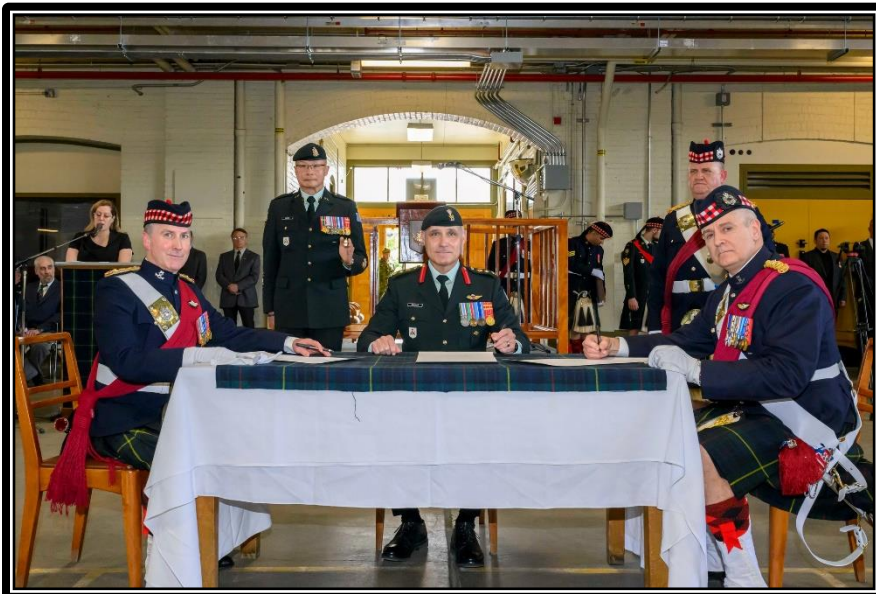


The Can Scot

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Regimental Association
PO Box 44180 RPO GORGE, Victoria, BC V9A 7K1
May 2024

Change of Command

Lieutenant-Colonel (LCol) David Proctor passed command of the regiment to his successor, LCol Slade Lerch on 28 April 2024



Important Dates and Articles

Museum Pages 3-4

Our Cover Pages 5-7

Endowment Fund Kitchners Wood – Pages 7-10

D-Day – Pages 10-11

Deadline for August 2024 Newsletter – Sunday, August 4

Executive Roster 2024-2025		
Patrick Bulmer	President / Association Pipes and Drums	250-472-0875
Stan Willow	Vice President	
Lee Tucker	Secretary Treasurer	250-308-4843
Ron Cullen	Past President	250-592-4123
Directors:		
CWO B. Fairall	Regimental Sergeant Major	
Jim Dumont	Director	250-477-1346
Steven Hayward	Social Director	778-351-3376
Hank Lowe	Endowment Fund	250-592-2898
Charles Middleton	Membership / Editor "The Can Scot"	250-893-7954
Thomas Mercer	Nanaimo Branch Representative	

President's Report – Patrick Bulmer

We are currently updating the guidelines for the Regimental Association's Bursary. We will also be updating the Association's website within the Regimental website.

We are in the process of organizing a schedule of our Regimental Association functions for the next year and will submit the report to the Regimental Council. We will also put the information in CanScot.

The Executive is organizing a database of all our cenotaphs, commemorative plaques, markers and monuments. This will include locations, conditions of the plaques etc., and who is currently (anyone or any organization) looking after them. This will be undertaken by the Victoria and Up-Island Association Executive. We will also contact the Regimental Museum and other Regimental Family components for their help and support. Recently, our Regimental Association Secretary, Lee Tucker, organized a cleaning of our commemorative marker in Beacon Hill Park. Thank you, Lee, and to the Victoria Park's Department for their work with this endeavour. This plaque was unveiled in 1965 "to commentate the presentation by our Colonel-In-Chief of our new colours on June 16, 1962, on this parade square" (Beacon Hill Park)

The Regimental Family will gather at Pioneer Square at the Regimental Cenotaph on June 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm on the 80th Anniversary of D-Day to acknowledge the contribution and sacrifices of the members of the Canadian Scottish Regiment.

The Canadian Scottish (Princess Mary's) Regimental Association's Reunion in Nanaimo this year is coming up soon, June 7-9, 2024. I hope to see everyone there.

Thank you to the Up-Island Branch for organizing this event and many thanks to Gord and Maureen Thompson for their many contributions.

Deas Gu Cath
Patrick Bulmer

Women's Auxiliary – Rhonda Scott

The CScotR Women's Auxiliary are happy to report that we were invited to assist Rob Dodd and Eric Boucher with the Afghanistan Veterans luncheon. Dixie Allan represented the WA later in the day during the Change of Command Parade and welcomed our new CO's wife Kristeen Lerch, to become our Honorary Vice President. The WA provided funding to help 3 Veterans attend the 10th anniversary of the end of Canada's participation in this conflict.

Now that our bank accounts are beginning to recover from the Covid emergency, we are now able to resume our support of the Regimental family. We have also been able to provide \$200.00 towards the addition of 4 more names of fallen CScotR soldiers from WW1. Derek Egan is the lead on this, and we were also able to add another name from The Women's Auxiliary membership list of those who passed away (Ann Allen) to the Volunteers book of Remembrance. Thank you to Maureen Thomson (Nanaimo), for taking on this arduous chore of tracking down information to add to their insertions. We have also chosen to provide funding towards the upgrading of the Beacon Hill Park memorial plaques along Douglas Street by the playing field. The Association is the lead on this. We had a wonderful turnout of our members for the Association luncheon on May 4, in honour of paying our respects to Sandra Holloway and Rae McDonald. Our next, and final event for this training year will be running a concession in the BSA for Randy Evans and the Museum during the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

The WA will be hosting its year end luncheon at The 4mile restaurant @1pm, June 23.

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Regimental Museum Randy Evans Director – CScotR Museum

Assistant Director Dale (Jack) Drysdale died of complications due to Liver Cancer at home on 30 March 2024. He was 69 years old. He had been a piper in the Canadian Scottish Regiment since 1972 and had worked for the museum from 2013 right up to a week prior to his passing. He has requested that no formal ceremony or funeral be conducted. He was a past two-times recipient of the Jack Fawcett Award, and a recent recipient of the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. He will be missed.

Due to the financial crises now being faced by the DND all museum development funding has been pulled indefinitely. As a result, the museum has not been able to complete our Master Plan. We will continue to work on our development plan, at a slower pace, with the remaining funds we received three years ago, and donations.

The Museum will be Open for the summer hours starting 1 June 2024, with an 80th Anniversary of D-Day Commemorative event at the Bay Street Armory. We will open at 1000 hrs until 1530 hrs, with The Greater Victoria Military Museum Group participating - the 5th Field Artillery Museum, the Ashton Armoury Museum, the BC Aviation Museum, The CFB Esquimalt Naval Museum, the McAulay Point Park, Fort Rod Hill Historical Site, and the Victoria Reenactors Group.

The Association Pipes and Drums and the 5th Field Show Band will also be on site, and the CScotR Cadets will be there for a parade practice during the function. In addition to the museum displays, the Music for Veterans Project will take place in the Currie room from 1300 – 1400 hours. Eight young student musicians (grade 4 and up) have composed piano works of music to honour the memory and sacrifice of eight CScotR WW2 Soldiers who landed on D-Day and did not return.

The museum summer hours are Tuesday to Friday, 1000 – 1500 hrs, but we will also be open Monday, 3 June, 1000-1500 hrs, to provide more time to view our museum D-Day display from 6 Jun1944.

We are still looking for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer for the museum. There is no requirement to attend on a schedule and any amount of time offered would be greatly appreciated...and there are Tim Bits on Tuesday mornings...

Last Post

Jack Drysdale

Lunch Dates - Jim Dumont

Our last Regimental Association luncheon for the 2023-24 period was held on Saturday, May 4 and was a very successful luncheon. We had 36 in attendance including the Pipes and Drums. This was the largest attendance for the season and for quite some time. I thank everyone who attended the luncheons and hope to see everyone return next season and more to join us. I also thank the members of the Pipes and Drums for providing short programs at the December and May luncheons. Their performance was enjoyed by all in attendance as well as other people who were in the Legion while they played. Thanks again.

We recognized the passing of Jim Caldwell, Rae McDonald and Sandra Holloway during the luncheon. Jim Bone gave a short talk about an experience with Rae and I spoke about Jim Caldwell and about working with Rae and Sandra at British Columbia Systems Corporation.

At this time, I assume our first luncheon of the fall will be September 7th. A list of dates will be included in the August newsletter.

I hope everyone has a great summer and am looking forward to hearing about your experiences at the Fall luncheons.

Out of the Closet

The Trustees and the Regimental Association have had a program in place for the past three years to reduce the cost of acquiring uniforms that must be borne by serving individuals or the Regimental Family. The program has been most successful in achieving this aim and you can assist it further. If you have mess kit, blues, trews, kilts, claymores, dirks or other items of uniforms adorning your closet, please contact Major Tom Vincent at tom_vincent@shaw.ca. He will receive your items, appraise them, issue you a tax receipt for their value, and then turn them over to Regimental Stores for issue to serving members for the duration of their service in the Regiment.

Thank you to LCol Derek Egan acting on behalf of the estate of the late LCol and Mrs. Michael Allen, Maj David Grubb, Dr. Ken Wilson, Mrs. Jacqueline Patten, Mrs. Astrid Doidge, LCol and Mrs. John Wigmore, Mrs. Sheila Woloshyn, Mr. Jim Dumont, Mr. Clark Russell, Col Paul Crober, BGen Michael Heppell, LCol Laurence Johnson, Mrs. Florence Pierce, Mr. Charles Middleton, Mr. Jack Drysdale, Mr. Steve Kelly, and Mr. J. Jennings for their participation in this program. Your generosity has saved the Regimental Family and individuals in it thousands of dollars to date.

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Change of Command -

Captain Cameron Park Public Affairs Officer

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) conducted a change of command parade on April 28. Concluding three years as Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel (LCol) David Proctor passed command of the regiment to his successor, LCol Slade Lerch.



Passing the Sword

LCol Proctor pointed to supporting leadership development as a key component of his time commanding the regiment. “We develop junior leaders and get them on the pathway to become middle leaders, and [from] middle leaders into senior leaders,” LCol Proctor said. “We strive to support our people to enable them to go forward in their careers as we understand the stressful nature of the reserves in terms of the competing time demands between military service, civilian life, family life and civilian career.” “We develop junior leaders and get them on the pathway to become middle leaders, and [from] middle leaders into senior leaders,”

During his command, soldiers from the regiment deployed on Operation Reassurance, the contribution by the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) to reassurance and deterrence in Eastern and Central Europe. LCol Proctor spoke to the unit effort to support the deployment of soldiers, often from key leadership positions, on operations. “The investment of experience is great, but there’s a pain to it at the regimental level in force generating capability when we go short,” he said. “This is why we generate combat power for the nation, and we always work hard at the unit level to support individuals to demonstrate capability deterrence to our adversaries overseas.”

Before the Change of Command parade, with family members in attendance, LCol Lerch received his promotion from Major to LCol from Colonel Scott Raesler, Commander 39 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG). LCol Lerch shared his thoughts on assuming command of a regiment with a long history. “It is a significant appointment for me. I’ve served with five infantry regiments, all of which I’m proud to have served with but I consider the Canadian Scottish Regiment my home regiment,” LCol Lerch said. “I look back to the regiment’s history from Kitchener’s Wood all through the First World War and the Second World War, and at the accomplishments those members of the regiment had. Those soldiers wore the same cap badge that we wear today.”



Colours on Parade



Afghan Battle Honour

A significant part of the day was the parading of the regiment's colours for the first time since the addition of the 'Afghanistan' Theatre Honour to the Regimental Colours. Many members of the regimental family who served in Afghanistan with the regiment or with other units of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) were present for the occasion, standing on parade as 'The Old Guard.' Sixty-six soldiers from the regiment served in Afghanistan while serving with the CAF. A veteran of Afghanistan himself, LCol Lerch spoke to the significance of the occasion.



Afghan Veterans on Parade

"The soldiers in the old guard bled, sweated and toiled for that honour. Having 'Afghanistan' emblazoned on their colour is tangible evidence of their efforts," he said. "The Regiment was blessed in that we had no fatalities, but we had casualties. I know some of our soldiers carry some deep scars from their service in Afghanistan and seeing that honour means their sacrifices had some meaning. The honour will be carried on the regimental colour in perpetuity so their sacrifice and dedication will be recognized by soldiers of the Regiment for generations to come."

Canadian Scottish Regimental Association Pipes and Drums – Steve Hayward

The Association Band has been very busy and will be very busy into June. The band played at the last Assn. Luncheon in May: we also had a large contingent for the Annual Tartan parade, and some members also joined in for the May Day Parade. We will be playing at the God's Acre Ceremony on May 30th, June 1st at the D-Day celebration at the Armoury, and the next day playing for the Cadet ACR. On June 6th, we will be at Pioneer Square for the D-Day commemoration at the Cenotaph. As everyone knows, the Reunion is in Nanaimo starting on June 7th, and we will be playing throughout the weekend. June 13th finds us playing at the Cadet CO change of command parade. So, as you can see, we will be very busy representing the Association at various events. I am looking forward to seeing you at some of these events.

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Endowment Fund **The Canadian Scottish Remembers – Action at Kitchener's Wood – Awarding of** **Honorary Distinction (Part 2 of 3)**

LCol (ret'd) D.C. Egan

A memorial established at Kitchener's Wood immortalizes this action:

During the late afternoon of April 22, 1915, the Germans launched the first lethal chemical gas attack in history. French territorial and colonial troops fell back leaving a six-kilometre gap to the left of the Canadian Sector.

During the night of 22/23 April the 10th (Canadians) and 16th (Canadian Scottish) Battalions counter-attacked and captured a German held position at Kitchener's Wood. Both Canadian battalions sustained heavy casualties and by morning established a line of resistance south of the wood.

This action prevented a German breakthrough to Ypres and beyond, which was later recognized by the award of an honorary distinction, an oak leaf with acorn shoulder badge, to both battalions.

In 1919, it was reported in the Canadian Daily Record that marshal Ferdinand Foch supreme commander allied armies, stated "I think the finest act of the war was the counterattack of the 10th and 16th battalions of Canadians after their Division had been frightfully punished by the German gas."

(Kitchener's Wood Memorial, St. Julien, Belgium)

Following WW I, the system of battle honours became more formalized than was previous. The British War Office compiled a list of battles involving units from throughout the Empire, as it then was, with those qualified to be eligible for an appropriate honour. The Government of Canada established a Battle Honours Committee (BHC) in Ottawa to decide which regiments would receive them. As the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) was comprised of some 260 numbered infantry battalions, many of which bore no relationship to existing units or the Non-Permanent Active Militia (NPAM), the BHC decided to link the disbanded units of the CEF with NPAM regiments based on factors such as recruitment, geography, and history, and grant battle honours on this basis. Hence, honours to be accorded to the 10th Bn would be granted the Calgary Highlanders (CH) and Winnipeg light Infantry (WLI) and those for the 16th Bn to the Canadian Scottish Regiment (CSR).

While the War Office identified the battles of Second Ypres and St Julian in their extensive list of battle, Kitchener's Wood was not. Consequently, in 1926 the Commanding Officer of the Canadian Scottish Regiment, supported by Generals Smith- Dorian, Currie, Alderson, and Turner, petitioned that the 10th and 16th Bns be given some "special honour" for the action at Kitchener's Wood, April 22/23, 1915. The BHC felt that some recognition was deserved and explored various options, including approaching the French for the award of a Croix de Guerre (C de G) or the creation of a "special Battle Honour" (Battle Honours Committee [BHC], 1926a, p3).

The C de G was not favoured by Military members (believed to be another committee of higher authority than BHC) for reasons not stated. The creation of a new battle honour was also considered undesirable as Kitchener's Wood was viewed as a *tactical action* in a larger battle for which a battle honour had been provided. The committee felt that "... the desire to commemorate especially the extreme gallantry of the 10th and 16th Bns in the first charge ever made by Canadian troops in European warfare ... might be best met by some distinction of dress...uniforms, badge, buttons or appointments" (BHC, 1926b, p.1).

The perpetuating units agreed that an oak leaf with acorn(s) on a red background would be a suitable design for a badge. The CSR and CH favoured a single acorn, and the badge be worn on the collars of service dress for other ranks (ORs) and the lapel for officers, while the WLI preferred an oak leaf with two acorns worn on the sleeve as per a Division patch. The CO of the CSR had previously submitted this badge to the College of Heraldry who had no objections. The BHC believed that a *special badge*, unlike an application for a special battle honour would not be opposed by the War Office. The BHC considered that the emblem should be worn as a collar badge by 1st Bns of the perpetuating units only (BHC, 1927, p.1).

In 1930, the WLI applied to the BHC for its own form of "special badge". The Military Members (Committee) felt that if the units could not agree then nothing further could be done. However, in reviewing the WLI application, its rationale, and Colonial Office direction, the BHC concluded " ...that the grant of such a special badge could not be considered as a *commemorative device* which would not require His Majesty's sanction, but can only be regarded as a *honorary distinction*..." which would. Consequently, they decided to consult the War Office (BHC, 1930, p.1).

In 1931, the Chief of General Staff (CGS) attended a BHC meeting specifically to discuss the "special distinction" for the 10th and 16th Bns. He was not in favour of a War Office suggestion, for a Battle Honour extension GRAVENSTAL (Kitchener's Wood), presumably given in response to BHC consultation regarding an honorary distinction and felt this would invite other applications. He believed that, as the attack of the 10th and 16th Bns were the first by only a few hours, and there were other actions of equal merit, if a "special honour" were granted to the 10th and 16th Bns, requests from other Bns would follow that would be hard to refuse. In addition, he was opposed to a second collar badge for reasons "... of technical complications, difficulty in gaining approval, and departure from established policy" (p.1). In place, he suggested that a "commemorative device" vice an honorary distinction in the shape of an oak leaf with the Bn badge superimposed. He believed that the addition of the oak leaf could be granted in Canada without reference to a higher authority, while any badge approved by the King would *ipso facto* be an "honorary distinction"(BHC, 1931a, pp. 1-2).

Subsequently, the BHC determined that since the collar badges contained *Royal Devices*, and the addition of the oak leaf to the badge was, in fact, a change in the badge, royal approval would be required and concluded that this left them three options:

1. Submit this combined badge to the King for sanction of the Royal device and grant of "specific honorary distinction."

2. Submit combined badge to the King for sanction of the Royal Device only, with an expressed statement that the oak leaf is a “commemorative device” not an “honorary distinction.”
3. Refuse the application.

(BHC, 1931b)

What transpired next is unknown, but on the October 31, 1933 Colonel Loggie, Director of Equipment and Ordnance Stores, wrote to Colonel Duguid, a member of the BHC, advising that the issue of finding a suitable recognition for the perpetuating units of the 10th and 16th Bns, was still under consideration and that, “Our final suggestion to the three units concerned is the insertion of an oak leaf in the shoulder badges.” He went on to report that the units favoured this but wanted a cloth patch instead of metal “...a practice to which he was opposed” and that the “...units must be satisfied with a *commemorative device* in the shoulder badges” He did, however, again raise the suggestion that a modified battle honour on the Colour might be more acceptable to the units. In response, Colonel Duguid wrote Loggie on November 02, 1933, and advised that there seemed to be a cross purpose. While NDHQ had proposed the oak leaf be incorporated into the shoulder titles, the units had accepted a coloured cloth badge to be worn on the uppers sleeve, and while he did not personally oppose the cloth badge, he felt that the War Office might. He was also convinced that the War Office would strongly oppose any commemoration on the colours as only special awards approved by HM were eligible .

Again, it is unknown what transpired following this correspondence except that effective the 15 September 1934, GSO 63 specified the detail of a “special shoulder badge” for the 1st Bn of The Canadian Scottish as follows:

“In brass—within the annulus inscribed “CANADIAN SCOTTISH” an oak leaf with acorn.”

(Canada, Minister of National Defence, 1934)

The authorized 1934 special shoulder badge incorporating the oak leaf and acorn device commemorating the action of the 16th Bn at Kitchener’s Wood is worn by all ranks of the Canadian Scottish Regiment on service dress and has been worn continuously for approximately 90 years.

As the anniversary of the action at Kitchener’s Wood approaches the Endowment Fund is seeking sponsorship into the Book of Memory of the below named 16th Bn soldiers who were present at this historic action to honour the memory of all those involved.

1.	29298	Pte. Henry Aitken	KIA	23-04-15
2.	51043	Pte. George Avery	KIA	22-04-15
3.	29305	Pte Louis Bean	KIA	23-04-15
4.	47329	Pte. Frank Bel,	KIA	23-04-15

Sponsors will receive a certificate with the sponsored soldier’s particulars of service, including place of birth, date and place of enlistment, time, and location of death, and where memorialized if they died on active service. A donation (minimum \$25.00, suggested donation \$50.00) will secure sponsorship. Sponsors may wish to make their donation perpetual on an annual basis, for example on the anniversary of the soldier’s death or Remembrance Day, or through a monthly allocation (***This can be accommodated through Canadahelps.org***)

Please return your completed nomination form identifying the soldier you wish to remember with your donation by mailing to: **Treasurer, CSR Endowment Fund, 4746 Beaver Rd, Victoria, BC, V9E 2J7.**

Help us remember those who served with the Regiment in peace and war and to support the Regiment into the future.

Deas du Cath

[Please contact us at escotrendowment@gmail.com to learn other ways you can support the Regimental Family through gifts to The Endowment Fund]

D Day Remembered

By BGen (retired) Mike Heppell, former commanding officer The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) with information from Ready For The Fray, the history of the Regiment by the late Reginald H. Roy

"D Day" is a military term used to identify the day on which a combat attack or operation is to be initiated. The best known D Day occurred on Tuesday June 6th 1944 – the day of the invasion of Normandy which is officially known as Operation Overlord and this year marks the 80th Anniversary of that historic event. The first phase of the operation was codenamed Neptune, the amphibious invasion and establishment of a secure foothold and it was the largest invasion in history. The armada was spearheaded by a flotilla of 287 mine sweepers to clear the way, followed by 138 warships to bombard the German beach defences. The troop carrying convoy sailed under the protection of an escort of frigates and corvettes with 4000 landing craft and a variety of armed salvage tugs, armed trawlers, air/sea rescue boats and Liberty ships (freighters), an armada of 6000 ships and various craft.

The 3rd Canadian Infantry Division with the 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade under command was assigned to land at Juno Beach which stretched for five miles on either side of Courseulles-sur-Mer. The 1st Battalion The Canadian Scottish Regiment along with the Regina Rifles and Royal Winnipeg Rifles comprised the three infantry battalions of the 7th Brigade of the 3rd Division. For the initial assault, 'C' Company of C Scot R, commanded by Major Desmond Crofton, was attached to the Royal Winnipeg Rifles to strengthen and extend the Brigade's right flank and was tasked to destroy an enemy gun emplacement $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Courseulles. The company landed at approximately 0750 hours and immediately came under lethal machine gun and mortar fire resulting in casualties. Some of the soldiers made it no more than 10 feet from the landing craft before being killed or wounded.

Finding their targeted gun emplacement neutralized by the earlier naval bombardment, 'C' company advanced inland toward its second objective, the Chateau Vaux. #14 Platoon soon came under machine gun fire and after a short but fierce engagement the enemy was overpowered as were some field gun emplacements. At the same time #15 Platoon pushed on toward its objective, the Chateau and two well camouflaged 88mm guns nearby. Well disciplined battle-drill tactics, strong leadership and courageous determination of the soldiers of 'C' Company resulted in numerous enemy snipers and machine gunners being flushed out from the wooded park surrounding the Chateau. The use of hand grenades convinced the enemy to surrender the Chateau and the Company quickly regrouped to continue its advance inland to the Village of Vaux and the fields beyond. Facing strong enemy opposition, 'C' Company had to fight every yard of the way, destroying machine gun positions and taking prisoners as it moved ever forward.

Meanwhile, on the beach, C Scot R Battalion HQ and the remaining companies came ashore at approximately 0830 hours through heavy surf and mined obstacles and under the persistent threat of enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, which continued to inflict casualties within the assaulting companies as they made their way inland to the battalion assembly area at La Valette several hundred yards from the beach.

By late morning, the sound of Canadian field artillery, which had followed the infantry ashore, could be heard providing much-needed fire support to the advancing infantry. The remaining hours of D Day were filled with the task of engaging and securing strong points and gun emplacements, fighting through scattered mortar and machine gun positions and flushing out enemy infantry from the grain fields and villages. By 1630 hours the Scottish was four miles inland from the beach and spearheading the 7th Brigade's attack.

By nightfall, The Canadian Scottish had successfully fought its way six miles inland and had dug in its forward positions in preparation for an expected counterattack. A remarkable achievement considering 12 hours earlier the Battalion was still at sea.

But in war, victories are not won without cost, and for The Canadian Scottish, the cost was 87 casualties that first day, 87 brave soldiers of peace killed or wounded fighting against Nazi tyranny so far from home. In the words of the commanding officer, LtCol Fred Cabeldu , when he addressed the battalion prior to embarking....."our cause is that of humanity, there can be no greater".

During this 80th Anniversary Year of D Day it is fitting we pause and give thanks to those courageous soldiers who served with such strength and dedication in the cause of freedom.....we honour their victory and their sacrifice and we shall remember them.

Lieutenant Hemsley



We have now confirmed the identification of human remains recovered during ordnance clearing at a construction site in Vendin-le-Vieil, France, as being those of Lieutenant Francis Henry Hemsley, a Canadian soldier of the First World War. The identity was confirmed through historical, genealogical, anthropological, archaeological, and DNA analysis. A few artifacts were found alongside the remains.

Francis (Frank) Henry Hemsley was born in Ealing, Middlesex, England, in 1880. He immigrated to Canada in 1911 and worked as a farmer near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, before enlisting. Lieutenant Hemsley became a member of the 16th Battalion (The Canadian Scottish), CEF, in April 1917 and joined the unit in the field in France in May 1917.

The 16th Battalion fought at the Battle of Hill 70, which began on August 15, 1917, and continued for ten days. More than 10,000 Canadians were killed, wounded, or reported missing. During the battle, the 16th Battalion suffered 257 casualties including 62 members who were killed, 35 of whom have no known grave.

Lieutenant Hemsley was reported killed in action on August 16, 1917, at the age of 37. He was buried in an isolated grave, but the location of his grave was later lost. With family in attendance, Lieutenant Hemsley will be buried in July 2024 in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Loos British Cemetery in Loos-en-Gohelle, France, by members of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) from Victoria, B.C.

Learn more: <https://www.canada.ca/.../canadian-soldier-of-the-first...>

Fallen Canadian Scottish in Nanaimo - Kevin Hills

I have been looking into the Commonwealth War Grave Commission's (CWGC) burials here in Nanaimo - there are 26 that are considered to have "died in service" - from wounds incurred in battle, training accidents, and natural causes. Of these 26, there are two with Canadian Scottish connections buried in two different cemeteries. Normally CWGC headstones are installed upright everywhere in the world for casualties from both World Wars.

The Nanaimo Public Cemetery chose to lay all of their cemetery's headstones flat during a renovation in the 1960's, and the only thing holding them down is a City of Nanaimo Cemetery Bylaw. I have started this project to amend the bylaw and stand the 23 affected headstones upright again. This includes the headstone for Corporal John George Baird, Canadian Scottish Regiment, died in a vehicle crash here in Nanaimo, training accident, December 1942, aged 29, never served overseas. His headstone is in a sorry state.

The other fellow is Private James Menzies, Veteran's Guard of Canada, died from natural causes, October 1941. First War veteran, overseas with the Canadian Scottish from 1916 -1919, wounded - gunshot right shoulder. Buried St Peter's Catholic Church Cemetery, Nanaimo.

Please feel free to contact me for information about these lads, or about my project to raise the CWGC headstones. You can email me at nanaimofallenproject@gmail.com

