



Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News Dec 17, 2013

Wednesday Lunches

Note: NO Lunch tomorrow!! Christmas stand down for local units has been set and the Armoury will be closed through that period. The first lunch of 2014 will be **Jan 8th**.

New Year's Day Levée I have heard a rumour that some units have decided not to bother with the Levée – another old tradition slipping away. 15 Fd Messes will be open to receive visitors at 1100hrs on Jan 1st. A light lunch will be served starting around noon. Many of our retirees drop by to say hello – a good day to renew contact with old comrades.

A Purse for Mrs Lum

Every year in December, we collect from lunch attendees to create a 'purse' for Mrs Lum. This is traditionally presented on the last lunch of the year. She has worked extra hard this year because she has had to prepare all the meals at home and bring them in to serve. A lot of extra work – and expense – to maintain her high standards. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the 'last lunch' so we will have to present Mrs Lum with her 'purse' on Jan 8th. At least this delay gives us a bit more time to collect. Anybody wishing to contribute can see me in the Mess and sign a Christmas card, to be presented to her with the purse.

Burns Dinner - 2014

Wed, January 29, 2014 at the London Aviation Centre, 4580 Cowley Crescent, Richmond, BC. This is our annual fundraising event for our charitable Society. Further details can be seen on the invitation at the end of this newsletter.

Time for Annual Dues

As of Jan 1st, dues are now payable for RUSI Vancouver (\$30), The Vancouver Artillery Association (\$75) and 15 Fd Officers Mess Associates (\$60).

Dues payments can be sent to the Treasurer of the applicable organization at Bessborough Armoury: 2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver BC V6J 2C7. **This includes RUSI Vancouver!** In the past, payment for RUSI dues has been sent directly to Keith Freer but Keith had a bit of a mishap and is in hospital. We are in the process of appointing an acting Treasurer until Keith's situation is resolved so please send RUSI dues payments to the Armoury.

Military Ball Renamed

The date for the 2014 Ball has been set for **May 10, 2014 at the Vancouver Hyatt Regency Hotel**. 39CBG is getting more involved in the running of the event and has renamed the Military Ball the 'BC Army Gala'. The Gala website is up and down (seems to be down at the moment) but tickets can already be purchased on the EventBrite site at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bc-army-gala-tickets-8508578387>

One 'Honking' Big Mortar



Syrian opposition forces firing a mortar. Looks kind of jury rigged.

All Members of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

This year has been another good one for The Royal Regiment and the Regimental family continues to grow and prosper. Gunners continue to serve abroad on international operations and stand on guard here at home. Units, both regular and reserve, continue to train and develop world class Artillery capabilities to serve the Canadian Forces and the nation.

At this special time of the year it is good to reflect on our many blessings. Most importantly, despite the many challenges faced around the world and domestically, the nation is at peace. We all pray it remains so.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all gunners, serving and retired, for their service and their commitment to the Regiment and the nation. To you and your families, I wish all the best for the holiday season and a most prosperous 2014

Lieutenant General (Ret) - Lieutenant général (Ret) Michael K. Jeffery, CMM, CD.

Colonel Commandant The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery – Le Régiment royal de l'Artillerie canadienne

Who is it?



We finally got an id for the picture of two weeks ago. Thanks to Dave Hazlewood, one of our old members who lives on Bowen Island, who says ‘The young officer with the gorgeous girl is John Borthwick, 102 Coast Regt , at a dinner in one of the old Jericho hangars. John headed up the Lions Gate Hospital at a later date. I think the girl with John was Ruby Dunlop.’



Last Week. A number of people got this one right away. It is Christmas on Yorke Island in 1939. No id on any of the members unfortunately.

This Week’s picture

We finish our photo quizzes for 2013 with one from Christmas Past. Here we have a kindly old gunner, surrounded by little future gunners, at a festive Yule event. Maybe one of you reading this is one of those tiny tots, filled with festive joy and anticipation of a toy 105 or 25 pdr under the OP tree?



Moreover, do you remember the year in which this recently-found photo was taken, and the name of the gentleman? If so, please let Santa know, or let the editor or the author, John Redmond [johnd. redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net) know. Santa might not be able to leave you an artillery piece anymore, but if you visit the museum, we'll show you some Britain's model 4.5" howitzers, capable, in their day, of shooting a little metal shell right into your little brother's

eye. Those were the days when toys were fun!

Well, it's been fun writing this little column. I thank all of you who have participated and look forward to your continued help in 2014. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Answers and ideas can be sent to the editor or to John Redmond, [johnd. redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net) , the author of this little column."

From the ‘Punitentary’

When a tree goes on holidays, it packs its trunk and leaves.

Murphy’s other Laws

If there is a wrong thing to say – one will.

Quotable Quotes

My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government. -- *Thomas Jefferson*



15th Field Artillery Regiment
Royal Regiment
of Canadian Artillery

Lieutenant Colonel
Kent A Wickens CD
Commanding Officer

and

Colonel
R Grant Smith OSTJ, CD, TSM
Honorary Colonel and
President of the Regimental Society

of the

15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA

Request the Pleasure of the Company of You and Your Guests
at a

Burns Supper

FEATURING

The Band of the 15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA
and
The Pipes & Drums of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

to be held on

January 29, 2014

at the

London Aviation Centre
4580 Cowley Crescent,
Richmond, BC

Dress:

*Scottish Attire, Mess Kit,
Formal or Business Dress
(no causal wear please)*

Cocktails: 1800hrs

Dinner: 1900hrs

Tariff: \$100pp

RSVP to: Col Grant Smith

7460 Sunnybank Avenue

Richmond, BC V6Y 1G5

Email: roy.grantsmith@gmail.com

Tel: 604-271-5530

Cheques Payable to: 15th Field Regimental Society



I am taking a couple of weeks off for the holidays. I will publish special bulletins and urgent news but the next regular newsletter will be published on Jan 7th. I wish you all-

A Very

MERRY CHRISTMAS

And

The very Best

NEW YEAR

To all