



## QUEEN'S OWN TO ESTABLISH PLATOON IN SCARBOROUGH



In an important media conference held in Scarborough late last year, LCpl John Fotheringham, the Commanding Officer, announced that The Queen's Own Rifles would be

establishing a platoon of 30 soldiers in the suburban Toronto community, to expand to a future infantry company. The Queen's Own is one of nine regiments or units from 31, 32 and 33 Canadian Brigade Groups which will grow in this way.

This is the first stage of a multi-year restructure of the Army Reserve as part of Phase 2 of Land Force Reserve Restructure (LFRR). A total of 315 new positions will be created, in a planned overall increase of 1,500 soldiers to the Army Reserve across Canada.

LCpl Fotheringham said that "This is excellent news for Canada's oldest and finest infantry regiment. Not only will this create new part-time jobs it will also bring the Army closer to this community by establishing a reserve presence. The Queen's Own already has a strong Cadet Corps in this area -- 2881 Scarborough Rifles -- so this new initiative will serve to strengthen that relationship."

The other communities which will either see growth or a new military presence are: (31 Brigade-London): 31 Combat Engineers; Lincoln and Welland Regt; Royal Hamilton Light Infantry. (32 Brigade-Toronto): Toronto Scottish; Grey and Simcoe Foresters. (33 Brigade-Ottawa): Cameron

Highlanders; Governor General's Foot Guards; 33 Field Engineers.

In addition Land Force Central Area HQ will enhance its Civil-Military Cooperation capability by creating 25 new positions and 17 more will be created to provide military liaison with the various communities within Ontario.

The LFRR strategic plan aims to build trust of the Army Reserve and to gain the credibility necessary to accept change; establish short-term resource flexibility to initiate change; assure the long-term sustainability of the Army Reserve and to develop a structured and assured approach to change.

LFRR's mission is to "Develop, as part of the Army, an effective and credible Army Reserve for the 21st century, complementary and supplementary to the Regular Force and relevant to the needs of the nation."



(Top photo) LCpl John Fotheringham meets the press at the media conference. (Above, l. to r.) LCpl Fotheringham, with Maj. Bob Firlotte (1CanPara); D-Day veteran Rfn Fred Barnard (QOR), and QOR RSM Harry Fox MBE, who fought in the Italian campaign beginning in 1943 and later in NW Europe.





# Commanding Officer's Report

**LCol John Fotheringham, CD**

The Regiment is happy for the recent safe return of ten riflemen from deployment overseas – Cpl T. Bahsous, MCpl M. Bioletti, Capt K. Haupt, Cpl J. Marmion, Cpl R. Mitchell, WO M. Shannon, Lt P. Slack, and Sgt C. Van Hamme on Roto 13 in Bosnia, and Sgt D. Harmes and Capt R. Taylor (RCR) on Op Athena in Afghanistan.

CWO S. Patterson assumed the appointment of RSM from CWO J. Wilmot on a parade well attended by the Regimental family and many veterans. CWO J. Wilmot has been commissioned in the rank of Captain, and is currently serving with 2 Field Engineer Regiment as OC of their training company.

Serving soldiers were saddened by the death of Captain Doug Silzer, former CO of our affiliated cadet corps, 2881 Scarborough Rifles (RCAC). Doug was a proud and strong supporter of the Regiment, and passed away suddenly on Easter weekend. His funeral was well attended by his fellow officers and former Cadets.

Training continues as a tempo not seen in my 20 years of service, and the leaders and troops are doing well. In addition to the normal mandated training activities, we also continue with our highly successful parachute tasking in support of the Canadian Parachute Centre, and are also ramping up for our expansion into Scarborough with a second rifle company, as recently mandated under the Land Force Reserve Restructure (LFRR) initiative. I will report further on this in the next issue of The Rifleman, to be published in the near future.

32 Canadian Brigade Group will be exercising its right to Freedom of the City of Toronto on 6 June, marching 1,000 strong from Sunnybrook Hospital to Queen's Park in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. This march will also be a fundraiser for the Hospital for Sick Children – please watch the QOR website at [www.qor.com](http://www.qor.com) for information on both the march and how to contribute.

We will be providing the Guard Commander and at least one soldier to the composite CF Guard representing Canada at the D+60 commemorations in Normandy this June. There is also the strong possibility of several of our jumpers participating in a mass drop onto the original DZ at Ranville, France with fellow Allied jumpers.

The unit is gearing up for summer concentration – Exercise Stalwart Guardian – in Petawawa in August. I have the privilege of commanding 32 Light Infantry Battalion, a composite unit of the Brigade's infantry soldiers, to number 400+. QOR will also be the lead unit for 3 Parachute Company, a 120-soldier sub-unit comprised entirely of para-qualified Reservists, under the command of QOR Major Rob Zeidler, currently on a 3-year attached-posting to U.S. Army Reserve HQ in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Change of Command is confirmed for 26 September 2004. As Moss Park Armoury will be under extensive renovation from April to October of this year, we are currently looking at holding the parade at Fort York Armoury, with a theme of returning to our 3rd (Toronto) Battalion roots. More information will follow.

On the weekend of 26-28 September, Lt Stewart, MWO Patterson, and several riflemen supported our QOR veterans at the Korean Veterans Tribute and Monument Dedication services in Ottawa, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of that conflict. Attendees included retired riflemen LGen C. Belzile and MGen H. Pitts.

Finally, on behalf of all of us I would like to express my sadness at the passing of RSM Patterson's mother, Maureen. 'Mrs. P.' as we all came to know her, was a tremendous supporter of The Queen's Own and of inestimable help with the food arrangements when the Sergeant's Mess were holding receptions (which is quite often!). She will be greatly missed.



LCol Fotheringham, 'Combat Ready', during Exercise Pegasus Stalker, at Fort Drum, New York. (See page 4)



## LCol Steve Brand in West Africa

*The former Queen's Own CO, who leads a team of Canadians in 'Op Sculpture', Canada's contribution to a British-led initiative in Sierra Leone, arrived in West Africa in December and has had many interesting, eye-opening, active and exhausting experiences. The International Military Advisory and Training Team (IMATT) is part of the British government's program of assistance to help the Sierra Leone government to restore peace and stability after years of brutal civil war causing tens of thousands of deaths and displacement of over two million people. Here's a sitrep.*

My role as Staff Officer 1, Freetown Garrison is to assist and advise the FTG Commander -- a full Colonel -- and his 2 Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces battalion commanders in all training and logistical matters regarding the conduct of light infantry SOPs, in the field, garrison and during ops. Tactics are focused at platoon level, in a company context. IMATT's goal is to ensure companies can seize and hold ground and deliver effective small arms fire in a dismounted light infantry role. To assist me I have a US Logistics Captain, a Bermudan CSM and a Canadian Medical Sergeant. We are currently 130 strong, commanded by a Brit Para Brigadier.

After the war ended 3 years ago a new army was created -- the RSLAF. Many former rebels from the Revolutionary United Front now serve alongside former government soldiers as part of a very carefully orchestrated reconciliation plan. The personal weapon in use is the British SLR (7.62mm FNC1). The C6 is used as the platoon GPMG. RPGs are used as the anti-armour weapon. 81 mm Chinese and Romanian mortars are also used here. The Air Force has a Russian Hind that hasn't flown for a year or so and just received an Alouette helicopter that has all the commanders excited over its recce potential. The Naval Wing has a solo 60s vintage patrol boat gifted by China and several Zodiacs. The Army special force -- Force Reconnaissance Unit -- is at company strength and they are apparently the best soldiers in the country.

The 5th (Freetown Defence) Battalion is tasked to provide troops for several important security details within Freetown, including key government buildings, the Presidential and Vice Presidential lodges, the Special Court, Pademba Prison, MOD installations and maintains a company-sized Quick Reaction Force. The 15th is charged with the security of Lungi International Airport and the Mapeh Internment camp that currently houses some 400 former Liberian rebels undergoing re-integration training. Both battalions have effective strengths in the order of 600 troops each.

Battalions have only limited transport -- 2 Land Rovers and 2 Troop Carrying Vehicles (when they are running.) Both BORs have all the normal reports and returns that we use in Canada and are reminiscent of a 1970s Canadian BOR in the field. They have one telephone line and no fax or copier. They still use morse code -- quite a bit more reliable than many of the so-called modern means. The most notable difference is the total absence of computers. The Chief Clerks type away on WW2 era typewriters and use carbon paper to make copies. A couple of old laptops would go along way here. (Special thanks to Hon LCol Paul Hughes, who donated a lap top computer and printer to 5 Bn.)

Soldiers, who wear a mix of uniforms donated by various countries, only have one uniform each, but they're well maintained and washed by hand once a week in the local streams and water points. They wear their uniforms and berets smartly and with a great deal of pride. Remember the short-lived Garrison Boot project? Canada donated hundreds of these beauties and they now gleam with RSLAF spit and polish.

Soldiers are issued 3 cups of rice a day and some condiments such as Cassava leaves, salt and pepper. A private soldier is paid 12000 Leones (approximately \$60 Cdn) once a month. Soldiers and their families are supposed to receive free accommodations but both battalions are short of housing. Accommodations are quite shocking by western standards but generally soldiers in the RSLAF are often better off than the civilian population. Sixty percent are married with large extended families that overflow the military bases. Kids, dogs, goats and chickens run everywhere throughout the quarters.

Quality of life issues that we take for granted -- paying soldiers on time, feeding and housing them -- have been neglected in the past. I will be spending a great deal of time and effort in these matters if operational standards and positive morale are to be achieved.



LCol Steve Brand (second from left) with members of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces checking their position on the map.



# EXERCISE PEGASUS STALKER, 2003



The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada participated fully at Petawawa last August in 32 Brigade's summer concentration, Exercise Stalwart Guardian, which was described as 'extremely tough but extraordinarily rewarding as well as being a tremendous training and learning opportunity for those involved.' During Stalwart Guardian, the Recce Platoon from the QOR Para Coy hosted 18 German soldiers from their 26 Airborne Brigade. During the two day para phase of the exercise, the Germans had the opportunity to make 2 para descents and were awarded their Canadian wings. Earlier last year, along with nine other Canadian units, The Queen's Own took part in Ex Pegasus Stalker at Fort Drum, NY. (Photos above.)



# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER



Officers followed the tradition of serving food to other members of The Regiment at the Annual Christmas Dinner in December. Numerous members of the QOR and 1CanPara Associations were guests. At the conclusion of the meal a number of special presentations were made and promotions announced. The 2003 'Rifleman of the Year' was Bugle Sgt. Ted O'Halloran (see story opposite). Presentations also included: Jump Hog Award - Sgt Jason Chin-Leung - 32 jumps; Humanitarian Award - The Gentlemen Buglers.

## 2003 'RIFLEMAN OF THE YEAR'



WO Ted O'Halloran, now 'in his early 80s,' was a bandsman and stretcher-bearer with The Queen's Own when he landed on D-Day. "We were supposed to come in about 7:30 but the sea was so rough that by the time we all got together with our landing craft it was after that," he remembers. "At first it was like any manoeuvre, but when our boys started to get killed or wounded the realization set in. When we were running up on the beach three of our bandsman were killed and we couldn't do anything about it. They never made it across the beach. I saw them fall. We got up to the seawall and stayed there for a few seconds and then we got over the wall and into town." Ted joined The Queen's Own as a bugler in the '30s and still parades regularly with the Band today.



Cpl Ricardo Chiu receives the British Airborne Forces Association RSM Harry Fox MBE 'Most Promising Rifleman of the Year Award' from RSM John Wilmot.



MCpl David Pampe, winner of the 'CSM Charles C. Martin (CO's Sword) Award' is flanked by LCol John Fotheringham and QOR Association President Maj Norm McCracken.



Capt. Peter St. Denis presented the Airborne Rifleman of The Year Award to Sgt. Jeff Johnston.

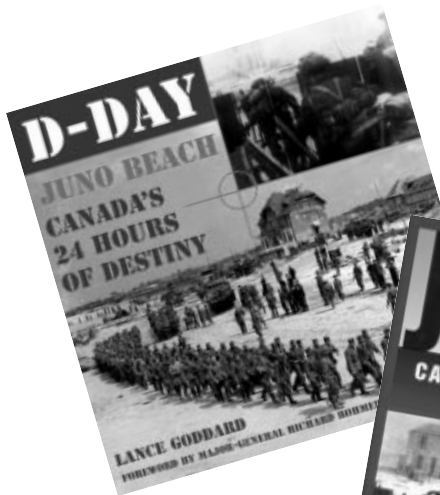


Cpl Jason Frye, recipient of the 'Fitness Award' is flanked by 1CanPara Association members Bob Firlotte (left) and Jan de Vries.



## NEW D-DAY BOOKS

At least three new books on the D-Day invasion have been published to mark the 60th anniversary of the landings, with quotes from members of The Queen's Own D-Day veterans in each. *D-Day, Juno Beach: Canada's 24 Hours of Destiny*, by Lance Goddard, was formally launched in The QOR Sergeant's Mess at MPA in April, with a dozen D-Day veterans in attendance. A 15-minute segment from a 45-minute video on the landing was also seen, prior to being seen nationally on the Global TV Network on 6 June 2004. Watch for it! The book and a DVD or VHS of the TV show are available from Global for \$29.99. Also out now are: *JUNO: Canadians at D-Day, June 6-1944*, by Ted Barris (\$34.95) and *D-Day, The Greatest Invasion. A People's History*, by Dan van der Vat (\$60.00)



## In The Habit Of Giving

With each edition of our Powder Horn we send a 'reminder' to all the family that it is important to 'get in the habit of giving'. No donation is too small. The Trust Fund relies on the annual contributions of the family to do its good work. Without this annual financial support or 'annual giving' the Regiment would be unable to fulfill certain annual needs related to 'Object' of the Trust (and where funding from DND is not available):

- 1 Maintenance of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Museum(s);
- 2 Maintenance of the Regimental Headquarters;
- 3 The expense of writing and publishing a Regimental History, the Powder Horn and other such communications or documents as may be deemed appropriate;
- 4 The maintenance and enlargement of the Books of Remembrance and the Cross of Sacrifice both presently located at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Toronto (the latter dedicated as a war memorial for the Regiment);
- 5 Such Expenses as may be incurred from time to time for the maintenance of the Regimental Band and the Pioneers and Skirmishers and their respective uniforms;
- 6 Such expenses as may be incurred for celebrating the Regimental birthday or other celebrations, as may be deemed appropriate from time to time;
- 7 The sending of 'soldiers' comforts to Regimental units or members of the Regiment who are extra-Regimentally employed on duty; and
- 8 Such other expenses as may be incurred from time to time for the efficiency, welfare and well being of the Regiment and its members.

This past year the Trust Fund approved expenditures related to all or most of the headings listed above and has projects in the works. The Trust Fund must spend what it takes in....or at least 80% as required by the charities directorate. In fact, we spend more than the 80% depending on circumstances. So each year, then, is a "fresh start". The Trustees of your Trust Fund kick off each year with a special donation ~ a dollar for every year the Regiment has been in existence. We encourage everyone to contribute or "get in the habit of giving" and, again, no amount is too small (although we only provide a tax receipt for amounts in excess of \$10).

Please take a moment to complete the form enclosed and send it, along with your cheque or money order. It will be most welcome indeed. And, to all those who contributed to the Trust Fund this past year a sincere "Thank You".

**In Pace Paratus**  
**Capt. Adam Hermant, Ost.J, CD,**  
**President, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund.**



## CALGARY BRANCH

### Capt (Ret'd) Ralph Ridley CD

**Birthday Celebrations et al:** We are hoping for a good turn-out at #264 RCL on 23 April (weather permitting.) I reference the weather as a reminder of the sudden blizzard last year that caused cancellation. Disappointment in the cancellation was alleviated by holding a Candlelight Dinner in September, with 69 attendees (fewer than we had expected) at what was a most enjoyable evening. At the traditional December luncheon, 42 members were in attendance.

**Remembrance Walk.** As a prelude to Remembrance Day, the annual walk took place at Olympic Park, with a good response from walkers. John Cresswell served as Parade Coordinator, which is just one of several such roles he assumes each year. We commend him for these efforts, not just for the Calgary Branch but also for other civic events held in Calgary and elsewhere, such as the Australian and New Zealand Air Crew Memorial Committee. They have asked him to assist at the ceremony in April to honour the 'Anzacs' who gave their lives during the Gallipoli campaign in 1915, as well as in Canada whilst in the Commonwealth Training Plan.

**Speaking of:** John Cresswell, during his trip to England last fall he participated in ceremonies and attended the parade to honour the memories of over 350 members of the Palestine Police Force who were killed or wounded before the end of the Mandate in 1948. He also attended a very moving service at St. Paul's Cathedral to honour seamen who had lost their lives in the service of their country. Also, in a Military Cemetery in Brookwood, near London, he came across the grave of H19016 Sgt. L.V. Norran of the QOR who died 14 March 1941. John stayed at the Union Jack Club in London and reports he was deeply affected by his visits to see the memorabilia at the club of T.E. Lawrence (of Arabia) and of Robert Falcon Scott, the Antarctic explorer.

**QOR Reunion 2005:** A committee of nine has been appointed to plan the events for the Regimental Reunion tentatively scheduled to be held in Calgary from 3-5 June, 2005. A coordination meeting will be held soon so that the event can receive as much publicity as possible.

**Congratulations to:** LCol John Fotheringham CD, Commanding Officer of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada on his selection as commander of the 32 CBG's Light Infantry concentrating at Petawawa in August. We wish you every success.

**Birthday Greetings to:** Bev Hughes, wife of QOR Hon. LCol Paul Hughes, who celebrated her 60th on 23 April. Who can believe that Bev has reached that stage in life when most people brag about their age rather than trying to conceal it? (Only five more years to go before OAS kicks in, Bev!)

**Condolences to:** Bessie and the family of Col Hank Elliot (Dec., 2003). A well-attended Memorial Service was held for Hank at the RCMI. Those of us who served under Hank will always remember him as an outstanding officer. Also to Una and the family of Maj. Frank Moad (Jan., 2004). Don Ethell delivered a most fitting eulogy at his funeral and I was delighted to receive from Una Frank's personal copy of the Regimental history, 'One Hundred Years of Canada', to replace my 'loaned out' copy. Also to Vic and the family of Florence Ramsbottom (Feb., 2004). 'Flo' was 81, and had served in the RCAF as a parachute packer 1942-45, which was how she met Vic, who was in the Airborne.

**Wanted!:** This is a call to anyone who has any recollections, stories or anecdotes of interesting and/or humorous incidents which occurred during The Regiment's active service in Western Canada (early 50s to 1968). You may recall that Doug Williams put out a request for this sort of material some time ago with a view to compiling it and publishing the best of it. While he has received some, we know there's a lot more out there. Material can be sent to Ralph Ridley, 3448 Lane Cr. SW., Calgary AB, T3E 5X2.

(Sorry, I'm not on the internet!)



## VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH

**Sgt. Ira K. MacDonald CD**

The Vancouver Island Branch held its Annual General Meeting on 17 January at the Naden Wardroom in Victoria, at which time a new Executive Committee was elected for 2004/2005. President, Ira K. MacDonald; Vice President, Bill Brayshaw; Secretary, Bob Drinkwater; Treasurer/Membership, Jim Carroll; Entertainment, Kevin Walsh; Up Island Rep., Art Saretsky; Kit Shop, Ron Kinnersley, Pete Kolbe; Album/Photos, Sandy Rozon; Museum, Jim Schulz, Dave Stones; Branch Custodian, Gord Kitsch. The new committee sincerely thanks the retiring President, Harold Drinkwater; Vice President, Fred Mercer and Secretary, John Tolley for all of their time and hard work over the past several years as members of the Executive. It is only through the volunteer efforts of members who serve on the Committee and the support of the membership that our Branch continues to thrive and has become the largest such Association on Vancouver Island. Our caps are off to you!

### CURRENT AND FUTURE PROJECTS

**QOR of C Base Museum:** Contributions of time, talent and display materials continue. Our gallery is now pretty well complete with a 1950's Barrack Room scene, an artefacts display case in the main room and a good selection of materials in the Work Point Room, relating to our time in the Victoria area. Some items about the 2nd Battalion's time in Gordon Head are also shown to help complete the picture. An interim listing of all those who have contributed to the museum will be mounted in time for the Regimental Birthday, on 24 April. The Museum has stirred a great deal of interest in other Branch activities and we thank those donors who have contributed to the effort.

We want to thank those members who have contributed time and talent to the construction phase of this project, namely: Wally Ratz, Pete Kolbe, Ron Kinnersley, Kevin Walsh, Dave Stones, Jim Carroll and Jim Schulz.

**Juno Beach Centre:** The Branch assisted the Regiment by donating \$2,400 for the Kiosk in Normandy. These funds came from a variety of sources and members, with both regular battalions being commemorated separately. The names of those who made direct or significant contributions to the Memorial are also represented.

**Broadmead Speakers Luncheons:** A very successful inaugural luncheon featured General Lew MacKenzie. We were the largest group in attendance with 25 of our members (a fact noticed by many others) and over \$14,000 was raised for the Foundation. We capitalized on Lew's presence to co-host a reception at the Wardroom later that day and he obviously greatly enjoyed the short visit, appreciating the chance to renew acquaintances with many old comrades.

**Service Vets Golf:** Fun tournaments for members are scheduled at Cedar Hill GC on 21 April, 19 May, 16 June and either 29 Sep. or 06 Oct. A BBQ is to be held at the last one. If interested, contact Charlie Wendt at [cwendt@shaw.ca](mailto:cwendt@shaw.ca).

**Broadmead Lodge Support:** We have undertaken to support the Broadmead Lodge Foundation Capital Campaign by donating \$250 towards the renovation of the Maple Room family/resident lounge. We are also sponsoring a hole for \$250 in the Lodge's Charity Golf Tournament on 30 April. Both donations are from Branch funds and were authorized unanimously by AGM attendees. Members interested in supporting either of these initiatives personally, or playing in the tournament, can get further information from [www.broadmeadfoundation.ca](http://www.broadmeadfoundation.ca).

**Monthly Events:** The Branch continues to hold its regular monthly luncheon on the last Wednesday of each month at the Pro-Pat's Legion on Gorge Road. In addition, the Up Island members meet for coffee at 1000h on the first Tuesday of each month at the MGM Cafe in Nanaimo. All members of the Association, especially members from other Branches who may be visiting either Victoria or Nanaimo, are very welcome to attend.

**In Memoriam:** The Branch sadly remembers the passing of former comrades: Robert (Bob) Gregson, 10 August 1935-19 August 2003 and Jerry Bell, 30 September, 1947-12 October 2003.

**Finally:** If you have any news of interest to the members of the Vancouver Island Branch, please send it to Jim Carroll, at [tigerlily.sask@shaw.ca](mailto:tigerlily.sask@shaw.ca).





## WHERE'S HERBIE ?

I would like to know if anybody can help me find a book of the cartoons of "Herbie". They were always published in the forces newspaper during and after WW2. The one I had is "missing in action" and it was very dear to me. If someone can tell me how I could acquire a copy I would be very grateful. I served with the Queen's Own under Maj. Ben Dunkelman, Lt. J. Hancock, CSM Billie Ives and Sgt Jones. I detached to The Queen's Own when they went out for rest and reinforcement in the Reichswald Forest near Kleve. I heard they were in need of a man with some medical knowledge to be a stretcher bearer. So that is what I was till the end of the war. We were in north Holland with plans to go to Emden in Germany, but instead were sent to Amersfoort, Holland.

I met a cute little girl and after my discharge in 1946 (at the age of 21) I just could not get her out of my mind and went back to Holland, got married and settled down. We have 3 children and 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. I speak, write and read Dutch fluently. I learned a trade as a central heating mechanic and worked at it till my pension, in 1985.

R.G.M. Dick Plunkett, Catloniestraat 21, 1827 CN Alkmaar, The Netherlands.

*(We put Rfn Plunkett in touch with Canada's only exclusively military bookstore, [dave@grenadiermilitaria.com](mailto:dave@grenadiermilitaria.com), where he was able to get a nice replacement copy of "Herbie".)*



## RE-DEDICATION CEREMONY

Toronto area QOR veterans or members of the Regiment who attended Danforth Tech, and family members, are invited to a re-dedication of the school's memorial windows on in a ceremony on **Sunday, May 30, at 3 p.m.** Twelve stained glass windows at the school, now known as Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute, have been carefully restored, and will be re-dedicated as a War Memorial to the more than 2,200 Danforth Tech students, former students and teachers who enlisted and served between 1939 and 1945. According to information provided by the school, 22 Danforth Tech students joined The Queen's Own at the outbreak of WWII. Of these, three were killed in action. They are: John Evenden Ellwood (3 Mar/45, Holland, buried in Groesbeek Canadian Military Cemetery); W. Gilbert May, (June 6/44, Normandy, b. Beny-sur-Mer); William Allan Smith (11 June/44, Normandy, b. Beny-sur-Mer). Survivors were: Norman Allan Cameron; Roy Herbert Fox; Harold George Goss; Norman R. Henderson; Arthur William Hodge; Sydney Hunter; Richard John Klintworth; John Martin; John A. Martin; John Leather; Joseph Lumsden; Frank Morris; Reginald Morris; Gordon Alexander Murray; William Rae; John David Roberts; Sidney Charles Smith; Walter H. Whitehead.



Rfn Plunkett (left) in a photo taken during a visit to Holland by his comrade, QOR D-Day veteran Jack Pearce (who died in 1990).

### IN MEMORIAM

- Cpl Jerry Bell
- Rfn Ira Bowman
- Rfn Warren Dove
- Maj J.L. (Larry) Foley
- MCpl Robert Gregson
- Sgt Vince Henthorne
- Lt Dave Kingston
- Maj T. F. (Frank) Moad
- Capt Douglas James Silzer
- Cpl George Stiff
- Sgt Nicholas (Nick) Zamaria MM.



## SANDYCOVE VETERANS

LCol (Ret'd) Ivor Macleod, MM, CD

During the winter months especially, members of the Sandycove Veterans Social Club make a very real effort to keep everyone happy by organizing various dances, parties and other events...notably our well-attended 'Vets Breakfast' which we put on very frequently. I have fun cooking the scrambled eggs while my wife, Pat, dishes them out. The Vets Club is a very active and well-thought-of group here and having only recently conducted our 2004 elections, the appointment of Cliff Ashdown to the position of President augurs well for the coming year. As VP, I'll be able to support Cliff in QOR style.

A number of Queen's Own members were on hand last November 11 in support of Sandycove's Remembrance Day activities. This annual event is certainly meaningful wherever it may take place and this is very much the case here. As a resident retirement community there are many ex-service ladies and gentlemen who are active participants. In 2003 I had the honour of taking the salute. As is now customary, three stalwarts of the RCMP were with us to add further dignity to the occasion and, of course, the presence of Gus Amodeo, George Walford, Cliff Ashdown and Bob Charman from the Regimental Band of The Queen's Own, provided some stirring bugle and drum music which was very well received. That the QOR members wore 'Regimentals' made the day that much more memorable.

Pat and I will be in Wolfville, NS, later this year to take part in the 50th Anniversary of the graduation of the 'Class of '54' from Acadia and to meet up with many of our former classmates. I was a Corporal, 1st Bn., the Royal Canadian Regiment and had been selected for 'Upgrading to Commissioned Rank' and upon graduation with a Bachelor of Arts degree in May 1954, joined 1st Bn QOR of C in Calgary as a Lieutenant. Wow, 50 years -- time flies when having fun!

Next year we might head out West and pay a visit to Calgary. We spent Christmas and New Year's with our RCAF son Stuart and his family in Cold Lake, Alberta. Whoever picked that name got it right! Cold it was! (Outside, anyway.)

Regimentally Yours. In Pace Paratus.



LCol Ivor MacLeod flanked by (l. to r.) QOR Regimental Bandmen Gus Amodeo, Bob Charman, Cliff Ashdown and George Walford, on Remembrance Day, 2003.

**Editor's Notes:** We welcome your letters and e-mails and have reproduced some in this issue. Keep 'em coming, along with suggestions for stories or articles. Anything we can't use in Powder Horn will be forwarded to the editor of The Rifleman for possible use in the annual journal. All correspondence for The Powder Horn should be addressed to: Capt. C. D. McGregor, Editor, Powder Horn, 22 Calder Cres., Whitby, ON, L1N 6M3. E-mails to [chickmcgregor@sympatico.ca](mailto:chickmcgregor@sympatico.ca). Telephone 905 430 1680.

Electronic versions of The Powder Horn are available in a format known as PDF for those who prefer to receive things electronically. You can open the file through Acrobat Reader. It is usually about 1 MB in size, with the identical text and photos as the paper version. It can be read on screen or printed. Please E-mail me at [chickmcgregor@sympatico.ca](mailto:chickmcgregor@sympatico.ca) to request it. You can later switch back to regular paper mailings if you prefer.

The newsletter is also posted on the QOR web site at <http://qor.com/> soon after publication. The link is on the left-hand side of the home page.

**Capt C.D. McGregor, Editor**

**In Pace Paratus**



## **SALUTE TO MAJOR J.J. WHYTE**

After more than 25 years of service to The Queen's Own, Major John J. Whyte has retired as Regimental Major. Major Whyte, a Grenadier, landed with XXX Corps in the Guards Armoured Division on D-Day and fought to Arnhem "to the 'Bridge Too Far', where we were stopped," he recalls. He ended the war in Holland, served with the 1st Bn Grenadiers in London on 'Public Duties' which included guard duty at 'Buck House.' He was later commissioned in the RAOC, serving in Singapore and Malaya, until 1957 when he joined the Royal Ulster Constabulary for an 18-month period, before coming to Canada. He recently retired as Chief of Security at the Toronto Hilton Hotel. It is expected that Major Whyte will continue to serve the Regiment, and his past, present and anticipated future support is very much appreciated. Maj David Vine of Toronto, who served with the militia battalion in the 1950's and 1960's, a lawyer, has been appointed Regimental Major in Maj. Whyte's stead.

## **D-DAY 60th ANNIVERSARY TOUR**

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association's D-Day 60th Anniversary Tour leaves on Monday, 2 June with almost 40 participants, among them 14 veterans of the D-Day landings, including the following QOR personnel: Joseph Wagar, Rolph Jackson, Ken Scott, John Jones, Hank Killham, Hugh Lamb, Dave Fletcher, Art Gay, Bill Ross, Sydney Stokes, Charlie Cadieux and John Connelly. Included in the many events on the tour are the official Franco-Canadian Ceremonies at the Canadian Military Cemetery at Beny-sur-Mer and, on the D-Day anniversary, the Government of Canada ceremony and events at the Juno Beach Centre. Later, in Bernieres-sur-Mer they will attend Ceremonies at the QOR Memorial, meet at La Maison des Queen's Own Rifles and be hosted by the village at dinner. Other stops will be made at Le Mesnil Patry and Anguerny, Carpiquet, the Canadian Military Cemetery at Bretteville-sur-Laize – Cinthaux, Vimy Ridge, Dieppe, Ouistreham and Sword Beach, Arranches and Gold Beach, the Batteries Longues in Longues-sur-Mer, Omaha Beach and the Pointe du Hoc before concluding the trip in Paris.

## **THE 83rd ANNUAL WARRIORS' DAY PARADE**

The annual Warriors' Day Parade in Toronto will take place at 10:30 am on Saturday, August 21st, 2004. This year marks the 60th anniversary of D-Day and honorees will be The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, The Air Force Association of Canada and the Aircrew Association, Toronto Post. The Parade will conclude with a mini-tattoo: "A Salute to Heroes". Two former members of The Queen's Own will play feature roles. Our former Honorary Colonel, The Hon. Barnett "Barney" J. Danson, P.C., O.C., L.L.D., O.M. (Fr) has been named Reviewing Officer and Major-General (Ret.) Lewis "Lew" MacKenzie MSC, CD will be Honorary Parade Marshall. The parade will begin at the Princes' Gates, and terminate at the newly-renovated Ricoh Centre in the CNE Grounds. The Warriors' Day Parade is the longest running veterans' parade in the free world and has been a part of the Canadian National Exhibition tradition for the past 83 years.

## **ATTENTION, COLLECTORS!**

Collectors of Queen's Own memorabilia will be interested to learn of items which have recently become available. Some of these, which contain rare photos, are increasingly hard to find. Conditions vary from good to excellent. They include: Historical Album 1856-1894; History of The Queen's Own Rifles by Capt E.J. Chambers (1901); Book of Remembrance 1866-1918; Souvenir of Aldershot 1910; Official Programme, Semi-Centennial Reunion, Toronto, 1910; QOR Association Yearbook 1935; black leather-covered presentation copy of LCol W.T. Barnard's Regimental History 'One Hundred Years of Canada'; limited edition hardback book researched by QOR Padre Craig Cameron listing all QOR personnel who died in WWII and identifying their gravesites; Copies of 'The Rifleman' 1978-2000 ('88-'90 missing); Copies of 'Powder Horn' booklets 1960-1970; Copies of 'Powder Horn' newsletters 1995-2002; Short History of the QOR (1954); Regimental Catechism (1973). Also: Battle Diary by QOR CSM Charlie Martin, DCM, MM; The Canadians by Roy Whitsted; The King of Casa Loma by Carlie Oreskovich; Plus 63pp bio of Sir Henry Pellatt and a full-colour Casa Loma souvenir booklet. For information about these contact Dave Zink at [dave@grenadiermilitaria.com](mailto:dave@grenadiermilitaria.com), or 905 982 0317.

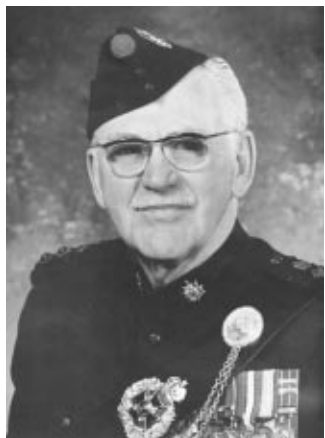


## COLONEL HENRY CHARLES FURZER ELLIOT, CD

**D-Day veteran, career soldier, proud of his Scottish roots.**

**Born in Toronto, April 12, 1921, died of a stroke in Orillia, October 24, 2003.**

**Capt C. D. McGregor**



As someone born into a family with a lengthy military background, there wasn't much doubt where "Hank" Elliot's future lay. Army, all the way. His father, Dr. Charles Henry Schomberg Elliot, was an army medical officer in WWI, his great grandfather was a Captain and his great-great-grandfather a Colonel in the Royal

Marines. A great-uncle was also a British Army Major General. As a pre-WWII student at Upper Canada College, Hank was a member of the Cadet Corps, affiliated with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and it was with this famous infantry regiment that he enlisted and, as Lieutenant Elliot, platoon commander in B Company, landed on Juno Beach on D-Day.

B Coy. went ashore shortly after daybreak, directly in front of a heavily fortified and well-armed concrete strongpoint. With half the company killed or injured, and the company commander wounded, Lt. Elliot took charge. He led his depleted troops inland, making a flank attack to eliminate the enemy. By day's end, The Queen's Own had reached its objective, although sustaining the heaviest losses of any Canadian unit -- over 60 killed and 80 wounded. Elliot received a field promotion to Captain and took over full command of the replenished company as they fought across Northwest Europe. By mid-October, in 'polder country', Capt. Elliot, leading an attack, repulsed an enemy bayonet charge en route to liberation of yet another Dutch village. By war's end, miraculously not seriously wounded, he was now a Major, and ADC to the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division Commander.

He remained in the military, serving in a many postings, including at Canadian Army and National Defence HQ in Ottawa and with the British Army on the Rhine. He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel in 1961, taking over the 1st. Bn QOR in Germany, and to Colonel in 1966, when he commanded Base Borden, after which he was appointed Commander Canadian Contingent and Deputy Chief of Staff of UN Forces in Cyprus. He later became attache to Israel and adviser to Cyprus. In his military career he and his wife, Bessie, whom he met at a skiers' party in 1948 and

married in 1949, moved home 18 times. They settled in retirement on "Ellmeth", the original Elliot Farm near Orillia, bought by his father in 1928 and where Hank and his mother had planted over 45,000 pine trees. Col. Elliot later served as both Honorary Lieutenant Colonel and Honorary Colonel of the The Queen's Own Rifles.

Hank was extremely proud of his clan's heritage and his retirement years gave him a valuable opportunity to explore its history, discovering the clan has existed with a recognized chief at least from the time of King Robert the Bruce in the 1300s. He traced his father's family to the 15th century, learning that one of his ancestors, Robert Elliot of Redheugh, had fought and died, along with King James IV, in the disastrous (for the Scots) Battle of Flodden Field. As President of the Elliott Clan Society in Canada, Hank, along with Bessie, was deeply involved in Clan gatherings held here and in Scotland, attracting hundreds of members (including former Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau) from all parts of the world.

Col Elliot is remembered by all who knew him as fair but firm, a stickler for military protocol and ceremony, a fine and courageous soldier and a consummate gentleman. He is survived by Bessie, sons Timothy and Malcolm and four grandchildren.



One of the speakers at a Memorial Service for Col Elliot was former Defence Minister and QOR Honorary Colonel, Hon. Barney Danson, PC, who served with Hank before being wounded in France in August '44. At right is Regimental Padre, Capt. Craig Cameron.