7,500 per participant, to over \$15,000.

However, additional programs have been added through the years which have proven to produce positive and lasting therapeutic results.

One aspect of the VOP structure that never seems to change is the immediate and urgent financial requirements of the many Veterans who wait on receipt of benefits and pensions through Veterans Affairs Canada and DND.

During the past 8 years, through generous donations by our branches and other entities to our VOP and Benevolent funds, NS/NUC has expended **hundreds of thousands of dollars in support** of hundreds of Nova Scotia Veterans and their families.

This immediate financial assistance is of vital importance to these families and as such, the branches of NS/NUC, through their donations, provide a means to fulfill these emergent needs across Nova Scotia. We thank all of our Legion branches for their support to our Veterans and their families!

The VOP, with approval of the Executive Council, had made yearly donations to the Military Family Resource Centre. Executive Council eventually questioned whether these donations were reaching those most in need and whether the donations were being spread proportionately across the province. In order to ensure these funds achieved maximum effect, in 2016, the VOP began re-directing our support through the Military Family Mental Health/Operational Stress Injury Support Peer Retreat and their annual mental health retreat.



The 3 retreats sponsored to date have allowed adult female family members of ill and injured Canadian Forces serving personnel, and Veterans from across Nova Scotia, to reduce the impact of their isolation and help remove the stigma of mental health injuries.

There are many successful and life altering retreats available for Veterans, however, there are limited opportunities that provide the family member with a similar opportunity. The VOP is proud to be able to help make this retreat available.

Another initiative that was introduced several years ago is the proposed Veterans Memorial Medical Clinic. The VOP and Executive Council recognizes the tremendous need, and fully supports, the establishment of this Veteran centric centre. Although the centre remains in the development stages, great strides have been made in raising the awareness of the provincial and federal governments to the necessity of making this centre a reality.

continued ...

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men and women home safely.



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continued ...

Over the past 2 years, the VOP has supported projects directed towards the good mental health of our ill and injured Veterans. Healing on the Fly, a fly-tying program, meets regularly at member residences in Eastern Passage and Windsor, as well as at Rally Point Retreat.

The PTSD Painting Program, located in Sydney, meets regularly with a full class of 11 Veterans.

We have also sponsored 2 Veterans per year to attend the national “Healing Waters” fishing trip. This annual fishing trip inspired our own Healing on the Fly participants to begin the process of scouting locations and making plans for a NS/NUC fishing trip in 2019 to the Margaree area of Cape Breton.



The VOP’s most recognizable partnership is with Paws Fur Thought (PFT). During the 2014 dominion convention in Edmonton, Alberta, a non-concurred resolution was brought back to the floor and the argument for its acceptance was led by NS/NUC and other like-minded Commands.



This resolution supported the use of a percentage of Poppy funds towards the costs associated with obtaining service dogs for Veterans living with operational injuries and mental health injuries as a result of their service. After the acceptance of this resolution, NS/NUC immediately began to advance our partnership with PFT, while many other Commands decided to postpone developing a service dog program at the urging of Dominion Command while waiting for national standards to be developed.



During the VOP’s 7 year relationship with PFT, we have assumed a mostly administrative role, which has resulted in approximately 120 Service Dogs being matched with Veterans in need, not just in Nova Scotia, but across Canada.

On a go forward basis, VOP recommended, and Executive Council agreed, that in concert with our administrative responsibilities, we should also become financially invested in PFT; a \$250,000.00 investment over the next 2 years to supply 8 dogs in 2019 and 8 dogs in 2020.

continued ...



Garreth Hutton, Retired, Canadian Army and
Stacey Wiper, Retired, Royal Canadian Navy



WE'RE GROWING OUR TEAM

The Canadian Armed Forces are known around the world for their teamwork, leadership, and expertise. That's why in the next five years, we're looking to add 100 CAF veterans to our team. Are you one of them?

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BUILT WITH PRIDE IN NOVA SCOTIA



continued ...

We have all become aware of the positive, documented results of pairing ill and injured Veterans with Service Dogs. What most are not aware of is the supply of trained Service Dogs is of grave concern, which now necessitates the “reservation” of dogs with their providers.

The reservation of these litters of dogs requires this additional large financial investment – we cannot allow our Veterans to be left behind.

The commitment of the VOP and NS/NUC to further advance the Veteran Assist Service Dog Program on behalf of our Veterans is not in question, however, this type of financial investment is not sustainable on a year to year basis. The Royal Canadian Legion at ALL levels must lobby Veterans Affairs Canada and the Federal government through our MP’s **to take responsibility for funding and maintaining the service dog program**, not only in N.S., but across Canada.

Our newest VOP partner, the Veteran Farm Project, was introduced at our biennial convention in Windsor this past May 2018. A Veteran centric social enterprise focusing on food insecurity in the veteran population and the hope to aid in helping as many families and Veterans with farm fresh local food.



The food will be grown locally in Nova Scotia on a 6.5 acre Veteran owned farm with a goal of helping those Veterans who need a boost with fresh vegetables and produce and to improve the lives of Veterans by providing a safe environment with access to nature and the physical, social and mental health benefits that being outdoors provides.



Comrades, NS/NUC’s Veterans Outreach Program is fully committed to all of the initiatives developed to assist our Veterans and their families by enhancing their quality of life and helping them overcome barriers faced as a result of their service.

These initiatives speak to the very soul of The R.C.L. – the support and care of our Veterans and their families. These programs prove vital relevancy to The Legion itself.

If you would like additional information on any of these projects or initiatives, please contact the Executive Director of NS/NU Command at 902.429.4090 Ext. 4.

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servicemen and women.



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Nova Scotia Veteran License Plates



VETERANS LICENSE PLATE PROJECT

The concept of a Veteran's license plate was first introduced during convention in Truro in May of 2001 by then Cape Breton District Commander and Command Public Relations Chairman Comrade Jim Mullins. The concept was accepted in principal by the convention delegates as a visible means to recognize our Veterans in Nova Scotia.

Following the May 2001 convention, the Vice-Chairman of Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command (NSNUC) and new Public Relations Chairman Comrade Steve Wessel, continued to pursue the idea of introducing a Veterans license plate in Nova Scotia.

On 15 November 2001, Comrade Wessel met with the N.S. Provincial government's Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, chaired by Mr. William Langille, and made presentation for the acceptance of a Veterans license plate. The Standing Committee agreed, by motion, to recommend to the Minister of Service N.S. and Municipal Relations, Mr. Angus MacIsaac, for the acceptance of such a plate. After several meetings between Comrade Wessel, Service N.S., and Minister MacIsaac, a plate design and an application form supplied by NSNUC were agreed upon. Service N.S. would produce and distribute the plates and NSNUC of The Royal Canadian Legion would be the authorizing agent for verification of Veteran status.

In February 2003, after 15 months of intensive negotiations, then serving President of NSNUC Comrade Fred Mombourquette, installed the very first Veterans license plate on his personal vehicle. The first such plate in Nova Scotia – and in Canada! The license plate project was subsequently adopted and instituted by every Legion Command in every province across Canada.

Following intensive lobbying by Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command and the UN NATO Veterans Association, in November 2016, the N.S. government finally unveiled a motorcycle plate for Veterans which eventually hit the roads in the spring of 2017.

The mission statement of The Royal Canadian Legion states:

*Our mission is to serve Veterans,
which includes serving military
and RCMP members and their families,
to promote remembrance and to serve our communities
and our country.*

By lobbying for, and instituting this recognition for the Veterans of Nova Scotia, and of Canada, we believe that we have assisted in fulfilling this mission statement on behalf of our Veterans and their families.



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continued ...

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VETERAN LICENSE PLATES PROJECT

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On 15 November 2001, Comrade Wessel met with the N.S. Provincial government's Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, chaired by Mr. William Langille, and made presentation for the acceptance of a Veterans license plate. The Standing Committee agreed, by motion, to recommend to the Minister of Service N.S. and Municipal Relations, Mr. Angus MacIsaac, for the acceptance of such a plate. After several meetings between Comrade Wessel, Service N.S., and Minister MacIsaac, a plate design and an application form supplied by NS/NUC were agreed upon. Service N.S. would produce and distribute the plates and NS/NUC of The Royal Canadian Legion would be the authorizing agent for verification of Veteran status.

In February 2003, after 15 months of intensive negotiations, then serving President of NS/NUC Comrade Fred Mombourquette, installed the very first Veterans license plate on his personal vehicle. **The first such plate in Nova Scotia – and in Canada!** The license plate project was subsequently adopted and instituted by every Legion Command in every province across Canada.

Following intensive lobbying by Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command and the UN NATO Veterans Association, in November 2016, the N.S. government finally unveiled a motorcycle plate for Veterans which eventually hit the roads in the spring of 2017.

The mission statement of The Royal Canadian Legion states:

**Our mission is to serve Veterans,
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and RCMP members and their families,
to promote remembrance and to serve our communities
and our country.**

By lobbying for, and instituting this recognition for the Veterans of Nova Scotia, and of Canada, we believe that we have assisted in fulfilling this mission statement on behalf of our Veterans and their families.



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The Royal Canadian Legion’s 2019 Pilgrimage of Remembrance

“Tramping through wheat fields with John Goheen”

By Gary Silliker

My name is Comrade Gary Silliker, and I had the honour of being selected as the NS/NU Command representative for The Royal Canadian Legion’s 2019 Pilgrimage of Remembrance. The pilgrimage was led by Comrade Bruce Julian (1st Vice President Dominion Command), while Danny Martin (Deputy Director Corporate Services Dominion Command) looked after the logistics, and Doris Williams (CANVET Publications) looked after public affairs.

While I could write many pages about the pilgrimage, I shall endeavor to touch upon some of my most poignant personal memories. I have always found interest and satisfaction in “walking the ground.”

The pilgrimage was conducted over the period of 6 - 20 July with stays in Caen, Dieppe, Ypres, and Arras. Comrade John Goheen, of Port Coquitlam BC, the pilgrimage’s historian and tour guide since 1997, is extremely knowledgeable and as well was being a marvelous raconteur. He took us down many country lanes and into many wheat fields, to explain, “what happened here.” John’s passion and knowledge allowed us to stand on the ground where heroes once stood – and where many of them died in the service of our country.

We visited 17 Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) cemeteries, where we sought out the graves of war dead from our home provinces. We also visited one German cemetery and one French cemetery. The Act of Remembrance was conducted in France at the CWGC cemeteries at Beny-sur-Mer, Bretteville-sur-Laize, and Dieppe, as well as the Abbaye d’Ardenne Memorial, the Beaumont-Hamel.



Bruce Julian (l) and John Goheen (right of cannon) and others at the Hooze Crater



Pilgrims at the Vimy Memorial

Newfoundland Memorial and the Canadian National Vimy Memorial, and in Belgium at the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery and the Menin Gate Memorial. Less formal, yet very emotional, memorial services were held on the Essex Scottish Regiment’s landing beach at Dieppe at 5:26 AM, at the end of the Dieppe jetty in memory of the naval forces, and down a wooded path on the grounds of the Chateau d’Audrieu in memory of the murdered Canadian POW’s.

JUNO BEACH

At Juno beach we walked the sands of the Mike/Red sector where Sapper Arthur Thomas Jackson of Shelburne County became the first recorded casualty of the Canadian assault force (see story - Nova Scotia war dead: D-Day). We also got to view the house at Nan/Red which has recently gained prominence with the newly released Canadian Mint commemorative coin marking the 75th Anniversary of D-Day (see story - “Finding Private Baker”).



Mike / Red landing sector; Juno beach continued ...

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MURDERS IN NORMANDY

The word “execution” implies that some sort of legal decision had been made, by some sort of designated authority, directing the death of an individual; while the word “murder” clearly means the deliberate illegal taking of life. History records that 156 Canadian POWs were murdered during the Normandy campaign. “Died whilst POW (murdered by the enemy),” was the stated cause of death, recorded by the Canadian Army, on the personal files of the murdered.

John explained to us the crimes committed by soldiers of the 12th SS Panzer Division Hitlerjugend. The Abbaye d’Ardenne was where SS-Colonel Kurt Meyer ordered the murder of Canadian prisoners of war – of whom 12 were members of the North Nova Scotia Highlanders (NNSH). Rather than adhering to the Geneva Convention on the treatment of POWs, some other German commanders opted to order the killing of the prisoners - whom they unsympathetically viewed as an ‘inconvenience’ that could be easily eliminated.



Chateau d’Audrieu forest path

Other than the Abbaye d’Ardenne, the sites of mass murder remain unmarked and mostly forgotten. At the Chateau d’Audrieu we quietly walked down a forest path to a spot where Canadian POWs were once marched to their deaths. On the edge of another wheat field John pointed out where, on 8 June 1944, 35 Canadian POWs were massacred. In the town of Authie we stopped at a lovely little park named ‘Place des 37 Canadiens.’ It is the location where a group of soldiers of the NNSH, all disarmed POWs, were killed by members of the Hitlerjugend; during an evening frenzy of torture, murder, atrocity and desecration.

WHEAT FIELDS, A CANAL & A STUNTED TREE

On the outskirts of Authie we stood at the corner of an orchard on a patch of ground that a farmer might use to park his tractor. Before us was a wheat field; about 900 meters across that field was a stand of trees where the heavily armed German forces were well entrenched on 7 June 1944. John explained how C Company, and a platoon from A Company, of the NNSH, of the 9th Infantry Brigade, desperately defended that position for 2 hours using 3 heavy machine guns they had stripped from disabled Sherman tanks and one 17-pounder self-propelled anti-tank gun. The 9th Brigade’s butcher’s bill for 7 June was 110 killed, 192 wounded, and 120 taken prisoner, as well as 21 tanks destroyed.

At Carpiquet we viewed the wheat field that the North Shore Regiment (NSR) attacked across on 4 July 1944. That battle would become known as the ‘graveyard of the regiment.’ Amongst the NSR soldiers killed at Carpiquet were nine soldiers from Nova Scotia (see story - Nova Scotia soldiers of the NSR).



Verrieres Ridge

We stood silently in the wheat field at Verrières Ridge where, on 25 July 1944, soldiers of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada conducted a futile attack against an entrenched enemy. Of the 325 Black Watch soldiers who stepped off into that wheat field, 123 were killed, including Private Daniel Hinkley of North-West Arm, Cape Breton; while another 184 were wounded or taken prisoner.

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Singing at the Danger Tree

At the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, just short of the ‘danger tree,’ we took time to sing the “Sweet Forget me Not” – the marching song of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment (R Nfld R). A few days later we walked along a path, through another wheat field, to view the Hawthorne crater that was so significant to the 1916 battle of Beaumont-Hamel. At Monchy-le-Preux, on the edge of yet another wheat field, John traced out the movements, and spoke of the heroic actions, of the soldiers of the R Nfld R who held the line against a vastly superior enemy force on 14 April 1917. A battle that saw the regiment reduced to non-effective strength for the second time during the Great War.

We also travelled through more wheat fields to visit the graves of Canadian war dead in the Litchfield Crater and the Courcelette British Cemetery. After visiting the Canadian memorial at Passchendaele, we walked the raised path between a potato field and beet field to reach the 85th Battalion (Nova Scotia Highlanders) memorial. It was the spot where the highlanders ‘went over the top’ to capture their objective on 28 October 1917.



Canal du Nord

At Canal du Nord we stood on the banks and watched canal boats peacefully glide by. Many military historians consider the attack across the canal, in late-September 1918, as the most significant strategic victory of the Canadian Corps during the Great War. An outstanding feat of secrecy, planning and coordination that relied heavily upon artillery, engineers and infantry. There is nothing along the canal to make note of that victory.

When I was a young soldier, I was privileged to meet Pat Brophy; the RCAF rear-gunner Andrew Mynarski, VC, was trying to save as their bomber, Lancaster KB726, was ablaze and going down on the night of 12 June 1944. Mynarski died valiantly trying to save his friend. On our last day John took us to a country crossroads next to a field of curious dairy cattle. It was the site where KB726 crashed through a very large tree before it struck the ground. The site is now marked with a small memorial to Pilot Officer (Air Gunner) Mynarski, VC. That damaged tree is still standing today – a stark reminder of the plight bomber crews who perished during WW II.



Remains of tree damaged by Mynarski's Lancaster KB726

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INDIVIDUAL MEMORIALS

Each pilgrim was tasked with researching the life of one of Canada's war dead and presenting their research at the soldier's grave site. The war dead selected came from each province in Canada. As the NS representative I was assigned to research Roderick Alexander "Rod" MacLennan of Dalem Lake, Cape Breton. I stood at grave 29A19 of the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, on the afternoon of 18 July, and spoke to my fellow pilgrims about the young soldier of the 85th Battalion from Cape Breton (see Private Roderick Alexander MacLennan's biography at the end of this article).

The pilgrimage was both emotional and educational. While we did visit many well-known monuments; we also walked the ground and gained a better understanding of the "why" and "how." Our national anthem was sung freely and proudly, as was the 'Ode to Newfoundland'.

SO WHY A PILGRIMAGE?

The RCL Pilgrimages date back to 1936 when 6,200 Great War Veterans, and many family members, travelled to France for the official unveiling and dedication of the Vimy Memorial. In 1987 The RCL sponsored a small group of young Canadians, including teachers, to attend the 50th Anniversary of the unveiling of the Vimy Memorial. The Legion's Youth Leadership Pilgrimage of Remembrance ran, annually, from 1989 to 1997. Since then the RCL Pilgrimage of Remembrance has been conducted every 2 years.

Edmund Blunden, MC, the literary advisor to the Imperial War Graves Commission in 1936, posed the question "*why spend money on the dead?... a war cemetery, with all its inscriptions for youths in the main dead ere their prime, is the chief sermon against war...Life is commonly regarded as a marvelous gift – the giving back is the equal marvel, and the war cemeteries are in a sense the poetry of that high action.*" By conducting these pilgrimages, The Royal Canadian Legion stays true to its mission statement "to promote Remembrance." Mirroring Blunden's sentiments.

Applicants for the pilgrimage agree, that if selected, they shall utilize what they learned on the pilgrimage to enhance remembrance in their province. I look forward to doing just that. I would encourage anyone who has a desire to walk the walk of heroes, and learn more about Canadian military history, to seriously consider applying for the next pilgrimage planned for July 2021.

"Memoriam eorum retinebimus"



continued ...

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878408 Private Roderick Alexander MacLennan 85th Battalion (Nova Scotia Highlanders)

*“There’s a piper on the hillside at the closing of the day
You can hear his stirring music where the sunset fades away
You can see him through the maples as he marches to the shore
And he enters in that cabin, by the waters of Bras D’or.”*

-Lillian Crewe Walsh

Roderick Alexander “Rod” MacLennan was born in Dalem Lake, Cape Breton, on 12 April, 1892, to Roderick and Rachel (McLeod) MacLennan. Dalem Lake is located on Boulardrie Island, Bras d’Or Lake, between Big Bras D’or and Hillside Boulardrie.

Rod left his work on the family farm to enlist in the 73rd Battalion (Royal Highlanders of Canada) on 24 June, 1916, in Aldershot, NS. His initial medical assessment, upon enlisting, noted he had a ruddy complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, weighed 145 pounds and stood 5’-7 ½” tall.

A month later he was posted to the 185th Battalion (Cape Breton Highlanders). After basic and initial infantry training, he left Halifax on SS Olympic on 12 October, arriving in England six days later. Rod arrived in France in early December and spent all of January 1917 in hospital with the mumps.

Private MacLennan was posted to the 85th Battalion on 19 April, 1917, ten days after the initial attack on Vimy Ridge. The Canadian tactical victory at Vimy Ridge was part of the much larger Battle of Arras that raged on until mid-May. In 39 days of fighting, some 300,000 men on both sides were wounded, missing or dead. The British/Canadian forces suffered an average of 4,000 casualties every day, the highest average daily casualty rate, at that time, of any of their First World War assaults.

On 20 May the 85th went into the line in front of Angres, near Fosse 6, in relief of the 72nd Battalion (Seaforth Highlanders of Canada). This was all new territory for the NS Highlanders. It was a very hard front as the Germans held commanding positions looking into the trenches of the 85th and could bring down enfilade fire on them at will. It meant constant vigilance night and day.

On 23 May the 85th were getting ready to rotate out of the line the next day and turn it over to the 78th Battalion (Winnipeg Grenadiers). It was a warm rainy day, and as the unit war diary notes, that evening the Germans shelled the position with minenwerfers (short range mortars) on the left, killing 4 members of D Company, and with High Explosive shells on the right killing 5 members of A Company. Rod was killed in that action. He had been in the unit for only 5 weeks.

Private Roderick Alexander MacLennan is buried in grave 29A19 of the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery south of the town of Souchez in France along with 324 other Canadians. That cemetery holds the graves of 3195 soldiers of the UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, South Africa, and Germany.

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Nova Scotia War Dead: D-Day

By Gary Silliker

At least 16 men from Nova Scotia died on 6 June, 1944, during the opening day of Operation Overlord.

The airborne assault:

The first Canadian unit to land in Normandy was the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. On the night of 5/6 June 1944, they crossed the English Channel and were dropped a few hours before the seaborne assault.

Their primary task was to destroy the bridges on the Dives and Divette Rivers in Varaville and Robehomme; and, to protect the left flank of the 9th Parachute Battalion as it attacked the German artillery position in Merville. Killed in action were Warrant Officer 1st Class Wendell Clark of Halifax, Private Alexander J McInnis of Glace Bay, and Major Hugh Murray MacLeod of Glace Bay. The bodies of Clark and MacLeod are buried in the Ranville War Cemetery. McInnis has no known grave and is commemorated on the Bayeux Memorial.



Canadian Paratroopers on D-Day

The seaborne assault:

The assault wave that morning was made up of four infantry battalions and various corps units (engineers, artillery, medical, service) of the 3rd Canadian Division.



Sapper Jackson

Sapper Arthur Thomas Jackson of Shelburne served to 6th Field Company, Royal Canadian Engineers.

He was part of the assault platoon on D-Day. His six-man team were supporting 10 Platoon of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles (the first Canadian unit to assault Juno Beach, landing at 0749 hours at beaches 'Mike Red' and 'Mike Green'). The 6th Field Company lost 75% of its men (killed, wounded, missing) and were reduced to one officer and 26 men. Arthur was killed in action by enemy machine gun fire on the beach. Sapper Jackson was the first official Canadian casualty of the assault.

Major Gavin Fraser Rainnie of Halifax served in the 13th Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery. He was the unit landing officer and was killed in action when his landing craft struck an underwater mine coming into beach "Mike Red".



Major Rainnie

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Sgt. Elliot

The four infantry battalions were the Royal Winnipeg Rifles (RWR) and the Regina Rifle Regiment (RRR) of the 7th Brigade, and the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (QOR) and the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment (NSR) of the 8th Brigade. Killed in action were Rifleman Donald Thomas, of Truro (RRR) and Private Harold Thomas Lewis of Port Lorne (NSR). Died of wounds were Corporal Michael John Makichuk of Debert (RWR) and Sergeant Bruce Franklin Elliot of Kentville (NSR).

Private Harry G. Moore, of Kentville, served in 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade Company (84 Coy), Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. His landing ship was struck by enemy artillery fire and he was not counted amongst the dead or the rescued soldiers. Harry was listed as missing and presumed dead.

Corporal Douglas Bertram MacDonald, MM, of Halifax, served in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and came ashore with the NSR. He was killed in action and was posthumously awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field.

Citation: "Corporal Douglas Bertram MacDonald was a member of the 22nd Canadian Field Ambulance on the beach, engaged with his section in collecting and treating casualties. Mortar and machine-gun fire were heavy and continuous. Several casualties were seen to occur at the east end of the beach wall. On his own initiative and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Corporal MacDonald collected three stretcher bearers and crawled thirty yards to render First Aid to these casualties. While so engaged, a mortar shell exploded a few feet from them, killing two of the bearers, wounding the third and severely wounding Corporal MacDonald about the face. Still conscious, but blinded, he retained presence of mind and attempted to crawl to the shelter of the sea wall. He was removed and treated by other members of the section.

Throughout the entire action until becoming a casualty, Corporal MacDonald showed complete fearlessness and great initiative and leadership. His conduct was in every way an inspiration to the men in his section."

All of these men are buried in the Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, except for Harry G. Moore who has no known grave and is commemorated on the Bayeux Memorial.



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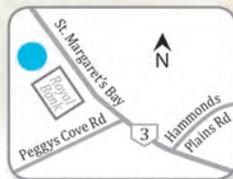
We Remember

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning

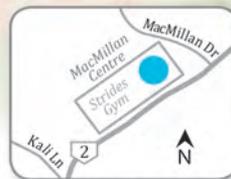
We will remember them. - Laurence Binyon, *For the Fallen*

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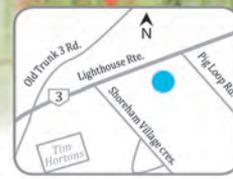
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The seaborne follow-up wave:

The men of the North Nova Scotia Highlanders, 9th Brigade, were part of the second wave and came ashore at Bernières-sur-Mer about noon. They passed through the 7th and 8th Brigades and carried on the fight to defend the gains made by the assault wave.

Corporal Lloyd Elmer Bishop of Sydney, Lance Corporal Joseph Earl Cuthbertson of Truro, and Private Glendon Dwight Raymond of Tidville, Digby Co. were all killed in action.

Private Ralph Burton Tuttle, of Amherst, died of his wounds. All are buried in the Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery.



Cpl. Bishop



Lance Cpl. Cuthbertson



Private Raymond

Air support:

Flying Officer Richard Reginald Irvine, an Irish immigrant who was living in Yarmouth when he enlisted, served as a navigator in 426 Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force.

He was killed when Halifax bomber, LW382 OW-O, exploded in mid-air on its way to Normandy to bomb the coastal batteries at Houlgate, near Trouville. He is buried in the Mount Jerome Cemetery Dublin, Ireland.



F.O. Irvine

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Nova Scotia Pilots



H. Terry Creighton

Terry was a member of the influential Creighton family from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. His sister Helen became well-known for collecting traditional East Coast folk music. Following the war, Terry had a successful career working in the life insurance business.

At 18 years old, Terry enlisted with his best friend Jack Carson in the 4th University Company, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. During the attack on Courcellette in September 1916 (Battle of the Somme), Jack received fatal injuries. Although Terry carried him to safety, Jack was buried in France.

In 1917, Creighton transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. During training, he accumulated 89 hours of flying time in six different aircraft. He graduated just five days before the war's end. Terry's brave actions on the Western Front were acknowledged in reports sent to higher command and he was awarded a 'Mention in Dispatches.' In 1919, a unique decoration of a bronze oak leaf was created to honour soldiers who had received this distinction.

Captain Joseph Leonard Maries "John" White

John White was born in Halifax on 6th Jan 1897. On the 22 August 1915 he joined the Canadian Machine Gun Corps and was serving in France where he was wounded in April 1916. In September 1917 he was seconded to the Royal Flying Corps where he underwent Flight School training prior to returning to the Western Front as a Sopwith Camel pilot in March of 1918.

A skilled pilot with a love of flying, White was noted for his effective and daring capability with an aircraft, leading to his being awarded the Medal for Military Valour, Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar, and the Croix de Guerre (bronze star). Credited with 22 victories, Capt. White is listed as a 'Flying Ace'.



On returning to Halifax in the summer of 1919 John entered into the study of Law at Dalhousie University but couldn't resist the desire to fly. In April 1924 he joined the fledgling Royal Canadian Air Force. Tragically, on 24 February 1925, Flight/Lt. White, while instructing Flying Officer Cross in an Avro 504K over Camp Borden Ontario, collided with another aircraft. Both men were killed, becoming the first flying casualties of the RCAF.

Returned to Halifax with full Military Honours, F/L White was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, South Park Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, age 28.

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*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
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Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of - wheeled soared and swung
High in sunlit silence. Hovring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew -
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high trespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

John Gillespie Magee (1922-1941)

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The Dieppe Raid - 1942

Canada's experiences in times of war have been marked by great triumphs but also by harsh setbacks. The Dieppe Raid during the Second World War was one of the darkest chapters in our country's military history but it was also marked by great courage and helped lead to important lessons being learned.



Dieppe beaches after the Raid

By the summer of 1942, the Second World War had been raging for almost three years and things looked grim; Nazi Germany had pushed east deep into the Soviet Union, enemy forces were advancing in North Africa and U-boats were making the Atlantic a deadly place for Allied shipping. The British Isles were the only Allied holdout after the Germans had invaded and occupied much of Western Europe in 1940. The continent's west coast was studded with enemy troops, machine guns, artillery, barbed wire, concrete pillboxes and offshore obstacles. It truly was on its way to becoming "Fortress Europe."

Why raid Dieppe?

Many factors contributed to the decision to mount a large raid into occupied Europe in 1942. The Soviet Union was pressuring the Allied forces to open a second front in Western Europe. The Allies, however, needed more time to build up their military resources before undertaking such a massive effort. They felt that a large raid on the coast of France, however, could force the Germans to divert more of their military resources away from the Soviet Union and also help in the planning for the full-scale Allied assault that would eventually have to take place.

Canadian soldiers had been training since the outset of the war in 1939 and, except for the Battle of Hong Kong, had yet to see significant action. There was political pressure at home to finally get the Canadians into battle, as well as impatience within the army itself.

Dieppe is a resort town situated at a break in the cliffs along the northwest coast of France and was selected as the main target of the raid partially because it was within range of fighter planes from Britain. The Allies' plan was to launch a large-scale amphibious landing, damage enemy shipping and port facilities, and gather intelligence on German defences and radar technology. Recent research has suggested that the desire to capture a top-secret Enigma code machine and accompanying codebooks was also an important factor in mounting the raid.

"Operation Jubilee"

The Dieppe Raid, code-named "Operation Jubilee," saw more than 6,000 men come ashore at five different points along a 16-kilometre-long stretch of heavily defended coastline. Four of the attacks were to take place just before dawn at points east and west of Dieppe, while the main attack on the town itself would take place half an hour later. The raiding force was made up of almost 5,000 Canadians, approximately 1,000 British commandos and 50 American Army Rangers.

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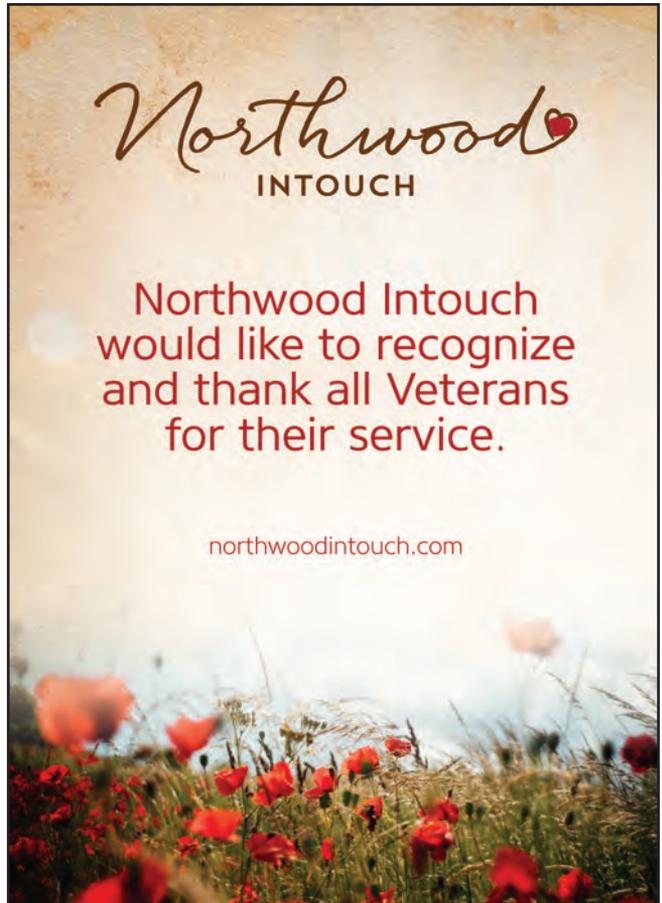
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Things immediately went wrong for the landing force on the eastern flank. They encountered a small German convoy and the ensuing firefight alerted the enemy. The soldiers that came ashore at Berneval and Puy consequently were met with overwhelming fire and some of the heaviest Allied losses took place there.



Equipment bogged down on the loose gravel beaches

Some objectives on the western flank were achieved and the enemy gun batteries at Varengeville were destroyed. In Pourville, the South Saskatchewan Regiment and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders came ashore and pushed towards their goals. The mounting German resistance, however, would force them to withdraw with heavy losses.

Running behind schedule, the main force going ashore at Dieppe landed as daylight was breaking. The German troops, now alerted to the raid, cut down many Canadians as they waded in the surf. Nevertheless, many of our soldiers fought their way across the cobblestone beach to the relative protection of the seawall. The same cobblestones and seawall made it hard for the Allied tanks to move off the beach and the fierce enemy fire prevented engineers from clearing the way for them to push their way into the town.



Small boats help evacuate those stranded on the beach

Small groups from the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and the Essex Scottish Regiment were able to fight their way into the bullet-swept streets of Dieppe. It was clear, however, that the raid could not continue and the retreat soon began. Trying to evacuate everyone, however, would mean the probable destruction of the Allied naval force.

Through great courage, many men were taken off the beaches under heavy fire, but by early afternoon the last boat had departed. Left in a hopeless situation, the remaining Canadians were forced to surrender. The raid was over.

Heroism

Many acts of great courage took place during the Dieppe Raid and two Canadians would earn the Victoria Cross, our country's highest award for military valour. Lieutenant-Colonel Cecil Merritt earned the medal for courageously leading his men from the South Saskatchewan Regiment across the River Scie at Pourville in the face of heavy resistance. Once the regiment could go no farther, he then led a dangerous retreat that allowed most of the men to escape back to Britain. Merritt himself was captured and spent the rest of the conflict as a prisoner of war.



Lt. Col. Cecil Merritt VC

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Capt. John W. Foote VC

Honourary Captain John W. Foote, a chaplain with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, also earned a Victoria Cross. For eight hours, he continually braved enemy fire on the Dieppe beach to bring the wounded to first aid posts. When his own landing craft was about to leave, he intentionally stayed behind to be captured so that he could minister to the many men who were going to be taken prisoner.

Lessons Learned

1942 was one of the darkest periods of the Second World War. But the fact that the Allies had come ashore in occupied France gave the French people some hope and the Dieppe Raid let them know that they had not been forgotten.

While the losses were heavy and the raid did not meet most of its objectives, many historians feel that the lessons learned there played an important role in the success of later actions. For example, the Dieppe Raid and subsequent wartime beach assaults contributed to improvements in Allied amphibious landing techniques. While the cost of gaining this knowledge was steep, it likely saved many lives on the beaches



Canadian prisoners at Dieppe

of Normandy when the Allies returned to the shores of continental Western Europe to stay on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Sacrifice

The men who participated in the Dieppe Raid paid a great price. Of the 4,963 Canadians who embarked on the mission, only approximately 2,200 returned to England and many of those had been wounded. More than 3,350 Canadians became casualties, including a total of 916 who lost their lives as a result of the raid and approximately 1,950 more who were taken prisoner. A total of 210 British and American personnel also lost their lives.

Those who were captured faced especially harsh treatment in prisoner of war camps and most would remain in captivity for more than two-and-a-half years. As the end of the war neared, many of them also had to endure forced wintertime marches as the Germans moved the prisoners away from the advancing Allied forces who otherwise could have liberated them. The Dieppe Raid also took a considerable toll on the ships and aircraft that supported the assault. August 19, 1942, saw the Allies' worst single day losses for aircraft of the entire Second World War, with 119 of their warplanes being shot down as they tried to protect the landing force.

The Legacy

The Canadians who fought in the Dieppe Raid were among the more than one million men and women from our country who served in uniform during the Second World War. The efforts of all of these brave Canadians helped the Allies eventually achieve victory. The sacrifices and achievements of those who gave so much to restore peace and freedom to the world will never be forgotten.

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Story from a Dieppe Veteran

Taken from a Halifax newspaper in 1942, Letter from Maritimer tells of Raid on Dieppe:



“The Canadians showed them how to fight like real men and die like heroes”, was part of a letter received Saturday by Nicholas Lacusta, chef at the Nova Scotian Hotel (Halifax), from his son, Leo, of the 2nd Canadian Division overseas. In this letter Leo told of his experience as one of the attacking Canadians at Dieppe.

He related the terrific odds they had to face, foreign territory, mobile artillery, outnumbered forces and German reinforcements later. He added the significant note: “Besides all of which I don’t think the raid was as big a surprise as we had hoped it would be”.

The letter was dated 24 August, and Defence Minister Ralston in his report to the House last week told of an encounter with a German tanker that partly gave the attack away.

Leo W. Lacusta joined the signalling Corps in Charlottetown two days before the outbreak of the war, and was overseas September 1940. In a letter to his parents, dated 31 July, he gave a hint of action shortly for Canadian forces in England. Writing to his family

on that date, he thanked them for all they had done for him. He makes no fateful prediction in view of coming events, but writes with the idea of letting his family sincerely know his regards for them.

Plenty Tough

“Well, we finally got our crack at the Boche (Germans) and believe me he’s plenty tough; he made it really hot on that beach at Dieppe but I guess the Canadians can handle anything he can throw at us. Because he threw everything at us but the kitchen sink and didn’t stop us,” said the letter.

If the odds had been even the Canadians would have given the “squareheads” a worse beating, he said, “but naturally they had the advantage of being on their own territory; they brought up mobile artillery, they outnumbered us badly and rushed up reinforcements later. Besides all of which I don’t think the raid was as big a surprise as we had hoped it would be.

“Still we did our job and we did it better than any other division in the world could have done. That’s no fooling. Second Division was the crack outfit. The price we paid was high; we lost the cream of our boys but when it was over Fritzie knew he had been in a fight”.

The witness said he was proud to be one of those in the “show”.

“The Canadians showed them how to fight like real men and die like heroes,” he continued. Not a man showed the “white feather” and he praised the bravery of those who faced and met death. “I lost my roommate and nine other buddies and that hurts a lot but we can’t have a bloodless war, can we?”

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They did not begrudge the price they paid, they died trusting that you would carry on...

Knowing that you would carry on. You were their countryman.

Can you measure their sacrifice?

Mark it down in dollars and cents?

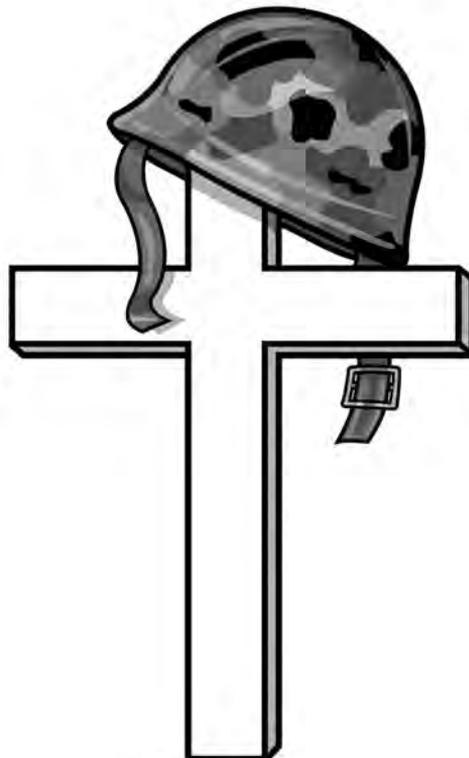
Judge the value of a man’s life blood?

You cannot measure it; you cannot equal it.

The utmost that you can do is pitifully small...

For theirs was the greatest love known to man or God...

“That a man lay down his life for his friends.”



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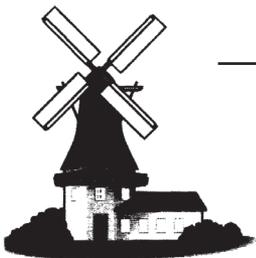


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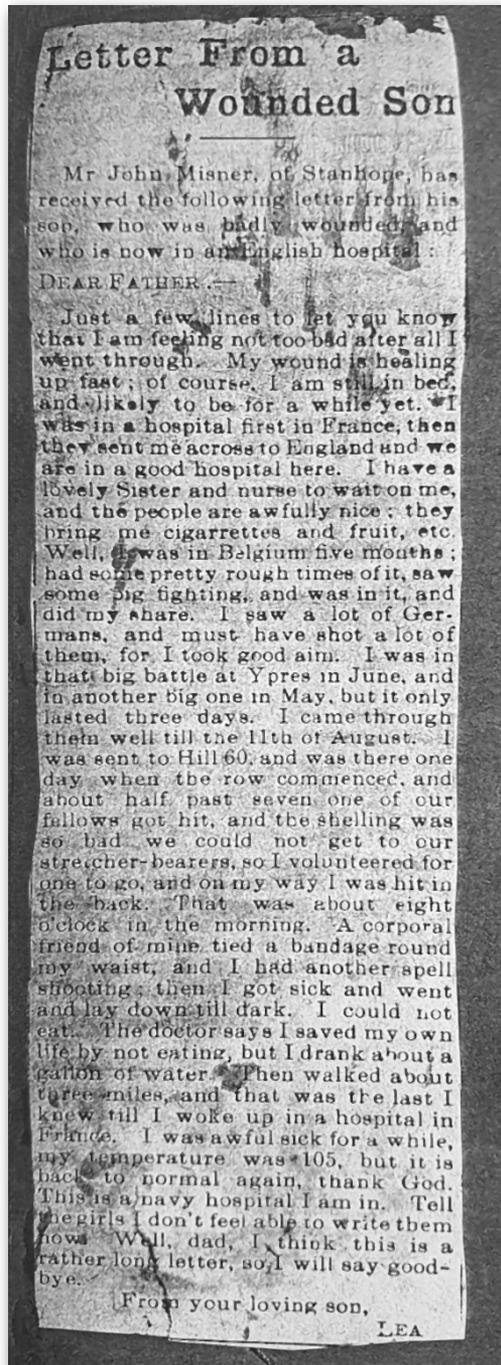
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Letters from the Front - WWI

During any conflict, letters from home, or letters from loved ones at the front or anywhere away from home, are the lifeline to that individual or family. The following are 2 excerpts from newspaper clippings during WWI.

The first letter is from Lea Misner, Stanhope PEI, who fought with the 55th Battalion in France.



Mr. John Misner, of Stanhope, has received the following letter from his son, who was badly wounded and who is now in an English hospital:

DEAR FATHER —

Just a few lines to let you know that I am feeling not too bad after all I went through. My wound is healing up fast, of course, I am still in bed, and likely to be for a while yet. I was in a hospital first in France, then they sent me across to England and we are in a good hospital here. I have a lovely Sister and nurse to wait on me, and the people are awfully nice; they bring me cigarettes and fruit, etc. Well, I was in Belgium five months; had some pretty rough times of it, saw some big fighting, and was in it, and did my share. I saw a lot of Germans, and must have shot a lot of them, for I took good aim. I was in that big battle at Ypres in June, and in another big one in May, but it only lasted three days. I came through them well until the 11th of August. I was sent to Hill 60, and was there one day when the row commenced, and about half past seven one of our fellows got hit, and the shelling was so bad we could not get to our stretcher-bearers, so I volunteered for one to go, and on my way back I was hit in the back. That was about eight in the morning.

A corporal friend of mine tied a bandage around my waist, and I had another spell shooting; then I got sick and went and lay down until dark. I could not eat. The doctor says I saved my own life by not eating, but I drank about a gallon of water. Then walked about three miles, and that was the last I knew till I woke up in a hospital in France. I was awful sick for a while, my temperature was 105, but it is back to normal again, thank God. This is a navy hospital I am in.

Tell the girls I don't feel able to write them now. Well, dad, I think this is a rather long letter, so, I will say goodbye.

From your loving son,

Lea.

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Our 2nd letter is from Captain Henry H. Pineo, Waterloo, N.S., 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles, written just prior to his death on 21 July 1916 at Ypres, Belgium.



Captain Henry H. Pineo, of Waterloo, Kings County, killed at the front on July 21st, had many friends in Halifax and throughout the province, to whom extracts from a letter written by the late officer some short time before his death to C.J. Burchell, K.C. of Halifax will be of interest. After referring to several personal matters, the letter proceeds to say:

The atmosphere here is not conducive to a logical turn of thought along anything but military lines. I am writing this in a dug-out within a mile of the line, and we have frequent visits from the big shells. A nine inch

chap struck just outside our door a little while ago. I am glad it did not hit our roof. It is such little things that make our life interesting. I have been acting company commander for over a week now, and it keeps me pretty busy, but the more one has to do over here the better.

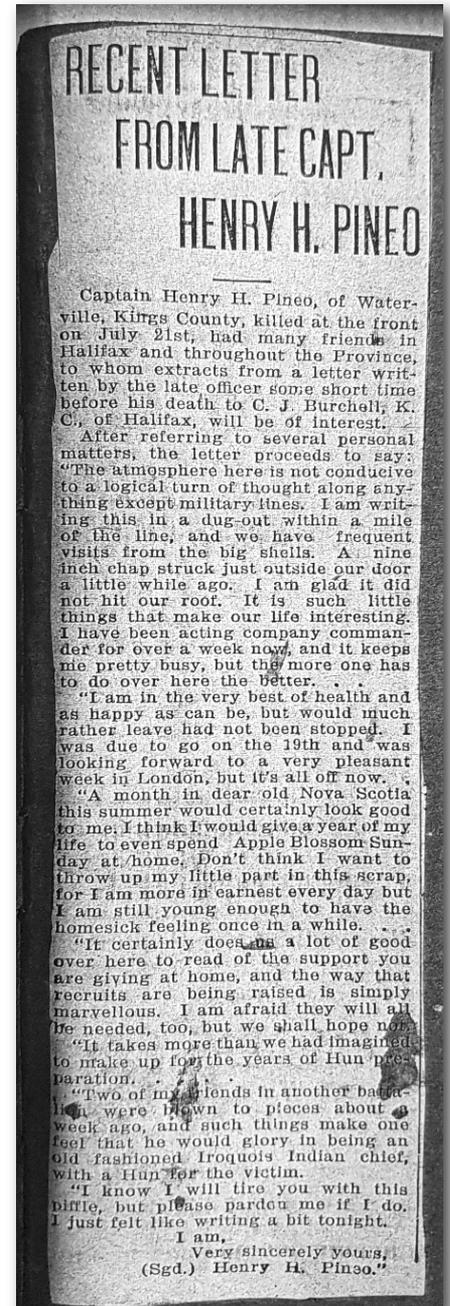
I am in the very best of health and as happy as can be, but would much rather leave had not been stopped. I was due to go on the 19th and was looking forward to a very pleasant week in London, but it's all off now.

A month in dear old Nova Scotia this summer would certainly look good to me. I think I would give a year of my life to even spend Apple Blossom Sunday at home. Don't think I want to throw up my part in this scrap, for I am more in earnest every day but I am still young enough to have the homesick feeling once in a while. It certainly does us a lot of good over here to read of the support you are giving at home, and the way that recruits are being raised is simply marvellous. I am afraid they will all be needed, too, but we shall hope not. It takes more than we had imagined to make up for the years of Hun preparation.

Two of my friends in another battalion were blown to pieces about a week ago, and such things make one feel that he would glory in being an old fashioned Iroquois Indian chief, with a Hun for a victim.

I know I will tire you with this piffle, but please pardon me if I do. I just felt like writing a bit tonight.

*I am, Very Sincerely yours,
(Sgd.) Henry H. Pineo.*



RECENT LETTER
FROM LATE CAPT.
HENRY H. PINEO

Captain Henry H. Pineo, of Waterloo, Kings County, killed at the front on July 21st, had many friends in Halifax and throughout the Province, to whom extracts from a letter written by the late officer some short time before his death to C. J. Burchell, K. C., of Halifax, will be of interest. After referring to several personal matters, the letter proceeds to say: "The atmosphere here is not conducive to a logical turn of thought along anything except military lines. I am writing this in a dug-out within a mile of the line, and we have frequent visits from the big shells. A nine inch chap struck just outside our door a little while ago. I am glad it did not hit our roof. It is such little things that make our life interesting. I have been acting company commander for over a week now, and it keeps me pretty busy, but the more one has to do over here the better. . . .

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I am,
Very sincerely yours,
(Sgd.) Henry H. Pineo."

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A Father's Pride

By E.M. Dove – Dartmouth, N.S.

My son, my little son, so small!
You are to me my life, my all;
And such a helpless little thing!
But oh, what wondrous love you bring!
And oh, what joys and hopes untold!
My little son, just one year old.

My son, my manly, little son,
Today your life's work has begun;
So put away your games and toys,
And with the other little boys,
Pay heed to all your teachers say;
My little son is seven today!

My son, my noble, darling son,
So full of life and health and fun,
At home, at lessons, or at work;
No duty would you ever shirk;
Success will surely crown your way!
My boy is fourteen years today!

My son! my son! My precious son!
Would God the battle now be won!
Your country called and you have gone.
I watched you as you marched along!
Oh God, protect, and keep my son!
My soldier boy, just twenty-one.



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Nova Scotia Soldiers of the North Shore (NB) Regiment

By Gary Silliker

Regimental records show that over 60 Nova Scotia soldiers assaulted Juno Beach, sector Nan/Red, on D-Day, 6 June 1944, as members of the North Shore (NB) Regiment (NSR).

They were: Major Robert B Forbes ; Sergeant BF Elliot; Lance-Sergeant DW Webb; Corporals G Cleveland , MJ Gorman and GW Lepage; Lance Corporal MS Brown ; and Privates JM Auriat, EA Aker, SR Andrews, JA Aresnault, GH Baker, A Bennett, NM Bradley, BT Broom, WR Budge, GA Byrne, WG Burke, GA Campbell, DN Crowell, AJ Desroche, L Doucette, SJ Falls, A Foster, MB Frank, RA Gimlet, HJ Gormley, PE Harvey, MM Hodgson, RSV Isenor, CD Kane, SM Lake, HT Lewis, DC Lever, EF Mader, WH Mader, JT Marsh, J Marshall, LH MacCulay, A MacDonald, LF MacDowell, JA MacQuarrie, JS McCann, JE McDougall, AJ McLean, JA McNeil, VA Mitchell, JA Montgomery, JE Ogden, WW O’Handley, RW Oikle, LA Outhouse, AL Pierce, LE Porter, T Powell, HG Rafuse, GP Ryan, JW Ryan, NP Scoville, WS Spavold, AR Sponagle, RA Travis, KF Teed, and A Winn. Many more men from Nova Scotia would serve in the NSR before the war’s end.

Three hundred and eighty-six (386) members of the NSR died during WW II. The regiment’s fatal casualties by rank were: lieutenant colonel (1), majors (4), captains (2), lieutenants (14), warrant officer Class I (1), warrant officer Class II (2), sergeants (13), lance sergeants (4), corporals (35), lance corporals (33), and privates (277). Sixty-six (66) of the regiment’s war dead were from Nova Scotia.

A soldier from Cape Breton was one of three men of the NSR awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). The second highest award for gallantry in action (after the Victoria Cross) for all army non-commissioned ranks. Fifteen soldiers of the NSR were awarded the Military Medal (MM) for bravery in the field, including a soldier from Pictou County.

1944

On D-Day Sergeant Bruce Franklin Elliot (Kentville) died of his wounds and Private Harold Thomas Lewis (Port Lorne) was killed in action.



Sgt Elliot



Private Auriat

Private Jean Marie Joseph Auriat (Halifax) was killed in action on 7 June (D+1) during the unsuccessful attack on the radar station near Douvres-la-Delvrande. On 4 July the NSR attacked the airfield at Carpiquet. It was the fiercest fight the regiment had since the D-Day landings. Six Nova Scotians died that day. Killed in action were Privates Lawrence Doucette (Grand Desert), Percy Ervin Harvey (Hants Co), William Lockhart (Londonderry), Raymond McDonald (Glace Bay), Thomas Richard (Charles Cove, Guysborough Co) and Howard Welch (Amherst). Privates Henry Collins (Sydney) and Stafford Marvel Lake (Bramber) died of their wounds before nightfall.

continued ...



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continued ...



Private Doucette



Private MacDonald



Private Richard



Private Welch

The battle for Normandy raged on and six Nova Scotians died within five days of each other. Private Lloyd Outhouse (Tiverton) died of his wounds on 5 July. On 6 July Private Thomas Powell (Sydney) died of his wounds and Private Angus MacLean (Ingonish) was killed in action. Private Carman Steadman (Waterville) was killed in action on 8 July. Lieutenant Ernest Garber (Bridgewater) died of his wounds on 9 July and Private Douglas Walker (Sydney Mines) was killed in action.

The next Nova Scotia deaths were men who died of their wounds before reaching life saving medical attention. Private Edward Duggan (Halifax) died on 17 July, Private Aubrey Higgins (Moose River) died on 30 July and Private Henry Gregory (Young's Cove) perished on 2 August.



Lt. Garber



Private MacNeil and son

Private Hector McNeil (Glace Bay) was posted to the NSR on 11 June, 1944, and arrived in France on 13 June. On 4 July, before he could catch up with the NSR, he was attached to the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. He was killed in action near Caen on 5 August.

The NSR's forward position was being struck by sporadic enemy shelling on the afternoon of 8 August. At 1605 hours the regiment was inadvertently bombed by the USAAC. Seventy-two (72) men of the North Shore Regiment were wounded while thirty-three (33) were killed - including six soldiers from Nova Scotia. Killed in action were Lance Corporal Mark Sterling Brown (Cumberland Co) and Privates John Campbell (Sutherlands), Roland Hughes (New Glasgow), Arthur Langille (Pictou), Lloyd Moore (Red River), and Carson Ryan (Truro).



Lance Cpl Brown



Private Langille



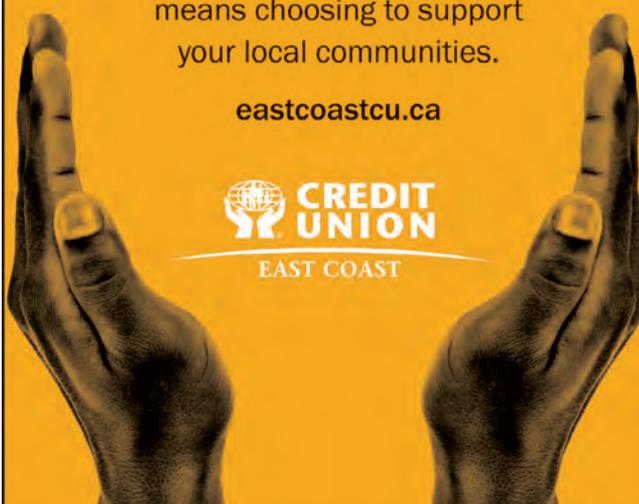
Private Ryan

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On 10 August the Canadian commander ordered the NSR, along with the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, to push back the Germans who had created a bulge in the front line. The Germans established an ambush position in Quesnay Woods and waited for the soldiers of the NSR. It was a night battle that was described in the regimental history as a "nightmare of wild action." It was a brutal fight that claimed the lives of 19 men including Privates Thomas Grant (Thorburn) and Thomas Robertson (Westville), who were killed in action, while Privates Calvin Gillis (West Dalhousie),



Private Grant

John Kennedy (Inverness), Clarence MacKay (Barrs Corners) and Henry Roberts (Glace Bay) all died of their wounds.



Private Kennedy



Private MacKay



Private Roberts - right

On 8 August, Private Robert Lawrence (Guysborough) was struck in the chest by a bullet that exited his buttocks. It was a serious wound that had ripped through his torso. He was evacuated to a military hospital near Juno beach where he died of his wounds on 13 August.

On 23 August Corporal Sydney James Falls (Liverpool, 3rd Canadian Division heavy weight boxing champion) was leading a patrol into Brenay with the aim of dislodging enemy snipers. They were drawn into an ambush; Falls and three other soldiers were killed. Falls was the only African-Nova Scotian killed while serving with the NSR.



Cpl. Falls

Just after 0100 hours, on 25 August, as the regiment advanced towards Fontaine, Private Roy Hogg (Port Clyde) was on an advance reconnaissance patrol and was killed in action when his Bren Gun carrier struck an anti-tank mine.

On 17 September the NSR attacked the enemy's large naval coastal gun emplacement at La Tresorerie. Private Andrew Davidson (Guysborough County) was wounded and died of his wounds later that day.

Many military historians consider the Battle of the Scheldt as the most significant battle fought by the Canadians during WW II in Northwest Europe.

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The cold, muddy, wet polder (land reclaimed by building dykes) fighting, to drive the German's out of the Scheldt estuary, began on 11 October for the NSR. Private John Miller (Noel Shore) was killed in action that day. Corporal John MacNeil (St Margaret Village) was killed on 12 October. On 13 October the NSR captured the hamlet of Scherpbier - Private Gerald Nowe (Greenfield) was killed in action.



Cpl. MacNeil



*2nd Canadian
Casualty Clearing Station*

Private Sam MacPherson (William's Point) was seriously wounded on 15 October and evacuated to the 23rd Field Ambulance, and then onto the 2nd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station near Antwerp. Sam died the next day.

On 24 October the men of the NSR fought a bloody and muddy fight to capture the five dykes leading to Scherpbier. Privates Albert Bates (Passchendaele), John George (Dartmouth) and William Markie (Westville) were all killed in action during that fight. The battle continued into the night and Private Alexander MacKenzie (Denmark

Colchester Co.) was killed on 25 October.

The NSR captured the tiny hamlet of Henricusdijk on 27 October. Seven men died in that action; three were from Nova Scotia. Private Simon Pate (River Bourgeois) was killed in action while Private John Frazee (Truro) and Lance-Corporal Stanley White (North Noel Road) died of their wounds.

The NSR was completing its attack on the town of Sluis when Private Gordon Nickerson (Yarmouth) was killed in action on 31 October.



Private Bates



Private Pate

Corporal Charles MacLean (Thorburn) was seriously wounded (multiple shrapnel wounds to his back and spine) outside of Sluis on 29 October. He was evacuated back to the coast and shipped to the RCAMC 'Basingstoke Neurological and Plastic Surgery Hospital' in England. It took three weeks to stabilize Charles enough to allow for doctors to operate on his back and spine.

A surgery was conducted on 20 November. Corporal MacLean died of his wounds on 23 November.

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continued ...

1945



Private Goulden

On 8 January a raid was conducted against a German position near the Dutch village of Wyler. The raid was a rapid hit-and-run affair and the mission was accomplished in 20 minutes. Nine NSR soldiers had been killed and eight were wounded. Privates Craig Goulden (Gunning Cove), Allan MacDonald (Halifax), and Patrick Roach (Reserve Mines) were all counted amongst the dead.



Private Roach

Private Russell Gerald Munroe, MM, was decorated with the Military Medal on 26 May, 1945, for his actions on the first day of Operation Veritable.

Citation: *“On 8 February 1945, Pte Munroe, “B” Company commander’s runner landed on the Zanpol Dyke with the company commander whose Buffalo had, due to navigational difficulties, landed before the assault platoons. He at once fought his way to a commanding position on top of the dyke where he kept the enemy at bay, thus allowing company headquarters to get established. There under heavy machine gun fire he made contact with “A” Company. And as a result, a continuous and coordinated front was established between the two companies. Subsequently “B” Company advanced along the dyke and the leading platoon, with company headquarters following, was held up by a minefield and machine gun fire. Casualties were suffered in the minefield and the remainder of the platoon pinned down on the dyke by machine gun fire. Private Munroe entered the minefield repeatedly and rescued wounded and stunned men, then on his own initiative, taking a Piat, occupied an exposed position on top of the dyke, and while himself under heavy fire blasted the machine gun position into submission, thus allowing his company to proceed to their final objective. The courage determination and endurance shown by this private soldier was defiantly a battle winning factor in the success of the battalion plan. His gallantry, initiative and disregard for his personal safety far exceeded his duty, rank, and orders.”* Russell Gerald Munroe, MM, died in 2009.

The NSR attacked the town of Keppeln, Germany, on 26 February. It was a hard fight against a weakened, yet determined, enemy who was now fighting in their own country. Six Nova Scotia soldiers and one officer were killed in action that day.

They were: Privates Richard Beazley (Hantsport), George Graham (Belmont), Fred Hull (Port Wallace),



Private Beazley



Private Graham



Private Hull

continued ...



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Lest we forget.



continued ...

John La'fave (Yarmouth), Erwin Munroe (Port Medway) and Millard Patterson (Hantsport) and Lieutenant Donald Rae MacPherson (Westville).



Private Munroe



Private Patterson



Lt. MacPherson

Sergeant Austin Bennett, DCM, of North Sydney, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his actions of 2 March. On 19 January Sgt Bennett had been presented with a Commander-in-Chiefs' Certificate for gallantry for his part on the Wyler raid. He was decorated with the Distinguished Conduct Medal on 10 November. His act of gallantry is detailed in the regimental history as well as in the book "Valour in the Victory Campaign" by T R Fowler:

"During the clearing of Balberger Wald on 2 March, 1945, Sgt Austin Bennett was in charge of a platoon of "D" Company of the NSR. On the second day of the operation, all of the officers and the sergeant-major of the company became casualties.

As the leading platoon commanded by Sgt Bennett approached the enemy objective, they were held up by six snipers. The attack bogged down and Sgt Bennett worked around to a flank where he killed 3 snipers and took the remainder prisoner.

Sgt Bennet then took over the company and disposed them on the objective. As this was going on the company came under extremely heavy fire from a fortified house which was well beyond their objective. This non-commissioned officer, on his own initiative, then took a party of men and led the attack on the house. The brilliant attack, supported by the only available fire power; a group of Piats, allowed Sgt Bennett to seize 34 prisoners and was a deciding factor in the battalion attack.

The initiative, courage and quick action on the part of Sgt Bennett permitted the following brigade to push through and continue the attack." Austin Bennett died in 1997.

On 26 March the regiment attacked the town of Milligen, Germany. Private Baxter Humby (Sydney) was killed in action.

The commanding officer of the regiment was killed two days later.

In early April the NSR prepared to do battle with the 'young madmen' (14-16-year-old soldiers training as paratroopers) defending the Zutphen canals. Lance-Corporal Percy Robicheau (Yarmouth) was killed in action on 5 April and Private Peter Cavanagh (Barney's River) was killed on 6 April.



Private Humby

continued ...



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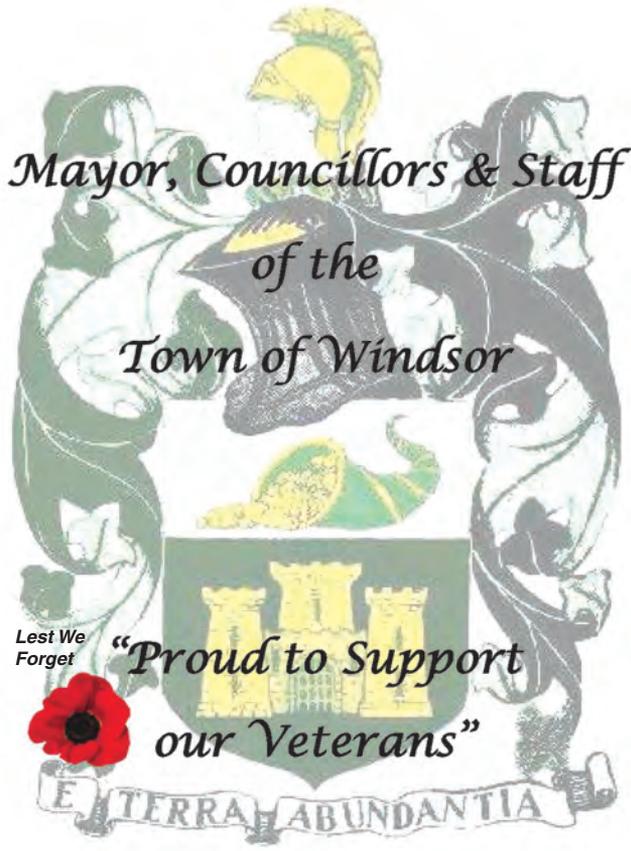
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continued ...



Private Cavanagh

The final combat action of the NSR remains a painful memory as 10 men were killed fighting towards the bridge over the Ems River in Leer, Germany, on 24 April, 1945. The regimental history would bitterly recount *“a most useless attack as the bridge was out and any of the air observation posts could have given this information at any time in the preceding two days.”*

Nova Scotians killed in that futile attack were Corporal Sydney Mosher (Bridgewater) and Privates Francis Mulcahy (Halifax) and Edmund Sampson (Cannes, Richmond Co). Finally, Private Marshall McLaren Hodgson (Country Harbour) seriously wounded (gunshot wounds to head and spine) during the D-Day assault in 1944, was immediately evacuated to the 1st Neurological unit, RCAMC, on the beach. He was stabilized and admitted to a hospital in the UK on 31 July 1944; was evacuated to Halifax in early August and then onto to the rehabilitation wing of the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Hospital, in Montreal, on 1 September. He was discharged and sent home in December 1944. He died on 23 June, 1945, due to meningitis and pneumonia attributable to his war wounds.



Private Sampson

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First Nations troops left a remarkable record of wartime accomplishments. Several were commissioned officers and many served as battle-hardened platoon leaders and combat instructors. Over 50 were decorated for bravery on the battlefield. Many others acquired near-legendary status as scouts and snipers, drawing on pre-war hunting skills and wilderness experience.

In Atlantic Canada, close to half of the eligible Mi'kmaq and Maliseet men from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick would serve overseas. Here are the stories of two of these men.

Sam Gloade, Royal Canadian Engineers

“I'll never forget the first night. I stayed out most of the night, watching the flares go up over No Man's Land, like fireworks, and hearing the cannons and bursts of rifle and machine gun fire.” Sam Gloade, Royal Canadian Engineers – November 1915

Sam Gloade was from Cape Breton and he enlisted in the army at age 35. Originally joining the infantry, he was transferred into the Royal Canadian Engineers. He would spend his time in the service with a tunneling company of the 6th Field Company, RCE. His unit would serve in Belgium and at Vimy Ridge in France.



Sgt. Sam Gloade DCM

Sgt. Gloade was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). The citation reads “*He showed great devotion to duty and an utter disregard for personal danger.*”

At the end of the war, Sam would return to Nova Scotia. A lifelong resident of Cape Breton Island, he would resume his profession as hunting guide and live a long life. Sam Gloade passed away in 1957 at Camp Hill Military hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

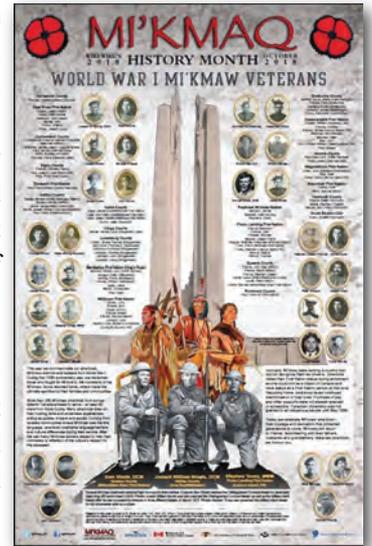
Private Stephen Toney, 85th Battalion, C.E.F.

Born in Cape Breton and raised in Pictou County, Stephen Toney was one of the original recruits of the 85th Battalion, enlisting in 1916. Toney would become one of the leading snipers in the Canadian Army. He was awarded the prestigious Military Medal (MM) for his successful duel with an enemy sniper who had inflicted heavy casualties on his battalion in 1917.

Private Toney would suffer from a gas wound which would see an end to his ability to serve as a front-line sniper. He would survive the war and return to Pictou County where he would marry and raise a large family. Like Sam Gloade, Stephen Toney would work as a professional hunting guide and woodsman through the rest of his life. He passed away in Pictou County in 1975.



Private Toney



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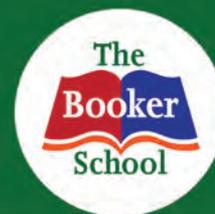
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Colonel, the Honourable James L. Ralston, DSO (1881 – 1948)

Colonel James L. Ralston

James Layton Ralston was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia, and educated at Amherst Academy and Dalhousie law school. From 1903 to 1930, he practiced law intermittently in Amherst. In 1911, he was elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly for Cumberland. Re-elected in 1916, he was defeated in the provincial elections of 1920 and 1925. From October 1916 to June 1919, Ralston served as an officer with the 85th Battalion, Nova Scotia Highlanders. In 1918, Lieutenant-Colonel Ralston became the Commanding Officer of that Battalion and in 1924 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

After his distinguished military service, J.L. Ralston became a Privy Councillor and was appointed the Minister of National Defence in Prime Minister Mackenzie King's cabinet of 1926. Winning a by-election one month later, he served as federal Member of Parliament for the constituency of Shelburne-Yarmouth, until 1935, when he did not stand for re-election and resumed a law practice in Montreal.

In 1930, he served as Canadian delegate to the London Naval Conference. Between the wars he served on the Royal Commission on Soldier's Pensions, the Royal Commission on the Bren Gun Contract, and the Royal Grain Inquiry Commission.

In September 1939, Ralston was appointed Minister of Finance and subsequently re-elected to the House of Commons in a by-election in January and in a general election in March 1940 for the constituency of Prince, P.E.I. In January 1940, he became the Minister of National Defence, resigning this position in 1944 over the conscription issue. Ralston did not stand for re-election in 1945.



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Sgt. Cecil Bennett Cpl. Harold Bennett

Two sons of Joseph R. Bennett gave their lives for King and Empire during WW1. The following is an article taken from a Halifax newspaper of 1916; the photo is of Corporal Harold Bennett noted as killed in action at the front, who predeceased his brother Cecil.

Halifax, April 20 – *There was received in Halifax today, more news of the piercing lightning-like sort, which reminds us, as nothing else could so surely, that the great struggle overseas is real – not just a tale that is told. It came in the form of a cable received by Archdeacon Armitage, announcing that Sergeant Cecil Bennett, of the Twenty-Fifth Battalion, and, a son of Joseph R. Bennett, had been “killed in action” – the second of Mr. Bennet’s sons to make the supreme sacrifice for King and Empire, news of the death, in action, of Sergeant Harold Bennett, also of the Twenty-Fifth Battalion, being yet fresh in the public mind.*

This, as the whole community realizes, is poignantly sorrowful news to the young men’s parents, two more of whose boys are now overseas. They are Sergeants’ Charles and Oscar Bennett, the cable having come from the former, now at Folkestone.

Sergeant Cecil Bennett who after the “single hour of glorious life that’s worth an age without a name”, stands enrolled forever on the Empire’s roll of honor, was a particularly fine boy, just about nineteen was he, a straight, clean, strong boy, well remembered by many as a member of the Church Lads’ Brigade of St. Paul’s, and later as a member of the Sixty-Sixth, having enjoyed in a particularly high degree Colonel Chipman’s regard, and been appointed by the latter clerk in the orderly room.

He is gone – but how well remembered and with what pride!

His parents have in their deep sorrow what warm, what general sympathy – boys like these are the boast and pride not of a household, but of a province, a Dominion – nay, of an Empire!

The cable stated that Sergeant Bennett met death on April 15. Particulars, it said, would be forwarded later.



continued ...



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I want to do my bit
But ma won't let me go,
I know I'm strong and fit
To fight the Empire's foe.

I'm eighteen years today,
Ma thinks I'm still a child;
I want to march away –
The thought just sets me wild.

O listen, mothers dear,
Who fill our hearts with love
And teach us not to fear
But trust in God above.

Your sons you should not hold;
They hear the bugle sounds;
Their hearts, so brave and bold,
Are on the battle ground.

You've gentle daughters, too,
Who need their brothers, brave,
To shield both them and you
From woes worse than the grave.

This war means blood and strife
It calls for fervent prayer,
The mother, son and wife
Must each the burden bear.

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Private Charles Doucette

Private Charles Doucette was executed by the Nazis shortly after landing in France in 1944. He faced racism at home, but still joined the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and fought in France in 1944.



Private Charles Doucette

Charles Doucette, joined the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and landed in France on 6 June, 1944. He couldn't read or write English, but signed his name with an X. The infantry regiment moved inland, along with the Sherbrooke Fusiliers tank division. The next day they fought at Authie, not far from the coast near Caen.

They ran out of ammunition and surrendered to the 12th SS Panzer Division, which took the prisoners of war to Abbaye d'Ardenne. That's where Pte. Doucette and eight other Nova Scotians were among at least 18 Canadians summarily executed by the Nazis.

Despite the passage of time, it doesn't look like Doucette will be forgotten anytime soon.

Canadian prisoners of war were executed by the Nazis in 1944. Some prisoners were held at this courtyard until they were taken to the garden and shot. One was Charles Doucette of Membertou, Cape Breton, N.S.



Abbaye d'Ardenne courtyard

Troy Paul, Doucette's grandson, never knew his grandfather, but he learned about him from his mother and aunts and from reading military history. "He used to work as a carpenter down at the Moxham Castle, of all places," Paul said.

"He was a handyman. He would do anything to help feed and clothe his children. He wasn't the type of man that would sit down and wait for something to happen. He was a kind of a go-getter."

Paul and his family often go to the school in Membertou to talk about the sacrifice Doucette made. "We want to continue to fight for those ideals of liberty and freedom and justice that even my grandfather thought were something to fight for," Paul said. "Even though he was a native Mi'kmaq on reserve, you know he didn't have to go and fight. He had kids at home and he kissed goodbye to his baby daughter, Marie, for the last time before he went away, and then he never seen her again."

Paul said even though his grandfather faced racism at home, he still donned the Canadian uniform. "He gave up a lot in a lot of different ways and no matter how old you are, no matter where you live in this country, you have to recognize that freedom isn't free," said Paul.

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Doucette had four daughters: Caroline, Rachel, Elizabeth and Marie. Marie Doucette, the youngest of four daughters, never got to know her father. Marie only met her father briefly and that was just after she was born in 1941. He had already enlisted and was training in Halifax when she was born.

He came to Membertou and spent about 90 minutes with his infant daughter. Then two buddies arrived and told him it was time to go, that they were being called to Halifax and shipped to France. "So that's the last time that he held me, I guess," said Marie.



Marie Doucette

"That's the only time." Marie said it was heartbreaking to hear her sisters recall waiting for the train to bring their father back home, but it never did.

"I wish I did meet him, and what I hear about him, the stories, I'm so amazed and proud that he went to the war and fought for us," Marie said. She and her sisters went to France and visited Abbaye d'Ardenne and his grave at Bény-sur-Mer for the 60th D-Day Anniversary. It was sad, but moving, she said.

"I was proud because he was a Mi'kmaw and was so proud that he fought for me and for my family and for the people all over the world," she said.

"I went to the gravesite there and I couldn't believe it how these people were killed, so many of them in that graveyard. Even sometimes in nightmares or dreams you can see those graves, how many that fought for us."

North Nova Scotia Highlanders executed at Abbaye d'Ardenne 7 June, 1944:

- Charles Doucette of Membertou
- George Richard McNaughton of Sydney
- Joseph Francis McIntyre of Sydney Mines
- Hollis Leslie McKeil of Amherst
- James Alvin Moss of Stellarton
- Thomas Edward Mont of Truro
- Raymond Morre of Kentville
- Yvan Lee Crowe of New Glasgow
- Hugh Allen McDonald of Morvan

(as recorded on memorial sign at Abbaye d'Ardenne)





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3 Generations of the Gorman Family

By Steve Wessel

In my spare time, when weather permits, I love to play golf, it relaxes me and gives me the exercise I desperately need in my retirement, as well as allowing me the opportunity to meet many interesting people. During a round earlier this summer I was paired with a young man who had a golfing partner that was different from all other golfers, in fact he wasn't a golfer at all, but a Veteran service assist dog!

My golfing partner that day was Blair Gorman and his partner and friend is Cessna, a black female Lab, and an absolutely dedicated friend and partner to Blair, but we will get into that a little later.

I've gotten to know Blair over the various rounds we've played together over the summer months and I questioned him about his military career and discovered that his family are career military, including his father John Gorman and Blair's son Alexander.

Blair told me the tradition started with his father, John "Jack" R. Gorman, born 16 February 1939. Jack joined the Navy in 1956 and during his 22-year career sailed on many ships including, the *Bonaventure*, *Athabaskan*, *Skeena*, *Frasier*, *Preserver* and *Provider*.

As Blair tells it, his father served alongside with Airborne in Cyprus in 1974 as well as other NATO deployments.



John (Jack) R. Gorman



John Gorman with his son Blair

Jack retired from the military in 1978, and later in 2001, he joined the Corps of Commissionaires and retired from there after 17 years of service in 2018. Blair was excited to share the photo of himself with his father Jack in uniform, one day he would also serve Canada as his father had done.

We skip ahead a generation to Blair's son, Alexander B. Gorman, born 16 September 1992. Alex joined the Reserves in 2008 at age 16 with the Princess Louise Fusiliers, a reserve unit based in the Armouries building in Halifax, N.S. where he achieved the rank of Corporal.

From 2012 through 2016 Alexander was a student at the Royal Military College in Kingston Ont., Canada's foremost military college.

Alex graduated in the top 16 of his class with an Honours degree in psychology and did his basic training in Saint-Jean Quebec.

He was posted to Valcartier Que. upon graduation to 1 R22R, "Van Doos", and from September 2018 through April 2019 was deployed to the Ukraine with the Joint Task Force. Upon completion of that deployment Alex was posted to Gagetown in New Brunswick where he presently holds the rank of Captain.



Alexander J. Gorman at RMC Kingston

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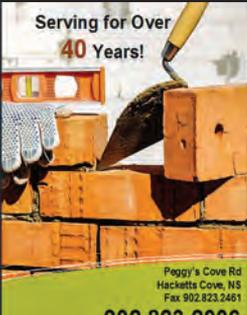
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And the third member of this proud military family is Blair J. Gorman, born 16 June 1968. Blair joined the Navy in 1989 at the age of 21 and did his basic training in Cornwallis, N.S., course 8910. Upon completion of training he served aboard ship, based out of Halifax, as a Navy Steward.

Blair saw active duty during his 6 month deployment during the 1st Persian Gulf War in 1991. It was during this NATO deployment, serving on *HMCS Margaree*, that a diving accident occurred killing 2 of Blair's shipmates.

The following is a portion of a newspaper article posted following that accident.

13 February, 1991

QUESTIONS REMAIN AFTER CANADIAN NAVY DIVERS' DEATHS



M.S. William Hynes

Two Canadian navy divers from *HMCS Margaree* drowned Friday off the Madeira Islands, Portugese territories about 250 kilometers off the coast of North Africa. Master Seaman William Hynes, 31, of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and Sub-Lieutenant Corey Wells, 27, of Halifax were trapped inside a seawater intake pipe used to cool the engines of *USS Pharris*, a Knox (Mod) class guided missile cruiser. *Margaree* and *Pharris* were at the Madeira capital's port at Funchal at the time of the accident. Questions are being raised as to how the two divers came to be sucked into the vent.

The two ships were on station with the NATO Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFLORANT) at the time.



Blair J. Gorman



Sub Lt Corey Wells

In 1991 Blair served as part of the decommissioning crew aboard *HMCS Margaree* and was eventually released from the Navy in 1992. In 1993 he joined the Army Reserves and served with the 33 Service Battalion as a vehicle tech until 1996.



Service dog Cessna

In early 2000 Blair was diagnosed with delayed onset PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) and after years of therapy at the Operational Stress Injury Clinic, Blair reports that they "kept me alive". Approximately 18 months ago, through The R.C.L., Nova Scotia / Nunavut Command's partner, Paws Fur Thought, Blair was paired with his service dog Cessna. As a result of this pairing, Blair has returned to being a productive and happy Veteran and his friendship and unconditional love for Cessna is evident. Myself, and my wife Marsha, look forward to our golf games with Blair and Cessna and we thank him, and his son and his father for their service to Canada.



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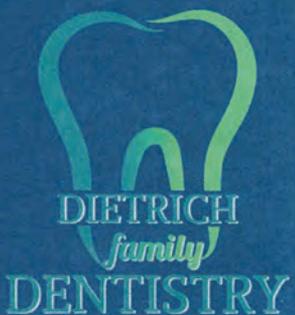
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Nursing Sister Harriet Graham and No. 2 Stationary Hospital, France

When Britain declared war on the German Empire, Canada was automatically compelled to fight alongside Britain in the Great War of 1914-18. At the beginning of the war there were five Permanent Force nurses and 57 listed in reserve. By 1917, the Canadian Army Nursing Service included 2,030 nurses (1,886 overseas) with 203 on reserve. In total, 3,141 Canadian nurses volunteered their services. Because of their blue dresses and white veils they were nicknamed the "bluebirds," and for their courage and compassion they received the admiration of many soldiers.

The First World War saw great courage and sacrifice on the part of many nurses, such as Britain's Edith Cavell. She was a nurse who remained in Brussels, Belgium, after the Germans occupied the city early in the war, tending to wounded soldiers of all countries. However, in addition to this work, Cavell helped captured British, French and Belgian soldiers escape to the neutral Netherlands (where most would eventually make it to England). When her activities were discovered, she was executed as a spy, but not before she helped about 200 men escape the Germans.



*Nurses at No. 3 Casualty
Clearing Station, July 1916*

In many ways, the First World War was a time of great change and innovation in the field of military medical services. At first, medical units were set up in hospitals. However, the eventual establishment of Casualty Clearing Stations provided faster and more effective treatment to the injured at the front line.

The Casualty Clearing Station was an advance unit, situated close to the front line, where ambulances could deliver the wounded to be assessed, treated or evacuated to one of the many hospitals. The early stage assessment and treatment available at these units proved very effective in the efficient handling of large groups of battle injuries that occurred at the front. At the same time, however, the proximity to the fighting exposed the Nursing Sisters to the horrors and dangers particular to the front. The advance areas were often under attack from air raids and shell fire, frequently placing the lives of the sisters in danger. As well, the Casualty Clearing Stations were often plagued with the same aggravations of front line life; many nurses reported that rats and fleas were constant plagues.

The dangers of working in an advance area were not restricted to the land operations. One of the innovations of the First World War Medical Services was the introduction of the hospital ship. These ships were also subject to the



*Canadian Nursing Sisters working
amongst the 1st Canadian General
Hospital, Étaples, which was bombed by
the Germans. Three Nursing Sisters
killed, June 1918.*

continued ...

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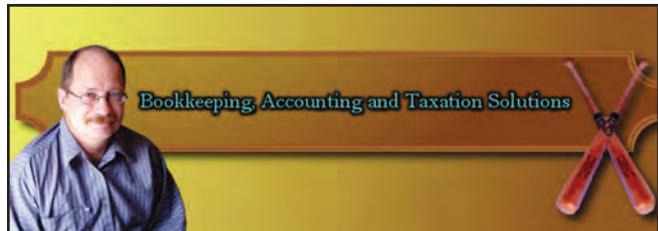
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dangers of enemy attack. On the night of June 27, 1918, the Canadian hospital ship Llandovery Castle was torpedoed by a German U-boat and 234 people lost their lives, including all 14 sisters on board.

In France, as well as Africa and the Mediterranean, the nurses had to deal not only with an exhausting workload, but often under extremely primitive working conditions and desperate climatic extremes.

This was the pre-antibiotics age and, as was the case during the South African conflict, the ranks of the injured were swelled by infection and outbreaks of diseases such as meningitis. In spite of these challenges, the Canadian Nursing Sisters were able to provide comfort to the sick and injured.

A total of 3,141 Nursing Sisters served in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and 2,504 of those served overseas in England, France and the Eastern Mediterranean at Gallipoli, Alexandria and Salonika. By the end of the First World War, approximately 45 Nursing Sisters had given their lives, dying from enemy attacks including the bombing of a hospital and the sinking of a hospital ship, or from disease. The beautiful Nursing Sisters' Memorial in the Hall of Honour in the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa is a loving tribute to their service, sacrifice and heroism.

The following is a letter written by Nursing Sister Harriet Graham of New Glasgow N.S. to her parents in 1914:

*From Nurse Miss Harriet Graham
Canada No. 2 Stationary Hospital, France*

Dear-----

I'm sorry not to have gotten a letter off to you before this, but we have been on the jump and have been awfully busy, and now I have all beds turned down and am waiting for the ambulances to come in with their loads.

It is great, and we love it. We have a dandy crowd of girls and a very nice crowd of officers, and our men are as willing as can be, though most of them are untrained: but when I see the poor souls scrubbing and doing all sorts of things they never did before, I can't but feel sorry for them. But I must start at the beginning of my story.

We have the most beautiful hospital you could imagine, and we are simply proud of ourselves, for the FIRST Canadian Hospital to be in France.

We just came here and commandeered a beautiful summer hotel, turned into it, and settled ourselves. Then we took a house belonging to Count Constaudivitch, who married Miss Cutting of New York, and who is in Serbia or someplace on war business, for the nurses to live in, and another for the officers. They are all right together, so it makes it quite nice, and a comfortable bed to turn into at night when we get off duty. But our hospital is grand. There were big verandas on three sides, which have been enclosed in glass, and make fine wards. I tell you, if you think house cleaning is hard work, and you know I do think it, I hope I don't have to clean another hotel; but we had some fun out of it too. Col. Shillington said he was going to name all the wards for the different provinces. So I said: "Well please put Nova Scotia in the dining room." The dining room, I must explain, is the biggest ward and right at the main entrance. "that's it 'J he said, "Sister Graham always wants Nova Scotia to have the biggest and best place right in front; that is the place for Ontario, as most of the corps come from there." One of the other girls said: "But British Columbia is the biggest province." "Well," I said, "We will all have to put the names in a hat and draw for it," and the fun of it is Nova Scotia has it – the prettiest ward, with seventy-five beds and the most important place. We are all extremely pleased. I'm going to send to Dr. Neily and see if he can get a Nova Scotia flag for it. At present I am sitting in Quebec (ward), as they are going to receive tonight.

Pearl Fraser is on night duty, but it is not so awful, or at least has not been so far, as the nights we receive we all stay in and help. You know, they always come in at night.

We have fifteen ambulances and they each carry four patients, and when they all make about three trips, it makes quite a number of patients. I'm not allowed to tell you how many patients we have or how many we can take, but you can tell Kit we
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can take twice as many as St. Luke's, and, of course, may have to take more than that at any time. Oh! My, but it is great. I just love it, even though it's ten o'clock now and I have been on the go all day, and they have not started to come in yet. I see where we don't get to bed tonight. By the time we get the poor souls into bed and half way clean and a dressing done, its morning before you know it, and the poor creatures, you would be sorry for them, they are so filthy, and many times just alive with vermin.

Pearl said tonight: "isn't it funny, in our hospital we despised men who were dirty, and here the worse they are, the better we like them." When they say, "keep away sister, I'm so dirty, but I have been in the trenches, and I haven't had a bath for so many weeks," I just feel like saying, "I honor your dirt!"

I hear we are getting a consignment of Germans tonight. I wonder some times if it is a sin to feel so awful for our enemies. I don't know if there is much in the papers at home about, them and the awful things they do.

4 a.m. - The ambulances started to come just then, so I had to stop, and now must turn in, as 7 a.m comes soon, and I will try to finish this tomorrow.

Dec. 4. - It is time again to go to bed, I suppose, but it seems to be the only time for letter writing, and I know how you all at home must look for a line, and then it seems so far to send a letter with nothing in it. When we get our hospital in better running order, we may have more time; though, of course, we are all dreading the spring and the diseases that must come in this war.

Our patients of last night are mostly happy today. I spend all the spare pennies I can find on cigarettes for them, poor boys, it seems to do more to quiet their nerves than anything else. I wish I could tell you some of their tales, but I'm afraid my letter would never go by the censor. One of my patients is just a lad of eighteen, and the nicest kind of a kid. He told me his two pals were shot and killed. I said: "Weren't you awfully afraid?" "Yes sister," he said, "I was awfully afraid at first; there was just thirty yards between the German trenches and ours; but I soon got over it. You see sister, it's like this, there is no use trying to dodge them, if the bullet's for you, you'll get it." He then asked me if it would be long before he could go back. "Why", I said, "do you want to go back?" He just looked at me and said: "Does anybody want to go to Hell, sister?" and, poor kid, he will have to go back, because he is not very badly injured. Some of the tales they tell are awful, too terrible to write about. The "Jack Johnsons," as the Tommies call the German's big guns, are really devilish, and although we are as far from the firing as three-quarters of the way to Truro, still the guns can be heard quite distinctly at night. That will give you some idea what the noise must be close up, and is it any wonder that the poor boys' nerves are in most cases completely gone, - but I must not write of such things.

Miss McDonald was here to see us, and we were so glad to have her. She is so nice, and I get fonder of her all the time. If we are here, and if she can manage it, and a few more "if's" she is coming to spend Christmas with us. I suppose it will be nearly Christmas before you get this, possibly after. Give my love and best wishes to all the friends. I received some Halifax papers last night from Mr. Neilly, one of which gave a list of the Pictou County boys going in the next contingent. I was sorry not to see more familiar names from New Glasgow. I am afraid they don't realize what this war means. I tell you it's awful to think of when our boys come over, but I would be ashamed if Wendell was any place but right where he is now.

Well, I must stop and turn in.

HARRIET

NOTES: The First Canadian Hospital (CSH) referred to in the letter (see photo below), was the first unit to set foot in France with the original staff qualifying for the "Mons Star" given to people serving in the war before Dec 31st, 1914.

This letter was written to her parents, Harvey and Annie Graham

Harriet Graham, (the writer of this letter) Daughter of Harvey and Annie Graham, was born in 1883 in New Glasgow and died in 1932. * buried at Riverside Cemetery.

Others referred to in the letter,

Wendell Stewart Graham, Harriet's brother born 1879 and died in 1945. * Buried at Riverside Cemetery.

Marjorie (Pearl) Fraser was the daughter of D.C. and Bessie Fraser and a 1st cousin to Wendell and Harriet. Marjorie

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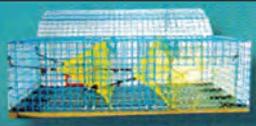
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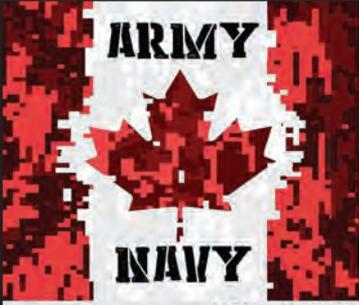
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was born in 1884 and died in 1918 when the Hospital Ship Llandovery Castle Hospital ship was torpedoed. Marjorie is remembered on a Monument with her brother Laurie Fraser in Riverside Cemetery in New Glasgow, who died in the trench in France 3 months after his sister Marjorie.



CAMC capbadge (Canadian Army Medical Corps)

No. 2 Stationary Hospital was granted the distinction of being the first of all Canadian units to place foot upon French soil. This unit, under Lieutenant-Colonel Shillington, after the inspection by Their Majesties the King and Queen two days previously, left the Plain on November 6th, 1914. At Southampton the O.C. was detained by arrangements concerning the nursing sisters, and thus it devolved upon Major H. C. S. Elliot, 61 the second in command, to take the unit across the Channel to Havre. For a few days it was billeted at Boulogne. On November 27th it opened up the well-known Hôtel du Golf at Le Touquet, on the dunes near Paris Plage, as a hospital of three hundred beds – the first of a series of Canadian base hospitals along the French coast between Boulogne and Dieppe.



Starting with 320 beds, the hospital quickly expanded to 520. The Nursing Staff of 35 had arrived in November of 1914. In March 1915, 10 re-inforcements arrived, increasing the total Nursing Staff to 42. In September, 1915, the unit moved to Outreau, taking over the site of No.2, British Stationary Hospital.

No. 2, Canadian Stationary Hospital, Le Touquet, Boulogne, the "beautiful summer hotel" mentioned by Harriet in her letter, is in the background.

By Frank Paylor of Sudbury, Ontario

*When you are feeling sick, or worse,
thank your dear Maker for your nurse
Whose tender care and ministrations
are worth sincere congratulations.*

*The shattered limb, the fevered brow
are much the same to her somehow.
There is a need, a chance to heal,
to ease the pain that you might feel.*

*Through all those precious smiles
and words of comfort, as she tends
With all her sharpened skills and guiles
without complaint, she mends.*

*Then there comes the day
when you are sent upon your way
-- and you discover, in the end,
that you have had a pleasant visit
with a very special friend.*



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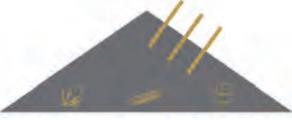


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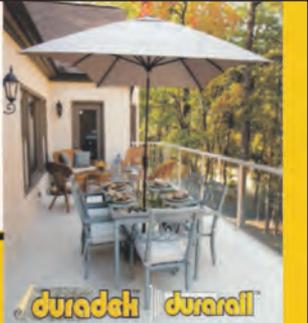
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William Eugene Ford

“Legion Supervisor, Bare Handed, Captures Sniper”



1944 newspaper clipping

Did you ever capture a live German with your bare hands? A big, tough, two-fisted German who thought he was going to be shot the moment he was taken captive. You didn't! Well, here's how it's done.

It was a warm sunny day in France and Canadian Legion Supervisor William Eugene Ford, whose home is in Liverpool, Nova Scotia, was happy as he bowled along in his jeep. Beside him was his driver and he was happy too. And they had every right to be happy when they looked back upon the stroke of fortune that had befallen them since landing on the Normandy coast.

It was only a few days after their landing that Hank (the name he answered to most frequently) and his driver, poking around as all good Legion Supervisors should poke around, had stumbled across a Gestapo canteen. At least it had been a Gestapo canteen until there were no more Gestapo in that particular section of the country.

Mental Pat On Back

Possibly Hank Ford was the first man on French soil to appreciate anything the Gestapo had done. But when he saw the canteen sitting there with all its furnishing intact, he came pretty close to mentally patting the Gestapo on the back. But he checked himself in time and got down to business. The business consisted of cleaning out the canteen lock, stock and barrel. It was a short move to his unit's headquarters and a few hours later the canteen was in full swing again with appreciative Canadians fingering the furniture and trying to make themselves realize that this was really France.

So as we said before, Hank and his driver were happy. Their canteen was the last word in that type of thing. An appreciative O.C. had seen to it that proper transport was provided – a thing mighty hard to come by. Now they were in the luxury class with big trucks and, in addition, two large store tents.

The jeep hummed steadily along as Hank and his driver chatted idly. The show that night promised to be a good one, they both agreed. The day was nice and that canteen sure was a humdinger. Such were their thoughts as they rounded a curve and found the road choked with struggling transport.



*W.E. Ford - Legion Supervisor
continued ...*



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Lest We Forget

continued ...

For a few moments they crawled along behind the heavy trucks. The congestion got steadily worse and Hank, never one to waste gas, called a full stop and the jeep pulled to the side of the road. Of course, for an up-and-coming supervisor to sit still and just admire scenery isn't quite playing the game and besides, you never can tell when you may run across another Gestapo canteen.

So the jeep was no sooner stopped than Hank was out poking around. Casually he strolled toward a little wood. As casually he leaped over a log – smack on top of a German sniper!



Heavyweight boxers, Schmeling and Lewis - 1938

The German sniper was surprised, but not half as much as our Hank. The sniper leaped to his feet and Hank sized him up. In a flash he got a bare outline, the details would have to wait. The German was seven feet tall and four feet across. His intention was perfectly clear. He was coming for Hank and in just about half a second there was going to be no more Hank.

That is, if someone didn't do something pretty darn quick!

The driver, as all drivers must, had stayed with his vehicle and was now a pop-eyed grandstand of one as he saw what promised to be a new Lewis – Schmeling bout, with no holds barred.

Hank broke a cardinal rule of the ring right off the bat. He kicked the advancing German square in the stomach. That slowed him up. In a trice Hank had him by the arm and down on his knees went the German crying pitifully: “Good Kamerad”. The driver, by this time, decided he might as well get into the thing too, and hot-footed it across with a revolver that he proudly presented to Hank.

The German's cries became moaning sounds as he saw the revolver. Again and again, he insisted that he was all through fighting but there was hopelessness in his tone. Obviously, he thought that this demon who waved the gun at him was just waiting for the right moment before finishing him off.

Taken Back

It was with difficulty that Hank got his German on his feet. But finally, he crawled to a standing position. Hank was surprised how he had shrunk in size. But he was still plenty big – about five feet 10 inches and weighed pretty close to 180 pounds.

The German eyed the jeep with distaste. Obviously, he was merely being transported to another place for execution. But the revolver was still covering him and with one arm hanging limp he climbed into the back seat. From the front seat Hank's trigger finger poised with the hammer cocked. The driver devoted all his attention to getting back to headquarters.



But it wasn't going to be headquarters. The German, after the first few bumps, was looking as if he wished Hank would shoot him. It was clear he was in great pain, so carefully the driver picked his way to a field dressing station.

continued ...



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continued ...

“His arm is broken in two places,” the doctor remarked, being careful to keep the German between himself and Hank. The doctor was still muttering as Hank led his captive out to the jeep and started, this time in earnest, for the 40-mile trip back to headquarters.

Although the prisoner was now visibly subdued, Hank was taking no chances. And well he might not. A thought had just struck him. When he left headquarters that morning there hadn't been a single solitary prisoner brought in since the landing in France and if that situation still existed when he got back, Hank was going to have something to about for the next few days.

So he re-cocked the revolver, mounted his perch on the front seat facing the rear, and proceeded to cover the moaning Nazi. From time to time he urged the driver to take it easy – Hank didn't want any accidents with that revolver. He was going to get this fellow back alive.

Slowly and carefully they entered the headquarters area. In front of a gaping audience they pulled to a graceful stop and Hank – as nonchalant, he hoped, as an old campaigner – motioned his prisoner out of the jeep with a curt swing of the revolver. For good measure he threw in a few words of what he hoped were German. The alacrity with which the prisoner obeyed did a lot to send Hank's stock soaring in that particular outfit.

Two armed guards who came on the run, Hank regrettably turned over his prisoner. He looked at his departing back with mixed feelings. The canteen had been nothing beside this. When, if ever, would he be able to capture another German with his bare hands. One side of him said he hopes it would be soon – another little voice whispered: “You were lucky this time.”

Hank still had another job to do. At administration group headquarters he turned in the map references of the spot where he jumped the Nazi. A couple of hours later the area was being combed and the answer as to why a lot of D.R.'s hadn't been getting through was solved when a whole group of snipers was rounded up.



The intelligence officer came back to report to Hank. The captive was one of the ill-famed S.S. Troops. He had been told that all the Canadians were dead and that, if he was captured, he would be shot, if not on the spot, shortly afterward. He had hastily added, the intelligence officer said, he knew better now.

An evening show was pretty tame stuff to Hank that night, but the show and the supervisor's work must go on. He found only one difficulty really. It was hard to operate a movie projector when your trigger finger insisted on staying curled.

Up to October 17, 1944, 610,541 German soldiers surrendered on the Western front.

250,000 POW's were captured between October 17 and February 5 at a rate of 65,000 a month.

Between October 17 and February 5, 1945, the total of German POW's taken in north-west Europe increased to 860,000.



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Sergeant Herbert Peppard



Herb Peppard

Born 7 July 1920, the Truro N.S. native signed on for service in the Second World War on Dec. 12, 1940 at age 20 with the Canadian Artillery. He then transferred to the First Canadian Parachute Battalion and was later recruited to the Canada-USA First Special Service Force (FSSF). The elitley-trained, highly-decorated and undefeated unit served as the precursor to modern-day special forces.

They were also called the Devil's Brigade, but to their German enemies, Peppard and his comrades became fearfully known as the Black Devils, because of their stealth and successful captures under darkness. Following the disbandment of the FSSF in November 1944, Peppard rejoined his original parachute battalion.



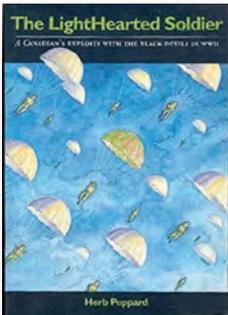
During that same year, he was awarded one of America's highest military honours, the Silver Star (for gallantry in action) and in 2015 he travelled to Washington, where along with 41 other surviving members of the Devil's Brigade, was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian medal that can be awarded by the United States.



The "Devil's Brigade" - WWII

Peppard, who rose to the rank of sergeant, also received the USA Bronze Star, for Heroism / Outstanding Achievement. He served until Sept. 6, 1945 and the summer following his return home (10 June, 1946), he married his Greta (MacPhee).

For a number of years, Peppard worked on the railroad until later establishing a successful electrical construction business. He went on to upgrade his education to a B.A. and B.Ed. and taught the trade at the Lunenburg Regional Vocational School in Bridgewater until he retired.



In 1994 Peppard wrote a humourous and heartwarming book called; **"The LightHearted Soldier: A Canadian's Exploits with the Black Devils in WWII"**.

Peppard was born in the house where he grew up, on Alice Street in Truro, and where he raised his own family and continued to reside until being transferred to Camp Hill following an injury. He led an extremely active life and in addition to being a decorated war veteran, was also an author, poet, singer, newspaper columnist, public speaker and former bodybuilder; he was Nova Scotia Masters Bodybuilding Champion in 1983 (at age 63) and again in 1988 (age 68), for which he was inducted into the Colchester Sports Hall of Fame as a provincial pioneer and champion of the sport.

Peppard was also a life member of Colchester Branch Legion in Truro; founding member and president of the Veterans' Widows and Widowers Association and he initiated the Veterans Memorial Highway Garden project alongside Highway 102 in Truro Heights. In June 2016, he was honoured with a ceremony to officially open a public park in his name across the street from his boyhood home on the site of the former Alice Street Elementary school.

Herb Peppard, Canadian and Hometown Hero, passed away at Camp Hill Hospital in Halifax on 12 June 2019 at the young age of 99 years.





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Lest We Forget

Finding Private Baker

By Gary Silliker

SITUATION: Lieutenant Colonel Renald Dufour, CD, the current commanding officer of the North Shore (NB) Regiment (NSR), had been made aware that the Canadian Mint was preparing a coin to mark the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day Landing. It was proposed that the coin would utilize the photo of the NSR assaulting Juno beach in the Nan/Red sector. The photo was from the film recorded by Sergeant Bill Grant of the Canadian Army Film Unit (CAFU) on the morning of 6 June, 1944.



MISSION: Attempt to identify the soldier who turned his head enough to have his face caught by the camera of Sgt Grant.

EXECUTION: Send out a request for information to all possible credible sources.

SUPPORT: Historians, both professional and amateur, who had an interest in the history of the NSR.

In early October, 2018, Dr Marc Milner of the Gregg Centre at UNB made the commanding officer of the NSR aware that the Canadian Mint had plans to strike the commemorative coin noted above. On 28 November Dr Milner contacted LCol Rénald Dufour about the identity of the soldier in the photo. Dr Milner noted that in 2004, while researching his book “**D-Day to Carpiquet: The North Shore Regiment and the Liberation of Europe,**” that Fred Moar, MC, who had been a lieutenant with A Company NSR during the assault, stated, *"It looks like Pte Baker from my company."*

The next day LCol Dufour was able to confirm that a Pte G H Baker was part of the assaulting force on the morning of D-Day, but that he was not sure where Baker might be from.

In less than 24 hours Bruce Morton was able to confirm that a Pte G H Baker # F56627 had landed with No 2 section, 3 Platoon, A Company of the NSR on D-Day. Bruce also noted that Pte G H Baker was the only soldier with that surname, who came ashore with the NSR on Juno beach that day.

I chipped in by noting that the "F" in Baker's service number indicated that he enlisted in Nova Scotia or eastern PEI. Based upon his service number it was probable that he was originally from NS or PEI, but it was not definitive as he might have come from anywhere in Canada and just enlisted in NS/PEI.

Dr Marc Miner was able to confirm, via Veterans Affairs Canada, that a G H Baker # F56627 died on 23 July, 2003 in North Brookfield, NS.

That same day Brandon Savage, using the date of death information from Dr Milner, decided to do a web search of obituaries for NS. He searched cemetery databases for a grave marker in Nova Scotia that would match the details; eventually, he came across one for a George Herman Baker. Using the full name found on the grave marker, and searching an obituary database, he was able to find an obituary for George Herman Baker, which included the names of the next of kin and the places they lived in 2003.

Brandon would have the Eureka moment.

continued ...

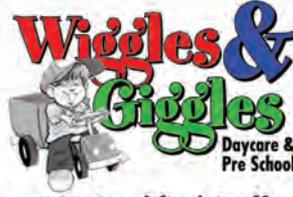


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After a few phone calls Brandon was successful in contacting the late George Baker's daughter, Karen McLeod, in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. Karen was able to confirm that her father was in fact George Herman Baker and that he was in the North Shore Regiment and did land on D-Day.

Brandon then asked her if she was aware of a famous video of the NSR landing on D-Day. She told Brandon that she was not aware of any such film. Brandon immediately, sent her a link to the video clip, along with a still shot of the man who turns around to the camera, and asked her to take a look to see if it was perhaps her father. About 10 minutes later Brandon called her back. Karen was quite emotional as she confirmed that in fact the soldier in the film was indeed her father as she recognized him from what he looked like when he was younger.

The search for # F56627 Private GH Baker was fast, furious, fruitful and very satisfying for all of the sleuthhounds.



Private G.H. Baker

The sleuthhounds were:

Don Campbell, MMM, CD, Miramichi, NB, former member of 2RNBR (NS);

Rénald Dufour, CD, Tracadie, NB, Commanding Officer the North Shore (NB) Regiment;

Dr Marc Milner, Fredericton, NB, Director of the Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society at the University of New Brunswick;

Bruce Morton, Barrie, ON, the son of a NSR officer who served during World War II;

Ray Kokkonen, ONB, CD, Trout Brook, NB, President of the Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association;

Brandon Savage, Miramichi NB, teacher at Miramichi Valley High School;

Gary Silliker, CD, Mahone Bay, NS, former member of 2RNBR (NS).



Links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiDs8h4rXRw>

<https://legionmagazine.com/en/2010/04/the-riddle-of-the-d-day-footage/>

<https://wartimes.ca/film/d-day-film-of-juno-beach/>

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George Herman Baker – The soldier on the coin

By Gary Silliker

The young man:

George Herman Baker was born to George Merton and Elsie Ellen (Herman) Baker of North Brookfield, Queens County, NS, on 31 August, 1923. George started working in the forest industry at age 14. He liked hunting and fishing and just being in the woods. According to his daughter, Karen McLeod, he did not travel far from home and might have been to Bridgewater or Yarmouth on a few occasions before enlisting.

The soldier:

George enlisted in the army at Halifax on 5 April, 1943, George arrived in the UK on 1 September. He was posted to an infantry reinforcement pool. On 11 November Private Baker was posted to the NSR, which at that time, was primarily made up of men from north eastern New Brunswick. He came ashore in France as part of the initial assault wave on 6 June, 1944 (there were at least 60 men from Nova Scotia wearing the shoulder flash of the NSR that morning). George served with the NSR through France, Belgium, the Netherlands and into Germany. He returned to the UK on 22 December, 1945, and was discharged in Halifax on 6 March, 1946.



NSR D-Day landing

The veteran:

After his discharge he opted to make use of the vocational training benefits provided under the Veterans Rehabilitation Act of the Department of Veterans Affairs. George went to Cape Breton to train as a carpenter. While there he met a young widow, Madge Reed Edmonds, who owned and operated a fish and chips business. George and Madge married, and along with Madge's daughter Deanna, moved back to North Brookfield. George and Madge would have five children before Madge's death in 1959.

Upon his return to North Brookfield George found work in the woods and would eventually find full time work with the NS Department of Lands and Forests.

Like many veterans he was remiss to speak of his wartime experiences. Being from the south shore, and having served in a New Brunswick regiment, he often found it hard to speak about his experiences with fellow army veterans from the area, many of whom had served in the West Nova Scotia Regiment.

George Herman Baker died on 23 August 2003.

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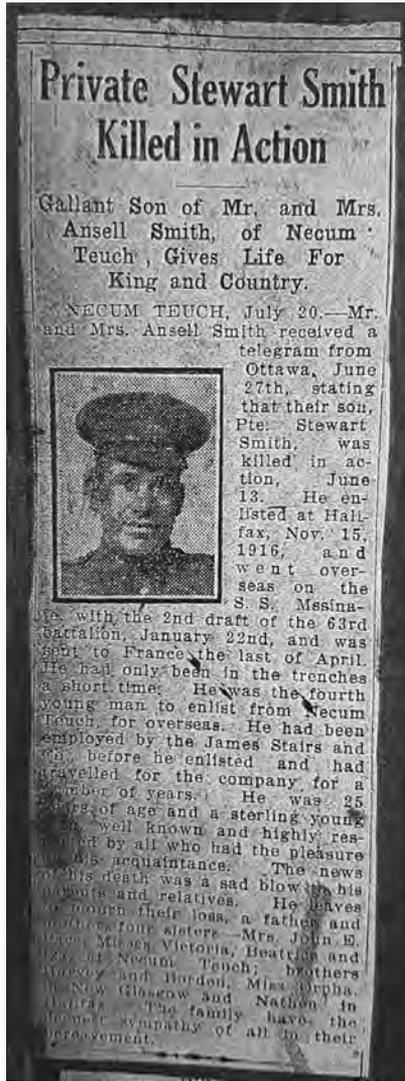
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Private Stewart Smith

Private Smith was killed in action and lost without a trace. His name appears on The Menin Gate Memorial, situated at the eastern side of the town of Ypres (now Ieper) in the Province of West Flanders, on the road to Menin and Courtrai. It bears the names of 55,000 men who were lost without trace during the defence of the Ypres Salient in the First World War.



The attached newspaper article is a short tribute to the life of Stewart Smith of Necum Teuch, N.S., a small community between Musquodoboit / Sheet Harbour on the Eastern Shore.

Gallant Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ansell Smith of Necum Teuch, Gives Life for King and Country.

NECUM TEUCH, July 20 - Mr. and Mrs. Ansell Smith received a telegram from Ottawa, June 27th, stating that their son, Pte. Stewart Smith, was killed in action, June 13. He enlisted at Halifax, November 15, 1916, and went overseas on the S.S. Messina with the 2nd draft of the 63rd battalion, January 22nd, and was sent to France the last of April. He had only been in the trenches a short time. He was the fourth young man to enlist from Necum Teuch for overseas. He had been employed by the James Stairs and Co. before he enlisted and had travelled for the company for a number of years. He was 25 years of age and a sterling young man, well known and highly respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. The news of his death was a sad blow to his parents and relatives. He leaves to mourn their loss, a father and mother, four sisters - Mrs. John E. Pace, Misses Victoria, Beatrice and Iza, at Necum Teuch; brothers Harvey and Borden, Miss Orpha, in New Glasgow and Nathan in Halifax. The family have the deepest sympathy of all in their bereavement.

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Private Fred Storey

One of the youngest casualties in Bedford House Cemetery, located in Ypres, Belgium, with a known age of 16 years is Private Frederick Storey. He was serving with the 18th Battalion (Western Ontario Regiment), Canadian Infantry when he died on 30th June 1916.

According to the Attestation Paper when Fred signed up for the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 28th December 1915, he gave his date of birth on the front of the form as 18th February 1897. On the reverse of the Attestation Paper his stated “apparent age” is clearly written as 18 years and 4 months. This cannot be correct as this age would imply that he had been born in August/September, and not February as he stated on the front of the form. In any case, he is listed on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission register as aged 16 at the time of his death in June 1916.

He gives his father's name as his next-of-kin, living at 16 Campbell Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Some personal details about Fred that we can presume to be accurate from the Attestation Paper is that he was 5 feet 7 and a quarter inches tall, he had grey eyes and dark brown hair. Having signed up on 28th December 1915 Frederick again signed the Attestation Paper under oath on 4th January 1916. Within a matter of weeks, he was in Belgium with the 18th Battalion and he died on the Western Front almost exactly six months to the day after he had signed his Attestation Paper.

The following is the text recorded in a Halifax newspaper article noting his death:

A host of friends will be as one in sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Storey, 16 Campbell Road, in sorrowful news received today – the news that Private Frederick Storey was on June 30 “killed in action.” Some months ago, The Mail referred to the fact that the youth - who was but sixteen years of age, had been wounded. Upon his recovery from his wounds he returned to the firing line, where, he, a mere boy, known to his intimates as “Bonnie Bell” Storey, and full of a boy’s joy in living, gallantly made the supreme sacrifice.

Private Storey, then fifteen years of age, left Halifax with the Sixty-Sixth overseas draft on January 22. The Sunday before Christmas he was confirmed in Trinity church by His Grace Archbishop Worrell, and on the morning of the Festival knelt for the first time at the Lord’s Table with his mother.



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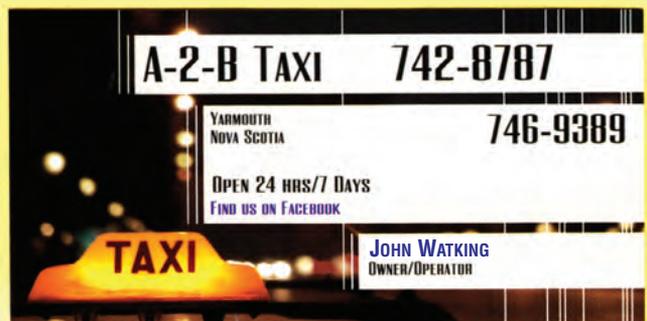
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continued ...

On arrival overseas he joined the 18th Battalion under Captain Hughes, son of Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of militia. From time to time he has sent home to his parents' bright letters making light of all the hardships incident to life in the trenches yet reading between the lines those who received them could easily perceive that the lad of 15 was "enduring hardness." Shortly after his older brother, Robert, was taken prisoner, (June 16), he wrote his parents a letter of which the following is an extract:

"Dear Mother and Dad – Just a line to let you know that I know Bob is captured, as some of the _____ were, so you can let your mind rest, for more than probable he is one of them. I am going to get over and see his battalion officer as soon as I can and will let you know where he is. Don't worry over him too much. He is safe, at least he is out of the fighting and he won't be killed. I am writing to tell Allie too. I have lots of hope for him myself so don't let a thought enter your mind, but that our Bob is alright. God will look after us and bring us safely home to you. Oh, mother, home has such a sweet, sweet sound to us out here. Don't worry over me for Mr. Maxwell is doing his best to get me on the staff of the Y.M.C.A. with him. For your sake I will take it if I get the chance, but for myself I am not afraid. My leg is still weak, tho I am in good health alright. But you hope for the best, but I know you will bear it the best and feel it the worst."

"Well dear I am sending you a Belgian rose picked on the banks of the _____, keep it for my sake."

"Good-bye for now, lots of love and kisses. From your loving son. FRED."

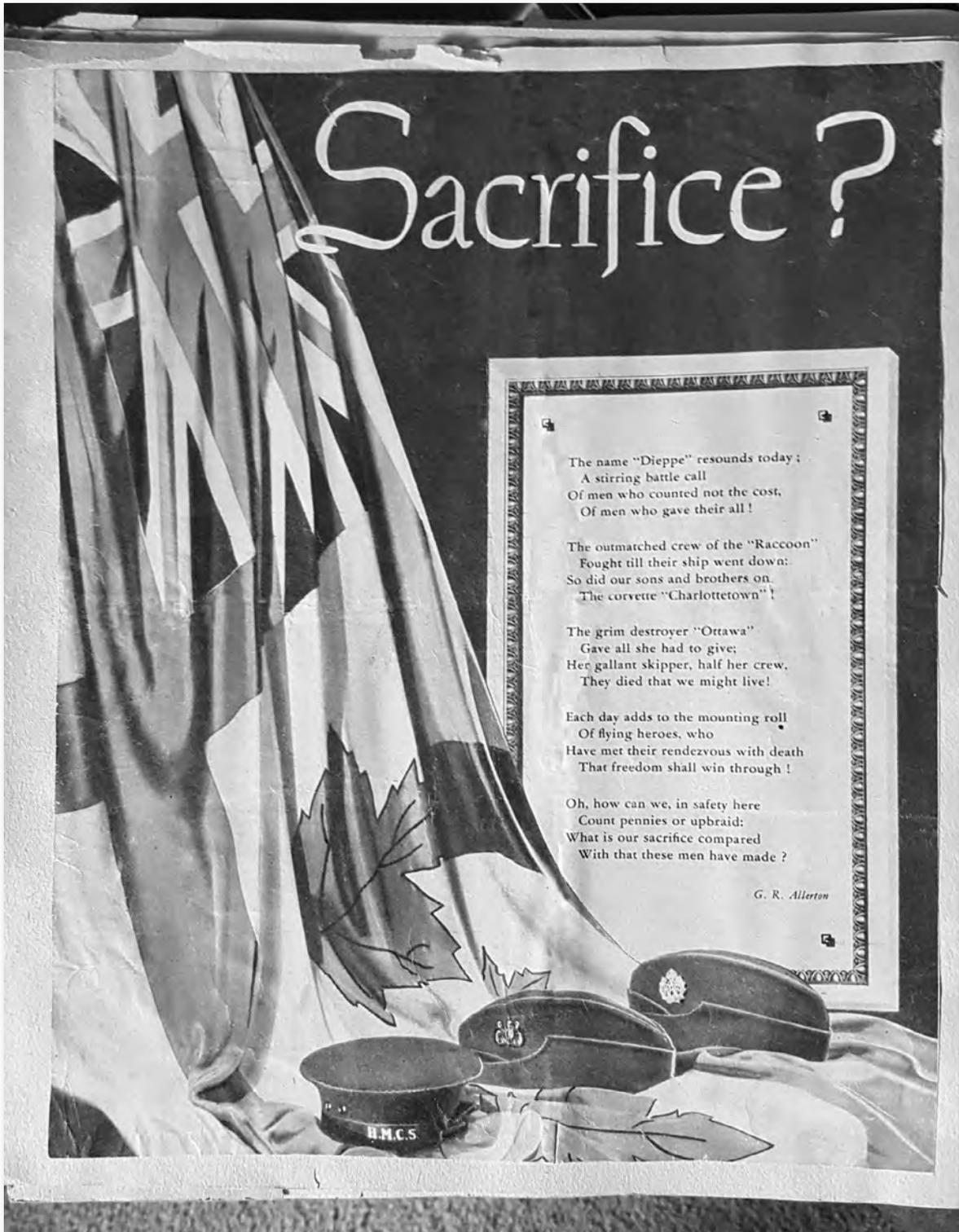
Editor's note:

In Private Storey's letter to his parents there are 2 instances, noted by _____, where the censors of the day eliminated a Battalion name or a location in order to protect the various troop movements.



Poem by G.R. Allerton

The fate of the ships noted in this poem are described on the following page.



continued ...

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continued ...

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HMCS Raccoon



HMCS Charlottetown

HMCS Charlottetown was torpedoed and sunk on 11 September 1942 by the German submarine *U-517* six nautical miles (11 km) off Cap Chat in the St. Lawrence River along the northern shore of the Gaspé Peninsula. She had been returning to base with the minesweeper *HMCS Clayoquot* after escorting convoy SQ-35 and was not zigzagging. She was struck aft by two torpedoes. She went down fast and though most of her crew got off the ship, some died in the water when her depth charges went off as she sank. Her captain, Lieutenant Commander John

W. Bonner, RCNR and eight other crew were killed out of her crew of 64. The survivors were picked up by *Clayoquot*.

HMCS Ottawa, on 14 September 1942, while escorting Convoy ON-127 five hundred nautical miles (930 km) east of St. John's, Newfoundland, Ottawa was torpedoed by *U-91*. Less than 30 minutes later, unable to maneuver, she was hit by a second torpedo. The second attack broke her in half, sinking her. 114 crew lost their lives, including the commanding officer, while 65 survivors were rescued by nearby vessels.



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Missing by Wing Commander G.L. Creed

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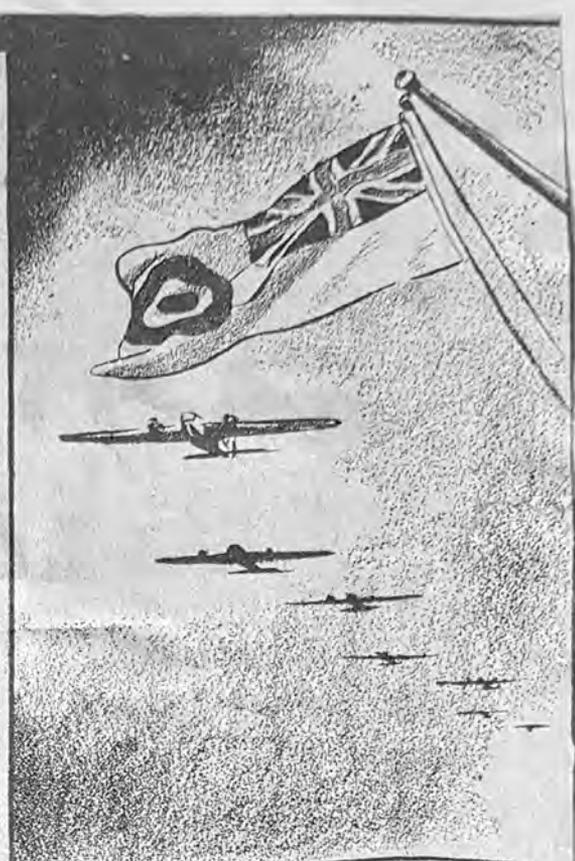
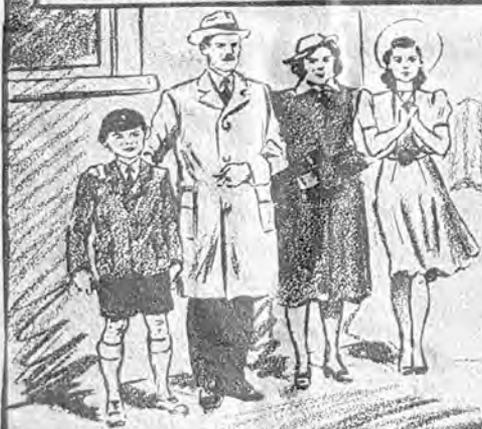
By WING COMMANDER G. L. CREED

Seems but yesterday I watched him,
 Standing at attention there
 As some Brass Hat on his tunic
 Fixed the Wings he'd longed to
 wear...

Seems I still can see him grinning
 In that crooked way of his,
 Saying "Thank you, Sir!"—politely—
 Then, in ecstasy, "Gee whiz!"

Seems but yesterday I heard him
 (On some broadcast overseas)
 "Hello, Dad and Mom!... Don't worry—
 I'm O.K.... Keep smiling, please!...
 Hiya, Sis an' Bud!... and—darling—
 Here's a SPECIAL one for YOU!...
 Keep the letters coming, folks—and
 Cigarettes are welcome, too!"

Seems but yesterday... it's all of
 Four months since that Wings
 parade...
 Nowadays that means a lifetime
 For the young and unafraid...
 Means another sort of lifetime
 For the loved ones left behind
 Who—today—will hear he's missing—
 God have pity on their kind!



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ABELL, George E. “Bud”

RCMP

George was born in 1933 in Moncton, New Brunswick. He was a member of the RCMP serving during peacetime. He retired as a Staff Sergeant. George was a member of the Hants County Legion Branch 9 for 36 years before he passed away in 2014.

*Submitted by the Hants County Branch #009,
The Royal Canadian Legion*

ACKER, Robert W.

WWII

Robert was born in 1925 in Windsor, Nova Scotia. He enlisted in the Army during the Second World War with the RCAMC on February 4, 1944. On his way to training, he came down with Rheumatic fever for which he spent nine months in a Montreal hospital. He was discharged for medical reasons. Robert received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp. He was a member of the Hants County Legion Branch 9 for 43 years before he passed away in 2010.

*Submitted by the Hants County Branch #009,
The Royal Canadian Legion*



ADAMSON, Russell

WWII

Russell was born in 1915 in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. He joined the Merchant Navy in 1940 and signed on with the British Ship S.S. A Leborgne on November 22 of that year as part of a convoy from Sydney, NS. Russell was killed by an enemy air raid on December 21, 1940. He was the only man to be killed from the entire crew. His daughter, Joan Spurr, is a long-time member of Middleton Branch 1 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

*Submitted by Middleton Branch #001,
The Royal Canadian Legion*



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ALLISON, Timothy Enock

WWII

Timothy was born in Windsor, NS in 1926. He served in the Infantry in North West Europe and in Holland during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, War Medal 1939-1945 and the Canadian Forces' Decoration 2. He was a 36-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Timothy passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

AUSTIN, Walter Edward

KOREA

Walter was born in Halifax, NS in 1929. He and twin brother William volunteered and served in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 1953. Walter volunteered for many years with the Legion Poppy Campaign and with the Royal NS International Tattoo. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Vimy Branch. Walter passed away in 2009.

*Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044 in Chester, NS,
The Royal Canadian Legion*



AUSTIN, William John

KOREA

William was born in Halifax, NS in 1929. He and his twin brother Walter volunteered and served in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. William volunteered for many years with the Legion Poppy Campaign and with the Royal NS International Tattoo. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Vimy Branch. William passed away in 2008.

*Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044 in Chester, NS,
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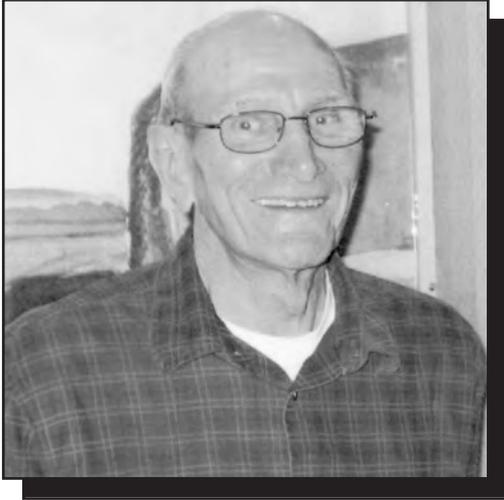
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BAKER, Donald Forbes “Bagsy” “Don” PEACETIME

Don was born on April 28, 1932 in Waterdown, Ontario. His career was filled with adventure as he worked his way through the ranks becoming a Chief Petty Officer Second Class. He served on nine ships over the years such as HMCS Magnificent, HMCS La House, HMCS Lauzon, HMCS Huron, HMCS Cape Scott, HMCS Yukon, HMCS Ottawa, HMCS Margaree and HMCS Annapolis. Don retired from the Navy in 1982 after 33 years with a Canadian Forces’ Decoration 2 Medal. Don passed away on November 13, 2018. He was a twenty-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

BARDWELL, Marcus George

WWI

Marcus was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1882. He enlisted in the Army and served in the 2nd Division Supply Company in Europe during World War I. Marcus was killed in action in 1915 in France and is buried in Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension in Nord, France. He was married to Ethel Bardwell.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



BATES, Adrian Bernard

WWII

Adrian was born in Whitney Pier, Sydney, NS on September 8, 1924. He took his basic training in Petawawa, Ontario where he joined the Army Service Corps. He served in areas such as Canada, England, Holland, Belgium and France. He was involved in the liberation of Holland. He was a fifty-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion East Bay Branch 151. Adrian passed away in 2011.

Submitted by East Bay Branch #151, The Royal Canadian Legion



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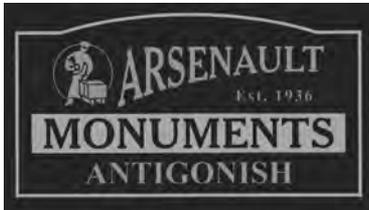
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BIDART, Maurice Rene

WWII

Maurice was born in North Sydney, NS in 1914. He enlisted in the Air Force and served with the RCEME in Canada, England and France during World War II. He received the France and Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. Maurice is a 61-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Sydney Branch 12.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

BLAND, Edward Albert “Ed”

PEACETIME

Ed was born on May 31, 1936 in Toronto, Ontario. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy in September 1953 as an Electrician, then a Radio Tech and last as an Electronic Tech (LT). He sailed on many ships such as the HMCS Restigouche, Cape Breton, HMCS Athabaskan, Fundy and the Liskeard. He was also posted to HMCS Stadacona, CFB Shearwater and Naval Radio Station in Newport. Ed retired from the RCN in 1980 as a PO1 with a Canadian Forces’ Decoration 2. After retiring, he enrolled as a Cadet/Instructor Cadre (CIC) in 1981 as a CPO1 and took his commission and retired in 1991 as LCDR. He was a 41-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9. Ed passed away December 26, 2018.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



BOYD, John Anderson

WWII

John was born on April 30, 1921 in Upper Falmouth, Hants Co, NS. He joined the Army as an Engineer in 1938 until 1941 and during that time he transferred to the Fusiliers. In 1942, John joined the Merchant Marines and while on the Merchant Ship Nelson, the ship was torpedoed. During his time in the Merchant Marines, he travelled the North Atlantic, the Caribbean, the Southern States and Mexico. He received the Atlantic Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, War Medal 1939-1945, Defence Medal and Pacific Star. John was a 28-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion before his passing in 2017.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



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BROWN, Neil

WWI

Neil was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1895, the son of Creighton and Sophia Brown of Windsor, NS. He served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in Europe during World War I. Neil was killed in action in France in 1917 and is buried in Bois-Carre British Cemetery in France.

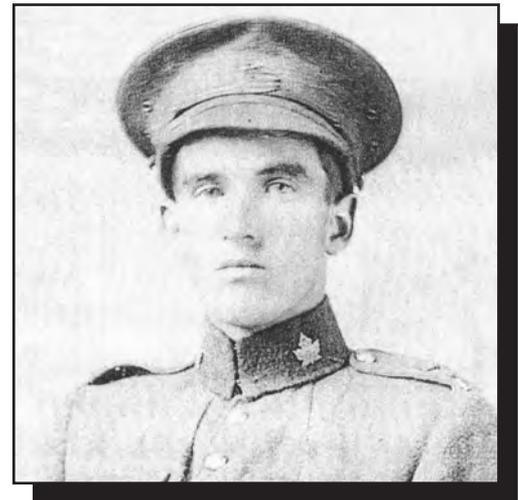
Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

BURNS, Mitchell David

WWI

Mitchell was born in Shinimicas, NS in 1893. He enlisted in the Army in 1916 and served with the 128 Moose Jaw Battalion and was a machine gun instructor with the 46 Battalion. He served in Halifax, NS; Regina, Camp Hughes, England and France. He was killed in action in France in 1917 having served for less than a year.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion



CHASE, Maurice

WWI

Maurice was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1896, son of James and Susan Chase. He enlisted in the Army with the Nova Scotia Regiment and served in Europe with the 25th Battalion during World War I. Maurice was killed in action on June 12, 1918 in France and is buried in Wailly Orchard Cemetery in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



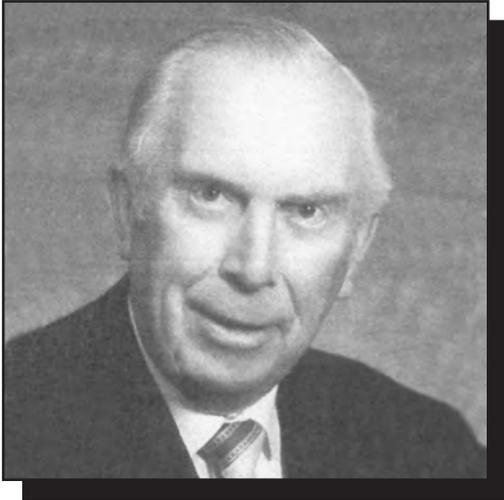
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CHRISTIE, Hugh Ells

WWII

Hugh was born in 1915 in Amherst, NS. He graduated from Cumberland County Academy, attended Kings College, as well as Dalhousie University. He received his degree in 1939. Dr. Christie joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corp in 1941 and served as medical officer with the 3rd Canadian Infantry. He accompanied the assault troops on D-Day in 1944 seeing continuous action in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He was discharged with the rank of Major and returned from Europe in December 1945. He continued on with his medical career and was very active in many other societies and associations. He was a member of Amherst Branch 010 of The Royal Canadian Legion for many years. Dr. Christie passed away on January 8, 2010.

Submitted by Family

CLEVELAND, Frank Scott

WWI

Frank was born in 1894 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1894, son of George and Lilla Cleveland. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in Europe during World War I. Frank was killed in action in 1917 in Belgium and his name is inscribed on the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



CLEVELAND, Percy Roy

WWI

Percy was born in 1897 to Daniel and Alice Cleveland in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS. He enlisted in the Army with the Nova Scotia Regiment and served with the 25th Battalion in Europe during World War I. Percy was killed in action in France in 1918 and is buried in Wailly Orchard Cemetery.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



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CLISH, William Gardner

WWI

William was born in French River, Pictou County, NS on June 11, 1894. He served in England with the 17th Reserve Battalion from June 13, 1918 to July 13, 1919. He never spoke much about the war, only of the terrible mustard gas and of the horses, as eight million horses died in World War I. William passed away on February 18, 1972.

Submitted by Family

COCHRANE, Stuart Percy

WWII

Stuart was born in Scotch Village, Hants Co, NS in 1919. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Postal Corps in the United Kingdom during World War II. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, Defence Medal and War Medal 1939-1945. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 52 years. Stuart passed away in 2016.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



COCHRANE, William C. "Willy"

WWII

Willy was born on September 8, 1923 in Windsor, NS. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy on September 23, 1942 and served out of Halifax. He spent eighteen months on the HMCS Rayon d'Or, a minesweeper, then on the HMCS Stormont, a Frigate, for six months serving in Canadian hostile waters. Willy was discharged as an Ordinary Seaman on October 23, 1945 and received the Atlantic Star, War Medal 1939-1945, Defence Medal and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. He is a Life Member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants County Branch 9 and has been a member for 74 years.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

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COLDWELL, Miriam Jean

PEACETIME

Miriam was born in Saskatoon, SK in 1941. In November 1959, she joined the RCAF and did her basic training in St. Jean, QC and her trades training in Aylmer, ON. Upon finishing trades training she was posted back to St. Jean. In 1962, she was transferred to 4 Wing Baden-Soellingen, Germany. While in Germany she travelled in Germany, England, Scotland, Ireland, Austria and France to name a few. In 1965, she returned to Canada and was transferred to Greenwood from where she took her release. Miriam rejoined the military in 1967 as a Supply Tech at CFB Greenwood. She spent three and a half years as an instructor at CFRS Cornwallis. She spent two years at Shearwater and then went back to Greenwood in 1977. Miriam retired in 1981 and joined the 507 Air Cadet Squadron in Kentville as the Supply Officer. In 1985, she was appointed the Squadron Commanding officer, a position that she held until June 1990. She joined the Air Reserve Unit in Greenwood in 1991 as a Supply Tech, a position she held until retirement in October 1996. She received the Canadian Volunteer Medal, NATO Medal and Canadian Forces' Decoration. Miriam passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

COLDWELL, William Terrance "Terry" PEACETIME

Terry was born January 28, 1932 in Wolfville, NS. He enrolled in the Royal Canadian Navy on July 3, 1956. After basic training in Cornwallis, NS, he was posted to Shearwater for Trade Training Naval Air with Safety System and then later in his career he became a Communication Technician. After his Trades training, Terry did several short tours aboard the HMCS Bonaventure, HMCS Protector, HMCS Preserver and two different US Navy ships. Terry had shore postings to Downsview (Toronto), Cold Lake (Alberta), Ottawa, Greenwood and Shearwater (LFAA). He rose to the rank of CPO1 and then took his commission to LT (N) in 1989. While in Shearwater in 1986, Terry was the driving force in the opening of the first Military Family Resource Center (MFRC). During his time at 14 Wing Greenwood, Terry took courses at Acadia University in religious studies and in 1993 he became an ordained minister. Terry was released from the Armed Forces in October 1992 as a LT (N). He is a 26-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



COLE, Joseph

WWI

Joseph was born in Caledonia, Queen's County, NS in 1881. He joined the Army in Alberta and fought at Vimy Ridge with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Joseph passed away in 1941 at Payzant Memorial Hospital in Windsor, NS and is buried at the Catholic Cemetery in Windsor.

Submitted by Family

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CORMIER, Roy Edward

PEACETIME

Roy was born in Springhill, NS in 1931. He served in both the Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force. He served on the High Seas, in France, New York, Quebec and Chatham. He received the Canadian Forces' Decoration and Clasp, the United Nation Medal and NATO Medal. He is a member of The Royal Canadian Legion in Sydney, NS.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

COTTON, Roger T.

PEACETIME & SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Roger was born in Oshawa, ON in 1965. He joined the Canadian Forces in June 1983 under the Regular Officer Training Program and attended St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish and the Technical University of Nova Scotia (now DalTech) in Halifax, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science. After completing Armour Officer Training, he joined The Royal Canadian Dragoons in Petawawa in 1987. He married Elizabeth Quinn, also from Springhill, that same year. He has held various Regimental command and staff appointments in both tank and reconnaissance environments, culminating with command of the 3rd Battalion The Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group Reconnaissance Squadron during Op PALLADIUM (Bosnia) Roto 8. Other key appointments have included instructional duties at the Canadian Forces Officer Candidate School in Chilliwack, Chief Instructor of the Tactics School in Gagetown and appointments as Directing Staff and member of the Formation Operations Centre of Excellence at the Canadian Army Command and Staff College in Kingston. Formation-level staff appointments have included G3 Plans and G3 Operations of 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in Petawawa, J5 of Joint Task Force Afghanistan Headquarters and J5 then J3 of 1st Canadian Division Headquarters in Kingston. He commanded the Tactics School at the Combat Training Centre in Gagetown from June 2008 until July 2010. He has participated in overseas missions in Cyprus (1989), Bosnia (1995 and 2001), former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2001) and Afghanistan (2010-2011). He completed Command and Staff Course 31 at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto in 2004 where he was awarded a Master's Degree in Defence Studies from the Royal Military College of Canada. He has been awarded the Chief of Defence Staff, Commander Canadian Army and Commander Combined Joint Operations Command Commendations. Colonel Cotton completed Italian language training at the Canadian Forces Language School in Asticou, Que. He was then posted to Rome, Italy as the Defence Attache at the Canadian Embassy. He received the Canadian Forces' Decoration and NATO Medal. Roger passed away in 2019.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion



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CUDMORE, Doris Eleanor

WWII

Doris was born in Glen Haven, NS in 1924. She served with the Canadian Women's Army Corps in Canada during World War II and was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. Doris passed away in 2010.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

DAUPHINEE, James Allison

WWI

James was born in 1893 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS, the son of Freeman and Lavernia Dauphinee. He enlisted in the Army with the Nova Scotia Regiment and served with the 25th Battalion in Europe during World War I. James was killed in action in Vimy, France on August 16, 1917 and his name is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



DEE, Gordon

PEACETIME

Gordon was born in New Glasgow, NS in 1942. He joined the Canadian Army in 1959 and achieved the rank as Warrant Officer. Gordon served with the Royal Canadian Black Watch, the Royal Canadian Regiment and Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry and was in Canada, Germany, Cyprus and Norway. He received the UN Cyprus Medal, NATO Medal, Special Force Medal and the Canadian Decoration Medal. After retiring from the Armed Forces, Gordon returned to Pictou County where he was employed with Michelin Tire. He was a member of Westville Branch 035 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Gordon passed away in 2019.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion





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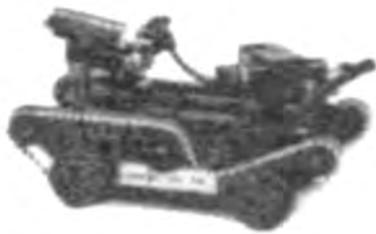
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DRAGAN, D. Barrie

PEACETIME

Barrie was born in Vancouver, BC in 1931. Barrie joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1949 and received his Pilot Officer's commission from King George VI in 1950. Promoted to Flight Lieutenant Navigator, Barrie flew many missions to map the Canadian Arctic. He had many postings across the country, ultimately landing in Greenwood, NS, where he continued to share his love of flying as an instructor at the Greenwood Flying Club. He received the Canadian Volunteer Medal. He continued to be an active member of the military community following his retirement, as both a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 1 and several Air Crew Associations. He passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

EWING, Amos Milton "Bud"

WWII

Amos was born in Millville, NS in August 17, 1925. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in June 1943 and after a posting to Lachine, Quebec, he was posted to 10 B&G in Mount Pleasant, PEI. Leaving there, he went overseas in September 1944. In England, he was posted to a Hospital Unit attached to the Queen Victoria Hospital where plastic surgery was performed. When the hospital closed, he was posted to Topcliffe, a repatriation depot for the troops returning from the Continent. He returned to Canada and took his discharge in 1946. He joined Ortona Branch 069 of The Royal Canadian Legion where he has held many offices including two terms as President and nine years as Chaplain and is a Life Member. He is a recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Palm Leaf, and the Queen's Jubilee Medal. He now resides in Waterville, NS with his wife of more than 65 years.

Submitted by Ortona Branch #069, The Royal Canadian Legion



FARGUHAR, Donald "Don"

WWII

Don was born on August 31, 1919, in Cereal, Alberta. He joined the Merchant Navy in 1939 until 1942 then he transferred to the RCN until December 30, 1945 and discharged as a Seaman. He served in the CSS Hudson, CSS Baffin and CSS MacDonald travelling to Australia, South America, the Arctic and England. Don circumnavigated the North American continent getting stuck in the ice for more than a week before being rescued. Don received the 1939-1945 War Medal and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He was a 27-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Don passed away on December 27, 2017.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

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FARRELL, Michael Joseph “Mike”

WWII

Mike was born in Glace Bay, NS in 1925. He served overseas with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders during World War II. He landed in England then fought across France and Belgium into Germany. In March 1945, Mike was shot in the back of the head by a sniper bullet. His fellow soldier loaded him in a wheelbarrow and got him to the nearest aid station. He was patched up and sent to England where he woke six weeks later unable to walk, read or write. Doctors told him he was partially paralyzed and may never regain the use of his legs, but with sheer determination and a healthy stubbornness, he endured the pain and forced his body to relearn all it had lost. He remained partially paralyzed on the right side of his body, but he never let that stop him from doing anything. Mike passed away in 2012.

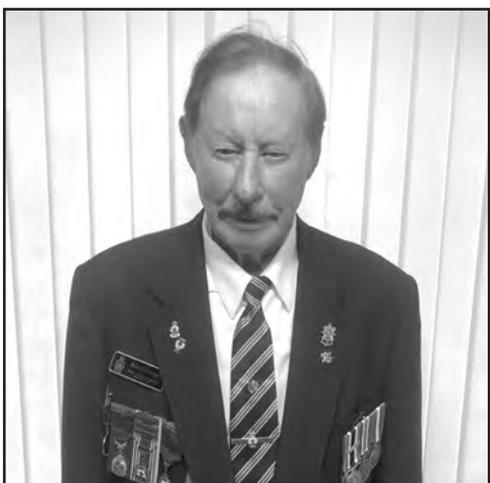
Submitted by East Bay Branch #151, The Royal Canadian Legion

FOGARTY, Harry Philip

WWII

Harry was born in Windsor, NS in 1929. He served in the Merchant Navy during World War II. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, 1939-1945 War Medal and the Defence Medal. Harry was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for four years before his passing in 2016.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



GEORGE, Kenneth Charles

PEACETIME

George was born in New Victoria, NS in 1934. He served during Peacetime with the Black Watch, Royal Highland Regiment in Canada, Germany and Cyprus. James is a twelve-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

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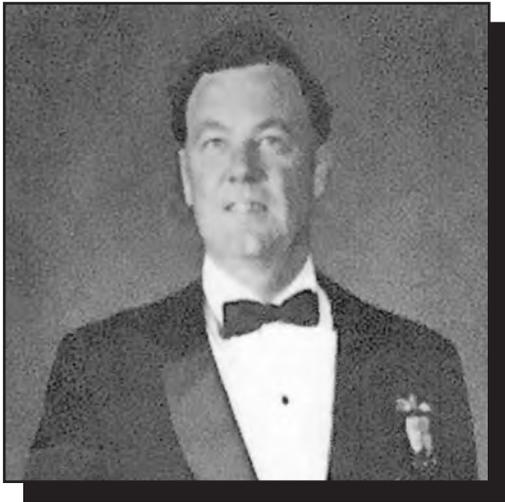
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GILLIS, Colin Robert

PEACETIME

Colin was born in Truro, NS on August 3, 1936. In September 1954, at the age of eighteen, he enrolled in the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps where he served as a Supply and Transport Officer until September 1958. In May 1959, Colin began initial training as a Helicopter Pilot at the United States Army Primary Helicopter Course at Fort Ruckers, Alabama. Following a one-year attachment to the 64th Transportation Company in Fort Knox, Kentucky flying H34 Helicopters, Colin returned to Canadian Army ground duty in Camp, Borden, ON. He then completed fixed wing conversion training on L19 aircraft in Rivers, MB, followed by duty as a Peacekeeper in the United Nations Emergency Force in Egypt until 1964. After Egypt, Colin returned to the newly formed No. 1 Transport Helicopter Platoon and was posted to Shearwater as a Utility Pilot. He then deployed to the HMCS Protector for several exercises in the North Atlantic and in San Juan, Puerto Rico, ending in March 1969. In 1970, he was posted as a primary Helicopter instructor in CFB Portage la Prairie, MB. He served as a helicopter, standards officer and standards flight commander on C112's and CH136'S. Colin achieved over 1000 accident-free instructional hours until posted to CFB Gagetown as Base Flight Safety Officer in 1974. He was posted to the 103 Rescue Unit in Gander, NL in 1977 and promoted to the rank of Major. He served as Deputy Commanding Officer and as Commanding Officer of the 103 Rescue Unit until 1981 when he was then posted as Commanding Officer, Rescue Coordination Center, Maritime Command. He retired from the Canadian Forces in 1982. He was a 29-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9. Colin passed away April 15, 2019 at the age of 82.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

GILLIS, Daniel J.

WWII

Daniel was born in Sydney Mines, NS. He served with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment in the United Kingdom and Continental Europe during World War II. Daniel was killed in action in the Netherlands in 1944.

Submitted by Family



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**GLANCY, Michael****PEACETIME**

Michael was born in London, England in 1932. He enlisted in the Royal Navy and served in the British Home Fleet, Mediterranean and West Indies during Peacetime. He was a 31-year member of Hants County Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Michael passed away in 2013.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

GODDARD, Kevin Christopher**PEACETIME**

Kevin was born in 1948 in Birmingham, England. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy in August 1966 and took basic training in Cornwallis. He served in VS 880 Squadron on HMCS Shearwater and HMCS Bonaventure in Canada and on the High Seas during Peacetime. He was honourably discharged in October 1974. Kevin is a thirteen-year member of Ortona Branch 69 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Ortona Branch #069, The Royal Canadian Legion

**GRAVES, Charles Everett****WWI**

Charles was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1885, son of William and Edith Graves. He enlisted in the Army with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and served with the 17th Reserve Battalion in Europe World War I. Charles was killed in action in 1919 in France and is buried in Bramshott St. Mary Churchyard Cemetery in the United Kingdom.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



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**HARDACKER, William Everett****WWI**

William was born in Cambridge, Hants County, NS on March 2, 1898. He enlisted in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force in Wolfville, NS on March 20, 1916. During the spring offensive of 1918, William, as a member of the famed 85th Battalion Nova Scotia Regiment, was part of the advancing divisions from France, Canada, Australia and England under command of Sir Douglas Haig. In front of Rosières, France on August 10, he was wounded in the head by shrapnel. His injuries were tended to and he was evacuated to No. 5 General Hospital in Rouen, France where he passed away two days later on August 12 at the age of twenty. He is buried in the St. Sever Cemetery Extension, France. He would have been awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

Submitted Independently

HATT, Creighton Wellington**WWI**

Creighton was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1889, son of Martin and Ada Hatt. He enlisted in the Army with the Nova Scotia Regiment and served in Europe with the 25th Battalion C Company during World War I. Creighton was killed in action in 1917 in Belgium and is buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

**HAWKENS, Fred****WWII & PEACETIME**

Fred was born in Springhill, NS in 1922. He served with the Dental Corps in Halifax, Toronto and Yarmouth. He is a member of The Royal Canadian Legion in New Glasgow.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion



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HENDERSON, Eugene E. “Cliff”

WWII

Cliff was born in New Ross, NS in 1922. He served with the Lanark Renfrew Scottish Regiment in Italy and in Canada during World War II. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, War Medal 1939-1945 and the Italy Star. He was a 28-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Cliff passed away in 2015.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

HILCHIE, Frank G.

WWI

Frank was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1890, son of Captain George A. and Sarah Hilchie. He enlisted in the Army and served in Europe during World War I. Frank was killed in action in Somme, France in 1917.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



**KELLEY, Glendon “Glen” SPECIAL DUTY AREA
& PEACETIME**

Glen was born in 1937 in Berwick, Kings County, NS. Glen enlisted in the RCAF as a pilot in 1955 and served his country for 36 years. He did tours as a flight instructor, where he attained the highest category possible, tours at 426 Squadron (on North Star Aircraft), where he participated in United Nations operations in Africa, both in Gaza and the Belgian Congo, Central Experimental and Proving Establishment and a secondment from the Air Force to the Flight Research Center at the National Aeronautical Establishment, both the latter postings involving the flight testing of aircraft and aircraft components. After turning down offers for employment in the civilian sector, he was then posted to 436 Squadron on C-130's in Ottawa. He was then subsequently selected for an exchange position on C-130's with the United States Air Force at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina achieving the rare distinction for a Canadian of being qualified as a Berlin Corridor check pilot. He also participated in three overseas deployments with the USAF. On return to Canada he completed a tour at the Recruiting Center in Halifax before being posted to 405 Squadron in Greenwood on Argus aircraft. After conversion to the Aurora, he completed his regular force career in 1984 at Maritime Proving and Evaluation Unit in Greenwood as the Unit Operations Officer. Glen received the Canadian Volunteer Medal and NATO Medal. He was then employed in the Reserves as a Flight Commander of the Reserve Unit at Greenwood and later as an Air Cadet Liaison Officer and as the Regional Cadet Air Operations Officer for the Atlantic region, retiring for good in 1991. Glen passed away in 2019.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

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KEOUGH, Andrew Patrick "Buddy"

WWII

Buddy was born Sydney, Cape Breton, NS on October 11, 1923. He joined the Military at the age of eighteen. He was sent overseas and served in England, France, Italy, Belgium and Holland. Buddy survived World War II and returned home, married Evelyn Gadd (New Waterford), and had four children: Melvin, Bobby, Glenn and Karen (MacDonald). He worked for 43 years at Sydney Steel and is a fifty plus year member of Branch 128 Sydney of The Royal Canadian Legion. Buddy is now living at Taigh Na Mara Veterans home in Glace Bay.

Submitted by Ashby Branch #138, The Royal Canadian Legion & Family

KEOUGH, Daniel Francis SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Daniel was born in Whitney Pier, Sydney, NS in 1931. He joined the Army and served with the 3rd Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Canada. Daniel is a 37-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion



LANDRY, Clarence Bernard

WWII

Clarence was born in 1924 and raised in Whitney Pier, Sydney, NS. He joined the Navy at age eighteen and did duty on the Levis II. He served in Canada and on the High Seas to Europe during World War II. He served until 1945 and returned back to Sydney and married his sweetheart, Charlotte Orychock. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion East Bay Branch 151 for over thirty years. Clarence passed away in 2012.

*Submitted by East Bay Branch #151,
The Royal Canadian Legion & Family*



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LANTZ, Rodney Harrington

WWI

Rodney was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1897, the son of Freeman and Grace. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Eastern Ontario Regiment, 2nd Battalion in Europe. He was killed in action in France in 1918. His name is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

MacDONALD, Bruce

**SPECIAL DUTY AREA
& PEACETIME**

Bruce was born in Glace Bay, NS in 1943. He joined the Air Force and served in Logistics in Canada, France, Germany, Egypt and the United States. Bruce is a 44-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Louisbourg Branch 62.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

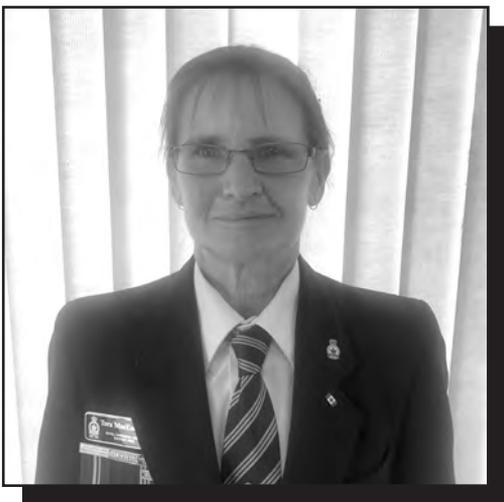


MacEACHERN, Tara

SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Tara was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick in 1963. She enlisted in the Army and served with the 45 Field Squadron Engineers in Canada. She is a nine-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion



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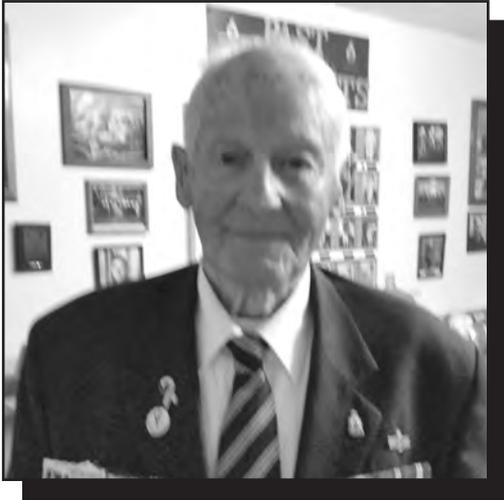
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MacKINNON, Martin Alexander

WWII

Martin was born in Boisdale, NS in 1926. He enlisted in the Merchant Navy and served during World War II on the North Atlantic. Martin is a 26-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

MacLENNAN, Stephen Ward SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Stephen was born in Sydney, NS in 1965. He served with the 14 Wing Greenwood, 4 Wing Cold Lake, 2nd Service Battalion and 2GS Battalion Petawawa in Canada, Golan Heights, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey. He received the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Yugoslavia and Bar, Golden Heights, Peacekeeper, Special Service Medal – Humanitarian and CDS Accommodation – Life Saving. He is a six-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

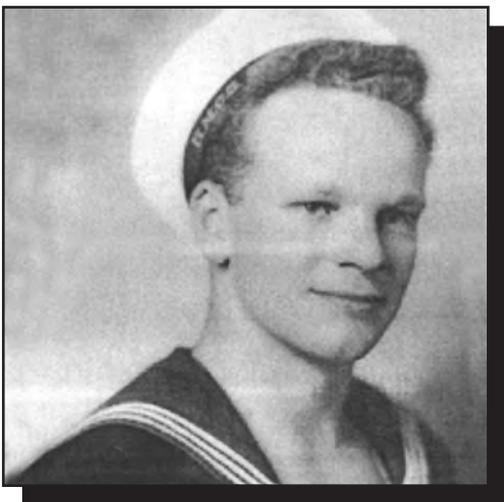


MacNABB, Bruce William

PEACETIME

Bruce was born in Pictou, NS in 1930. He enrolled in the Navy and served with a maintenance crew for Sea King Helicopters on the High Seas and in Scotland. He received the Canadian Volunteer Medal and Canadian Forces' Decoration. Bruce passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion.



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MacNEIL, Beverley Elaine SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Beverley was born in Germany in 1962. She served in the Army at the Cape Breton District Headquarters in Canada. Beverley is a ten-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

MacRAE, Roderick MacKenzie “Rory” WWII

Rory was born in Sugarloaf, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia on March 19, 1927. He left Sugarloaf at the age of sixteen to sign on to a merchant ship in Halifax. He sailed on several of the Canadian “Park Ships” as well as an American Liberty ship during his service in the Merchant Navy, including throughout World War II. He retired from the sailor’s life in 1946, returning to Sugarloaf, where he worked for National Gypsum in Dingwall, following which he moved to Montreal in 1949 and worked for Dominion Engineering. In 1952, he returned to Cape Breton, settled in Sydney and began his career in the local automotive industry. Rory was very active as a volunteer during his retirement and supported many causes which had been important to him and his family over the years. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion, Ashby Branch 138, the Cape Breton Naval Veterans, Sydney Lions Club, CNIB and CCB and he was a common sight around Sydney every year on the Salvation Army Kettle campaign. Rory passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Ashby Branch #138, The Royal Canadian Legion



MANNING, Philip William WWI

Philip was born in Chester, Lunenburg Co, Nova Scotia in 1897, the son of Leader and Florence Meisner. He enlisted in the Army and served in Europe with the Manitoba Regiment 85th Battalion. Philip was killed in action in France in 1917. His name is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MARTIN, Jean Elizabeth WWII & PEACETIME

Jean was born in Tummel, Manitoba in 1918. She enlisted on February 5, 1942 and worked as a cook in Borden, ON, and Patricia Bay, BC. She did her basic training in Trenton, ON. She completed her culinary training at the RCAF School of Cookery, No.4 Wireless School in Guelph, ON and was posted to Camp Borden where she eventually ran the officers' mess. Towards the end of her military career she was posted to Patricia Bay. She received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and the War Medal 1939-1945. Jean was discharged on December 5, 1945.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

MARTIN, Peter David SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Peter was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1959. He joined the Canadian Forces in September 1983 and was posted to HMCS Huron in 1984. He served on HMCS Protector in January 1991 during the Gulf War. He sailed on HMCS Charlottetown from January to July 2001 and from October 2001 to March 2002 on HMCS Preserver in the Persian Gulf. He sailed on AOR, 280 and CPF class ships throughout his career. Peter retired in 2009. For his service, he was awarded the Gulf/Kuwait Medal with Bar, SWASM with Bar, Special Service Medal with NATO Bar, Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal and Canadian Forces' Decoration. He is a sixteen-year member of Ortona Branch 69 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Ortona Branch #069, The Royal Canadian Legion



MARTIN, Ralph Charles Edward WWII

Ralph was born in Saint John, New Brunswick on the July 14, 1921, to parents Charles Stanley Martin and Asta E. May Larsen. He enlisted in the Canadian Army on the September 3, 1939 serving with the Saint John Fusiliers of Saint John, NB. He served overseas in Aldershot, England as a dispatch driver where he was injured in a motorcycle accident while on duty. His War Department Driving Permit (1944-45) states that Pte. Martin was five feet ten inches tall, weighed 186 pounds with brown hair and eyes and was licensed to drive vehicles in Groups I, III, and IV. His service to Canada concluded at the end of World War II in 1945. Ralph was a proud member of Breton Branch 8 of The Royal Canadian Legion in Sydney Mines. He passed away in 2000.

Submitted Independently





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**McCULLY, Gordon Lewis****WWII
& SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Gordon was born in 1920 in Nova Scotia. He enlisted in the Air Force and served during World War II from 1939 to 1945 in England and India with Bomber Command as a Wireless Operator and Air Gunner. In 1950, he re-enlisted with the RCAF until his retirement in 1970. He received the War Medal, England Medal, India Medal and NATO Medal. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Debert Branch 106. Gordon passed away on November 27, 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

McKINNON, John Francis**WWII & PEACETIME**

John was born in Wallace Station, Nova Scotia in 1918. He enlisted in the Army and served with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders overseas during World War II and in Egypt and Cyprus after the war. He received the NATO Medal, WWII Medal, France and Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He was a member of Peace Branch 060 of The Royal Canadian Legion. John passed away in 1997.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

**McLEAN, Malcolm Robert “Mickey”****SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Mickey was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1935. He enlisted in the Army and served with Royal Scots, Black Watch, West Nova Scotia Regiment. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, United Nations and NATO Medal. Mickey passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MEISNER, Harris Bent

WWI

Harris was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1897, the son of Arthur and Martha Meisner. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Nova Scotia Regiment, 25th Battalion in Europe during World War I. Harris was killed in action in 1917 in France and is buried in Tranchee de Mecknes Cemetery.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

METCALFE, Betty Adola

WWII

Betty was born in Newfoundland in 1920. She served in Canada with the Canadian Women's Army Corps during World War II. She is a fifty-year member of Ashby Branch 138 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Ashby Branch #138, The Royal Canadian Legion



MILES, Arthur Kingsman

WWI

Arthur was born in October 1896 in Wallbrook, Kings County, NS. He enlisted into the 25th Nova Scotia Regiment as reinforcements to the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force in June 1918. After completing training in Canada, he sailed overseas and served in Britain and France. Arthur returned to Canada and was discharged in July 1919. He was awarded the British War Medal. He and his wife Winnifred raised five sons and six daughters; all five of the boys served like their dad for an accumulated time of seventy-five plus years of service to Canada. Arthur passed away in February 1986.

Submitted by Family

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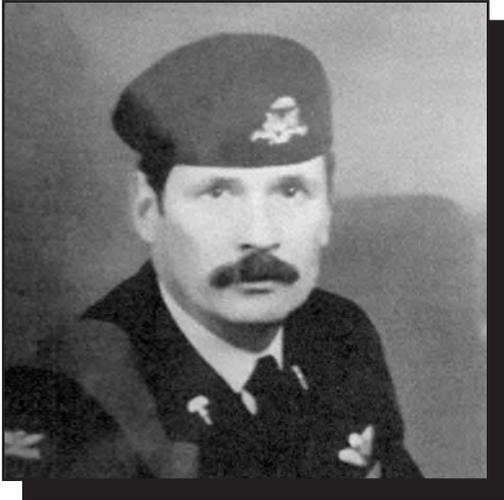
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MILES, Donn Ray **SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Donn was born in Wolfville, NS in 1945, the fifth son of Arthur and Winnie Miles. He served with the West Nova Scotia Regiment from 1962 to 1964 and joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in 1965. Donn completed the Army Jump course in 1965 and was awarded Para Wings and posted to "A" Coy 2 PPCLI. He was posted to North West Europe in 1966, returning to Canada in 1970 and completed many courses. He served with the 2nd and 3rd Battalions and the Canadian Airborne Regiment as well as postings to CTC Gagetown and RRMC Victoria. He completed three tours in Cyprus. In 1993, he moved back to West NSR and then to Cadet Cadre Staff, retiring in 2010. He was awarded the Special Service Medal (NATO Bar), Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal, Cyprus #3 and Canadian Forces' Decoration 3. Donn now resides in Black River, NS and had been a member of The Royal Canadian Legion for 35 years. He is presently a member of Dr. C. B. Lumsden Branch 074.

Submitted by Family

MILES, Earl Kinsman

WWII

Earl was born in Wolfville, NS in 1925, the second son of Arthur and Winnie Miles. He served with #36 REECE Squadron, RC Armoured Corps from 1943 to 1945. He was employed as a driver of brengun carrier. He often times spoke of his time in uniform and carried his military driver license in his wallet all of his life, and reminisced about the love of driving the carriers. Earl passed away in 2008.

Submitted by Family



MILES, Malcome Leslie "Mack" **SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Mack was born in Wolfville, NS in 1943, the fourth son of Arthur and Winnie Miles. He served with the West Nova Scotia Regiment from 1960 to 1964 and joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in 1965 serving in the 2nd and 1st Battalion in Edmonton and Calgary. Mack completed the Army jump course in 1965 and was awarded his Para Wings and Cross, posting to "A" Jump Coy 2PPCLI. He was medically released in 1970 because of feet problems. Mack now resides in Black River, NS and is an active member of Dr. C. B. Lumsden Branch 074 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

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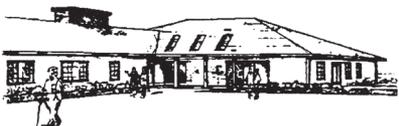
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MILES, Paul Basil

SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Paul was born in Wolfville, NS in 1931, the third son of Arthur and Winnie Miles. He served with the 146th Anti-Tank Battery of the RC Artillery. He attended several courses in various camps/bases across Canada. At the beginning of the Korean War, he tried to enlist for overseas duty; however married men were not being accepted at that time. Paul sometimes spoke of his experiences and how he enjoyed the comradeship. Paul passed away in 2012.

Submitted by Family

MILES, Roy Arthur

**WWII
& SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Roy was born in Wolfville, NS in 1924 to parents Arthur and Winnie Miles. He volunteered to serve in 1941 and spent time with both RC Engineers, RC Signals attached to RC Armour Corps and with West NS Regiment after the war. He volunteered to serve in Canadian Army Pacific Force established in 1944-1945 in anticipation of action against Japan, however this did not occur because of the atomic bombs. He remained in Germany at the end of World War II as part of the occupation force. Roy was awarded the 1939-1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-1945 and Canadian Forces' Decoration. He was a member of Kentville Branch 006 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Roy passed away in 2001.

Submitted by Family



MOORE, Henry C. "Neil"

KOREA

Neil was born on August 17, 1934 in Chatham, New Brunswick. He served with the North Shore Regiment then joined the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps from 1951 until 1989. Neil served in Korea, did three tours with NATO in Germany, and served at Fort Churchill in Manitoba. Neil received the Order of Military Merit Medal (MMM), Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (Korea), Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal (Korea), Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal and the Canadian Forces Decoration Medal with 2 Bars. Neil was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion for over thirty years with Hants Co. Branch 009 serving as President on four occasions and as Honourary President for four years. He was awarded the MSM and Life Membership. Neil passed away on February 16, 2014.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion





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**MORASH, Arden Ennes****WWI**

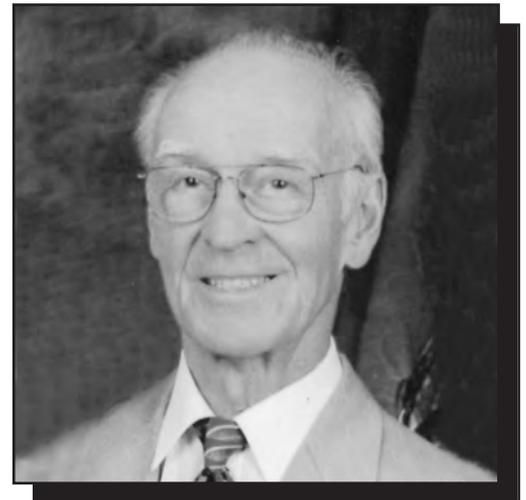
Arden was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1889, the son of Joseph and Jane Morash. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Nova Scotia Regiment, 25th Battalion in Europe during World War I. Arden was killed in action in 1917 in France and his name is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

MULHALL, William Frederick "Bill"**WWII**

Bill was born in Liverpool, NS in 1923. He enlisted in the Air Force and served with the CIC in Canada during World War II. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for seventy years. Bill passed away in 2015.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

**MUNROE, Cecil Herman****WWII**

Cecil was born in Milton, NS in 1918. He served with the Cape Breton Highlanders in Canada and in Italy during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, Italy Star and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for thirty years. Cecil passed away in 2012.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MURPHY, Timothy Richard

WWI

Timothy was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1892, son of Richard and Cecilia Murphy. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Nova Scotia Regiment, 25th Battalion in Europe. Timothy was killed in action in 1917 and is buried in Ecoivres Military Cemetery in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

NAUSS, Clyde Welslie

WWI

Clyde was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1897, the son of George and Olive Nauss. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in Europe during World War I. Clyde was killed in action in 1917 in Europe and is buried in Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

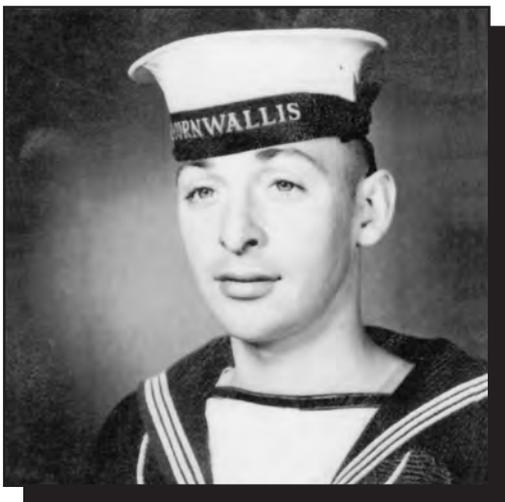


NEWLAND, Leonard C. "Lenny"

PEACETIME

Lenny was born on May 7, 1928 in Preston, Ontario. He spent over eight years in the Army Reserves in Hamilton, Ontario releasing as the Rank of Sgt. Before joining the Navy, Lenny had a civilian trade of Pattern Maker using wood and metal. On March 21, 1951, he joined the RCN as a Hull Tech/ Shipwright. While he was in the Navy, he took his grade 12. Lenny sailed on many ships such as HMCS Quebec, HMCS Ottawa, HMCS Labrador, HMCS Cape Scott and the HMCS Protecteur. He retired in December 1975 with the rank of CPO1. He is a 31-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9.

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**PALMER, Charles Edward****WWII**

Charles was born in Sydney, NS in 1921. He served in the Air Force in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany during World War II. He is a 21-year member of Ashby Branch 138 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Ashby Branch #138, The Royal Canadian Legion

PARKER, Herbert W. "Herb"**SPECIAL DUTY AREA**

Herb was born in Georgetown, PEI in 1927. He served as a Navigator on Lancaster Bombers, Neptune and Argus Aircrafts in Greenwood, Summerside, Halifax and Ottawa with the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. Herb passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

**PEACH, Rexford C. "Rex"****WWII**

Rex was born in 1929 in Hantsport, NS. He enlisted in the Navy and served as a ship's cook in Canada and on the North Atlantic. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 61 years. Rex passed away in 2013.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



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PINKERTON, William "Bill"

WWII

Bill was born in Dungannon, Northern Ireland in 1923. He enlisted in the Navy and served during World War II in the South Pacific, Europe and Far East on HMCS Ontario. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, Defence Medal and War Medal 1939-1945. He was a 27-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion prior to his passing in 2011.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

PORTER, Irvin Howard

WWII

Irvin was born in Hortonville, Kings County, NS in 1926. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and served with the 162nd Regiment in Canada and in Iceland. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. He was a 52-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Irvin passed away in 2016.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



PORTER, Reginald F.

KOREA

Reginald was born in Center Burlington, Hants County, NS in 1929. He enlisted in the Army and served with the RCASC in Canada, Far East and Korea. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (Korea), United Nations Service Medal (Korea) and Korea Medal. He was a seventeen-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Reginald passed away in 2011.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion





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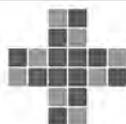
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**PULSIFER, William Raymond****WWI**

William was born in Robinson's Corner, Lunenburg County, NS in 1892, son of Hibbert and Minnie Pulsifer. He enlisted in the Canadian Infantry Manitoba Regiment 85th Battalion in Europe. William was killed in action in the Battle of Vimy Ridge in France in 1917. He is buried in La Chaudiere Military Cemetery in France.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

RAFUSE, Edward Murray**WWI**

Edward was born in 1894 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS, son of John and Mary Rafuse. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Nova Scotia Regiment, 25th Battalion in Europe during World War I. Edward was killed in action in 1917 in France and is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

**RAMFPERGER, Arthur****KOREA**

Arthur was born in Toronto, Ontario in 1946. He served in the Canadian Infantry in Canada, Holland, Belgium and France. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, NATO Medal and the French Medal. Arthur is a member of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion



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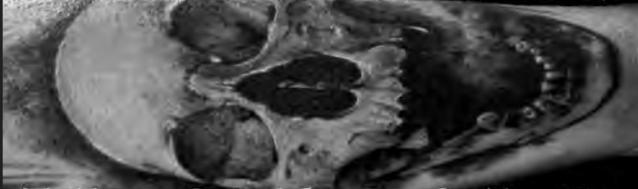


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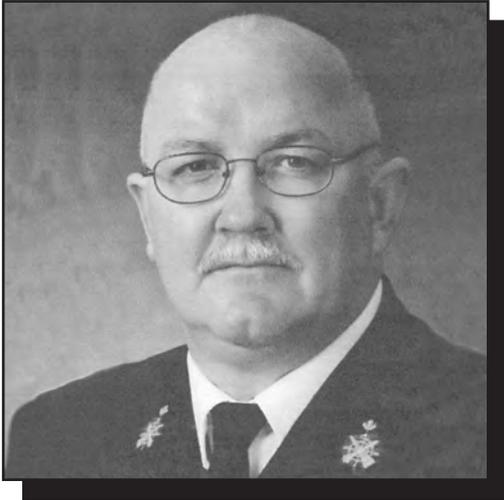
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RIGBY, Peter Alexander **SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME**

Peter was born in New Waterford, NS in 1961. He joined the Canadian Forces in July 1983 and was posted to HMCS Athabaskan in 1984. He served in numerous NATO missions and exercises. He was member of a crew that deployed to the Persian Gulf in August 1990; returning in April 1991. He was posted to HMCS Iroquois during NATO/UN operations in the Adriatic Sea in support of operations during Yugoslavia Civil war. He was deployed again for Operations in Persian Gulf Region during OP APOLLO from February to August 2003. He was posted to HMCS Athabaskan for operations in the Caribbean for OP CARABE. Peter retired in March 2016. He received the Gulf Kuwait with Bar, South West Asia Service with Bar, Operation Service Medal – Expedition, the Special Service Medal, NATO Bar, Canadian Peacekeeping, Medal for Yugoslavia and Canadian Forces’ Decoration 2nd Clasp. He is a four-year member of Ortona Branch 69 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Submitted by Veteran

ROBARTS, Reginald C. “Reg”

WWII

Reg was born in Windsor, NS in 1928. He served in the Infantry, 36 Reconnaissance Regiment, 47 Anti-Tank Regiment in Canada during World War II. He received the Canadian Forces’ Decoration. He was a 52-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Reg passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



SCOTT, Colin

KOREA

Colin was born in Dungannon, Northern Ireland in 1930. He served with the Royal Canadian Dragoons, Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps in Canada, Far East and Korea. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (Korea), United Nations Service Medal, Korea Medal and Canadian Peacekeepers Service Medal. He was a 52-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Colin passed away in 2012.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

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SEARY, James Ellis

WWII

James was born in Windsor, NS on January 11, 1920. In 1940 he tried to join the Royal Canadian Navy but was rejected for being underweight at 135 pounds. In June 1941 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force at the age of 21. Ellis (Jim as he was called during the war period) along with 150 other recruits, spent his early days in the Air Force in a Precision Drill Squad.

In fall 1941, he went to Initial Training School (ITS), in Toronto where Air Craftsman II (ACII) Seary took an intensive six-week ground school course, studying such things as meteorology, aircraft recognition and the theory of flight. On finishing this course he attained the rank of leading Air Craftsman (LAC) and went on to Elementary Flying Training School (EFTS) in Oshawa, ON, followed by Service Flying Training School (SFTS) in Hagersville, ON. After completing these courses, he earned his pilot wings and the rank of Sergeant.

Jim was posted to Nassau where he flew new Douglas Dakota airplanes as a co-pilot to the RAF who was fighting in North Africa. This flight route took five days to complete. Then the flight crew were flown back to Nassau as passengers in a converted Bomber. After three trips ferrying planes across the South Atlantic, Sergeant Seary returned to North Bay where he was commissioned as an officer and received the rank of Pilot Officer.

In spring 1943, P/O Seary flew a Dakota from Scotland to the Cotswolds in England, where he underwent training in dropping paratroopers and towing gliders and was assigned to the 437 Squadron. (He flew a couple of missions termed 'Leaflet Raids' to drop propaganda leaflets behind enemy lines in France). Jim dropped Paratroopers the night before D-Day near the French city of Caen and in the days immediately following D-Day, he and his crew made several trips to Normandy to transport wounded back to England.

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In spring 1945, he successfully towed a glider from England over Holland to cross the Rhine River, with dangerously overheated engines, using a thousand gallons of gas and returned safely to England. It was for this mission that he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). With the war almost over F/O Seary spent some of the remaining days flying liberated Prisoners of War back to England. At this time he came across his best friend from his hometown, Jack Morison. Jack had spent three years as a POW and weighed less than 100 pounds when Jim saw him again. He later discovered after the fact he had been promoted to Flight Lieutenant which is the rank he left the Air Force in 1945.

Jim received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the 1939-1945 Star, the Atlantic Star with the France and Germany Bar, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and the War Medal 1939-1945. He was member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 009 in Windsor for 64 years. Jim passed away on November 13, 2013 at Camp Hill Veterans Memorial in Halifax.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

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**SHAY, George****WWII**

George was born in Wentworth, NS in 1918. He served with the North Shore Regiment in Canada, France, England and Germany during World War II. For his service, he received the 1939-1945 Star, France and Germany Star and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 45 years. George passed away in 2008.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

SHEPARD, Percy Vincent**WWII**

Percy was born in Sydney, NS on September 20, 1927. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Canadian Artillery in Canada during World War II. Percy is a 71-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Louisbourg Branch 62.

Submitted by Whitney Pier Branch #128, The Royal Canadian Legion

**SMITH, Garwin P.****WWII**

Garwin was born in Windsor, NS in 1921. He served in the Royal Canadian Air Force as a Leading Aircraftman in Canada during World War II. For his service, he was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and the 1939-1945 War Medal. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 52 years. Garwin passed away in 2005.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion





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SMITH, Guy M.

WWII

Guy was born in Windsor, NS in 1922. He enlisted in the Army and served with the No. 6 D.D. Halifax in Canada during World War II. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He was a 35-year member of the Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Guy passed away in 2012.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

SMITH, Malcolm

WWI

Malcolm was born in 1897 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS, son of Edward and Annie Smith. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Western Ontario Regiment, 18th Battalion in Europe during World War I. Malcolm was killed in action on January 21, 1916 in Belgium and is buried in Ridgewood Military Cemetery.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion



SMITH, Olden Andrew

WWII

Olden was born in Campbellton, New Brunswick in 1910. He served during World War II with the New Brunswick Rangers in the United Kingdom and Continental Europe. He was a charter member of Whycomagh Branch 123 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 41 years. Olden passed away in 1988.

Submitted by Family



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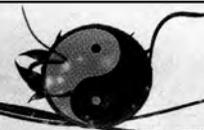
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SMITH, Percy Frederick

WWII

Percy was born in Falmouth, NS in 1919. He served with the RCASC in Canada, England, Germany and Belgium during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, War Medal 1939-1945 and Canadian Forces' Decoration 2. He was a 36-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Frederick passed away in 2014.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

SMITH, Raymond A.

WWII

Raymond was born in 1919 in Windsor, NS. He enlisted in the Army and served with the West NS Regiment Sig Platoon, HQ Coy. He served in Canada, England, Sicily, Italy and Africa during World War II. He was a 51-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Raymond passed away in 2007.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



SMITH, Robert Bruin

WWI

Robert was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1883, son of Edward and Annie. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Central Ontario Regiment in Europe during World War I. He was killed in action in the United Kingdom in 1919 and is buried in Hollybrook Memorial in Hampshire, UK. Robert's brother was Malcolm Smith.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

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SMITHSON, Raymond “Ray”

PEACETIME

Ray was born on May 10, 1943 in Welland, Ontario. He enrolled in the Royal Canadian Navy on February 22, 1961 as a Sonarman. He later changed to the Air Force as an Administration Clerk. Ray had many postings such as HMCS Cornwallis (TRG Base), CFRC Toronto, CFB Borden, CFB Portage la Prairie, CFB Toronto, CFS Beaver Lodge, CFB Greenwood, RSS Central Toronto, CFS Lowther, RSS Central - St Thomas, London, Toronto and CFRC London. Ray was also posted to the HMCS New Waterford. He released from the regular force in August 1987. He then joined the Naval Reserve Unit HMCS Prevost (RCN) in London, Ontario in June 1992 and did a summer at HMCS Acadia (Cadet Summer Camp) in Cornwallis. Ray then transferred to HMCS Scotian (Halifax) and worked at RCSU (A) Shearwater and did another summer at HMCS Acadia (Cadet Summer Camp). Ray completely retired in October 2008 with a Canadian Forces' Decoration 3. He is a 25-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

STEVENS, Merton Avery

**SPECIAL DUTY AREA
& PEACETIME**

Merton was born in 1942 in Wallbrook, NS. He joined the Army on February 10, 1964. He served in Germany as Field Engineer, Transport from August 1969 to June 1972. He was posted to Gagetown, NB and Shilo, MB. He retired on April 10, 1984. He was awarded the Special Service Medal and the Canadian Forces' Decoration 1. Merton is a thirteen-year member of Ortona Branch 069 of The Royal Canadian Legion in Berwick.

Submitted by Ortona Branch #069, The Royal Canadian Legion



SULLIVAN, William Joseph “Spike”

WWII

William was born in Quebec City, Quebec in 1923. He enlisted in the Navy and served on the North/South Atlantic, North Pacific and in England on HMCS Eastview and HMCS Prince David during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, Atlantic Star, War Medal 1939-1945, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp and the Canadian Forces' Decoration 1. He was a member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion for 51 years. William passed away in 2016.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



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SURRETTE, James Joseph "Jim"

WWII

Jim was born in Windsor, NS in 1921. He served with the West Nova Regiment, RCASC in Canada, England, Germany and Belgium during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, War Medal 1939-1945 and Canadian Forces' Decoration 2. He was a 36-year member of Hants Co. Branch 009 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Jim passed away in 2007.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion

THOMPSON, Allister Moore

WWII

Allister was born in Westville, NS in 1925. He enlisted in the Navy and served as Able Seaman in France, Germany and on the High Seas during World War II. He was awarded the France and Germany Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and NATO Medal. He was a member of Westville Branch 035 of The Royal Canadian Legion. Allister passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

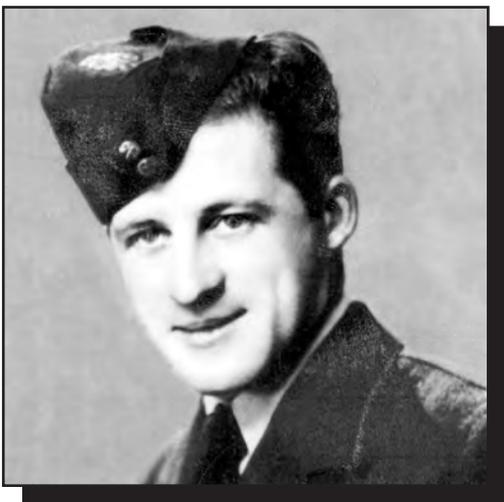


WALSH, William Joseph "Bill"

PEACETIME

Bill was born in Hampstead, Long Island, New York on June 18, 1928 and was brought up in Hantsport, Nova Scotia. In 1947, he became a member of the Army Reserve RECCE Squadron before joining the RCAF in 1949. He worked as a Flight Engineer and Aero Engine Tech on Lancasters, Dakotas, Neptune's, Argus and many others all over the country for the next 21 years. Bill retired from the Air Force in 1970. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 9 for sixteen years. Bill passed away in 2019.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion





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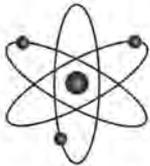
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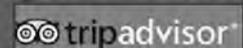
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WEAGLE, Isaac Zenas

WWI

Isaac was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1892, son of Isaac and Jennie Weagle. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in Europe during World War I. Isaac was killed in action in 1918 in France and is buried in Duisans British Cemetery.

*Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044 in Chester, NS,
The Royal Canadian Legion*

WEBER, Donald E.

WWII

Donald was born in Schumacher, Ontario in 1923. He enlisted in the Army and served with the RCEME in England, Belgium and Holland during World War II. For his service, he was awarded the Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp and the War Medal 1939-1945. Donald was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 009 for 33 years before he passed away in 2010.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



WHITFORD, Walter Lyon

WWI

Walter was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS on August 29, 1887, the son of James and Rachael Whitford. He enlisted in the Army and served with the 25th Nova Scotia Regiment in Europe during World War I. Walter died on March 21, 1919 in Chester from his war wounds. He is buried in St. Stephen's Cemetery in Chester.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

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WHITFORD, William Foster

WWI

William was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS in 1896, the son of Dr. Foster and Maud Whitford. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Manitoba Regiment, 85th Battalion in Europe during World War I. William was killed in action in Belgium in 1917 and his name is inscribed on Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres, Belgium.

Submitted by F.E. Butler Branch #044, The Royal Canadian Legion

WILLIAMS, Cecil R.

WWII

Cecil was born in 1925 in Bass River, NS. He enlisted in the Army and served with the West Nova Scotia Regiment in England, Germany, Belgium and Holland during World War II. He was awarded the France and Germany Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp and War Medal 1939-1945. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Hants Co. Branch 009 for 28 years. Cecil passed away in 2013.

Submitted by Hants County Branch #009, The Royal Canadian Legion



ZELWARD, Jason Edward **SPECIAL DUTY AREA
& PEACETIME**

Jason was born in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1983. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Royal Canadian Engineers in Gagetown, NB and Edmonton, AB. He received the Canadian Volunteer Service NATO Medal for serving in Jerusalem and Israel. Jason passed away in 2018.

Submitted by Peace Branch #060, The Royal Canadian Legion

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 PORTERS LAKE SEPTIC PUMPING
 PRECISION POWDER COATING INC
 PRESCOTT & ASSOCIATES
 PRO SKATEBOARDS
 PRS PRO RECOVERY SVC
 PUBNICO METAL WORKS LTD
 PURITY STAINLESS
 Q-DRILLING & REMEDIATION INC
 QUEEN ANNE INN
 QUINN PETROLEUM INC
 R C INVESTIGATIONS LTD.
 RATCHFORD PHOTOGRAPHIC
 RAYPORT CAMP GROUND
 REA'S ELECTROLYSIS CPE
 RED DOOR REALTY
 REG LAFFIN BURNER SERVICE
 REV HEBER COLBOURNE
 REV RON MCLEAN
 RHODENIZER SALVAGE ENTERPRISES
 RICHMOND EDUCATION CTR & ACADEMY
 RICK FINDLAY - REALTOR
 RIDEOUT TOOL & MACHINE INC.
 RIGHT TOUCH MASSAGE THERAPY
 ROBIN STUART
 ROB'S TAXI SVC
 ROLEX TRUCKING & LEASING LTD
 RON BULLEN SALES ASSOC REMAX REALTY
 RONALD CHISHOLM LAW
 ROUGH GROUND DIRT DEPOT
 ROWE DON DR
 ROXANNE'S PROMOTIONAL SOLUTION
 ROYAL LEPAGE TRURO REAL ESTATE
 ROYALE HOTEL
 S & L BAKERY
 S H M CANADA LTD
 SAFE HOME SECURITY
 SALT SPRING SEAFOOD
 SALWA MAJAESS
 SANDEANNIE'S BAKERY & TEA ROOM
 SANDRA MC INNIS CUSTOM DRESSMAKING
 & TAILORING
 SCANLAN / GERARD P
 SCOTIA BORDER COLLIES
 SELBY GOSSET
 SHARON MATTHEWS
 SHARON'S CLOSET
 SHAW SOUND & LIGHTING
 SHORE ROAD SLED PARTS
 SINCLAIR DENTURE CLINIC
 SKOKE'S HAIR STYLIST
 SLAUENWHITE BOB BACKHOEING
 & EXCAVATING
 SNOW'S ECONO-PRINT
 SOUTH SHORE MASSAGE THERAPY
 ST MARGARET'S BAY PHYSIOTHERAPY
 ST. ANDREW'S PARISH
 ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 ST. PETER'S PARISH
 STEELTOWN FRIENDLY GROUP

STELLA MARIS PARISH
 STER'S PAINTING & CONTRACTING
 STEVE DAVIES
 STEWART'S SEPTIC PUMPING
 STRAIT ENGINEERING LTD
 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL
 SUNSHINE DISPOSAL
 SURE CUT CONCRETE SAWING & DRILLING
 SURF SEAFOODS (2016) LTD
 SWEPCO
 SWIMM'S LOBSTER INN LIMITED
 SYD-TEC APPLIANCE
 T. ARTHUR BARRY
 TAREK'S CAFÉ
 TARTAN BLADE BARBER SHOP
 TATE ENGINEERING INC
 TBS THE BOAT SHOP LTD
 TERRITT INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL

TERRY LEE'S CLIPS
 THAT'S THE LOOK HAIR STUDIO
 THE ODD BOOK
 THE SOAP COMPANY OF NOVA SCOTIA LTD
 TIBBETTS HOME FOR SPECIAL CARE
 TK CYLINDER HEAD SPECIALISTS
 TRANSMISSION GUY THE
 TREVOR ALLEN PHOTOGRAPHY
 TRI EX CONSTRUCTION
 TURNER'S TIRE
 TWEED ENGINEERING SERVICES
 TWIN CITY PAINTING (1979) LTD
 V.H D'ENTREMONT WELDING SVC LTD
 VALLIE'S HAIR SHOP
 VANTAGE MOTORS
 VET-RN-B4 RENOVATIONS
 VIDEO WORLD SALES WAREHOUSE
 VIEW OF THE SEA COTTAGES

VILLAGE GREEN MOTOR CAR CO LTD
 W R JONES & CO BUILDERS
 WAGS & WIGGLES DOG GRMNG & BRDNG
 WALKER DUNLOP
 WALTER NORRIS
 WAYNE'S BEAUTY SALON
 WEE FOLKS CENTRE
 WELLS CRAFT SUPPLY
 WETMORE APPRAISALS CONSULTING INC.
 WHAT'S THE BUZZ BARBER SHOP
 WILD AXE PRODUCTIONS
 WILDFLOWER PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
 WINE KITZ NEW MINAS
 WINSTON BLACK AUTO SALES
 WOODLANDS PET RESORT
 WORK OF ARTZ CONTRACTING
 ZWICKER WOODWORKING LTD

Advertisers' Index

3-D AUTO PARTS LTD.140
 3D SCREEN PRINTING156
 A & K LICK -A- CHICK RESTAURANT54
 A & W PRINCE STREET118
 A AUCOIN BAKERY LTD.164
 A H ROY & ASSOCIATES LTD124
 A I L CANADA98
 A M L PAINTING LTD178
 A-2-B TAXI110
 AA MUNROE INSURANCE142
 AAA PLUMBING & HEATING36
 ACADA152
 ACADIA UNIVERSITY130
 ACCENT PLUMBING & HEATING LTD114
 ACCESS CONTRACTING LTD110
 ADMIRAL DESMOND PIERS
 NAVAL ASSOCIATION146
 ADVANCED SCREEN PRINTING LTD.178
 AFTER WARRANTY AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR .186
 AGGREGATE EQUIPMENT LTD.92
 ALDERWOOD BADDECK182
 ALL WEIGH SYSTEMS INC.144
 ALTUS GROUP122
 AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION
 LOCAL # 50894
 AME SECURITY LTD76
 ANGELHOEVE FARM102
 ANICOM SIGNS INC.184
 ANNAPOLIS VALLEY HOME CARE50
 ANTIGONISH CONCRETE FINISHING LTD .178
 ANTIGONISH OPTICAL186
 APPLESEED ENERGY186
 ARBOR MEMORIAL6
 ARCHIBALD DRILLING &
 BLASTING 1986 LTD58
 ARCHWAY INSURANCE MACCOY168
 ARMY NAVY AIRFORCE VETS UNIT 217 .84
 ARSENAULT MONUMENT WORKS LTD.124
 ARTHUR SAMPSON TV
 & APPLIANCES SALES & SERVICE102

ASBESTOS ABATEMENT LTD160
 ASBESTOS HALIFAX112
 ATHENS RESTAURANT CO. LTD108
 ATHERTON NICHOLSON BARRISTERS
 & SOLICITORS134
 ATKINSON'S ACCOUNTING LTD.170
 ATLANTECK POWER SERVICES INC.162
 ATLANTIC FUNERAL HOMES70
 ATLANTIC HARDCHROME LIMITED80
 ATLANTIC INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.136
 ATLANTIC ORIENTAL WHOLESALE128
 ATLANTIC OUTDOOR SOLUTIONS116
 ATLANTIC POLY LINERS INC.174
 ATLANTIC RADIATOR LTD82
 ATLANTIC SYSTEMATIC ENVELOPES42
 ATLANTIC VENTILATION
 CLEANING LIMITED138
 ATLANTIC WATER INVESTIGATIONS LTD. .164
 ATLANTIC WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD .122
 ATMOSPHERE ELECTRICAL INC.88
 ATTWOOD SURVEYS LIMITED182
 ATWATERS CHIMNEY AND GUTTERS106
 AU LOGIS D'METEGHAN LTD.156
 AVIS BUDGET CAR RENTAL GROUP98
 AVIVE NATURALS INC.114
 B & A & ASSOC INSURANCE114
 B A T S86
 B J MACPHEE TRUCKING LTD.160
 B NETWORKED74
 B. G. MAXX MANAGEMENT LTD.160
 B. J. ELECTRIC MOTOR
 & CONTROL LTD76
 BAKER TILLY26
 BANFIELD OCULAR PROSTHETICS INC. .166
 BANK OF MONTREAL22
 BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA
 ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE4
 BARB'S FAMILY DINER86
 BAYSIDE FARM & COTTAGES178
 BELL ENTERPRISES LTD46

BELTONE HEARING CARE CENTRE
 /GOLDEN HEARINGOBC
 BENOIT ELECTRIC LIMITED168
 BERKELEY RETIREMENT RESIDENCE78
 BICKERTON'S PLUMBING & HEATING188
 BILL SHELLNUTT & ASSOC90
 BILL STEWART'S SCRAP METAL136
 BISTRO EAST192
 BLACK & MCDONALD LTD66
 BLACKBURN BENNETT PLBG & HEATING .164
 BLAINE MACLANE EXCAVATION LTD.74
 BLENKHORN & SMITH RENOVATION INC. .190
 BLUEBERRY PRODUCERS ASSOC-NS ...192
 BOARDROOM GAME CAFE166
 BOMBERS CLUB98
 BOWL-MORE LANES 1987 LTD78
 BRANNEN'S SERVICE CENTER96
 BRETON PETROLEUM LTD154
 BRETON TECHNOLOGIES104
 BRIAN C ISNOR ELECTRICAL160
 BRICKS & STONES
 LANDSCAPE DESIGN LTD122
 BRIDGEWATER LEGION BRANCH 2494
 BRIDGEWAY ACADEMY ASSOCIATION ...166
 BROWN'S SELF STORAGE160
 BURNSIDE FIBERGLASS MARINE SUPPLY .90
 BUTT'S AUTO SERVICE LTD94
 C & D MEDICAL CARE PRODUCTS120
 C E FISHER ELECTRIC LTD102
 C H BOUDREAU FUNERAL HOME LTD ...186
 C K BUTLER PHYSICIAN INC.158
 CABINETWORKS LTD188
 CABOT SHIPPING SUPPLIES LTD.88
 CABOT SHORES WILDERNESS RESORT .104
 CAMERON'S JEWELLERY LTD172
 CANADIAN LINEN & UNIFORM SERVICES .170
 CANADIAN PROCESS
 MANAGEMENT GROUP104
 CANADIAN RED CROSS104
 CANCONNECT INC.86

Advertisers' Index

CANSA	48	DEMONT'S TRANSPORT	112	GHD LTD	92
CAPE BRETON & CENTRAL NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY	108	DEVO FX SPECIAL EFFECTS LTD.	180	GIDNEY FISHERIES LTD	190
CAPE BRETON HEARING SERVICES LTD ..	52	DIETRICH FAMILY DENTISTRY	84	GILLIS HOME BUILDING CENTRE	98
CAPE BRETON RESIDENTIAL SCTY	158	DIGBY PINES GOLF RESORT AND SPA ..	106	GIL-SON CONSTRUCTION LTD	102
CAREGIVERS NS ASSOCIATION	22	DOUCET-WATTS & DAVIS INTERIORS ..	112	GL WARD DESIGN SYSTEMS LTD.	166
CAROL BRUHM POULTRY FARM LTD.	86	DR. ANNETTE FOYLE	166	GLASGOW PUB BEVERAGE ROOM	118
CARQUEST	120	DR. LYNNE MOYLES	176	GLD CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.	174
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS	164	DUMKE LAW	192	GLEN HAVEN MANOR	76
CC MACDONALD LTD	72	DURACON LTD	148	GM MACDONALD WELDING LTD	176
CENTENNIAL PHARMACY	80	DYKELAND LODGE	112	GO GOLD RESOURCES INC.	94
CENTRE FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION	64	E.Y.E. MARINE CONSULTANTS	72	GOLD STAR ACCOUNTING	116
CENTURY 21 TRIDENT REALTY LTD	96	EACAN TIMBER LIMITED and EACAN TIMBER CANADA LIMITED	164	GRAMAC PAVEMENT MARKINGS	84
CHARLES INGRAM CONSTRUCTION	74	EARL FRANCIS SPRYFIELD MEMORIAL BRANCH #152	96	GRANBY FRP TANKS LTD	118
CHEDABUCTO AGGREGATES LTD	188	EAST COAST CREDIT UNION	58	GRAND PRE WINES	156
CHEF ABOD CAFE & CATERING	114	EASTERN HOME SANITARY VIDEO INSPECTION	120	GRAYBAR CANADA	168
CHESTER SERVICE CENTRE NAPA AUTOPRO TIRECRAFT	170	ECO-MAN KITCHEN WASTE BAGS	78	GREENWOOD ANIMAL HOSPITAL	160
CHETICAMP FISHERIES INC.	120	ECONO RENOVATIONS	104	GREENWOOD MILITARY AVIATION MUSEUM	134
CHIASSON BROS. LTD.	184	EDMONDS LANDSCAPE & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LTD.	20	GROUND HOG GEOTHERMAL AND HEAT PUMP LTD.	84
CHISHOLM'S LAWN CARE	98	EDNA'S BAKERIES LTD.	80	GTL TRANSPORTATION	46
CITADEL COINS	180	EISENHAUER AGENCIES, WINE & SPIRITS INC.	122	GUYSBOROUGH PHARMACY LTD	180
CKG ELEVATOR LTD	38	ELLE'S BISTRO	154	H & B CAR SALES LTD	190
CLAYMORE INN & SUITES	112	ELLIOTT K. FRASER	176	HALIFAX C & D RECYCLING LTD	76
CLEARWATER SEAFOODS	18	ENGLISH LAW	116	HALIFAX INSULATORS LTD	82
CLUCKING HEN	172	ENIGMA HEALTH STUDIO INC.	80	HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY	78
COASTAL CONTROLS & INSTRUMENTATION	160	ESKASONI PHARMACY	190	HALIFAX REGIONAL FIRE & EMERGENCY ..	34
COASTAL FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION LTD ..	112	ESRI CANADA LTD.	102	HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY COUNCILLORS OFFICE	46
COASTAL RESTORATION & MASONRY	158	EVANGELINE TRANSPORT	168	HALIFAX REGIONAL WATER	44
COLD FURNACE STUDIOS	102	EVENT SOFTWARE INC.	172	HALIFAX SEASONAL SUNROOMS	98
COLIN'S WATER TREATMENT	108	EYKING FARMS	142	HALIFAX WAVERLEY INN	90
COMEAU SEAFOODS LTD	152	FALCONER'S BURNER SVC	176	HANDS ON HALIFAX	188
CONNELL'S SEPTIC SERVICES LTD	92	FAMILY FIRST MEDICAL	102	HARBOUR VIEW HAVEN	110
CONNIE'S FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD	138	FAN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT	158	HARBOURSIDE COMMERCIAL PARK	44
CONVENIENCE IN THE WOODS	184	FATHOM STUDIO	132	HARDING MEDICAL	176
CO-OPERATORS INSURANCE	94	FISHERMEN'S MEMORIAL HOSPITAL VETERANS UNIT	68	HART ELECTRIC MOTOR REPAIRS	162
CORNERSTONE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CONSULTANTS	168	FLOCOR	184	HARVEST MEDICINE	16
CORNWALLIS CHEVROLET BUICK GMC ..	106	FOX HARB'R RESORT	80	HEARTHSTONE HOSPITALITY	56
COUCHE - TARD INC.	186	FRED M. DUNPHY EXCAVATING LTD	104	HEMI GENERAL CONTRACTING LTD	76
COUNTY OF ANNAPOLIS	82	FREEDOM SECURITY SOLUTIONS	162	HERITAGE HOUSE LAW OFFICE	42
COVE GUEST HOME	176	FREEMAN'S LITTLE NEW YORK	172	HERITAGE MEMORIALS LTD	150
COX & PALMER	114	FUNDY COMPOST INCORPORATED	48	HIGH - CREST ENTERPRISES LTD.	82
CROSSROADS RESTAURANT	142	FUNDY ELECTRIC LTD	72	HIGHLAND NISSAN	100
CROWN FLOORING	90	FUTURE IMPRESSIONS	116	HI-TECH MECHANICAL & COATINGS	84
CUMBERLAND HONDA	192	G & H BURNER LTD.	84	HOBART FOOD EQUIPMENT GROUP	130
CUMBERLAND JOINT SERVICES MGMT. AUTHORITY	168	G W GIFFIN FUNERAL HOME	82	HOLLAND HOME LEISURE	84
CUSTOM SPRING & WELDING CO. LTD ..	118	GATEWAY FACILITIES	140	HOPS N GRAPES SUPPLIES	118
D & M MORASH STEEPLEJACKS COMPANY LTD	82	GATEWAY FUELS LTD.	88	HORIZON COURT PROPERTIES	56
D & T HEATING & PLUMBING LTD	156	GCF GLASS	106	HORYL'S SUPERIOR SAUSAGE CO. LTD. ..	78
D M SNOW CONTRACTING LTD	118	GEM HEALTH CARE GROUP	58	HOT TUB UNIVERSE	110
D. A. MACGREGOR ELECTRIC LTD.	74	GENERAL LIQUIDS CANADA	122	HOYA LENS CANADA INC	30
D. W. MATHESON & SONS LTD.	158	GENESIS COMMUNICATIONS SVC	32	HUNTS POINT BEACH COTTAGES	108
DANA HAWLEY DDS	174	GEORGE MAC DONALD & SONS LTD.	146	HYUNDAI AUTO CANADA	14
DARIM MASONRY LTD	74	GEORGE P. KING CONTRACTING	96	I M P GROUP INTERNATIONAL INC.	182
DARRELL SIDNEY RENOVATIONS INC.	60	GEORGE'S BARREL LAUNDROMAT	72	INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WORLD INC.	170
DARRELL'S AUTO SALES	184	GEOSCIENTISTS NOVA SCOTIA	146	INTERNATIONAL UNION-OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 727	50
DECK IT LTD	92	GEO-SPECTRUM TECHNOLOGIES INC.	36	INVERARY MANOR	162

Advertisers' Index

ISLAND INN B & B	110	MACINTOSH LANDSCAPING LIMITED	100	NICKERSON JACQUARD RUSSELL	98
ISLAND LOCK & SAFE INC.	172	MACKAY'S TRUCK & TRAILER CENTER LIMITED	78	NORM SMITH ELECTRIC LTD	74
ISLAND VIEW FAMILY RESTAURANT	188	MADER'S ROOFING & MASONRY LTD	72	NORTH AIR WINDOW & DOOR LTD	190
IUPAT DISTRICT COUNCIL 39	56	MALONE'S BOAT REPAIR	80	NORTH ATLANTIC DOOR SYSTEMS	96
J & L SMITH HOLDINGS LTD	104	MANEL PREMACHANDRA INC	106	NORTHEAST MECHANICAL SYSTEMS	112
J B CAMERON'S TRUCKING LTD.	94	MAPLE HILL MANOR	182	NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY GUEST HOME	176
J MASON CONTRACTING LTD.	182	MAPLE MIST FARM	88	NORTHSIDE HOMEMAKERS SERVICE SOCIETY	72
J. JOYCE WELDING	76	MARID INDUSTRIES LTD.	48	NORTHWOOD INTOUCH	40
J.K. MARINE SERVICES LTD	148	MARITIME ABORIGINAL PEOPLES COUNCIL	152	NOVA SCOTIA GOVERNMENT & GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION	54
JAMIE'S WHOLESALE FURNITURE	100	MARITIME BUS	114	NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AUTHORITY	182
JANET'S FLOWERS LTD.	162	MARITIME DIESEL SVC. INC.	46	NOVA SCOTIA HIGHWAY WORKERS UNION CUPE LOCAL 1867	82
JARKO LIMITED ARBY'S RESTAURANT	82	MARITIME FUELS	8	NOVA TREE COMPANY INC.	106
JENTRONICS LIMITED	184	MARITIME GENETICS	40	NOWE ELECTRIC LTD	192
JIM MORRISON AUTOMOTIVE SALES	108	MARITIME HEARING SOLUTIONS INC.	38	OAKRIDGE MEMORIAL GARDENS	88
JOEY POIRIER CONSTRUCTION LTD	120	MARKIE BUS TOURS	82	OCEAN OPTOMETRY	28
JOHN D. STEELE'S SONS LTD.	80	MARTHA'S PIZZA 2	82	OCEAN PRIDE FISHERIES LTD.	72
JOHN HAMILTON MEDICINE INC.	164	MATTATALL - VARNER FUNERAL HOME	150	OCEAN VIEW SERVING SENIORS	68
JOHN ROSS & SONS LTD	140	MAYFLOWER DENTAL GROUP	98	OFFICE INTERIORS	170
KABAYAN FOOD MART	80	MCINNES COOPER	122	OH MY SOLE	106
KAISER MARINE INC.	150	MCKENNA ELECTRICAL LTD.	94	OK TIRE HALIFAX	144
KAISER'S LOCKSMITH LTD.	174	MCLENNAN SALES	42	OLD ORCHARD INN	186
KAISER'S SUB & SANDWICH SHOPPE	50	MCNALLY CONSTRUCTION INC	64	OLD TRIANGLE IRISH ALE HOUSE	114
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY	148	MEDAVIE BLUE CROSS	60	OLYMPUS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LTD	100
KENNETH L. BOWER CPA INC.	178	MEDICINE SHOPPE DARTMOUTH	156	O'REGAN MOTORS LIMITED	170
KENTVILLE POLICE SERVICES	120	MEDIGAS	62	OTTO STRONG'S BURNER SERVICE	156
KEW HOME INC.	132	MERSEY SEAFOODS LTD.	146	OXFORD HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CTR	24
KEYSTONE MONUMENT & GRANITE PRODUCTS	120	MICCO COMPANIES	52	P PATTERSON HOME SALES	84
KIEL DEVELOPMENTS LTD	188	MID VALLEY CONSTRUCTIONS 1997 LTD	172	PARADISE CORNER CAFE	74
KILLAM APARTMENT REIT	172	MIDDLETON PHYSIOTHERAPY & OSTEOPATHY	178	PARAGON DOOR	174
KINBURN PHARMASAVE	70	MIKE'S COUNTRY KITCHENS	134	PARAMOUNT MANAGEMENT CO.	88
KING FREIGHT LINES LTD.	100	MILLBROOK POWER CENTRE	190	PARKLAND AT THE LAKES PHASE 2	70
KINLEY DRUG CO. LTD	112	MILLEN FARMS LTD.	138	PARTNERS CONSTRUCTION LTD	112
KOHLTECH INTERNATIONAL LTD	182	MILLER'S TOWING LTD	164	PARTS CONNECTION	154
L C FORESTRY LTD	116	MISTER TRANSMISSION	190	PATTY JOUDREY WORK PLACE SAFETY TRAINING	104
L. BOUDRO FISHERIES LTD	114	MOBIA TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS	172	PAUL D'ENTREMONT MARINE LTD	74
LABATT BREWERIES OF CANADA	60	MOST WANTED JEWELRY & PAWN	192	PICTOU COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	136
LABELLE LANDSCAPE & DESIGN	96	MRS. P'S HOMESTYLE BAKERY	168	PILOT'S PUB	122
LAHAVE DENTURE CLINIC LTD	184	MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING	IBC	PLAIN'S FIREWOOD	192
LAND'S BEST FRIEND LANDSCAPING	94	MUNICIPALITY OF BARRINGTON	92	PLANK INDUSTRIES	124
LANTZ TRUCK BODY LTD	192	MUNICIPALITY OF DIGBY	98	PORT CITY AUTO EXPERTS	86
LAST POST FUND	20	MUNICIPALITY OF SHELBURNE	96	POWERS AUTO SHOP	124
LEGION BRANCH 53	160	MUNICIPALITY OF ST MARY'S DISTRICT ADMIN OFFICE	124	PRESIDENTIAL VENTILATION	192
LESLIE EXCAVATING LTD.	106	MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS	62	PRESTIGE HOMES	174
LEVY HVAC LTD.	160	MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF VICTORIA	136	PRINCESS CREDIT UNION LTD.	90
LIBERTY ENTERPRISES LTD.	156	MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF GUYSBOROUGH	174	PRIORITY HOME INSPECTIONS	88
LLOY'S DENTURE CLINIC	184	MUNICIPALITY OF WEST HANTS	52	PRIVATEERS HARLEY DAVIDSON	26
LOBSTER HUB INC.	96	MUNICIPALITY OF YARMOUTH	172	PROGRESSIVE CABINETS AND MILLWORK LTD	110
LOBSTER WORLD INC.	156	MY CAPE BRETON HOME FOR SENIORS	108	PROVINCIAL LAB SYSTEMS	66
LOCKHEED MARTIN CANADA INC	10	NATIONAL ENERGY EQUIPMENT INC.	168	PUBLIC SERVICE ALLIANCE OF CANADA	IBC
LOOK HO HO RESTAURANT	178	NATIONAL TRAILER SALES	76	PWC PAUL'S WOODWORKING CABINET	184
LOOMER'S PORTABLE TOILETS LTD	182	NEW BOOKER SCHOOL	70	QE II FOUNDATION	40
LOWE'S LANDSCAPING	90	NEW DAWN HOME CARE	66	QUALITY INN-HALIFAX AIRPORT	58
M & G CAB LTD	182	NEW GLASGOW REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE	162	QUENTIN MASON ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD.	96
M. WALTERS & SONS CONTRACTING LTD	188	NEW-GORE LOBSTER CO	170	R I S LOBSTER CO. LTD	76
MAC EAST	162				
MAC LEOD HOUSE WINDSOR	106				
MACDONALD MEMORIAL LEGION BRANCH 156	174				
MACDOW MECHANICAL LTD.	96				
MACGILLIVRAY FUELS LTD	186				

Advertisers' Index

R K O STEEL LTD.	64	SHOPPERS DRUG MART	78	TREE WORKS LTD	186
R.K. MACDONALD NURSING HOME	166	SISSIBOO VETERINARY SVC. LTD	192	TRI COUNTY VETERINARY SERVICES LTD.	80
RADICAL CONCEPTS 4:20	78	SLEEP THERAPEUTICS	100	TRIMPER & ASSOCIATES	
RAFE'S CONSTRUCTION LTD	88	SMITH & WATT LTD.	134	ACCOUNTING SERVICES INC.	184
RCL BRANCH 162	140	SOMA VEIN & LASER CENTRE	68	TRI-STAR INDUSTRIES LIMITED	176
RCL COLCHESTER BRANCH 026	170	SOT MARITIME CENTRE INC.	178	TROY BENNETT'S AUTO REPAIR	74
REDHORSE TILE	116	SOUTH SHORE GLASS LTD.	148	TRUCKING HUMAN RESOURCES	
RELIABLE ELECTRIC LTD.	100	SOUTH SHORE		SECTOR COUNCIL	52
REMAX SOUTH SHORE REALTY 1989 LTD.	174	PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS LTD	190	TRUE FLUSH PLUMBING & HEATING	118
RENOWNED CARPENTRY INC.	90	SOU'WEST ELECTRICAL LTD	120	TRUEFOAM	116
RESPONSE PLUMBER	108	SPEEDY AUTO SVC	86	TRURO HEIGHTS BIG STOP	194
REVOLUTION WINDOWS AND DOORS LTD	188	ST. ANNE CENTRE	166	TWIN MOUNTAIN CONSTRUCTION LTD	186
RICKY SLOCUM TRUCKING LTD.	156	ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH	180	UFCW LOCAL 864	54
RIDGEWOOD RETIREMENT CTR	150	STAIRS DIESEL INJECTION AND TURBO LTD	110	ULTRA ELECTRONICS MARITIME SYSTEMS	132
ROBERT ARCHIBALD GENERAL		STAN'S PAVING LTD	110	ULTRAMAR / PARKLAND FUEL	44
CONTRACTING LTD.	170	STARBOARD INN	124	UNDER THE HOOD AUTO SERVICE	72
ROCKVILLE CARRIERS LTD	170	STELLA JONES INC.	144	UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA INDIANS	100
ROGER E. STRUM LTD	90	STELLA ROSE B & B	108	UNITED ASSN. JOURNEYMEN	
RON WHITE WELL DRILLING	180	STELLAR INVESTMENTS INC.	122	PLUMBERS LOCAL 56	158
RONDEAU'S REFRIGERATION SERVICE INC.	42	STEPHENS HOMES CTR	188	UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA	126
ROSECREST COMMUNITIES	88	STEVE LEWIS AUTO BODY	162	UPPER SACKVILLE AUTO BODY	92
ROSEWAY CHRYSLER	86	STIRLING FRUIT FARMS	44	UTILITY TATTOO & BODY PIERCING STUDIO	80
ROSSWAY TRAP & MARINE SUPPLIES	152	STONE'S RV AND HOME CENTRE	144	VALLEY CREDIT UNION LTD	104
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION #67	92	STONEBROOK APARTMENTS	118	VALLEY STOVE & CYCLE LTD	116
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ASHBY		STRAIT REGIONAL CENTRE FOR EDUCATION	102	VAN VELD CONSTRUCTION LTD	86
BRANCH # 138	88	STRAIT-WAY KIA	178	VAN-GO DELIVERY	190
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH # 006	162	STRONG & ASSOCIATES CHARTERED		VAPER'S ATTIC	124
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 106	110	PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS INC.	48	VAPOR VENUE	34
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 132	164	SUMMERS COUNTRY INN	120	VAUGHN GATES PLUMBING & HEATING	122
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 15	120	SUNSET MARINE LTD	94	VELOCITY MACHINING & WELDING	54
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 43	166	SYDCO FUELS LTD.	92	VERNON D'EON FISHING SUPPLIES LTD	116
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 70	158	SYDNEY CREDIT UNION LTD	172	VETERANS SERVICES CAMP HILL	
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION NO 28	182	T & R TRUCK REPAIR LTD	188	VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING	64
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION NO 98	86	TARGET HYDRAULIC MACHINE WORKS	98	VILLA ST-JOSEPH DU LAC	72
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION VIMY 27	168	TATAMAGOUCHE HOME HARDWARE		VILLAGE OF BADDECK	138
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PEREGRINE BRANCH	154	TEAK TREE ENTERPRISES LIMITED	60	VITRO ARCHITECTURAL GLASS	160
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SALVATION ARMY MARITIME		FACIAL SURGERY CENTRE	78	WELD PRO LTD.	158
DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS	92	THE NORTHERN SHOPPER	56	WEST END GAS BAR XTR	76
SANDY & SONS FISHERIES LTD	162	THE UPS STORE	86	WEST KINGS HIGH SCHOOL	164
SAPUTO DAIRY PRODUCTS CANADA	108	THE WAFFLE BUS STOP	180	WEST NOVA FUELS	62
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SCOTIA INVESTMENTS LIMITED	100	TIM HORTONS ADVERTISING		LIVING RESIDENCE	166
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SEA STAR SEAFOODS LTD.	180	TIM HORTONS PICTOU COUNTY	102	PRESCHOOL LTD.	102
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SHEAN CO-OP LTD.	92	TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER	114	WOLSELEY CANADA	158
SHEEHY ENTERPRISES LTD	76	TOWN OF PORT HAWKESBURY	176	WOODYS CRANE RENTAL LTD	194
SHINE WERKS AUTOMOTIVE DETAILING	118	TOWN OF WINDSOR	66	WYNN PARK VILLA	142



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Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command
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General Information Required for Story Submission		Please print clearly!
Name of Military Person being recognized:		
Surname:		Given name(s):
Place of Birth:	Year of Birth:	Year of Death:
Service: WWI <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> Korea <input type="checkbox"/> Special Duty Area <input type="checkbox"/> Peacetime <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
Branch of Service: Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
Service Unit: <i>i.e. North NS Highlanders, CWAC, Names of Ships, Squadrons, etc.</i>		
Areas Served in: <i>i.e. - Canada, High Seas, England, C/E, Korea, SDA (Please name), etc.</i>		
Killed in Action? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Year of Death: <input type="text"/> Where Killed _____		
Was or is a Member of Legion Branch - Name & #:		How many years? _____
<u>Information on person submitting form:</u>		
Submitted by (Name): _____		Branch # <input type="checkbox"/> LA # <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/>
Contact Information: Tel # _____ FAX # _____ e-mail _____		

Additional Information: Please attach a separate sheet of paper, and keep information to maximum of 200 words.

(Example – awards for bravery, i.e., VC, DSC, DFC, MC, MM, etc., POW.

Please attach photograph here.

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