

# THE TRUMPETER



Non Nobis Sed Patriae

FALL ISSUE OCTOBER 2007

Always  
&  
Forever



NOVEMBER 11, 2007

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Always  
&  
Forever



Lest we forget

Anderson, Andrews, Ayer – Baker, Ball, Bievenue, Bindon, Bishop, Bitschy, Boyd, Bradley, Bradwell, Briggs, Broyles, Burrows, Byron. – Chartrand, Chisnell, Cholette, Cleary, Crawford, Cunningham. – Dabbs, Dantz, Dawson, Dixon, Doan, Duggan, Dunne, Dutson. – Ellis, Evans. – Fantie, Faubert, Fletcher, Forant, French. – Goddard, Godfrey, Goldberg. – Hackett, Hartman, Heer, Hore, Huber, Hutton. – Jackson, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnston, Jones, C.L. and Jones, W.H. – Keddy, Kertland, Kilcup. – Laird, Lamb, Lewis, Lindhorst. – MacDonald, MacKay, MacKenzie, Marsolais, Martin, Mayer, McDougall, McKeown, McKibbin, McLelland, McMartin, Meredith, Mellington, Moffat, Moncrief, Montgomery, Morehouse, Morrison, Morton. Nassar, Nielson. Owens. – Page, Parker, Petibone, Philp, Pullen. – Razansoff, Riddell, Ridley, Rosenfelt, Ross, T. Ross, W. Ryan. – Saburn, Sharpe, Shaw, Showler, Sigley, Stanley, Stech, Stroulger. – Thauvette, Thomson, Tietlebaum, Turner. Vernham. Wadey, Walsh, Wheeler, White, Whittingham, Wickstrom, Wilson, and Wright.



**Leslie Parry, Parksville, B.C.** – He talks about “The Copper Kettle Cape Gris Nez. From the high ground position, we had a good view of Cape Gris Nez. The big guns were to be seen, on occasion when one of them came up from underground and fired a giant shell across the channel. Serving with the 7<sup>th</sup> Recce regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> division our job was to observe, we were part of the troops surrounding the big guns preventing the Germans from escaping. We could see the massive concrete bunker, and the guns were housed in and they would only appear to shoot when there was naval activity along the Dover shore. Daily light bombers would come over from Britain and bomb and strafe the area and usually when they were done one of the big guns would emerge slowly and fire another shot. The corral of pigs, chickens and cows were plainly visible to us and the brass decided we had to get closer.

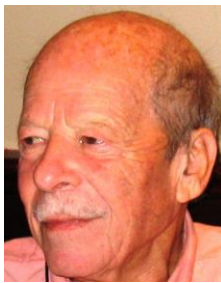
Sgt. Casey was picked to take a foot patrol to look for a suitable spot. He promptly picked myself and trooper McFarlane to go with him, much to our dismay and although we both enjoyed the adventure. A rifle, a bandoleer and a roughed up fatigue shoes along with a canister of water and some stuff a little stronger on the hip and we were off. A well worn path led us through a booby trapped pathway which we avoided and we progressed slowly downhill. It was a bright sunny morning and we had the feeling we were being watched and seen by the whole German Army. After hours of walking and crawling along an overgrown dry creek bed we heard shots but decided they were not meant for us, but it did slow us down. Tired and sweaty we emerged on a small clearing with small out-buildings and a large flat roofed structure that looked fairly new. There was no life or sound and we spent some time deciding what to do? After much discussion we decided one of us would try the little door at the rear of the building. Casey volunteered and crawled along the wall to the door. We covered him expecting all hell to break loose any minute. The door opened and slowly he stuck his head in. After what seemed like an hour he signaled us to join him. Once inside we saw an incredible sight. Medical tables, blood soaked bandages, body parts strewn all over. Lots of Naval uniforms and insignia lying about and one giant room after another containing similar items.

There were hospital beds, medications and a large kitchen where Casey noticed the large Copper Kettle on a stove. “This, he said, is going with me”, and after arriving at the conclusion that the place had been vacated recently, and as we could not see the guns from this location we headed back. We dashed across the clearing to safety of a dry creek bed and within minutes our pleasant adventure took another turn. Heavy mortar shells fell all around us and the chatter of small arms fire shredded the leaves overhead. We crawled along and everything would be quiet for a bit and then single rifle shots were whistling near us. This to us meant snipers and any movement meant more mortar shells. We cursed the Germans and wondered why they would spend such time and ammunitions on three soldiers who could do them no harm. We endured the same treatment till we reached an area where we assumed they could not see us anymore. With raw knees, elbows and torn uniforms we reached the place where we started and found a large audience of our buddies. They greeted us with great

enthusiasm and the first remark we heard repeated was "Who was the idiot carrying that copper kettle?"

Hostilities ended and Sgt. Casey and I parted company. He was repatriated home and I stayed on in the occupation Battalion. Years later I heard he was employed by Simcoe County Jail as Governor. Taking my wife we decided to look him up. He had a great job and I was pleased for him and I told him that I had told my wife about the copper kettle and would he show it to us now. He looked at my wife and he said how sorry he was to almost getting us killed but lost the item making the many moves to get home. It was a great adventure one of many, I shook his hand for the last time.

**AROUND THE HORN** – My friend Roger volunteered some time recently as a second driver. Thank you from all the boys.



**Hyman Zweig** as you see him today is a veteran who enjoys kibitzing. He offered a picture to your right involving three soldiers who came upon a roaming Cow. Hyman is the soldier supervising. They were hungry, so the prize cow was carved up into decent size steaks. They stoked a fire and cooked up four steaks. While all this is going on, a farmer wife approached the boys and asked why did you kill my cow? It was the



German's who killed your cow. The lady advised the boy's enjoy yourself because you will not be happy later. Hyman scratched his head, what is she talking about? He soon found out, when all four soldiers enjoyment turned into natures Diarrhea.



From left to right; The Honourable **Fraser Martin**, CD took some time off his busy schedule to attend our annual C. Hamilton Corn Roast in Hemmingford. Our commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel **Cyrice Lelievre**, CD who also attended, is busy on the cell even though he is trying to relax. **Ruth and Oscar Costin** enjoyed the festivities as well. Oscar is a D-Day veteran, and both keep in great shape by walking. **Nancy Hamilton**, Cec's wife adds beauty to an already wonderful day in the country. Each year the ladies at the local legion produce a great outing for our veterans, we thank you – ***The Apple Pie is to die for.***



**Tony Truax**, H150. The last Trumpeter mentioned that he hit the beaches less than three minutes after the first bomb was fired on D-day. In fact, it was more like 90 minutes, so I apologize. In the coming issues I will have more details of Tony's heroics. Although he spent a year with the Hussars, most of his actions were with the Sherbrooke Fusiliers. He has some great stories, and I'm sure he will jog your memories.

Where is Alexander Cyr, Steve Barrette, and big Dave Edwards? We miss you guys. **We have 7 Blazer Crest at \$ 25.00, and 6 Hat Badges at \$ 10.00 for sale.** Contact Alan Canavan to purchase items. Great turnout for our October Executive meeting, no St. Anne-de-Bellevue gathering at the Armoury this year? **Betty McLeod** of Vankleet Hill, ON and LCol (Ret'd) John Lutes, would like you to know about **Maj Andrew (A.J.) Lutes, PPCLI.** After serving in Afghanistan as OC Patrol Company in the first Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar, and having since done his penance as a staff officer in NDHQ, Ottawa, A.J. is currently a student at the Joint Services Command and Staff College (formerly the Staff College, Camberly) in Shrivenham, England. Thanks for that piece Betty & John.

### LAST POST

**Major Robert Thomson**, RHQ, Montreal. Born Aberdeen Scotland on May 16, 1904; died Montreal August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in his 103<sup>rd</sup>. year. His first assignment was to command a mounted detachment to the Victoria Bridge to stand watch for German Submarines. Mr. Thomson was the oldest member of the Hussars by age and service, having enlisted in the late 1920's. We send our condolences to our past **CO Marc Leblanc**, in the passing of his father July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007. I received a letter from Russell Mulvey, son of John Mulvey who passed away on November 15, 2006  
**Victor Gibbs**, Burlington, ON – B.Squadron

### MEMBERSHIP

Paid-up and life time Members 182.  
Widows at 26, and Outstanding 24  
For a total of 232.

### SICK PARADE

Henry Amsden, Residence Benito e Mauro, St. Leonard, QC  
S. Lucas, Bedford, QC  
Cyril Martin, Alex Muir, George Yorgan, Bruce Blandford, Luc Rene de Cotret, St. Anne de Bellevue Hospital, Montreal, QC

### Breakfast



Stan Highway brought a special guest to our breakfast by the name of **Patricia Burns**. Pat is a member of the NDG Legion, and his a fan of history and the 17<sup>th</sup>. in particular. We also had a nice turnout considering the weather. Ken Hawkhurst looked good. Doreen Riley and Nancy Dunlop are regulars but this time husband and nephew came along. Good stuff. We welcome all veterans, family and friends to our breakfast every last Thursday of the month at Picasso's on St. Jacques Street. Starting at 9.00 a.m. The August breakfast saw children on hand. That's a major comparison to some veterans who are in their 90's while these young children are a year or so from kindergarten. **Sgt. Don Barrecki**, a reserve brought along his son's Douglas and Cameron. Soon after, **Sgt. Roberto Sforza along with his wife Felicia** and son David honoured the veteran on hand. **Dunlop's & Riley's** were out in force at the September breakfast. Ken Hawkhurst looks good after a battle with his health.



## RCH in Afghanistan



For the seven members of the Royal Canadian Hussars currently deployed on Roto 4 of Op Archer, Trp Paquette, Cpl Kadjevic, Cpl L-Laurin, Mcpl Richer, Mcpl Pilon, Sgt O'Donnell and myself, life has been one full of new experiences. We arrived at Kandahar Airfield on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June after almost a year of training, and an average of a month before the rest of Roto4, ready to perform the duties as one of the two Force Protection platoons for the National Support Element. We began our tour providing security for the main entry point to KAF, where on an average day we searched upwards of 1000 locals that came to work on the camp and 300 vehicles that delivered supplies crucial to our success in a theatre of operations such as Afghanistan. There have been many challenges, the first being of course the extreme weather we encountered upon our arrival, an average daily high of 42 degrees Celsius, as well as maintaining a high morale while working in very difficult conditions. After spending the first two months of the tour at the gate we moved over to the role that we were initially selected for, that of convoy escort, also known as Combat Logistic Patrols. This task has been stressful for all of the members of the RCH, since the Combat Logistic Patrols that we perform throughout the volatile southern province of Kandahar are a favourite target for the insurgents and remaining Taliban elements that are still fighting with ISAF. This can be attested to by the RCH's Sgt Charles O'Donnell, whose patrol was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED) while escorting logistical vehicles back to KAF from the forward operating base (FOB) Mas'um Ghar in the volatile Panjwayi district of Kandahar province. Although Sgt O'Donnell and his three crew members suffered injuries in the attack, they have all since returned to work escorting, which is a testament to the abilities the vehicle that we use in theatre the RG-31 a.k.a. Nyala. It would seem though that Sgt O'Donnell wouldn't be the lone RCH member to benefit from the RG31's protection. Almost exactly three weeks later, the vehicle that Cpl Goran Kadjevic was traveling in was also hit by an IED followed by an RPG round. Despite these events, the members of the RCH have

continued to perform to the highest standards and have surely done the Regiment proud. In closing I would like to wish everyone at the Regiment a Happy Holidays and remind you that we'll all be back very soon!

NON NOBIS SED PATRIAE

Lt Dave Bisson, 1 Platoon Force Protection, National Support Element - Task Force Afghanistan Roto 4



**AFGHANISTAN**

**Reunion Moment:** It's always an honour to spend time with a veteran of WWII. Our reunion of June 2007 gave me a chance to sit with Doadie Dunlop and chit-chat about life in general. Doadie is a great man and proud dad of Doreen Riley. If you wish to read more on Doadie take out your April 2005 Trumpeter He is the one on the motorcycle, a photo taken back in 1945.



**Karl Kramell** is one busy man with the RCHA Association. Take a look at this workload; Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment, President of the Regimental Institute, 2nd Vice Regimental Association, National President, The Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Association (Cavalry), Chairman, Quebec Chapter, Royal Canadian Dragoons Association, Executive Officer with Canadian Defense Association, Vice President, Hemmingford Cemetery Committee, Chairman, Poppy Campaign, Branch 244, and Chairman, Ceremonies, Branch 244.



Karl Kramell (left) as you read is a busy man with the RCHA. On the right is Jock with our treasurer Ken Hawkhurst. Ken is a wonderful person and a gentlemen, Ken can be reached at 514-489-9677



**It's important to get involved with your Association now and in the years to come. For the 112 members who reside in Montreal, please come out to our breakfast each last Thursday of the month at Picasso's on St.Jacques St. 9.00 a.m. Others should check out "Geographic Numbers", and you get an idea who resides in your province.**



If you have a problem with your health and can't attend functions what about telephoning members. The card at your left can be purchased at most corner stores for a cost of \$ 5.00. I use the card to call members in all Provinces, and still have time to call my children in Toronto and Ottawa. Come on give it a shot!

**Headlines from 1940's**

***"Dukes" Are First Canucks To Enter City of Caen***

**HONOURS AND AWARDS WON BY THE MEN OF THE 7th RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT**

### **Geographic Numbers**

***We care about International members*** – Send me a note about your association with the RCHA. Our Christmas Trumpeter is just around the corner, so did you experience something during the war at Xmas time? Would you like to contact a long lost friend?

***Breakdown of membership*** – Europe (4), USA (9)  
Quebec (112), Ontario (81), New Brunswick (10), British Columbia (8), Nova Scotia (4), Alberta (3), and Manitoba (1).

### **DONATIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP FEES IS IMPORTANT TO TRUMPETER AND DAY TO DAY OPERATION OF ROYAL CANADIAN HUSSARS ASSOCIATION.**

***Ken Hawkhurst and Doreen Riley*** plays a big part in keeping our finances in order. Over the years membership fees have not increased, yet cost has grown. So it's important to remit your membership fees this coming January. We send our appreciation out to **Ernie Moore** in Florida for his kind donation. Another big player is **Dunc Munro**, this man deserves a big time pat on the back for his contributions to the Museum. Thanks go out to **Blake McCullough, Ruth Fordyce, Nancy Hamilton, and Ray Johnson** for their recent donations.

**Our Christmas Trumpeter is next, and we would like to receive stories from veterans. What were you doing on Xmas eve, what about Xmas day, which friend offered courage? Where you out in the cold, in a church, barn or slit trench. Did you ever come face to face with a German soldier?**

**Every piece of information is important. If you have photos, please send them as well.**

Send letters to Jock Pichette, 3055 Delisle, 105. Montreal, QC  
H4C 3M5. Tel: 514-504-4399 e-mail: [pichejovila@videotron.ca](mailto:pichejovila@videotron.ca)

Contacts: - President Alan Canavan 514-486-7187  
Secretary & Membership Doreen Riley 450-466-2992  
Treasurer Ken Hawkhurst 514-489-9677  
Curator – Don Greene 1-450- 671-4732

Christmas-Christmas-Christmas-Christmas- Just around the corner, send me a note.



