

OATMEAL RAG

THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA



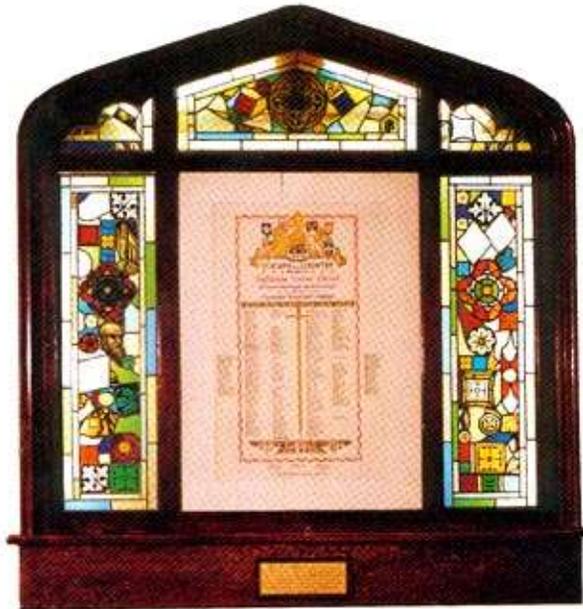
CAMERON ASSOCIATION IN CANADA
 THE QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA
 MINTO ARMOURY, 969 ST. MATTHEWS AVE
 WPG, MB R3G 0J7

2010/2011 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Steve MacMillan	351 Ainslie St Wpg, MB sdmacmillan@shaw.ca	R3J 2Z7	204-831-0542
VICE-PRES	Karen Tyler	255 Aldine St Wpg, MB	R3J 2A9	204-414-0973
SECRETARY	Hugh O'Donnell	713 Cambridge St Wpg, MB hodonnell@shaw.ca	R3M 3G2	204-285-7222
TREASURER	Dave Gibson	104 William Gibson Bay Wpg, MB dwgibson@mts.net	R3C 5L7	204-222-9509

Executive Board

Past Pres	Taffy Gray	198 Seekings St Headingley, MB	R4J 1B1	204-889-5655
	Mike Nickerson	P.O.Box 122 Station L Wpg MB	R3H0Z4	TBC
	Mitch Prudhomme	790 Parkhill St Wpg, MB	R2Y 0V5	204-837-5778
	Sean Rivas	164 Carroll Road	R3K 1H5	204-802-2264
	Len Johnson	1094 Bay Rd	R1A 3L1	204-757-2023
	Tom Russell	376 Oak St	R3M 3R5	204-488-0088
Foundation Trustees	Fred Westphal (2012-2014)	Marc Gautron (2011-2013)		
Auditor				

*** Last Post ***

Editor's note: Who recognizes this stained glass window? Read more about it below!

WALTER BUSKELL

Editor's Note: There is no mention of the Camerons in Mr. Buskell's obit but one of the pictures clearly shows him wearing a Cameron uniform. I have no idea at this time as to when exactly he was a member of the Regiment. The uniform seems to point to the late 30's or early 40's.

http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-202217/name-Walter_Buskell/date-range-all/last-name-buskell/order-publish_date|DESC,last_name|ASC,first_name|ASC/

WALTER DAVID BUSKELL Walter David Buskell passed away peacefully on May 3, 2013 with his family by his side. He was born October 12, 1918 at Teulon, Manitoba to David and Ida Buskell. He was predeceased by his first wife Louise and survived by their children. Walter was also predeceased by his wife Olive and is survived by her children. Dad was a proud veteran of the Second World War and served overseas with 2nd Battalion, R.C.E. After the war he apprenticed as a bricklayer and worked with the Winnipeg School Division in 1957 until his retirement in 1981. In retirement, he was an active member of his church, Faith Baptist, and enjoyed gardening and family visits. The family would like to thank the staff at Vista Park Lodge where he resided the past two years. Thanks also to the medical staff at Victoria General Hospital for their compassionate care and support during his recent stay. A memorial service was held May 6 at Faith Baptist Church, 386 McGregor St. at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a charity of your choice. MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME STONEWALL 204- 467-2525 mackhome@mts.net

Full obit published in the Winnipeg Free Press on May 06, 2013

BRIGADIER GENERAL HUGH COMACK

http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-201667/name-Brigadier_Comack/min-run-date-1363928400/date-range-month/classification-id-1/order-publish_date|DESC.last_name|ASC.first_name|ASC/page-2/

BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET'D) HUGH COMACK, C.M.M., C.D. Passed away peacefully, with his family at his side, at 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2013. Hugh is survived by his wife, Agnes, and his four children - Margret (Mitchell), Donald (Jude), Elizabeth (Wayne) and Alyson (Scott).

Hugh was born in Glasgow, Scotland on December 12, 1920. His grandmother brought him to Canada, along with his sister Mary, in 1929. With several aunts and uncles, they settled into a big house on Carlton Street. When his parents and remaining three siblings came over in 1930, they lived in Winnipeg's West End during the Depression years. These were times of hardship and Hugh had to leave school to bring in some wages to help support the family. Reliance Ink was not an easy place to work. His \$9.00 weekly paycheque went to his mother and in return he received one dollar. When war broke out in September, 1939 he bicycled down to the Recruiting Station and joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada (Q.O.C.H.). He often claimed it was the best move he ever made.

Hugh was a veteran of the Dieppe Raid on August 19, 1942. He felt grateful to be one of the few who returned to base. He was selected for Officers' Training and left the Q.O.C.H. to take his commission. Returning home in 1945, he was admitted to Deer Lodge Military Hospital for surgery. There he met DVA Nursing Sister Agnes Bardal, who became his wife and lifelong partner on September 11, 1946. Hugh joined the Q.O.C.H. Reserve Unit in 1948 and served faithfully, becoming Commanding Officer in 1961. Four years later he was selected as Commander of Winnipeg District and in 1973 was promoted to Brigadier General, Commander of Prairie Area. He retired from the Militia in 1977 after being awarded Commander of the Order of Military Merit at Government House in Ottawa.

In 1948 Hugh was hired by the Manitoba Telephone System and became Commercial Supervisor until 1967. From 1961 to 1964 he was Chairman and Producer of four St. Andrew's Society Highland Pageants at Minto Armoury. During the 1967 Pan Am Games he was Chairman and Producer of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Following that he was offered the position as President and C.E.O. of a new company, Greater Winnipeg Cablevision. He was a pioneer in this venture until his retirement in 1987. Hugh had numerous other involvements. He served as National Chairman (1983 to 1985) of the Canadian Cable Television Association and National Chairman (1987 to 1989) and Life Governor of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. He was a member of the Advisory Board of the Q.O.C.H. He served as President and Honorary Past President and was an Honorary Life member of the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg. In 2000 the St. Andrew's Society recognized him as its Citizen of the Year, which "honours persons who have performed exemplary service to the public and thus brought honour and prestige to the Scottish community in Winnipeg and Canada".

From the time he arrived in Canada in 1929 Hugh attended Knox United Church. He joined the Knights of Knox as a boy. Later he worked on the Session, was Chairman of the Board of Managers and served on the Board of the Duval Foundation. He was, for many years, a member of the Manitoba Club, the YMCA Health Club and the Re-Fit Centre.

Our family is very grateful to all of the wonderful staff on T4 Deer Lodge Centre.

Donations in Hugh's memory to the Deer Lodge Centre Foundation, 2109 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3J 0L3; [The Own Cameron Association in Canada c/o 207 - 5445 Roblin Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3R 3W7](#), or to a charity of your choice would be gratefully appreciated.

A service was held at Neil Bardal Funeral Centre on Saturday, April 27, 2013.

"There's many a man of the Cameron Clan That has followed his chief to the field High, high are their hopes, for their Chieftain hath said, That whatever men dare they can do."

NEIL BARDAL FUNERAL CENTRE 204-949-2200 neilbardalinc.com

Full obit published in the Winnipeg Free Press on April 26, 2013

LILLIAN GUNN

http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-202133/name-Lillian_Gunn/min-run-date-1367643600/order-publish_date|DESC,last_name|ASC/

LILLIAN ANNIE (NICHOLS) GUNN April 1, 1921 - May 2, 2013 Peacefully, with family at her side, Lillian Gunn passed away on May 2, 2013, at Luther Home. She was predeceased by her husband Jack, her brothers and sisters-in-law. Her brother-in-law, "C" Coy piper Charlie Gunn, was KIA while serving with the Camerons during the Dieppe Raid.

From the time she graduated from grade 12, Lillian worked as an executive secretary and administrative assistant for the Walter M. Lowney Co. and Standard Brands Ltd. She was active for many years in the Manitoba Highland Dancers Association and the Kildonan UCW and Atlantic Garden City United Church.

The family offers profound thanks to the staff of Luther Home for their kindness and compassionate care. As per Mom's wishes, there will be no service. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to Luther Home, 1081 Andrews Street, Winnipeg, MB R2V 2G9 or to a charity of your choice.
CROPO FUNERAL CHAPEL 204-586-8044

Full obit published in the Winnipeg Free Press on May 04, 2013

WILLIAM MATVIEW

http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-201899/name-William_Matview/min-run-date-1364360400/date-range-month/classification-id-1/order-publish_date|DESC,last_name|ASC,first_name|ASC/page-3/

WILLIAM (WASYL, BILL) MATVIEW 1921 - 2013 Peacefully at the age of 91, at Holy Family Home, on Thursday, April 25, 2013. Left to cherish his memory are his loving and caring wife Anne, of 57 years, sons Myron, Michael (spouse Cynthia and children Jessica, Sarah, and Christopher), daughter Christine (spouse Darren and children Jennifer and Jordan), and other family members.

Bill was born May 15, 1921 in Zurkiw, Ukraine. During the Second World War, he was moved to Horshburg, Germany where he completed his Theology studies. As this was during the communist regime, and his parents not knowing his whereabouts, they were sent to Siberia where his father died of starvation. His mother eventually returned to the Ukraine. His uncle, Michael Zabrodsky, sponsored Bill and he arrived in Canada on September 28, 1948 to begin a better life. Soon after arriving, he enlisted in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. At St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church, he organized and directed the church choir, and was cantor for 61 years until his illness in 2010. He was employed with the Society For Manitobans With Disabilities for 10 years and later transferred to the Department of Health and Welfare, and was a Social Worker for 35 years. Bill was very active in organizations: Advisory Committee to His Grace Metropolitan Hermaniuk, Secretary of Ukrainian Catholic Council, Secretary at St. Andrew's Church, Secretary of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Men's Club, and Secretary of Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood. On the advice of His Grace Metropolitan Hermaniuk, he organized the Millennium Ukrainian Choir in 1980, at which time it flourished and performed at Roman Catholic and Ukrainian Catholic parishes in Manitoba, and a Gala Concert in 1988 in Winnipeg and Rome, Italy. Bill was very proud of his children and grandchildren. He loved swimming, downhill and water skiing. He recently went through various degrees of illness and was in and out of hospitals for the past four years.

Special thanks to all the medical staff and Dr. Taras Babick and Dr. Peter Bialy who took such good care of Bill for the last several years. Divine Liturgy was sung on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at St. Andrew's Church, 160 Euclid Avenue in Winnipeg. Interment followed the Liturgy at Holy Family Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Andrew's Church and Holy Family Home. VICHNAYA PAMYAT KORBAN FUNERAL CHAPEL 204-956-2193

Full obit published in the Winnipeg Free Press on April 27, 2013

Widow's / Widower's Supplement

There is income supplement for widows / widowers. They will mail out a form for the survivor to complete. You will need proof of marriage and his regimental number etc. and her income tax forms. If the financial situation is going badly the survivor should contact Veterans Affairs.

*** Sick & Visiting ***

Archie Moore (Korea, Post SWW Cameron) – Archie is now a resident at Riverwood Square in Room #8. He enjoys company and always has a quick joke for visitors. Visitors are advised that this is a secure facility as some residents are known to wander. Be sure to be clear on how this place works or you may get to spend the night too.

Tel:(204) 275-7632

<http://www.riverwoodsquare.com/home>

1778 Pembina Highway

Winnipeg, MB

R3T 1R2

Roy Taylor (WW2 RAF, Post SWW Cameron) Roy is at home and comfortable. He enjoys short visits but does get tired quickly. He's doing much better these days than he was a year ago I'm told. He may even drop by the Cameron Highland Games if the P&D put on a bit of a show Louise tells me!

*** President's Message ***

Hello everyone, I hope that all of you survived the long winter and are looking forward to a great summer. It has been a busy year for the Association, and I want to acknowledge the efforts of our own secretary, Hugh O'Donnell who has seemed to be everywhere doing everything at the same time. I can't thank him enough for what he does for all of us.

I want to thank our executive for their commitment to making the Association better. I would also like to thank all of you who joined the Association this year and look forward to your continuing support. I believe that once you have worn the Cameron uniform it becomes a part of you no matter how long you served. As the old saying goes "once a soldier always a soldier".

I think that it would be good to hear from all of the members as to where they are now and what they are doing with their lives since leaving the Camerons. One of the main reasons for joining the Association is to stay in contact with friends and I am sure that you are curious as to where some of your old buddies are and what they are up to. So let us know what you are doing so that we can put it in the Oatmeal Rag. For example, we have given a short list of where some of us are now and what we're up to. Or at least let me know what you think of this idea.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it to the Cameron Reunion & Golf Tournament on the 16-17 August weekend.

*** Vice-President's Message ***

Nothing from Karen at this time.

*** Reconnect with Former Camerons ***

This is an important thing to do for the health of the Association. There are still lots of former Camerons out there that we don't know about for various reasons. Just because you or they weren't Second World War or Korea veterans doesn't make them any less important to the Cameron Association. Please help us locate them and bring them back into the fold. The ranks of the SWW guys are almost non-existent now and the torch must pass to the following generations of Camerons that we may continue to serve our fellow Camerons.

We have 76 paid up members at this time.

*** Where Are They Now? ***

Name	Location	Notes	Contact through:
Steve MacMillan	Wpg, MB	Married Brad Brigden's sister who looks far better than Brad.	Info in latest Oatmeal Rag
Hugh O'Donnell	Wpg, MB	Still serving, Extra Regimentally Employed (ERE)	Info in latest Oatmeal Rag
Andre Blais	Westbank, BC	BC Chapter of the Association.	Hugh O'Donnell for now.
Mark Silver	Maple, ON	Ontario and Eastern Chapter of the Association	Hugh O'Donnell for now.
(William) Bill Gillespie	Honolulu, Hawaii	What more needs to be said?	Hugh O'Donnell for now.

Bill Douglas is doing well at his digs near Osborne Village.

Bill Duncan is still doing fine at his place looking out over Henderson Hwy.

Drop us a line and let us know what you are doing!

*** 2012-13 Dues Still Payable until Aug 2013 ***

As of any old time you can connect Sgt Dave Gibson will take your payment. If you are not sure of your status please contact Dave and he'll either be happy to take your \$10.00 payment or be most unhappy that he doesn't get to take any money from you – yet - this year.

*** Cameron Association Activities *****Cameron Reunion Weekend: 16-17 August 2013**

16 Aug 2013 Reunion at Minto JR's Mess

Date & Time: 16 Aug 2012 - Minto Armouries Junior Ranks Club

Cost: 2013-14 Association dues

17 Aug 2012 - This is the 50th Annual Golf Tournament so it would be nice to have a good turnout.

Golf: Cost is \$40.00 for golf and dinner.

It is \$25.00 if only coming for dinner.

Enter by sending Mr. Don MacDonald a note at dmacdona@mymts.net or calling him at 204-771-3825.

It will be at Assiniboine Golf Club on Ness with a 2:00 p.m. tee time.

“Prizes – ask for prizes” – Bill Worden. Consider yourself asked – and expect a Shawinagan handshake from Bill or Steve if you show up empty handed.

You have been warned !!!

Editor's note: I was not successful in placing the ad in Legion Magazine this year. Internet cyberspace gremlins got my email so the usual ad will NOT appear in Legion Magazine. My sincerest apologies to everyone. I have got the problem sorted out now and it shouldn't happen again.

Cameron Association in Canada Annual General Meeting:**02 October 2013 St James Legion Branch #4****CAMERON ASSOCIATION KIT SHOP stuff:**

Stickers are \$2.00 each and Lapel Pins (3/4 Inch diameter) are \$5.00 each.

(001) Silver Badge on Blue, adhesive backing.

(003) Blue Badge on Silver, adhesive backing.

(005) Blue/Silver Badge on Clear, adhesive on face side for glass.



The pictures were taken on a red background to try to highlight the different styles of sticker. The sticker on the right is on a transparent background sheet, hence it looks red. They will be available at the Cameron Museum on Tuesday nights from Mike Nickerson or from the website.

*** Regimental Web Sites ***

The Unit web site is still up running at:

<http://thequeensowncameronhighlandersofcanada.net/>

Cadet 100th pictures are available from the following web sites:

http://prairiecadets.smugmug.com/Army-Cadets/Army-Corps/Cameron-Cadets-100th-Freedom/29014054_6CmX3J#!i=2473361562&k=Cn8cT56

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdBBTIP4q5Y>

<http://www.cadet-world.com/cwforums/content.php?100-Winnipeg-Cadet-Corps-Celebrates-100th&s=dc6748c6663434ba34f424e930852d87>

Our Picasa web site is also worth a look and is full of little details about our history:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/117042978234752447737?gsessionid=2I4fhFnicaBQw1UpIRMSlw>

We have had a request through the unit web site for information re Lt-Col. Robert Shankland, V.C., D.C.M. If anybody can help out please do so:

Hello,

I am a military historian in Ottawa and I am looking for information -- letters, memoirs, etc -- about Lt. Col. Robert Shankland, V.C., D.C.M. for a possible book on him.

My publisher is HarperCollins. In 2004, H/C published my *The Battle of the St. Lawrence: The Second World War in Canada*; in 2007, H/C published my *Baptism of Fire: The Second Battle of Ypres and the Forging of Canada*. In 2010, H/C published *The Damned: The Canadians at the Battle of Hong Kong and the POW Experience, 1941-45*; this book was shortlisted for the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction. This fall, H/C will be publishing *The Forgotten: Canadian POWs, Escapers and Evaders in Europe, 1939-1945*.

Let me thank you in advance for any help you can give me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan M. Greenfield

Nathan M. Greenfield, Ph.D.
50 Laurier Ave. East
Apt. 1601
Ottawa, Ontario
K1N 1H7
Canada
Phone: 613-837-4166
E-m: nathanmg@rogers.com

*** Unit Events ***

Regiment: The CO has told us that the Camerons have a new HLCol at last! As of 01 May 2013 HLCol Logan has received approval from the Minister and Mr. Nick Logan has accepted the appointment.

He will start his duties at Minto for Advisory Board meeting on 7 May 2013.

“A” Company Update:

“A” Coy has been busy conducting the usual Section and Platoon training. The summer training cycle will be kicking in presently and it’s off to the camps for the summer.

Meanwhile, here are some belated pics from the Men’s Dinner – no room in the last issue, sorry lads!



Corporal of the Year:

LCol (Ret'd) Ken McCuaig presents the Sgian Dhu to Cpl. Wajsowicz



Soldier of the Year Trophy:
Honorary Colonel Bob Vandewater presenting the award to Cpl. Olafson



Cameron of the Year Trophy:
Col (Ret'd) Bob Darling presenting the award to Sgt M. Sinnock



Pipes & Drums Update:

Pipe-Major John Dawson sends his regards to all. The cutbacks to DND will have some effect on what the band will be doing but we're not clear on the fine details at this time.

*** Regimental Advisory Board Notes ***

The Advisory Board continues to provide sound advice to the CO on all matters Cameron in "interesting times".

*** Cameron Cadet Events ***

Captain Kerry Walker, DCO of Queens Own Cameron Cadets, reports that the Cameron Cadet 100th was a great one! They started out with a re-badging ceremony for all cadets to wear the 1913 Highland Cadet Battalion badge for better part of the training year. This happened in the 2nd week of October 2012.

Freedom of the City Parade

Here are a few pictures of the Freedom of the City Parade on 20 April 2013 starting out at The Scottish Monument:



Cameron Cadet 100th

The highlight was at 1300 hrs in the Wpg City Hall courtyard:



Councillor Grant Nordman, Speaker of Council, represented His Worship Mayor Sam Katz and The City of Winnipeg at the parade. He is accompanied by Inspector Rick Poinera of the Winnipeg Police Service.



Annual Ceremonial Review

The Corps had its ACR on the night of 23 May 2013 with the Reviewing Officer being LCol (ret'd) Ken McCuaig. The Cameron Cadets were great, especially given the fact most of the Minto Armouries parade square was unavailable to use due to large cracks in it. The Corps made the best of the situation.

Congrats to Lord Strathcona Medal recipient WO Summers, and Legion Medal of Excellence recipient Cadet Bockstael.

Cameron Cadet RSM CWO Sylvie Atkinson has been selected to receive the 2013 Hubbell Award (Scholarship). On behalf of the Corps, Staff and Officers, and the staff here at The Oatmeal Rag - Congratulations on a well deserved win.

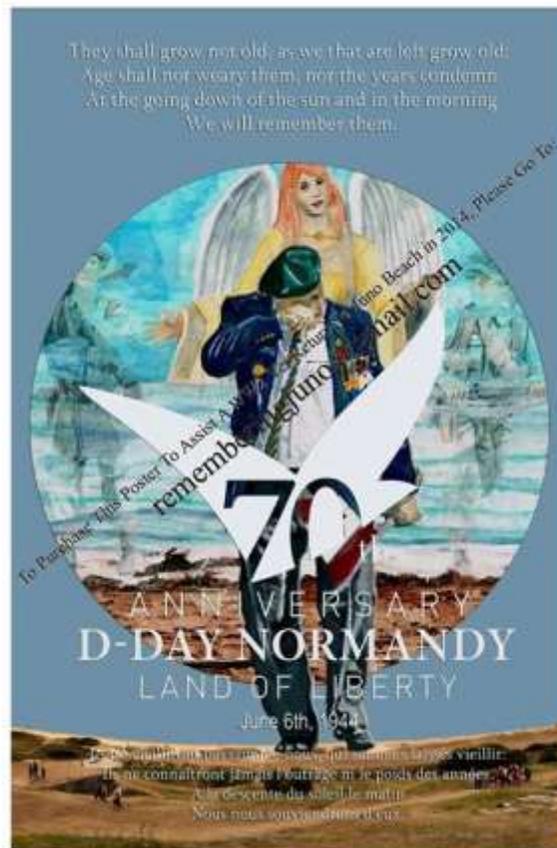
You too can donate to the Cameron Cadets through the Cameron Regimental Foundation but you **MUST** specify that the money is meant for the Cadets!

WW2 Vets Return To Juno

One of the members of the 407 Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders Cadet Corps Facebook site has a request for us:

If you own a business and would like to help WW2 Vets Return To Juno, we are looking for businesses across the country to be distribution locations for the poster Donald Candie and I have produced. If you would like to join this great cause, contact us at:

rememberingjuno@gmail.com



Cheers, Donald Ward CD

Regimental Reinforcements:

Honorary LCol Nick Logan.

*** Regimental Events ***

Incoming Rounds:

Cameron Highland Games:

DTG: Noon and a bit on 15 June 2013

WO Bruce Breusted's Place near Klefield MB

Bring your tent but DON'T drink & drive

Contribution: \$10

The Belgian Veterans Association Branch 107 Independence day Parade And 80th Anniversary of Branch 107

DTG: Fall in 1315, Step Off 1330, Sunday 21 July 2013

Belgian Club / RCL Branch 107 407 PROVENCHER BLVD, WPG

Association Uniform or clean go to church type clothing – this IS a Parade.

It is also often a very long parade on a brutally hot day so drink a good amount of water before you come to avoid falling over like a civy.

Rounds Completed:

Cameron Social Club Whiskey Tasting:

DTG: 06 April 2013 Doors open @ 1800hrs, Tasting starts 1830hrs

Minto Armoury JR Mess

\$40.00 per ticket

WITG Family Day

DTG: 1230 or just after lunch on 02 June 2013

Minto Armoury

*** Links ***

From: "Terry Hall" thall10@cogeco.ca

Date: Mon, 8 Apr 2013

Subject: Military Cameron Kilt for sale

I am a former member of the CH of O regiment living now near Windsor ON. I have for sale an unused Cameron of Erracht kilt, military 22 oz. wool (no longer made), regimental pattern with box pleats set to the yellow strip, 42" waist, at my cost of \$400 (+shipping) if the regiment would be interested.

Mr. Terry Hall
802-421 Dalhousie St.
Amherstburg ON
N9V 3L2
519-551-3871

*** Historical Notes ***

This year will mark the 50th Cameron Reunion according to one who would know for sure. That gent would be Maj. (Ret'd) Ken Smith who has so often graced our annual gathering with his presence and some decent Scotch !

Ken has been wondering for a while now just what the current Cameron Regimental Scotch is ? In his heyday it was Grant's.

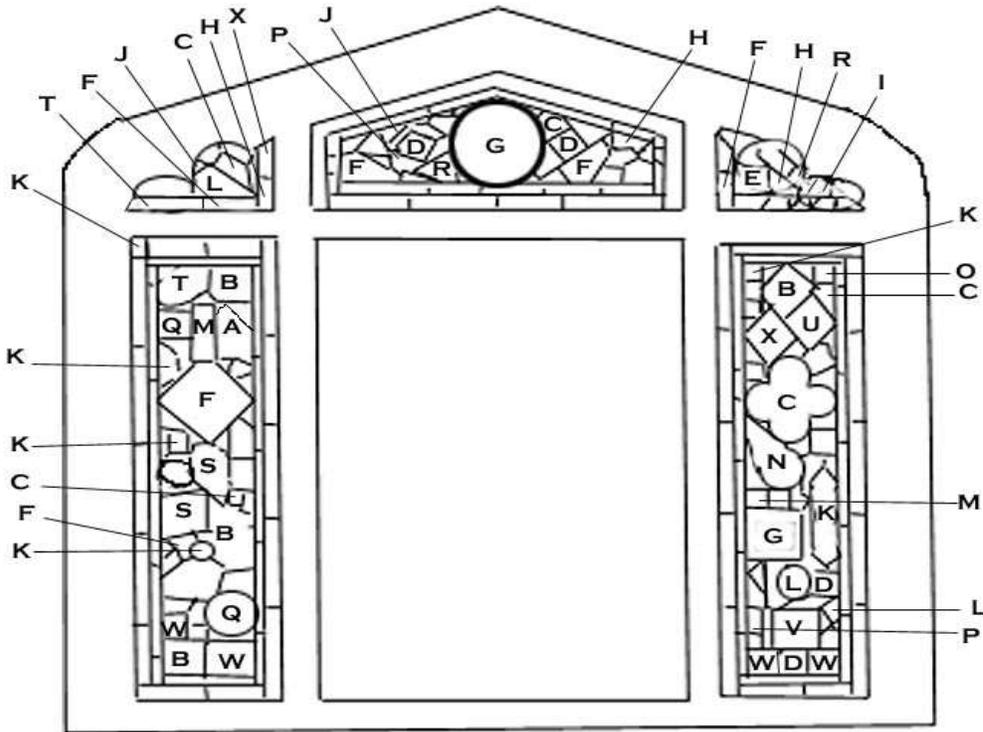
"The Other" Cameron Memorial Window

http://www.highlandsunitedchurch.ca/?page_id=77

The picture of the actual window heads up The Last Post at the start of this issue.

This window came about courtesy of Cameron Padre Hon. Capt. Tom Davies and Medical Officer, Howard "Harry" Marantz. The story I am about to briefly relate comes mainly from Padre Davies himself from a taped sermon delivered to Edmonton's Highland United Church in 1987 during their Centennial celebrations. Some of the story is also courtesy of Mr. Tom Russell who learned of this window from our former RSM

Russ Miller. I will try to make the audio available from the Cameron Picasa web site as soon as time and technical expertise permits



- A)
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bretville, France | (I) Katwyk, Holland | (Q) Gouvix, France |
| (B) Rindern, Germany | (J) Duffelmarch, Ger. | (R) Lisieux, France |
| (C) Xanten, Germany | (K) Louisendorf, Ger. | (S) Bremen, Germany |
| (D) Frasselt, Germany | (L) Marienbaum, Ger. | (T) Gronigen, Holland |
| (E) Bertin, Germany | (M) Fontenay, France | (U) May-sur-Orne, France |
| (F) Cleve, Germany | (N) St. Andre-sur-Orne | (V) Norden |
| (G) Calcar, Germany | (O) Fleury-sur-Orne | (W) Ifs, France |
| (H) Arnhem, Holland | (P) May-sur-Orne | (X) Caen, France |

During the Second World War Highlands' own pre-war minister, the Reverend T.R. Davies, M.A.,B.D.,D.D., served in war-torn Europe with the Camerons as our Padre during the Normandy fighting. Starting about the time of the battle at St. Andre sur Orne he began to collect pieces of stained glass; fragments of windows from bombed-out churches.

Our Medical Officer at this time was Capt. Howard "Harry" Marantz. Capt. Marantz was

from rural MB, and had qualified as a doctor just a few short years prior to the out break of war. The two would seek decent sized bits of stained glass after the day's fighting had come to a close to add to the Padre's collection.

On one very notable occasion the fighting had not been of its usual intensity (the Allied casualty rate in Normandy '44 was actually worse than at Passchendaele in 1917 !) the Padre came up short – no glass was to be had from the nearby church. Ever the helpful soul in this quest the M.O. promptly offered to send up a few orderlies with pickaxe handles to smash out a few windows. Padre Davies declined the assistance with thanks and went for another look round the back of the church while the M.O. headed for home.

Sure enough the Padre found a few pieces of the correct size for his collection in the deep grass at the back, damage no doubt from some young boys with stones long before the war. When he returned glass in hand the M.O. was a bit surprised and apparently said "I didn't think you'd actually do that !"

So what was the purpose that drove the Padre and M.O. to collect the stained and smashed glass from these shattered churches ? The M.O. would provide the Padre with a list of the day's casualties and regimental numbers. The Padre then carefully recorded the history of each piece and the details from the M.O. onto each piece of glass. This practice of an evening stroll collecting bits of glass continued all throughout that long and bloody summer in Normandy but came to a shrieking halt near Claire Tizon when German shelling caught the Regimental Aid Post and Padre both. The Padre was wounded and eventually returned to duty, upon which a former Cameron medical orderly returned his collection of stained glass to continue the work. Sadly, the M.O. was killed, of which more below.

The pieces were later put together to create Highlands United Church's renowned Memorial Window. There are, according to Padre Davies' count, 240 names most of whom are Camerons on that window. Padre Davis, M.C. was also known to search the battlefields at night for MIA and KIA guys to bring them in for treatment or burial.

Perhaps if someone is going by Highlands United Church in Edmonton, AB we'll be able to run a larger picture in The Oatmeal Rag ?

Capt. Howard "Harry" Marantz:

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/historic/32003504.html>



Capt. Harry Marantz: died in Normandy battle



Denis Marantz: father's headstone

One death, two burials

A son connects with his soldier-dad in the cemeteries of France

Posted: 11/11/2006

MY father, Capt. Harry Marantz, was felled by German artillery on Aug. 14, 1944, in the fighting to cross the bridge at Clare Tizon in Normandy, one of the many battles of the Falaise pocket. As a doctor, he was detached from the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg. As was the practice, those slain on the battlefield were buried temporarily where they fell, pending relocation to a permanent burial site when circumstances permitted. Official reports indicated that father was first buried in a garden behind a hedge in Clare Tizon.

Last month, my wife Karen and I set out to visit father's grave in the Canadian cemetery at Bretteville-sur-Laize, off the road from Caen to Falaise. The absence of visitors against a background of trees losing their leaves and a grey sky lent a melancholy loneliness to the cemetery. At first, the ordered rows of headstones imposed an impersonal solemnity to the some 3,000 gravesites, but that same orderliness brought home the enormity of the losses to gain such a modest amount of ground. This visit was to set off a series of coincidences that gave us cause to think that some hidden hand was guiding us to connect in unanticipated ways with a father I had last seen in 1940.

At father's headstone we peeled off a red maple leaf, and then a second, that were stuck there by the early morning dew. We thought no more about our find until it dawned on us as we went through the rows of headstones that no more red leaves were to be found, making our two unexpectedly precious, to be dried and brought home to Canada. We paused at many of the graves thinking that a visit even from a stranger can have meaning. We realized then that we had to make more than a passing visit and that for it to be more meaningful we should retrace father's route from his last day at Clare Tizon to Bretteville-sur-Laize.

We drove many kilometres and queried many people as to the location of Clare Tizon without success. Anticipating the need to move on, we decided as a last act to plant a flowering shrub beside father's gravestone, and selected at random one of the two florists in a nearby village. As an aside, we asked the florist whether she knew the location of Clare Tizon and explained our interest. She became quite excited and informed us that her assistant was from that village. He gave us detailed instructions on how to find it.

We returned to the cemetery to plant the shrub with the willing assistance of the caretakers. The following morning we set out to find Clare Tizon, but again to no avail. By early afternoon we had given up and were returning to our hotel by a circuitous route when out of the blue a sign post for Clare Tizon sprang in to view and we were through the hamlet before we could even brake. We turned around and stopped at a plant nursery to ask about the hamlet's role in the events of August 1944 and to find out whether any of the older villagers might have recollections of those days. The nursery man knew little, but his mother rushed forward to tell us that the local citizens have virtually turned their

community into a memorial to the Canadians killed on the 13th, 14th and 15th of that August. She instructed her son to leave his work and to take us to a local historian who lived a few kilometers away.

We found Monsieur Bernard Flais in a centuries-old farmhouse, built around the traditional Norman square with house and outbuildings forming the sides. He immediately invited us in and informed us that he, as a 17-year-old messenger, and his father as a combatant for the French underground had participated in the fighting that preceded the invasion of Normandy and after. He recalled that the Germans had targeted the bridge and were waiting for it to be crossed. The Régiment de Maisonneuve were to be the first and were mauled in the barrage that followed, but other units and regiments suffered casualties as well, notably the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, the Calgary Highlanders, and the South Saskatchewan Rifles. Monsieur Flais remembered seeing father's aid post, tucked in against a stone house, and seeing it blown apart. The aid post was but 100 metres from the bridge and in a direct line of fire from a hidden .88 battery overlooking the village from less than a mile away. Monsieur Flais brought out a hand-written inventory of the 41 Canadians who were killed in that fighting. The list named each Canadian and identified the exact location where each was temporarily buried. Father's name was on the list and Monsieur Flais volunteered to take us to his burial site to ensure we were given access to the garden.

When we explained once again the purpose of our visit, we were invited on to the property, and the occupants retold the story of the battle for the bridge from accounts they had from their parents. They remembered that a hedge once surrounded the garden and confirmed that two soldiers had been buried together, my father Capt. Marantz, and a Pte. Wheeler of the Cameron Highlanders. As Karen strolled through the garden she noticed suddenly that the very same flowering shrub that we had selected for father's grave at Bretteville-sur-Laize was growing as a mature shrub over his first burial site. The eerie coincidences of the maple leaves, the happenstance selection of the florist and the locating of the hamlet and finally the co-existence of the flowering shrubs had become too much and we knew then that we had to return once more to father's grave.

Our visit had come full circle and was now complete. I crouched by dad's headstone, holding on to it with both hands while reflecting on the visit. My emotions threatened to overwhelm my self control and I could barely hold back my tears. Reluctantly, I let go. The forlorn thought came to mind that perhaps I had connected with the past through the transmittal of some of my warmth. We looked around one last time, hoping that at some time or another each grave had received or would receive a visit similar to ours. Bretteville-sur-Laize remains a very eloquent but lonely resting place.

Dennis Marantz is a retired senior federal civil servant who now lives in Prince Edward Island.

Editor's Note: Capt. Marantz is also remembered with an obelisk in one of Winnipeg's North End Jewish cemeteries - but I have not yet managed to get a picture of it.

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Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame searching for relatives of Bullet Joe Simpson

http://www.winnipeg_sun.com/2013/04/28/manitoba-sports-hall-of-fame-searching-for-relatives-of-bullet-joe-simpson

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bullet_Joe_Simpson

The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame is under the gun to find a relative of Bullet Joe. Harold Joseph "Bullet Joe" Simpson will be inducted posthumously as an athlete at Sport Manitoba's Night of Champions on April 30 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Sport Manitoba has found no direct descendent of Simpson, a former NHL defenceman who was born in Selkirk in 1893, to accept the honour on his behalf.

Simpson was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto in 1962 before he died in 1973 at age 80. After his death, he was also inducted in Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame.

Rick Brownlee, the sport heritage manager at Sport Manitoba, explained how someone like Simpson wasn't already in Manitoba's hall.

When the Winnipeg Tribune Sports Hall of Fame was at the Winnipeg Arena from the 1950s until 1979, there was no formal selection criteria or process, he said. When the Tribune folded, the Manitoba Sports Federation (now Sport Manitoba) started over again by implementing a criteria.

"As a result, we're two to three decades behind most other provinces in their provincial halls of fame," Brownlee said on Friday.

In 2004, when Sport Manitoba celebrated its 25th anniversary, 39 individuals and 26 teams were inducted in an attempt to catch up.

Inductees must be nominated and most people probably assumed Simpson had already been inducted, Brownlee said.

Simpson captained the 61st Battalion to the 1916 Allan Cup, then served with the 43rd Bn CEF Camerons of Canada in the First World War before returning to star in the NHL for the New York Americans.

It's a rarity for the hall to not have anyone on hand to accept the award, Brownlee said. In order to nominate someone who is deceased, the next of kin must be listed on the nominations form, which can be downloaded on Sport Manitoba's website.

"But what's worse, not putting Bullet Joe in because you can't find a relative or putting him in because he's deserving?" Brownlee said.

Honouring him is definitely the right choice. Good on the hall of fame's veterans committee for discovering Simpson's omission.

Anyone who knows of a living relative of Simpson is asked to contact Brownlee at 204-925-5736 or halloffame@sportmanitoba.ca.

*** More Links ***

43rd Bn CEF Camerons of Canada Links:

http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/results/arch?form=arch_adv&lang=eng&FormName=MIKAN+Advanced+Search&P

[ageNum=1&SortSpec=score+desc&HighLightFields=title%2Cname&Language=eng&QueryParser=lac_mikan&Sources=mikan&Archives=&ShowForm=show&SearchIn_1=&SearchInText_1=43rd+canadian+infantry&Operator_1=AND&SearchIn_2=&SearchInText_2=&Operator_2=AND&SearchIn_3=&SearchInText_3=&Media=&Level=&MaterialDateOperator=after&MaterialDate=&DigitalImages=&Source=&cinInd=&ResultCount=10](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/commentary/dont-let-ottawa-make-financial-scapegoats-of-our-veterans/article1377277/)

Veteran's Link:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/commentary/dont-let-ottawa-make-financial-scapegoats-of-our-veterans/article1377277/>

Afghanistan May 2013

<http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2013/06/afghanistan-may-2013/100526/>

*** “It wouldn't be an Oatmeal Rag w/o a Wee Joke” (Russ Miller) ***

Murphy's Other Laws (Courtesy of Ron Williams)

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.



No joke - how do Canadians get in on a deal like this ?

I need a piper for a Cameron Association member's funeral ? ? ?

For those of you who are trying to plan ahead or suddenly need to book a piper for one of our Comrades and don't know how it is done here you go:

1. Contact the President of the Cameron Association or the Editor of the Oatmeal Rag at a reasonable hour; and
2. We'll pass you the contact information of the current Cameron Pipe-Major (because the appointment does actually change from century to century or so and otherwise you may call the wrong guy); and
3. The P/M will help you to make the appropriate arrangements.

Verification of Former Service DS Solution: You can make a request under the Access to Information Act, which will provide you with proof of your service with the Camerons. Thanks very much to Sgt V. Sellars from Minto. Please click on the link:

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/tbsf-fsct/350-58-eng.asp>

Something Different

Dutch brothers of Afghan origin Massoud (left) and Mahmud Hassani push the "mine kafon", a wind-driven gadget to clear anti-personnel mines, at their Eindhoven workshop on December 19, 2012. According to the men the inexpensive contraption could save thousands of lives in Afghanistan. (Jan Hennop/AFP/Getty Images)



Tim Horton's initiative - franchise location available in Swan River, Manitoba
Monday, 22, April, 2013

Gentlemen, FYSA and action as you deem appropriate.

Be advised Tim Horton's has created a franchise ownership program for veterans (including reservists) and the first franchise ownership possibility has been pointed out by Tim Horton's in Swan River, Manitoba.

HLCol Hari Panday, from 32 Svc Bn, has chosen to remain the POC (details below) for those interested and Tim Horton's will communicate with him of all future opportunities: new locations as well as retiring or existing current owners.

HLCol Hari Panday, CGA, ICD.D

32 SVC BN

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Maj. Bill Gray, Cameron Advisory Board.

Sgt Tim Seeley, Drum Sgt Extraordinaire

MCpl (Ret'd) Mark Silver, our "Eastern Branch" contact

Sgt (Ret'd) Roy Taylor, the WO's & Sgt's #1 choice for reading "Rab" Burn's poetry

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