



**Vancouver Artillery  
Association News**



**RUSI News  
Vancouver**

## Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News Jan 21, 2014

### Wednesday Lunches

Lunches got off to a good start on the 8<sup>th</sup> with 31 diners then dropped to 21 last week. Hope things will improve this week.

The kitchen renos have started, sort of. A grease trap was installed before the first lunch and last week the parts for the new ventilating fan were brought in.

Guests and visitors are always welcome. People these days, especially civilians, don't think about dress much and, if not pre-warned, will show up in very casual dress so, to avoid embarrassment, please make them aware of the dress requirements (suit/blazer and tie, equivalent for ladies) before they come.

### **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.

This year we have a Theme – ‘**The Big Shake**’ ‘what will you do when the ‘Big One’ hits?’ We expect to have representatives of the Ambulance service, Fire Dept, Emergency Services, the military etc in attendance to set up displays on disaster preparedness. Dinner will be served as if at a Disaster Response Centre and should be quite interesting and a lot of fun.

Entertainment will be provided by the 15 Fd Band and the RCMP Pipes and Drums.

Further details can be seen on the invitation at the end of this newsletter.

### **Fund Raising and Whiskey Tasting**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA and the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser's Highlanders welcome you to attend a Fund Raising and Whiskey Tasting event at our Armoury. There will be food, draw prizes, and music.

**DATE:** Friday March 7th, 2014  
**TIME:** 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs  
**LOCATION:** 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA  
2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Ave Vancouver  
**Tickets** \$55 if sampling whiskey  
\$25 if buying drinks from the bar

**See poster at the end of the newsletter for more details**

## **Time for Annual Dues**

As of Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 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: <http://bcarmygala.ca/> and tickets can already be purchased on the EventBrite site at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bc-army-gala-tickets-8508578387>

## **Afghanistan retrospective**

*"Was it worth it" - Canadian Intervention in Afghanistan and Perceptions of Success and Failure.*  
by Sean Maloney

Sean M. Maloney, PhD, teaches History at the Royal Military College of Canada, and has also taught extensively in its War Studies Program. He is currently the historical advisor to the Canadian Army for the war in Afghanistan. He has written a very interesting article on Canada's contribution to the war and what was achieved. To view his article go to:

<http://www.journal.forces.gc.ca/vol14/no1/page19-eng.asp>

## **The Military Cadet Program**

Can it continue With Such High Administrative Costs?

*Jan 15, 2014/ By David Pugliese-Defence Watch*

Defence Watch continues to receive emails from those in the cadet community worried that little will be done about the high headquarters overhead costs for the military cadet program. The concern is that the actual programs for the cadets will continue to be chopped while the full-time staff stay on at the current strength. Several weeks ago I reported on a Chief of Review Services examination on the cadet program. It found that management and administration is consuming more than half of the cadet budget. Of the \$239 million annual cadet budget in 2011, \$148 million went to pay and benefits for managers and administrators. Unlike other Canadian youth programs and allied cadet programs, the Canadian cadet program relies less on volunteers and more on paid staff, the CRS evaluation, conducted last year, found.

DND spends almost \$4,800 annually on each cadet. "The costs of running the program are 40 per cent higher than 20 years ago, even though there are 15 per cent fewer cadets today than in

1992,” the evaluation added. Most of the increases can be linked to the increase in full-time paid managers at its national headquarters and at regional offices, according to the evaluation. Over the past two decades, management of the cadet program has been “professionalized,” it added. The evaluation noted that in 1993 there were 1,261 staff managing the cadet program. Most of those were part-time. Now there are 3,267 staff, of which 816 are fulltime. “Compared to other Canadian youth programs, the Cadet Program has significantly more paid staff and few volunteers per youth,” the evaluation pointed out. “In Scouts, there is one paid employee for every 258 youth, yet there is one paid employee for every five youth in Cadets.”

Managing and administering the cadet program is also more expensive compared to other youth ventures in Canada, the evaluation found. Costs were determined to be three times higher than those of Scouts Canada and the 4-H program, both of which have similar youth development aims. DND is also spending significantly more on its cadet program than allied countries, the evaluation added. It’s not the first warning about the bloated bureaucracy in the cadets. A Chief of Review Services evaluation done 20 years ago noted the cadet program was achieving its aims and had mainly part-time staff. But it warned at the time that the number of full-time staff at the national and regional level had started to grow at a significant and unsustainable level. It also questioned the value of regional headquarters, as there was a sense the cadet organization was becoming too bureaucratic.

## **Diary of First World War hero to be blogged**

THE diary of a First World War hero who took part in the infamous Battle Of The Somme will be posted online 100 years to the day each entry was written. By: [Dion Dassanayake](#) January 13, 2014

Private Arthur Linfoot volunteered for the Royal Army Medical Corps when he was 25 in 1915 and kept a diary of his experiences in the trenches of France. His diary, written in Pitman shorthand, chronicled January 1 1914 to December 31 1918 and have been decoded by his 82-year-old son Denis.



Mr Denis Linfoot, from Canterbury in Kent, learnt the old form of shorthand so he could read his father's diaries and spent months looking at the journals. The father-of-three is now posting each entry one day a time a century after they were originally written and the blog began on New Year's Day.

Mr Linfoot said: "It was nearly all written in Pitman's shorthand and I had to give myself a course before I started to translate them. "The diary is now 100-years-old so some of the pages have worn a bit and it was hard to read some words, some of them I just can't see to know what they are. "My father made a start on transcribing the diaries before he died in 1977 but he was in his 80s and his eye sight was quite poor. "I have had them in my possession since for quite a long time, since my mother died in 1985. There was only really me who would be able to transcribe them. "I was anxious to get them into some sort of print for his grandchildren

and great-grandchildren before it was too late and his stories were lost forever."

Private Linfoot, from Sunderland, kept a meticulous diary of his events in the First World War in a pocket diary. Before enlisting in the war he worked as a clerk at a paperworks in Hendon from 1914 and returned to work in the capital after the war finished. Private Linfoot, from Sunderland, was married to wife Jessie and had two other children Kathleen and Bill.

In his entry for On Sunday July 2 1916 while serving in France Mr Linfoot wrote: "We're lost in trench all night. "Passed through front line trenches where Cheshires and Welsh regiments were waiting to go over the top. "After being under fire by a machine gun (and seeing many retreats) we found our way to the dugout aid post.

Germans shelling, so we had to wait. "Finally got a case. Took us until 5 o'clock to get it down through mud and crowded trenches. Had to wait for so long until Germans stopped shelling communication trench."



The first part of the diary chronicles Private Linfoot's life before he goes to the front line. His son said Private Linfoot help tend for the wounded and carried stretchers during the Great War and that he was still in France after the war ended. He was finally demobbed in either May or June 1919.

Visit Mr Linfoot's blog at <http://www.arthurlinfoot.org.uk/>

## Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services

Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services (CFMWS) is responsible for administering Non-Public Property (NPP) on behalf of the Chief of the Defence Staff and for delivering selected public morale and welfare programs, services, and activities to eligible members and their families on behalf of the Chief of Military Personnel.

With over 5,000 **Staff of the Non-Public Funds, Canadian Forces** employees on bases, wings, units, and at headquarters in Ottawa, CFMWS operates with a fundamental principle in mind: the customer comes first. In partnership with bases, wings, and units, we ensure that our customers, the CAF Regular and Reserve Force members, retired and former CAF members, military families, Department of National Defence employees, NPF employees, and RCMP personnel, receive the morale and welfare programs, services, and activities they deserve.

Further developing the "One Community, One Million Strong" concept, CFMWS has compiled an online Service Directory to help members and their families' find which Morale and Welfare Services they are eligible to receive.



For example, by clicking on the appropriate link on the Directory, a Class A Reservist or a family member of a Veteran will be able to know which services are available to them.

The link below provides sub-link to an array of links as a directory of support framework.

<https://www.cfmws.com/en/OurServices/ServicesDirectory/Pages/default.aspx>

## **Launch Propels Southcom-sponsored Nanosatellite into Space**

*By Donna Miles American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 2013 - An Atlas V rocket launched last night from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., carried a U.S. Southern Command-sponsored nanosatellite into space -- and with it, the potential for more reliable and less expensive communications for troops around the world. The nanosatellite, about the size of a loaf of bread and weighing just 11 pounds, piggybacked during the launch on a payload for the National Reconnaissance Office headquartered in Chantilly, Va., Southcom officials said. That small package carries big hopes for Southcom, which spearheaded the demonstration project to help overcome communications challenges in the vast mountainous and densely forested terrain within Latin America, Juan Hurtado, Southcom's science and technology advisor, told American Forces Press Service during an interview from Vandenberg Air Force Base. As envisioned, troops on the ground will be able to tap the new technology directly from their field radios. And when the satellite moves beyond the part of the globe beyond Southcom's area of responsibility, it could provide that same capability to other combatant commands as well, Hurtado said.

"This is a major milestone," he said. "This first space project for U.S. Southern Command represents a big step ahead. I feel like we are about ready to offer a transformational capability to support troops in the field, not just within Southern Command, but throughout the Department of Defense." "This is just an evaluation, but we think this space capability could help improve communication during various operations," said Marine Corps Gen. John F. Kelly, Southcom's commander. If the initial phase of the demonstration goes as hoped, two additional nanosatellites will launch next December, Hurtado reported. All three will be set to a low-earth orbit, operating as one component of a communications suite to include a ground station, ground sensors and tactical radios, he explained. Collectively, they will support information-sharing and tactical communications over wide geographic expanses. The development and deployment of the nanosatellites represent the strength of partnerships at several levels, Hurtado said.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command oversaw its development, and the Defense Department funded it through its Joint Capability Technology Demonstration effort. Cadre and students at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School will help Southcom assess the technology's operational value. In addition, Southcom's counterparts in Brazil and Peru will help evaluate its performance. Hurtado is headed to both countries next week to discuss details about how the three countries will work together during the demonstration. Kelly called the investment in nanosatellites "an opportunity for us to collaborate from the ground up with partner nations who are looking to develop this capability for a variety of security and commercial uses." The initial concept for the nanosatellite originated through close collaboration among the Secretary of

Defense's Rapid Fielding Directorate, Army Space and Missile Defense Command and Southcom's science, technology and experimentation office.

Since it was stood up in 2002, the Southcom office has helped to identify technical capabilities to support the command's mission, and lacking them, helped to develop new ones, Hurtado said. Its staff takes gaps and requirements as identified by U.S. forces and partner nations in the theater, converts them into technical requirements, then looks initially to the DOD technical technology community for solutions. The original objective -- "to find ways to do things better or do things cheaper" -- is even more pressing in today's fiscal environment, Hurtado noted. The new nanosatellite offers promise on both counts. It cost \$500,000 to build, far less than larger satellites, and its small size makes launching it into space relatively inexpensive. Both factors could make it feasible to deploy several nanosatellites as needed to expand communication coverage to ground forces in support of an array of mission requirements, including humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations, Hurtado said. He emphasized however, that last night's launch is just the start of a long evaluation process ahead. The first of two evaluations, planned for May, will take three months to complete. A final evaluation scheduled for February 2015 will span five months using all three satellites. "Recognizing that, I feel extremely proud of this effort and the potential capability it stands to offer for our forces," Hurtado said. "This will make communications not only less expensive, but more readily available."

## Who is it?

**Last Edition.** 15 Fd Artillery Bde used the 18pdr Gun in the 1920s and this photo shows one



being fired at Sarcee. What looks like a "muzzle cover" is actually a canvas cover to protect the oil and nitrogen gas valves in the large recuperator cylinder, which was mounted above the tube. You can see the muzzle itself just to the right of the vertical spoke in the right wheel. The leather ammunition pouches, worn by the gunners here, were eventually replaced by webbing pouches, a process actually under way in 1914, although the Reserves didn't

get them until the changeover to Battledress at the start of WW2. Note the rocker-type tangent sight on the left of the piece that was used for direct fire. A panoramic dial sight was available but seldom used until the War.

This Gun was made famous at Nery and is still in use by the Kings Troop, RHA.

## **This Week's picture**

Over the years since this Regiment was founded, many changes have occurred. Names have changed, from brigade to regiment, from field to coast, and back again. Guns have continued to change (and, we hope, improve), and roles have been many and varied. Of course, this Regiment is not just one history; it is the history



of other units long-gone. This beast of a gun was employed by one of those long-lost, but still-remembered units. It was used to shoot at winged targets that had spiny things on the front, flown by chaps with silk scarves and giant handlebar moustaches (or, maybe those were our target drivers; not sure what the opposition wore). Your task is simple: identify the gun, name the unit, name the location and, as a bonus, name the gun that preceded this one in service.

Answers can be sent to the editor, or to the columnist, John Redmond

([johnd.\\_redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd._redmond@telus.net)).

## **From the 'Punitary'**

The other day I held the door open for a clown. I thought it was a nice jester.

## **Murphy's other Laws**

Being in politics is like being a football coach. You have to be smart enough to understand the game and dumb enough to think it is important.

## **Quotable Quotes**

What most people need to learn in life is how to love people and use things instead of using people and loving things. – *Zelda Fitzgerald*

# **15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA**

## **&**

# **The 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser's Highlanders**

## **Fund Raiser and Scotch Tasting Night**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA and the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser's Highlanders welcome you to attend a Fund Raising and Whiskey Tasting event at our Armoury. There will be food, draw prizes, and music.

Tickets are \$55.00 per person for those sampling a selection of six excellent Whiskeys selected by the Officers of the Mess, or \$25.00 if you are only having beer, wine, or soft drinks from our No-Host Bar.

Only 50 tickets will be sold for the full whisky fleet!

Dress is business casual. Kilts, of course, are welcome.

**DATE:** Friday March 7th, 2014

**TIME:** 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs

**LOCATION:** 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment RCA  
2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Ave Van, BC V6J 2C7

### **TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET CONTACT:**

LCol James Barrett

Cell: (604) 916-1766

E-Mail: [barrettjd007@gmail.com](mailto:barrettjd007@gmail.com)

Reserve your tickets early to not miss out on a great night!

All profits will go to support the activities of the 15th Field Regimental Society. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations on request.





Lieutenant Colonel  
*Kent A Wickens* CD  
Commanding Officer

and

Colonel  
*R Grant Smith* OSJ, CD, ESM  
Honorary Colonel and  
President of the Regimental Society



of the

*15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, RCA*  
*Request the Pleasure of the Company of You and Your Guests*  
at a

# *'Big Shake'*

## *Burns Supper*

FEATURING

*The Band of the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, RCA*  
and  
*The Pipes & Drums of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police*  
*And including emergency response displays from many organizations*  
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](mailto:roy.grantsmith@gmail.com)*

*Tel: 604-271-5530*

*Cheques Payable to: 15<sup>th</sup> Field Regimental Society*

# India

## Curry Lunch



**Hosted by:**  
*The British Columbia  
Regiment  
Officers' Mess*

**Coordinated by:**  
*The BC Regiment  
(DCO) Association*



- Date:** Thursday, January 30, 2014
- Time:** 11:45 am - 1:30 pm  
(bar opens at 11:45am)  
(presentation at 12:01pm)  
(lunch starts at 12:20pm)
- Location:** Officers' Mess - The BC Regiment  
620 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC
- Dress:** Business Attire (jacket & tie, ladies similar)
- Price:** \$30/person (\$5 discount for those that confirm attendance by January 24, 2014)
- RSVP:** For more information or to register, please contact Bill Diamond at [Bill@DukeaBear.com](mailto:Bill@DukeaBear.com) or 604.618.3607 (Please advise of any dietary needs with your RSVP)

Payment by cheque or cash will be accepted at the door  
Cheques are payable to: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association  
No cancellations after January 24, 2014

**NEXT PLANNED LUNCH: Thursday, February 27, 2014**