



'The Vancouver Gunners'
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC
V6J 2C7 www.vancouvergunners.ca



2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7
www.rusivancouver.ca

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Nov 10, 2020

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at bob.mugford@gmail.com to let me know you didn't get your copy.

Newsletter on line. This newsletter and previous editions are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: www.vancouvergunners.ca and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html>. Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

Wednesday Lunches - Lunches suspended until further notice. Everyone stay safe!!

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars (see Poster section at end)

The 2021 BC Military Gala is **CANCELLED. The Sheraton Wall Ctr is booked for Apr 23, 2022**

Aug 09

to

Virtual Remembrance Run in Support of the Juno Beach Centre

Nov 28

Nov 10 'Wednesday Lunch' Zoom meeting

Nov 11 Remembrance Day 2020 at Victory Square Vancouver Global TV 1030-1130hrs

'Wednesday Lunch' Zoom meeting

Nov 18 **RUSI(NS)** - Arctic Continental Defense: Canada and US Perspective

'Wednesday Lunch' Zoom meeting

The Candlelight Ceremony at the Canadian War Museum

VAC debuted this video at 7 pm last Friday. Traditionally, the candlelight ceremony has been held at the Canadian War Museum in partnership with the City of Ottawa. The pandemic has forced it online and it is a positive narrative for the whole country.

<https://www.facebook.com/CanadaRemembers/posts/10159017485640663>

Interview of Sgt Norm Kirby by the Juno beach Association

On Friday, October 30, 2020, Sergeant Norm Kirby, one of our local heroes, was interviewed by the Juno Beach Centre Association - click here to view the video:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBWqgdTUuA&feature=youtu.be>

Remembrance Day 2020 at Victory Square Vancouver

6 Nov 2020

The risk and on-going threat caused by the COVID-19 pandemic will dramatically affect how Remembrance Day will be commemorated at Victory Square in Vancouver on this 75th anniversary year that marks the end of World War Two. Most obvious will be the effect of protocols ordered by health authorities on large gatherings by maintaining physical distancing, the wearing of masks, and a limit of 50 persons taking part at the Victory Square ceremony on November 11th. Because of these restrictions the public is being discouraged from attending at Victory Square on Remembrance Day and encouraged to watch the ceremony from home on television or on live streaming.

There will be no parade of veterans, military units, and cadets. The Cenotaph will be fenced off and only Official wreaths will be placed. No Recognized or public wreaths will be placed this year. The Sarabande Chamber Choir will perform at a separate venue, along with the Vancouver Fire & Rescue Service Band. The ceremony itself will be abbreviated but will retain important components such as a soloist, songs by the Choir, a student poet, and at 11 O'clock the Last Post will be sounded followed by the Lament and Rouse, a 21-gun salute, concluding with a fly past of the RCAF Aurora patrol aircraft.

Cam Cathcart

Director of Ceremonies, Vancouver Remembrance Day Committee

Hon Col Allan De Genova Receives Minister of Veterans' Affairs Commendation



Allan De Genova
Hon Col 15Fd Regt RCA
West Vancouver, British Columbia

Allan De Genova is nominated for contributions to military personnel, first responders, Veterans and their families with Honour House Society.



He is the “driving force” behind the establishment of Honour House Society and has been its President for over a decade. Through his tireless work, he secured the support of many organizations and individuals, and his vision came to fruition when Honour House opened its doors in 2010.

Honour House Society is a non-profit, charitable organization that seeks to provide a “home away from home” and place to recover for military personnel and first responders while they are receiving medical care or coping with a tragedy. Since opening, Honour House has provided over 10,000 nights of accommodation in a heritage home.

Recently, Honour House Society launched Honour Ranch, which will offer access to natural, agricultural and environmental treatments and will have mental health professionals available on site. Scheduled to open in 2020, the 120-acre property in Ashcroft, BC contains ten separate cottages and a main lodge. He has made the opening of Honour Ranch a priority and, despite running a real estate marketing company, has poured “hours, days, and weeks” of his time in support of our Veterans.

He also worked to raise the over \$1.2 million dollars required to refurbish the largest cenotaph in Greater Vancouver.

Congratulations Al!!

Arctic Continental Defense: Canada and US Perspective

RUSI(NS) - Distinguished Speakers 18 November 2020

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia and the North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command (NORAD and NORTHCOM) extend an invitation to hear video-conference presentations Wednesday, 18 November 2020 by Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Burke, Director of Operations, Joint Task Force North, and Mr Todd 'Charley' Davis, Chief, NORAD Campaign & Arctic Branch, J5 Strategy, Policy & Plans, NORAD and USNORTHCOM. LCol Burke's talk is titled “Op Nanook: Meeting northern challenges with regional collaboration,” and Mr Davis' talk is titled "NORAD and USNORTHCOM perspectives on Arctic Defense and Security." The speakers will address the importance of collaboration and relationships for protecting northern and Arctic North America. Their bios are attached.

The talk will start at **1 pm Halifax time**, Wednesday, 18 November, then be followed by Q&A and finish by 3 pm Halifax time. **Registration is required.** There is no fee to attend this event. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Sunday, 15 November. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS)/N-NC Distinguished Speakers 18 November 2020 Registration. In addition to your name please also provide your organization.

The event will be done by Zoom. Instructions will be emailed to registrants by end Monday, 16 November.

RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice. Email RUSI(NS) if there is a question about an event occurring.

Please forward this invitation to any whom you think may be interested in attending.

CAH Darlington
Commander, Royal Canadian Navy (retired)
Vice-President, RUSI(NS)

The Story of the Double Dog Tag

Sarah Ashbridge

Major General Sir Fabian Arthur Goulstone Ware KCVO KBE CB CMG (17 June 1869 – 28 April 1949) was a British educator, journalist, and the founder of the Imperial War Graves Commission (IWGC), now the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC).



British World War II fibre-disc-type dog tag

In 1914 the British Army introduced a single fibre identity disc, replacing the 1907 aluminium disc. It was to be worn around the soldier's neck, beneath their clothing, and if they died, the disc was to be removed and returned to confirm the death. Soon into the war it became clear that removing the disc left the dead unidentifiable. In May 1916, Temporary Major Arthur Albert Messer of the Directorate of Graves Registration and Enquiries wrote to Adjutant General to the Forces, Nevil Macready, on behalf of Fabian Ware to address these difficulties in the field, making a proposal for the provision of two identity discs, as had been introduced by the French to remedy the issue of unidentifiable soldiers on the battlefield. Through Messer, Ware reminded Macready that he had previously proposed a similar scheme which had been rejected as there 'were serious reasons for doubting if British soldiers would adapt themselves to the system'. However, as it had been found to 'work satisfactorily in the French Army', it was hoped that the idea might be considered once again as 'the number of graves which are unknown owing to this cause is very considerable'. Ware also consulted the armies on the matter, with all replying in favour of a new duplicate disc scheme.

As a result of Ware's consultation, it was decided that the French system of two discs, with one worn around the neck and one worn upon the wrist, would 'not be suitable' for the British Army, as where the French had been able to rapidly supply the second disc to men in the field. Ware sketched a design for a two-disc system, which included a new octagonal, green disc, worn suspended from the original red disc by a short piece of cord. The lower disc would be removed 'for the purpose of evidence of death' and the original upper disc would remain on the body to be removed at the time of burial when a grave marker would be placed to help to ensure that the soldier was identifiable in the future. The shape of the new disc, and the additional holes punched into the existing round disc would allow any searcher to feel the disc in times when vision was limited, to ascertain whether the death was recent or if it was an older disc. The scheme was approved on the 24 June 1916, and four million green discs were ordered, to be fitted with cord by the contractor. All orders for new red discs were to be amended to feature the additional hole at the base of the disc, and existing red discs in stores were to be perforated in the same way.

The double identity disc scheme was announced to soldiers in an Army Order on 24 August 1916. The order described the discs which each officer and soldier would be supplied with 'in future'. The drawing of the discs features the same discs depicted in the original design; however, the location of the discs had been reversed. There are no surviving documents which confirm the reason for this change, but from the information given in Major Courage's letter to Ware, we can presume that this switch removed the requirement to punch an additional hole in the existing red

disc which would save both time and money, allowing the discs to reach soldiers in a more timely manner. By September, soldiers were instructed that in the case of the death of a soldier or an officer, the lower red disc should be removed, though the upper green disc was *not* to be removed and should be buried with the body. Where a body could be reached and identified, but not buried at the time, the lower red disc was still to be removed ‘to ensure proper notification of death’, with the upper green disc remaining ‘as a safeguard against loss of identity’ in the future when burial might be possible. Despite this warning, it would be months before the new discs were ready for dispatch. On 12th November 1916, Ware wrote again to Macready asking if there was anything that could be done to ‘expedite the issue of the new double identity discs to troops in the fighting line’, reiterating the large numbers of unidentifiable dead found in recent months due to ‘the want of the second disc’. Ware received a reply a few days later, stating that 200,000 new discs had arrived in France and were being distributed at a rate of 50,000 a week. By the 1st December it was reported that 1,067,000 new discs had been issued to France, with a further 690,000 owed. It was expected that the order would be fulfilled within a further four weeks.

CWGC archival documents allow us to witness the speedy design process of a new piece of kit in the British Army, with Ware acting as a facilitator on behalf of the Armies in order to initiate change. This resulted in the creation of one of the most iconic pieces of military kit, recognised by even those with little knowledge about the war. In the Spring of 1920, the Imperial War Graves Commission would come to the conclusion that the fibre identity discs had ‘not proved satisfactory’ as the discs had turned to pulp when exposed to the elements or left upon a decomposing body. Despite this knowledge, the 1916 double identity disc was used until long after the conclusion of World War 2, with no recorded efforts to improve the disc material.

The Mystery of the Thames Victoria Cross

Stephen J Thorne September 23, 2020



*This Victoria Cross was found along the Thames River shore by Tobias Neto in 2015. It is dated 5 NOV 1854, making it one of the first VCs awarded.
Museum of London*

In December 2015, a “mudlark” treasure-hunting along the bank of the Thames River in southern England found a corroded metal cross buried in the ooze exposed at low tide. His name was Tobias Neto, and the hunk of rusty metal was none other than a Victoria Cross. Or was it? “It was covered in mud,” Neto recalled. “I kept it and carried on detecting. Only when I got home did I realize I had a VC medal in my hands—I could read the writing ‘For Valour’ below the crown. “Eventually I noticed the date on the reverse: 5 NOV 1854.” The Thames foreshore—that 150-kilometre strand of slimy shoreline exposed when the tide goes out—is a treasure-trove of history, a veritable archive of London’s long and colourful past where clay pipes, pottery shards, ships’ timbers, medieval stoneworks, rubble from the London Blitz and countless other artifacts are exposed daily. Many are preserved by the oxygen-free mud.



“Inkerman” by English artist Robert Alexander Hillingford. The ridge at Inkerman was a key objective to breaking the siege at Sevastopol during the Crimean War. Robert Alexander Hillingford/The Knohl Collection

Treasure hunters (mudlarks, or beachcombers in Canadian parlance) like Tobias—who had found such rarities as a 13th-century Pilgrim badge; an 18th-century syringe to treat syphilis; Elizabethan hammered coins; Roman coins and a Celtic coin dated AD 40—are licensed and expected to report finds of historical import. And that’s just what he did, turning the medal over to the Portable Antiquities Scheme, a voluntary program run by the British government to record small finds of archaeological interest found by members of the public. It ended up in the hands of Kate Sumnall, a finds liaison officer at the Museum of London. The details—a lion, a crown, the date and the words ‘For Valour’—notwithstanding, she found herself confronted with more questions than answers: Was it a genuine VC or was it a replica? If real, who earned this medal? And how on earth did it end up in the Thames River? “Do you realize you have the find of a lifetime? You might be the only person in the world to have found a VC medal,” she told Tobias before launching her probe.

The VC is the highest and most prestigious award in the British honours system, presented for valour “in the presence of the enemy” to members of the British armed forces and, until they established their own VCs, to soldiers, sailors and air crew of Commonwealth countries. It has been awarded 1,358 times to 1,355 individuals, 98 of them Canadian. According to the date—Nov. 5, 1854—the Thames medal was awarded for actions at the Battle of Inkerman during the Crimean War. Inkerman was a strategic ridge held by the Allies. The Russians, with superior numbers and guns, saw it as a key objective to breaking the siege at Sevastopol. Outnumbered 67,979 to 13,239, the British, French and Ottoman Empire soldiers nevertheless held their ground. The VC was first awarded by Queen Victoria on Jan. 29, 1856, to honour acts of valour during the Crimean War—making this medal, if proven genuine, one of the first VCs ever pinned on a soldier’s chest. The early versions were struck from Russian cannons captured at Sevastopol itself, later ones from two Chinese cannons. It was the first British medal that was classless and could be awarded to any rank. Intrigued, Sumnall sought the advice of a curator at the Royal Artillery Museum and David Callaghan, a former director of Hancocks, makers of the Victoria Cross since its inception. At the time, the Museum of London had on loan from a private collection the notebook from Hancocks alphabetically listing VC recipients with key information, some of which doesn’t appear elsewhere. Sixteen VCs were awarded for the Battle of Inkerman. The Hancocks notebook, however, lists the battle’s date 23 times, including seven times in which individuals are connected to more than one action. As with other medals, more than one award warrants a bar to the ribbon. Only three bars have ever been issued to the Victoria Cross and none were awarded during the Crimean War. There are, however, random examples of VCs engraved with more than one date.



Seven soldiers of the 68th (Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry) are dressed for winter warfare in Crimea in 1855.

Robert Fenton/National Army Museum/1964-12-151-6-26

There are also lists describing where all of the Victoria Cross medals are currently located. Worth anywhere from a few hundred thousand dollars to more than \$3 million apiece, a tenth of all VCs awarded were in the private collection of Lord Michael Ashcroft, a British-Belizean businessman and politician. The locations of two of the VCs awarded for actions during the Battle of Inkerman were unknown at the time of Neto's discovery. The pair of unknowns, it was established, belonged to Private John Byrne of the 68th (Durham) Light Infantry and Private John McDermond of the 47th (The Lancashire) Regiment. Callaghan, the former Hancocks expert, was unable to verify the authenticity of the Thames medal. As Sumnall noted in an account on the museum's website, counterfeit or reproduction VCs are readily available on the Internet and the difference is not always easily discernible. Accounts say he is buried in an unmarked pauper's grave, an all-but-forgotten hero. Furthermore, the quality of the repurposed metal of the originals, having once formed cannons and now a cross, is poor. "I have been told it is not easy to work with," Sumnall wrote. "As such, it is difficult to engrave consistently and naturally variations occur. "Secondly, analysis of the metal would also be inconclusive as the tolerances are too wide. It comes down to a judgement call and, quite simply, more evidence is needed." Hancocks eventually did confirm the medal's authenticity. It was now up to the experts to figure out to which of the two soldiers, Byrne or McDermond, it belonged. Both posed fascinating stories.

A cannon captured at Sevastopol forms a permanent memorial in Toronto.

Wikimedia



McDermond (1832-1868) was a Scot who joined his regiment at 14 years old. A painting in the Regimental Council Chamber of the Lancashire Infantry Museum shows the action where he earned his Victoria Cross. With no thought for his own safety, McDermond reportedly killed a Russian who had wounded a British colonel. He remained in the army until he was "invalided out" due to an ankle injury. He later contracted typhus, after which his records are difficult to trace, especially since the name is relatively common. Records indicate he was registered as a Chelsea pensioner in July 1862 and some accounts say he is buried in an unmarked pauper's grave at Woodside Cemetery in Paisley in the west central lowlands of Scotland, an all-but-forgotten hero.

Byrne (1832-1879) was an Irishman with what Sumnall described as "a somewhat chequered past." He joined the army at 17 and was "highly decorated with VC-worthy actions" at Inkerman and Sevastopol. In the action for which he received the VC, he returned under heavy fire to the

front line after a retreat was ordered to rescue a wounded comrade. He was, according to reports, tortured by what he saw long after he left the battlefield. His life ended in tragedy a quarter-century after the events of Inkerman due to what would likely be diagnosed today as post-traumatic stress disorder. The Crimean War veteran worked himself into a fury after he or his medal—it's unclear which—was mocked by colleague John Watts as they worked for an ordnance survey team. Byrne pulled out a revolver and shot the 18-year-old, wounding him in the arm. Hours later, surrounded by a large crowd and police, he turned the gun on himself. The inquest that followed his suicide inside Newport's Crown Inn in July 1879 was told that he had probably imagined the insult. Watts testified he had simply advised Byrne to put out his pipe while on parade to comply with orders from their commanding officer. But Byrne's landlady, Eliza Morgan, told the coroner he was furious at the remark, telling her: "I served my Queen and country for 21 years and I'll never be insulted by a curr puppy."



Men of the 68th (Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry) in Crimea in 1855. The soldiers are wearing cross belts; as the war continued, a more comfortable waist belt was issued.

Roger Fenton/The National Army Museum/127764

A few hours after shooting Watts, Byrne found himself holed up at the inn, where he told landlord Salter Davy that he had shot the youth by accident. Davy tried to persuade Byrne to give himself up but, confronted by police, Byrne took his gun, put the barrel into his mouth, and pulled the trigger. Byrne had said he lost his medal in a fire. It is now believed his troubled state of mind may explain how his VC, today worth in the neighbourhood of \$100,000, could have ended up in the Thames mud. Its finder, Neto of Putney, southwest of London, is convinced that Byrne threw the medal in the Thames "in a fit of regret and despair." Byrne had said he lost his medal in a fire. On a 2017 visit to Byrne's grave at the Saint Woolos Cemetery in Newport, Wales, Neto said Byrne has been "from Day 1, my No 1 suspect and that was the main reason of my visit. I've always thought the medal belonged to him." Said Sumnall: "This was by all measures an incredible discovery. We may never establish with certainty to whom it belonged, but the stories that lie behind this medal are truly fascinating." The artifact, now in London's National Army Museum, is missing a key piece of evidence—its suspender bar, which bears the recipient's name. If found, experts say it could double the medal's value. Neto is still searching the mud of the River Thames.

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

Warrant Officer Class II George Chow, CD – Regrettably, a former member of the unit passed away on the evening of 6 November 2020. He had turned 99 the day before.
<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/obituaries-2020.html>

Yorke Island – Ottawa Volunteer

We're still looking for that volunteer in Ottawa to assist us in scouring the Yorke Island files at Library and Archives. Have you got a friend in Ottawa you can reach out to?
<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/library-and-archives-canada>

Honour Country Sacrifice -Trevor Godinho, a Canadian photographer, is working on a project to share the stories of everyday veterans. COVID 19 is playing havoc with his ability to organize a large event but you can get in contact with him through his website <https://trevorgodinho.com/news/honour-country-sacrifice-project>

Distinguished Conduct Medal - Battery Sergeant Major Mark Beards, DCM and Driver Weston Baldwin, DCM were added to our list of known Distinguished Conduct Medal recipients. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/distinguished-conduct-medal.html>

Military Medal - Gunner William Baldwin, MM was added to our list of Military Medal recipients. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/military-medal.html>

Veterans' Week – Did you download your copy of the list of known Gunner burial locations? <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/veterans-week>

Yearbook Update 1950 – 102nd Coast Artillery Recruiting brochure was added. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1950---102nd-coast-regt-rca.html>

Yearbook Update 1942 – Popular Mechanics article on the 105mm Howitzer. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1942.html>

VAA Virtual Lunch every Wednesday at Noon PDT - <https://zoom.us/j/710845848> - Drop in for 10 minutes or stay for an hour.

Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe!

Who (or What) Is It?

Last Week: This 25 pdr is in Macau. The Portuguese army in that colony had a battery of towed 25 pdrs and another of Sextons, until they left after the Communist riots of the late 1960s, being replaced by the police. All equipment was former Canadian Army stuff, supplied under NATO agreements. The Portuguese continued to use both sets of equipment overseas until they ended their empire after the Carnation revolution in 1974, leaving kit in several former colonies. They continued using both at home until the late 70s. The former director of the Museum of Coastal Defence in Hong Kong, Louis Ng, is convinced that some Sextons are still in Macau, hidden in the back of a now-PLA warehouse. I don't doubt it, as it is a very odd little place, filled with old fortifications.



This specific gun is at the Museum of Macau Security Forces (formerly the Museu Militar), located in the former Fortaleza de Sao Francisco, near the Club Militar, which has a great Portuguese restaurant - open to the public now.

This Week: We return to the air for this week's quiz. Many are the odd aircraft that have taken to the skies since the first brave souls launched themselves into the ether over 100 years ago. This

is less so today, as boring rules, such as the laws of physics, have dictated that aircraft of a certain vocation tend to look a certain way. Therefore, no current airliner looks anything other than a descendant of a Boeing 707, with none resembling the flying wings that we once thought would ply future skies. Combat aircraft look so much alike that one wonders if industrial espionage actually happens outside of Hollywood blockbusters. Not so in the past. Fearless designers would bolt bits and bobs here and there in the hope that something might work, provided the machine didn't crash on takeoff. As a wee laddie, my best friend and I delighted in spending 79 cents for a plastic kit of the Convair XFY-1 Pogo, or the Douglas X-3 Stiletto. Even stranger were some French contraptions, such as the Coléoptère, that were kitted, but not available at the hardware store near Cardinal Heights, Ontario, where we bought our models. By the way, if you find any of these kits, let me know. They aren't worth anything, but I might give you 79 cents for each. I have some BRIC shares I'll exchange with you.



So, let us move on to our weekly photo, or part of the photo. Were we to show you the whole shot, you'd know in an instant which weirdo it is. That is why we are only showing part of the flying machine. Show us your aeronautical knowledge and tell us what it is

by contacting the editor, Bob Mugford (bob.mugford@gmail.com), or the author/model builder, John Redmond (johnd._redmond@telus.net). Chocks away!

From the 'Punitary'

What do you call an everyday potato? A commontator

Murphy's Other Laws

A bird in the hand is safer than two overhead.

Quotable Quotes

All we have of freedom, all we use or know,
This our fathers bought for us, long and long ago. *Rudyard Kipling*

Wednesday Digital Video Lunch

No need to worry about COVID-19 when you go digital. Pop into our video lunch **at noon** on Wednesdays and say hi. All you need is a laptop, tablet or smartphone. These sessions are being hosted by the Vancouver Artillery Association and are **open to all** – especially those who attended our Wednesday lunches.

Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies.

<https://zoom.us/j/710845848>

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile,



desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San Jose, CA.

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting now](#)

Use the link above on your computer Zoom program or dial in on your phone 778 907 2071 Meeting ID: 710 845 848

Invite 2 friends! We have room for 100! See you on Wednesdays at noon. Bring your own lunch and beverage of choice.



The
Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia
presents

Distinguished Speakers
Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Burke
Joint Task Force North
&
Mr Charley Davis
NORAD and NORTHCOM



Arctic Continental Defense
Canada and US Perspectives

1-3 pm Halifax time, Wednesday, 18 November 2020
via Zoom (register through RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com)



NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND and UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND Biography

TODD C “Charley” DAVIS

United States Air Force Civilian



Mr Davis is the Chief, NORAD Campaign and Arctic Branch in the Campaign Planning and Initiatives Division of the J5 Strategy, Policy and Plans Directorate, Headquarters, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM).

Charley and his wife Julie reside in Monument, Colorado. They are very proud of their four children and four grandchildren. Specializing as the lead for NORAD Campaigns and analyst for the Arctic region, he assists in the development of NORAD strategy, policy, plans and requirements for the safeguarding of the United States and Canada

through aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning. For USNORTHCOM, he develops strategy and plans for homeland defense, support to civil authorities, and security cooperation with Canada, Mexico and The Bahamas. Prior to this position, Mr Davis retired from the United States Navy in September of 2012 as a CAPTAIN, completing 32 years of naval service. His last assignment was the United States Fleet Forces Command Senior Naval Liaison Officer to Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States

Northern Command from 2008 to 2012.

During this tour he also served as a NORAD/USNORTHCOM Deputy Command Center Director and Emergency Attack Assessor. He began his military career in the United States Navy as a Naval ROTC Midshipman at the University of Washington in 1979, was commissioned an Ensign and entered active duty in June, 1983, and was designated a Naval Aviator upon completion of flight training in May, 1985. Captain Davis has numerous operational tours to include: service in the Western Pacific and SEVENTH Fleet as an SH-3 “Sea King” helicopter pilot aboard the USS Midway (CV-41); a tour in Pensacola, Florida as a fixed-wing flight instructor in the T-34C aircraft; assignment to VQ1 in Agana, Guam as an EP-3 “ARIES” Electronic Warfare Aircraft and Mission Commander, flying reconnaissance missions throughout the Western Pacific and Middle East; a tour as Operations Officer and EP-3 pilot in VQ2 in Rota, Spain, flying missions in the Mediterranean Sea and the Balkans; a joint assignment as a strike planner and Chief, Reconnaissance Plans at United States Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska; a tour and full deployment with Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group THREE aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) as Force Protection Officer and Assistant Chief of Staff for

Information Operations (N6), and service as the Deputy Director and Director, Manpower and Personnel Directorate (J1), North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

Captain Davis also served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of Navy Recruiting District New York, the largest and most diverse recruiting district in the nation, covering New York City, Long Island and northern New Jersey. During his career, Captain Davis has flown over 3,500 hours, with over 1,800 hours as an aircraft and mission commander. He holds a Master of Science degree in Organizational Administration from Central Michigan University, is a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College, the Canadian Securities Studies Programme at the Canadian Forces College, and is currently an Adjunct Professor in Homeland Security at Colorado State University. In addition, he is a proven subspecialist in Intelligence, and holds the Army's skill identifier for Space Operations, and is an FAA certified civilian flight instructor.

Lieutenant-Colonel S.C. Burke, CD



Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Burke was born in Halifax, NS, and attended Dalhousie University, receiving a degree in mathematics. In 2002 he joined the Canadian Armed Forces as an artillery officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Burke has served in both 1 and 2 Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Shilo, MB, and Petawawa, ON. His time included a deployment to Afghanistan as an artillery Forward Observation Officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Burke's service highlights have also included three years in the Associate Deputy Minister (Material) group, involved in the procurement of a new combat vehicle, and significant time at Canadian Joint Operations Command working in the continental plans division.

Lieutenant-Colonel Burke was posted to Joint Task Force North headquarters in Yellowknife, NT, as Director of Operations in 2020. Lieutenant-Colonel Burke's military training and education include completion of the Army Technical Staff Program in 2009 and graduation from the Joint Command and Staff Program in 2016.

Lieutenant-Colonel Burke is married and has a teenage daughter. He enjoys reading military history and outdoor activities with his family.

Virtual Remembrance Run in Support of the JBC

August 9 - November 28, 2020



Members of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps participate in a one-mile race as part of a wider I Canadian Corps sports meet in the United Kingdom, 1943 (Canadian Army Newsreel No. 12).



The Juno Beach Centre Association is partnering with VR Pro (<https://www.vrpro.ca/events/Home.html>) for our first Remembrance Run fundraiser! This is a virtual running (or walking) event for participants of all ages.

Registration is available on the Running Room website.
<https://www.events.runningroom.com/site/17167/>

DISTANCES

Click on a logo to register for that distance.



<https://www.events.runningroom.com/applications/?raceId=17167&eventId=50553&vrindex=3>



<https://www.events.runningroom.com/applications/?raceId=17167&eventId=50554&vrindex=3>



<https://www.events.runningroom.com/applications/?raceId=17167&eventId=50554&vrindex=3>

Scroll down to learn about the significance of these distances.

RACE DETAILS

Register now for one of three virtual race distances and receive a race kit including this beautiful, oversized, commemorative medal (pictured below) along with a Juno Beach collector coin, race bib, an imprinted neck gaiter, a Remembrance Day Poppy, and a beautifully printed Juno Beach

D-Day souvenir map, and more! Then, run or walk your event distance of choice anytime between September 1 and November 28, 2020. \$10 from each entry will go to support the Juno Beach Centre honouring those brave men and the sacrifices they made. (Click any one of the race event logos above or the registration button below to register.) Applicants can set up a fundraising page through your Running Room account, after you have registered for the Run.



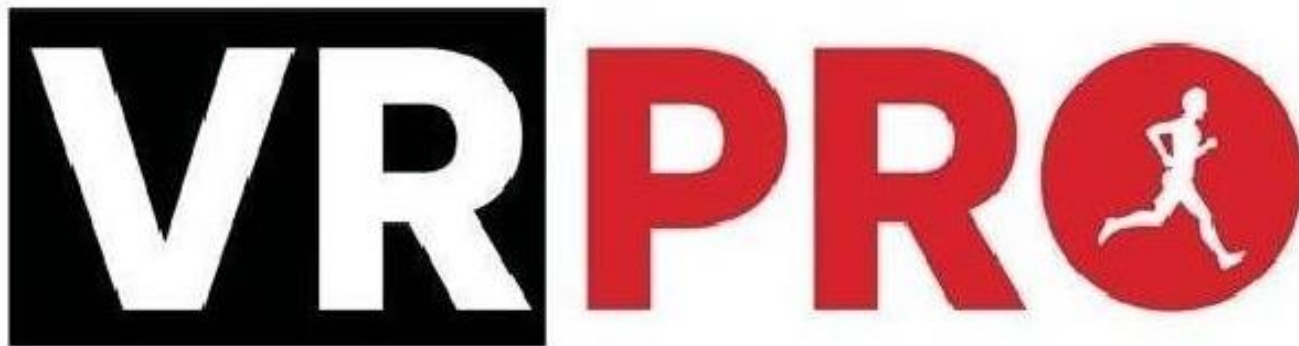
All you need to do is go to the Fundraising tab (at the top of the registration page) and select Raise Funds to set up your fundraising page. Each participant will receive a unique Remembrance Day / Juno Beach commemorative medal. The design features the image of a Landing Craft,

Assault (LCA) manned by Royal Canadian Navy sailors on D-Day approaching Juno Beach with a load of troops. The medal's ribbon is inspired by the France & Germany Star, the campaign medal received by those who landed at Juno Beach and/or served in France, Belgium, Holland, or Germany between D-Day (6 June 1944) and Victory in Europe or V-E Day (8 May 1945).

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information please contact Kelly Hendry-Arnott

- Email: kelly@vrpro.ca
- Phone: 905 512-2488



REMEMBRANCE RUN DISTANCES EXPLAINED

What is the “Strongpoint 1500m”?

Juno Beach (Normandy, France) was well fortified. Mines, barbed wire, and beach obstacles to Allied tanks and landing craft littered the sands. German machine guns, mortars, and artillery, often positioned in concrete bunkers, overlooked the likely Allied landing areas. Strongpoints in the German-held towns of Courseulles-sur-Mer, Bernières-sur-Mer, and Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer dominated the beaches. Courseulles was the most heavily defended area attacked by British and Canadian forces on D-Day. The strongpoints at Courseulles and nearby Graye-sur-Mer contained a dozen concrete machine-gun posts covering a total of six artillery pieces overlooking the beach. Today, the Juno Beach Centre stands on the same ground as *Stützpunkt (Strongpoint) 31*, located on Mike Red Sector of Juno Beach. This shorter distance event (1500m) is for ideal children, older participants, and anyone else who does not want to run or walk the 8k or 21k distances. It is named for the strongpoint and 1500 metre stretch of beach overcome by the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, the 1st Hussars (6th Canadian Armoured Regiment), and the 6th Field Company, Royal Canadian Engineers on D-Day.

What is the significance of the “Juno Beach 8K”?

D-Day, June 6, 1944, was among the greatest moments of the 20th century. The landings started the battle to liberate France from Nazi Germany. The Canadians stormed an 8-kilometre stretch of sand featuring coastal villages fortified into German strongholds. Code-named JUNO, some 14,000 Canadian soldiers with hometowns from coast to coast landed here. A further 7,000 British

troops joined them. When you run this fall, you are running in remembrance of every Canadian or Allied soldier who landed at Juno Beach.

Why is it named the “Remembrance 21.1K”?

The total number of troops landed on Juno Beach on D-Day was approximately 21,000. We offer a half-marathon (which is 21.1 kilometres long), in honour of those troops.



<https://www.events.runningroom.com/site/17167/>

Local entrants who enter any of these events – please send me your ‘Donation’ links and I will put them in this newsletter. – Ed.

Fellow Gunners

I am running/walking a half-marathon to raise money for the Juno Beach Centre. A half-marathon is approximately 21 kilometres and I am running/walking this distance in honour of all 21,000 Allied troops who landed on Juno Beach on June 6, 1944. You can support the Juno Beach Centre by pledging in support of me or by registering for this Remembrance Run fundraiser.

To donate and help us achieve our fundraising goal, please go to my fundraising home page at this link:

<https://www.runningroom.com/dashboard/giving/?raceId=17167&eventId=50555&memberId=UDVXZA9pWzoAa1dgUWA%3D>

You will see a box that says “**Make a Donation**” – do so, and follow the instructions

Thanks! UBIQUE!

HLCol Don Foster P.Ag, CIM, FCSI
Director | Juno Beach Centre Association

