



Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News Nov 4, 2014

Wednesday Lunches

The Mess is back to 'winter' dress so dress for Wednesday lunches is suit/blazer/sports jacket and tie. Dress for ladies is the equivalent. Guests are always welcome.

Christmas Lunch break

Last lunch of 2014 will be Dec 10th. Members are encouraged to bring Significant Others and guests. The first lunch of 2015 will be Jan 14th.

Remembrance Day

Traditionally on Remembrance Day, Messes in our area open after the ceremony. 15 Fd Messes will be open at noon and all are invited to visit.

NOABC - Monthly Lunch Speakers

Wednesday, 26 November

The guest speaker for November will be Captain John Swann, Master Mariner, Who will give a talk on the maritime implications of LNG export.

St Barbara's Day Special Guest Night – Dec 6, 2014

The invitations are in the mail. A copy is attached for those interested in attending and who are not on the mailing list or haven't received one.

From the Journal of Capt Fred G Coxen RFA - 1914

October 29th: On the afternoon of the 29th, we went into action. We ran a wire, and when I went to connect up, I was greatly surprised to find a shrapnel bullet embedded in my telephone, which had laid by me the previous night. I fired it up and managed alright. We fired a few rounds and returned to the chateau, [where we] remained until the morning of 31st. Heavy firing seemed to be all around, and a ceaseless stream of infantry wounded going towards YPRES. The weather was horribly wet and nights very cold.

October 31st – Nov 2nd: [We] marched through the beautiful old town of YPRES, which contains some very fine buildings, notably the Cloth Hall and Cathedral. [We] took up a position of

readiness outside the fortifications of the town, [where] we dropped into action in various places around, doing little firing. The enemy commenced bombarding the town on Nov. 2nd with their great 17” Howitzers. The noise of these shell[s] passing over our heads is almost indescribable.

World War 2 - November 1939

John Thompson Strategic analyst quotes from his book “Spirit Over Steel”

October 31st: Moscow opens negotiations with Helsinki over some tough new demands. Stalin wants space for the defence of Leningrad and, given the new German-Soviet entente, is gathering territory as he has with the Baltic States, Poland and Romania.

General: Rough weather in the Atlantic reduces U-Boat successes. —they only sink 21 ships of 51,600 tons. Over 40 ships entering Allied harbors are lost to mines with magnetic mines being especially effective. Exiled Polish and French cryptographers start cracking German Enigma codes, particularly thanks to careless Luftwaffe usage.

November 4th: The US modifies its neutrality act for “Cash and Carry” Policies – effectively meaning that only the British and French can safely acquire American goods and supplies. ‘Ullo, what’s this?’ a package of information on German radar projects, acoustic torpedoes and bomber navigation systems is found on the doorstep of the British embassy in Oslo.

RUSI Co-sponsors WW1 Series at Vancouver Public Library

RUSI Vancouver, in collaboration with the Vancouver Public Library, is co-sponsor of a series of four presentations commemorating the centenary of the beginning of the First World War. The involvement of RUSI Vancouver in the VPL series is part of RUSI’s community engagement initiative.

- (Note change of date)The final RUSI sponsored presentation, originally scheduled for Nov 3rd, has been postponed to 7pm Monday, [November 17th](#). It will feature Dr. James Wood, from the University of BC Okanagan. His subject is “*British Columbia and the Great War*”. It will take place in the Alice Mackay room at the VPL Central Branch on West Georgia and Homer in Vancouver.

In addition RUSI, in cooperation with various Regimental museums in Vancouver, will organize and install First World War memorabilia displays at three separate Vancouver Public Library branches. These are Kensington, Terry Salman (Hillcrest) and Kerrisdale. The exhibits will be installed at these branches from October 15 to November 15, 2014 as part of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War One.

‘Victory Square’ with Cameron Cathcart

Because of circumstances beyond the control of the Society, this presentation has been cancelled.

The Liz Hoffman Memorial Commendation - 2014 Winners

The DND/CAF Ombudsman presents the Liz Hoffman Memorial Commendation to recognize individuals or groups who go the extra mile and exceed expectations in helping their colleagues resolve a difficult problem or in bringing about positive and lasting change to the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces. It has been awarded to 4 individuals including:

Major Michel Chauvette, grievance analyst with the Canadian Forces Grievance Authority

Major Heather Collins, Housing Liaison Officer for 17 Wing Winnipeg

Captain Sundus Shamsi, Administrative Officer for two units at 14 Wing Greenwood, and:

Captain Donald Lamb

Captain Lamb consistently strives for fairness for the members of **15th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery**. He has never backed down from a difficult situation despite the immense personal cost of time and energy. He is resourceful, has no fear of hard work, will ask the difficult questions and will try various approaches to solve problems. In his position as G1 Services, he has assumed many tasks in addition to his normal Adjutant duties. He dedicates his personal time to tutor Air Operations Centre candidates and actively participates in all Artillery-related activities, often travelling significant distances to pay respects at Artillery funerals. Captain Lamb's dedication to the well-being of Canadian Armed Forces members is further evident in his willingness to work hand-in-hand with his members, their parents and the chain of command to resolve issues. In one such instance, Captain Lamb strived to remedy an issue related to the repatriation of an injured Afghanistan veteran. Captain Lamb reached out to the parents on behalf of the chain of command, and took the time to hear their issues and address them as effectively as possible. For these reasons and more, Captain Lamb is recognized as having an unwavering base of loyalty, integrity and fairness. **Congratulations Don.**

Colonel Commandant – The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery



Brigadier-General (Ret'd) JJ Selbie, OMM, CD

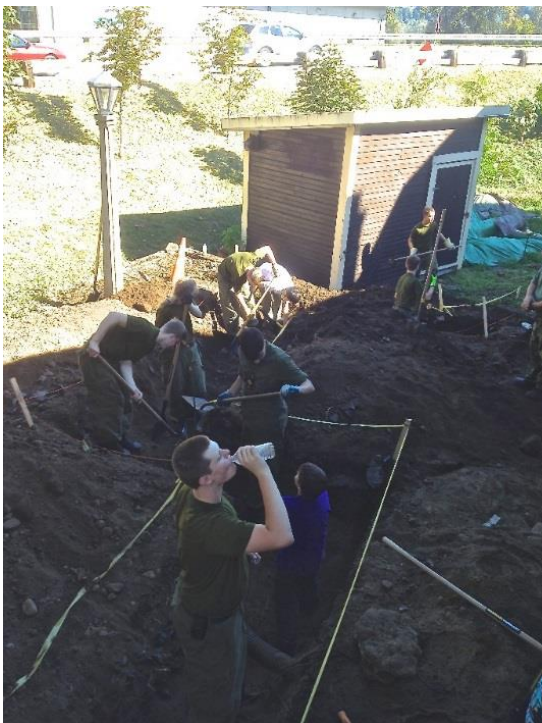
The office of Colonel Commandant is an honorary one. It symbolizes the Regimental family and traditions drawing together all its members: serving and retired, regular and reserve. The first Artillery Commandant in Canada was appointed on 1 April 1925. On 27 September, 2014, Brigadier General (R) JJ Selbie was appointed Colonel Commandant of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery. A native of Brandon, Manitoba, Brigadier-General (R) James Selbie joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1973 as a Gunner in his hometown's Army reserve unit, 26th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. He received a Queen's Commission in The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery after studies at Royal Roads Military College in Victoria and his subsequent graduation (BA Politics) from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1978.

Regimental duty included service in G, J and U Batteries of 3rd Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery at CFB Shilo 1978-82; command of Z Battery 1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Germany 1986-88; and, command of the Air Defence Artillery School in Chatham, New Brunswick 1992-94. He also commanded CFB Shilo, the Home Station of The Royal Regiment from 1996-97. Extra-regimental employment included two tours on the staff at Army headquarters in Montreal and three at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa. He commanded the Canadian Contingent of the NATO Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1997 and 1 Area Support Group/Edmonton Garrison from 1997-2000.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, he deployed as Chief of Staff of the National Command Element Canadian Joint Task Force Southwest Asia co-located with US Central Command in Tampa, Florida. He also deployed twice to Cyprus, once to Afghanistan and spent four rewarding years on the staff of the NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Headquarters in Istanbul, Turkey. Brigadier-General Selbie is a graduate of the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College, Kingston; Canadian Forces College, Toronto; and, the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania where he earned a Master's degree in Strategic Studies. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Military Merit in 2002 and was awarded the NATO Meritorious Service Medal in 2005 for his service with the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. Brigadier-General Selbie's last posting was Director of Staff at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, NATO's military strategic level headquarters in Mons, Belgium.

He retired from regular service in September 2010 after more than 37 years in uniform. He and his wife Anne make their home in Ottawa. He is a member of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association, the Royal Military Colleges Club and the Royal Canadian Military Institute.

Port Moody Trench Project



The original small trench was dug for the Canada Day event at the Port Moody Museum. It was so popular that the group decided to go ahead and build a bigger, more permanent trench. They plan to keep it in place from 2014 to 2018. This bigger trench is taking shape behind the museum. The new trench has been split in two, allowing the public to view freely only one part which is not as deep (to prevent any danger to the public), building it up rather than down and using wooden inverted A-frames to give it a feeling of depth. The second part of the trench is dug close to the actual WW1 trench depth and will be as realistic as possible. The Museum hopes to attract school classes. One of the digging group is a school principal who is very interested in getting school kids to view the trench.

Our ‘Made in Canada’ Defence Problem

National Post Elinor Sloan October 27, 2014

Recent waves of political controversy over military procurement programs, most notably the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter project, are symptoms of a strategic choice Canada has made in the way it equips its military. From the failure to yet settle on a design for the Arctic/Offshore Patrol Ship (originally planned delivery date: 2013), to the unawarded contracts for new fixed-wing search and rescue aircraft (initially anticipated nearly a decade ago) and the incomplete Integrated Soldier-System Project (once expected to be active by this year), Canadians are witnessing the results of a new philosophy behind the government’s procurement process. Canadian governments have always insisted on industrial benefits for Canada when buying military equipment. But the massive defence spending promised under the 2008 Canada First Defence Strategy prompted the government to heighten this approach. The emphasis has been formally placed on favouring industrial benefits for Canada in defence acquisitions, while increased political cautiousness has placed a higher priority on ensuring maximum value for taxpayer money with zero tolerance for mistakes. Combined, that makes for a slow process. Canada’s relatively small defence budget has put pressure on military officials to be creative about new equipment — in some cases, perhaps too creative. Officials have taken to commissioning vehicles and equipment that are more versatile and are capable of carrying out more than their traditional functions. In certain instances, that has meant wish lists that cannot be fulfilled in the expected time frame, or even at all.

This is the case, for example, with the Joint Support Ship, which went from a plan for new refuelling and replenishment ships to one for vessels that could also provide a command and control centre for forces ashore and sealift for ground forces ashore. That basket of requirements made this ship unique indeed. Fiscal prudence has also resulted in procurement complications for the destroyer replacement. In this case, the Navy is trying to use a common hull for both frigates and destroyers to generate savings in crewing, training, maintenance and logistics. Thus, the demand for more versatility and the need to stretch spending have led to plans for equipment that do not yet exist and are so technologically ambitious that industry cannot deliver what the Canadian government requires. An example of this was the highly problematic Maritime Helicopter Project. Buying equipment off the shelf is always easier, faster and almost certainly cheaper, but the government has made it clear that Canadian industry should receive some share of benefit from investing tax dollars on defence

Last February the government released a Defence Procurement Strategy with the ambitious goal of maximizing Canadian industrial opportunity while at the same time equipping the Canadian Armed Forces in a timely fashion. But these two goals are unfortunately mutually exclusive: either industrial benefits will be lost as equipment is purchased “off the shelf,” or the forces will have to wait longer for equipment. The Defence Procurement Strategy includes a rejuvenated form of the longstanding industrial and regional benefits policy that runs through most major projects and has been responsible for massive delays due to the requirement to use large teams of local suppliers. Canadians may express a desire to see their soldiers outfitted expeditiously, but doing so comes at a political cost. When tensions inevitably arise between equipping our forces

properly and in a timely fashion, and also ensuring there are industrial benefits to Canada, the latter priority is destined to come out ahead. Buying equipment off the shelf is always easier, faster and almost certainly cheaper, but the government has made it clear that Canadian industry should receive some share of benefit from investing tax dollars on defence. Granted, this is not just for populist reasons, but to nurture a permanent base of domestic capability and ensure that Canada retains a permanent level of expertise and ability in equipping its own military. But it's a slow approach. Clearly, the government has decided that a delay in the acquisition of military equipment is the price it is willing to pay to preserve its industrial and political strategies.

RCN Adopts New Visual Identifier



The commander of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) announced the adoption of a stylized flying Canadian naval ensign as the new visual identifier for the RCN. He said : the adoption of this new public communications tool, which complements the RCN's traditional military badge, ensign, and motto, stems from a series of changes announced over the past several years by the government of Canada, celebrating over 100 years of Canadian Naval heritage. Among these initiatives were the

return to the Royal designation, the restoration of the executive curl on naval uniforms, and the adoption of a new Canadian Naval Ensign. The new visual identifier builds on these changes and links them to the historical roots of the RCN, and to its present duties and responsibilities to defend Canada and contribute to international peace and security.

The announcement came on Niobe day, which will be marked each year by the RCN on October 21 to commemorate the arrival date of HMCS Niobe, the first Canadian warship to enter Canada's territorial waters in 1910. This event was a landmark in the beginnings of the naval service of Canada. The Canadian Naval Ensign was chosen as the new visual identifier as the ensign is flown to distinguish Canadian warships from other Canadian flagged vessels by highlighting their special status under International law. Flying the Canadian naval ensign underscores the unique roles, responsibilities, liabilities and powers of a ship's company as serving members of the Canadian armed forces. The Canadian Naval Ensign is a powerful symbol of the Canadian naval identity. The new RCN visual identifier will serve as a reminder that service in the RCN is uniquely distinguished by the concept of service before self and the lawful, ordered application of military force as directed by the Canadian government. As members of the profession of arms, officers and sailors of the RCN are held, at all times, to high standards of integrity, conduct and discipline, willing to be sent into harm's way and ready to make the ultimate sacrifice in service to Canada. The adoption of this new visual identifier is linked in part to a larger internal communications campaign aimed at energizing our institution, reinforcing the values linked to military service and the profession of arms, and promoting the need for continuous education and training in preparing younger generations of sailors for the new fleet that will be delivered through the national shipbuilding procurement strategy.

The visual identifier will be the primary symbol used in external communications with Canadians, and may be used in a variety of Products, both externally and internally, such as the RCN website,

posters, banners, letterhead, slide presentations, videos and other print materials. The RCN's new visual identifier is a simple, yet powerful symbol of our proud institution. It embodies the strong commitment of our men and women who serve as members of the Canadian armed forces in the Royal Canadian Navy and who uphold the RCN's motto of quote Ready aye ready unquote each day through their steadfast vigilance and willingness to serve. This initiative is about celebrating our legacy in Canadian history and our contributions on the world stage.

The Tractor and Gun at the Heart of Cpl Cirillo's Funeral Procession

Two volunteers drove the 1944 vehicle and gun that carried Cpl Nathan Cirillo's casket through the streets of Hamilton. Rachel Mendleson News reporter, Oct 28 2014



PHOTOS

Larry Goucher and Frank Moore, members of the Limber Gunners, drive the 1944 gun tractor used to carry Cpl. Nathan Cirillo's casket to his funeral service through the streets of Hamilton.

Randy Risling / Toronto Star



Before the hearse and the soldiers arrived for the funeral procession, a relic rumbled in. The olive drab gun tractor towing a 25pdr funeral gun, stopped near the Argyll pavilion in Hamilton's Bayfront Park, just after 8:30 am, to prepare for an all-important task: Carrying the casket of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo through the crowded streets. Frank Moore, 71, said he volunteered to drive the vehicle down from Toronto as soon as he heard about the plans. "The signal came that they wanted to do something like this for Nathan, and I said, 'I am in,'" Moore said. "I just can't think of any other honour." "It's our way of showing respect," said Larry Goucher, 65, whose role was to act as the crew commander, standing on the passenger's seat through the hatch in the roof.

Both men are members of the [Limper Gunners](#), a Toronto-based organization dedicated to maintaining and operating old guns and equipment. They wore WW2 battledress. The use of gun carriages is a long tradition in important military funerals. According to the plaque on the dashboard, this Field Artillery Tractor (or Quad) was built in March 1944, in a plant in Oshawa. The steering wheel is on the right-hand side, so it could be shipped to Britain for training, and the windshield is angled inward at the bottom to avoid the reflection from the sun. "The enemy is flying overhead, and they are looking for stuff like that," Moore said. It towed the 25pdr, with its casket platform on top of the barrel, and its limber. When the sound of bagpipes in the distance signaled the arrival of the Argylls, Moore and Goucher climbed inside the cab. After the pallbearers transferred the casket from the hearse, the tractor's engine started and they were off again, flanked by soldiers as they made their way through the park and parade route to the church for the service.

Who is it?

Last Week



We didn't get any response for this picture, however I have seen it in Col Stevenson's 'History of Bessborough Armoury'. In that picture, the officer on the left is identified as Gen Sir Robert Mansergh, the Master Gunner St James' Park (the senior Honorary of the Commonwealth Artillery) during his visit to Canada in 1962. The Museum people and I are at odds about this ID. I was on the parade in Vancouver when he visited here and I remember a stockier man, not the narrow face of the left hand officer. Also, as Master Gunner St James' Park, he was not a General staff Officer so would not wear the GS tabs and would be wearing full Col rank. I believe that the officer on the right is Mansergh. The gun is a 12pdr, 6cwt, Rifled, Breech Loaded, in service with the RA in the early 1900s.

This Week: This week's photo from our extensive and growing archives is of three rather



pensive, and slightly bored-looking young gunners. From the uniforms, we can guess this is in the 1960s, but aren't sure that they are practising contemporary gun drill. If the RSM saw them lolling on a gun like this, he might have a fit, not ever a pretty sight.

So, what are these chaps doing, and who are they? Did they survive the blistering attack of now-banned verbal abuse that could have been aimed at them by a moustachioed warrant officer? Let us know by contacting either the editor, or the author, John Redmond

([johnd. redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net)). Thanks for your anticipated assistance in preserving our history.

From the 'Punitary'

The baker stopped making donuts after he got tired of the hole thing.

Murphy's other Laws

Exploit the inevitable (take credit for anything good that happens – whether you had anything to do with it or not).

Quotable Quotes

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are. - *John Wooden*

MFRC Newsletter – Nov 2014

NOVEMBER 2014 Mainland BC Military Family CONNECTION is now out, to stay up to date on programming, news and events go to the following the following link:

<http://www.familyforce.ca/sites/MainlandBC/EN/Documents/11Nov14News.pdf>

or by visiting their website at www.bcmfrc.com

Blair Range History Presentation



Building Andy's Range: The History of the Blair Rifle Range in North Vancouver

The unknown story of the Blair Rifle Range
and its place in Canadian history.

Presented by Blueridge resident Donna Sacuta

● **Thursday, November 6, 2014, 10:30 am**


Deep Cove Heritage Society,
4360 Gallant Ave, North Vancouver, BC

● **Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 7 pm**

Blueridge Elementary School
2650 Bronte Dr, North Vancouver, BC


Month of Remembrance

DUTY CALLS
COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR I



NOVEMBER 10, 2014 AT 7:00PM
AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL (690 BURNARD)

Three soldiers step down from their century-old memorials to tell their stories of life, war and death in a special Remembrance Day observance honouring all members of Canada's armed forces, past and present. Admission by donation.



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
Vancouver, BC - Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds

Free B&B Stay for Veterans



BBCANADA.COM
B&Bs for Vets
Lest We Forget

ATTENTION
Veterans and Military Personnel

The Bed & Breakfast industry wants to thank you for helping make the world a safer place.

This Remembrance Day, enjoy a *FREE night's stay on either Monday November 10th or Tuesday November 11th.

Click on the B&Bs for Vets banner on www.BBCanada.com to see the participating B & Bs and book your stay today!


*Free nights or discounted nightly rates may apply, see individual property for details.



It's always better the Bed and Breakfast Way

'With Glowing Hearts' Band Concert

The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir &
Band of the 15th Field Regiment present





**With Glowing Hearts:
Songs of Remembrance**

November 7th and 11th, 2014

Nov. 7, 7:30pm @ Gateway Theatre, Richmond
*Nov. 11, 2:30pm @ South Delta Baptist Church,
Tsawwassen*

Join Canada's largest male choir and
premier military reserve band in a
musical journey reflecting upon the
innocence and optimism of the
wartime era.



Tickets: \$27/\$24/\$10
at www.vwmc.ca or call
604-878-1190 for more info

Adrian Oliver Memorial Run

The poster features a central graphic of a constable in a red uniform and tan hat, standing with arms crossed. The uniform is set against a blue and black Maltese cross background. Above the graphic, the text reads '- THE - ADRIAN OLIVER'. Below the graphic, it says 'MEMORIAL RUN'. The date 'SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15th' is prominently displayed, followed by the year '2014' in large red numerals. To the right of the year, the event details are listed: '11.00am DEER LAKE PARK Burnaby, 5km or 10km BBQ and Silent Auction'. At the bottom left is the Honour House British Columbia logo, which is a circular emblem with a red maple leaf in the center and the words 'HONOUR HOUSE' and 'BRITISH COLUMBIA' around the perimeter. To the right of the logo is a paragraph of text explaining the origin of the run. At the very bottom, registration information is provided: 'To register online please visit www.honourhouse.ca or call 778 3974399'.

- THE -
ADRIAN OLIVER

**MEMORIAL
RUN**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15th

2014 11.00am DEER LAKE PARK
Burnaby, 5km or 10km
BBQ and Silent Auction



In November, 2012, Constable Adrian Oliver, a member of the Surrey RCMP, was killed on duty as a result of a police vehicle collision while conducting patrols for a suspected stolen vehicle. In honour of Adrian's service to Canadians, family and friends organized the Annual Adrian Oliver Memorial Run.

All proceeds from this year's run will go to Honour House Society and its mission to support our Canadian Forces, Emergency Services Personnel, Veterans and their families in their times of need.

To register online please visit www.honourhouse.ca or call 778 3974399

15 Fd Officers Mess – St Barbara’s Special Guest Night 2014



*The Commanding Officer
and the Officers of
15th Field Artillery Regiment
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery*

*request the pleasure of your company
at their annual*

**ST BARBARA'S DAY
SPECIAL GUEST NIGHT**

*to be held at the
BESSBOROUGH ARMOURY
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver*

*on
Saturday, the Sixth of December, 2014*

*at
six o'clock for seven o'clock in the evening*

RSVP by 25 November 2014 with payment:

OCdt. R. T. Jones

Richard.Jones6@forces.gc.ca

Tariff: \$ 80.00 CAD or USD

Payable to "Officers' Mess 15th Fd Regt"

2025 West 11th Avenue

Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7

*Dress: Mess Kit or Black Tie, with
decorations*