

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

Regimental Society Newsletter

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Regimental Society, PO Box 10500 Station Forces Edmonton, AB T5J 4J5

Message from the Colonel of the Regiment

By Colonel J.E.N. Roderick

I am sure that all of us will be relieved to see that our Newsletter is back in publication after a one-year production gap. As I said In October

when Ι sent out an electronic report via our E-News on the status of the Newsletter, the absence of this very valuable means of



communicating within the family was very much regretted. The fact that the Newsletter was not published was not the fault of any individual but the result of not having enough resources in the right place. The team in Calgary provided yeoman service over the years but, like most of us, they have myriad interests and responsibilities that draw on the time available to them and their extended families. It is understandable that they would reach a point when they would wish to "pass the torch" to other members of the Regimental family.

The Newsletter office has been moved to Edmonton and **Kathy Stephen** has volunteered to take over the editing task. I ask that all of you take an interest in our Newsletter and help to make it a continued success by sending in your letters, comments and recollections I thank Kathy for taking on yet another major task in support of the Society and the Association.

In my Newsletter article a year ago I reported on the high level of activity the Regiment had reached in preparing B Sqn for service in Afghanistan. Now I can only report that there has been no abatement in that activity and Strathconas continue to excel as operational tankers. I will leave it to LCol Demers and RSM Ross to describe the training tempo, but I have to say how proud I am of all members of our Regiment as they continue to fight and train at a fever pitch. I have received glowing reports on our Squadrons in Afghanistan from the Commander of the Army and on down through the chain to soldiers of other units who have served in Afghanistan with our troops. Our soldiers are writing exciting new chapters in our history.

Government's Of course the announcement last year of the replacement of the Leopard 1s sent a surge of adrenalin not only through the Regiment but the whole Armoured Corps. During the Army Honourary Colonels Conference held in Edmonton and Wainwright 5-6 May we took the opportunity of thanking LGen Andrew Leslie, the Army Commander, for his support in "bringing back the tank". The CO and I along with Col Peter Hunter,

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Volume 22, No. 1

WINTER 2008

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Commanding Officer

By Lieutenant-Colonel P.P.J. Demers

Happy New Year to all of the Regimental Family!

After a well-deserved break (for all of us except C Sqn in Afghanistan), the Regiment is back in the saddle at the pace we set last fall. B Sqn under Maj Chris Adams and MWO Tony **Batty** will be ready to deploy soon with 2PPCLI Battlegroup, after the second half of its tank crews complete conversion training on the Leopard 2 in Munster Germany. Those 60% of personnel who were with the first B Sqn to deploy to Afghanistan in tanks will have spent just under one year in Canada between tours. Nevertheless, the troops are up to the task and I have no doubt that they will perform brilliantly, this time in Leopard 2A6Ms. A change is as good as a break they say!



C Sqn, led by Maj Trevor Gosselin and MWO Geoff Bamford, is at the tail end of a very successful deployment with

3R22eR Battlegroup. They have taken delivery of the new tanks straight into combat operations. I doubt that project directors would normally recommend that, but C Sqn pulled it off and demonstrated the capabilities of this tank to some unlucky Taliban rocket and mortar crews shortly after its arrival at its Forward Operating Base. As the Colonel of the Regiment has mentioned, **Cpl Nathan Hornburg**, who joined C Sqn from King's Own Calgary Regiment, was killed in combat last fall. After all of the predeployment training and the time he was on operations with C Sqn, we consider him one of us. We will honour this fine soldier in concert with our brethren in the KOCR.

A Sqn is back in the hopper. The squadron returned from operations with 2RCR Battlegroup in September and was reconstituted immediately after its post-deployment leave so that the new soldiers could be trained on the Leopard 1C2 in preparation for squadron and battlegroup exercises. Led by Maj Ian McDonnell and MWO Dave Hall, they will be in Fort Bliss Texas with 3RCR Battlegroup and the remainder of Task Force 3-08 throughout February. They will be in Wainwright at the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre in April and May and will replace B Sqn in Afghanistan at the end of the summer. A Sqn will be augmented by a troop(+) from The RCD. The cycle is predicable after that, as C Sqn will be reconstituted after its return with a troop(+) from the 12eRBC, and will prepare to replace A Sqn. Our tank squadrons have acquitted themselves well under the most difficult circumstances and the Old Guard can rest assured that Strathconas are performing to the high standards set by our predecessors in every conflict since the Regiment's formation for the Boer War.

E Company, led by Capt Jim Caruana and MWO Tim Turner, did not receive an operational task for their TOW Under Armour Improved Target Acquisition System (TUA ITAS) Light Armoured Vehicles or their troops. They have

Regimental Sergeant-Major

By Chief Warrant Officer D.A. Ross

The holidays are over, and a much needed break for all was had. Now it is back to business again. 2007 was not unlike the previous year, busy,



frantic. and also rewarding. look Ι forward to all the challenges that await us over the next 6 months in 2008.

In November, we saw the return of A Sqn from their leave and the rebuilding phase of that squadron for TF 3-08. They are now fully manned and are currently making preparations to head off to Texas, for some reason they don't want to train in Wainwright!

B Sqn is well on their way to boarding the aircraft and is looking forward to their tour, TF 1-08. They will be leaving around the end of February. They have completed most of their training and preparation and are more than ready and capable of completing their task in Afghanistan. I have no doubts that they will perform just as well as those that have gone before them and will do us all proud in true Strathcona fashion. My only concern is how will the squadron get Major Adams in and out of the turret each day? I heard him say that once he gets in, he is not getting out...until he runs out of food of course. I must say the best of luck and a speedy return for

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the Col Comdt RCAC, presented him with the casing of a shell fired by B Sqn in an operation in Afghanistan in December 06.

On the home front those who have not yet deployed, or who have just returned, are maintaining a strong Strathcona presence in Edmonton. There are still the same numbers of "housekeeping tasks" but fewer soldiers to do them. Nevertheless those areas we hold dear, such as the SMT, the Museum, the Kit Shop, the Historic Vehicle Troop, the Pipe Band, and, most importantly, the Family Support Troop, are holding their own, although with reduced numbers in many cases, especially our Pipe Band, unfortunately. One group I want to make special mention of is E Coy. The Coy has yet to receive an operational tasking but the members of the Coy have accepted myriad individual taskings and those left behind have continued to be active Strathconas in every sense of the word. They are a spirited group and contribute to Regimental espirit and morale in many ways.

Sadly, while I was with B Sqn in Wainwright last September we learned of the death of **Cpl Nathan Hornburg** in Afghanistan when the ARV he was driving came under attack. **Cpl Hornburg** was a member of the KOCR serving with C Sqn, one of many Reservists serving with us. We share his loss with the KOCR and, as he was serving with us, we consider him a Strathcona and he is equally a loss to our Regiment.

I have been fortunate enough to have made seven visits to the Regiment since assuming my appointment in Jun 06 and every visit has been a delight. During all such visits I also take the opportunity to meet with members of the Association and Friends of the Regiment whenever possible, including to three of the famous (infamous?) ID MacKay Lunches in Calgary. In September I was also able to take part in the very excellent Reunion in Okanagan Falls that was organized by Wes and Bev Westergard and it was great to meet up with a large number of people I had not seen in some time. This gives me a chance to put in a plug for our newly formed Edmonton Chapter of the Association. The Chapter is off to a good start and meeting monthly. I give the organizers full credit for starting now so they will be in great shape to work with the Calgary gang and the Regiment in making Reunion 2010 a great success. The Edmonton Branch will take the lead on this and news on dates and hotels. etc will be coming out soon. (Right, **Dave Biener**?)

I look forward to meeting up with many more of you sometime, somewhere and soon.

Perseverance

Colonel of the Regiment

Note from the Editing Team

By Major Trevor Cadieu

The Newsletter is an extremely important Regimental Family publication. It allows the Regiment to stay connected with the extended Strathcona Family, and it provides a forum for members of the 'Old Guard' to share their experiences and remain in contact with fire team partners from years gone by. While the Regiment is pleased to assume responsibility for the production of the Newsletter, it remains an Association initiative supported by the Regiment and our Regimental Society. We intend to produce the Newsletter twice annually - the next version will be distributed Summer 2008. Your continued support to this effort is vital and greatly appreciated. Please forward to Kathy Stephen any stories you wish to share and contributions to the Newsletter. Should you wish to make a donation to facilitate the publication of the Newsletter, please make cheques payable to theLdSH(RC) Regimental Society.

Perseverance,

Regimental Association Reunion 2010

Planning for the 2010 Reunion has begun in earnest under the leadership of Dave Biener and a planning committee from the Edmonton branch that includes Keven Phinney, James Strayer and Paul Peters. The Calgary branch of the Association has also offered to assist with this important event.

The planning committe intends to release more information in the near future on venue, costs and a confirmed sequence of events, however the following schedule is being considered:

21 May 2010:	Meet and Greet;
22 May 2010:	Regimental Day to include parade, tour of Harvey Building, vehicle
	and artifact display, Strathcona Mounted Troop performance, and an
	Association Dinner and Dance;
23 May 2010:	Church Parade, Association Brunch and departure.

Please contact Dave Biener at biener.dm@forces.gc.ca for more information or should you wish to assist with planning efforts.

Watch for further updates in the Summer 2008 Newsletter.

Continued from Page 2 Commanding Officer

therefore, provided 28 individual augmentees to the Observation, Mentoring and Liaison Teams (they are training and fighting alongside the Afghan National Army), the Rifle Companies of the Battlegroup, and the Provincial Reconstruction Team. They are also providing the driver and gunner for the Task Force Afghanistan Commander's LAV III in 2009. Those who remain are running TUA courses for PPCLI soldiers as well as crewmen from across the Corps. This will ensure that we can deploy

a TUA Platoon at any time in the short term and that we will have built up a base of qualified personnel in all three of the armour regiments in preparation of

the transition of this capability to the Armoured Corps. We expect that each regiment will have a TUA Troop in the 2010-2011 timeframe.

Reconnaissance Squadron has been stood up again as our fourth sabre squadron under command of **Maj Trevor Cadieu** and **MWO Bill Crabb**. For now it consists of an SHQ and one 8-car troop. The expansion of the Army is manifesting itself in much larger numbers of new troopers and second lieutenants joining the Regiment. We will therefore, continue to flesh



RSM, CO, Mr. Dennis Apedaile, Sarah Nghiem, Carole Roy (CP Rail Representatives) 21 Nov 07

out Recce Sqn over the next year and ensure that we do not lose our reconnaissance expertise in this period of high tempo for the tank squadrons. The Regiment and the Brigade still need a reconnaissance squadron of course. Also, in the future it is planned that each regular regiment have four sabre Squadrons—one tank and three reconnaissance, in addition to its TUA Troop. We are moving in that direction with the creation of this squadron.

Of course HQ Sqn, led by **Maj Earl** Jared and **MWO Kevin Mulhern**,

has been working wonders in keeping the other squadrons kitted, fed, fuelled and maintained as they go into high readiness training and run courses. The

wear and tear we have been putting on our fleet of tanks in particular has been extreme, and the fact that we have been able to provide everything that the sabre squadrons plus E Coy need for training is a testament to the outstanding support provided by HQ Sqn.

Scout Ferret Car purchased from New

Mexico and transported by CP Rail.

Some of our Society troops are not as active during this period of successive tank squadron deployments as I am sure you can understand. The Pipe Band is back on hold. For a short period of time between the B Sqn deployments, Sgt Marv MacNeill played at a dinner or two but he is deploying again as the B Sqn Ops Sgt. The remainder of the band members are overseas or in high readiness training. The Historical Vehicle Troop is carrying on at a slower pace. We have purchased additional Ferret for our an collection and HVT will participate



Soldiers from A Sqn, TF 1-07 arrive home.

in parades and community outreach events as much as possible with the reduced numbers of personnel available.Our Ceremonial Mounted Troop has, once again,

sent off most of its personnel to join tank squadrons. The CMT is being brought back up to strength with new troopers and will commence a Ride School at the end of January. The Troop is planning to carry on with the usual ride season as we did last year with a similar batch of new riders. Again, the soldiers are stepping up to every challenge.

So as you can see we will maintain the pace set last year. The tank squadron rotation of B, A, C, B, A, C is taking up most of our energy. No unit in the Canadian Forces is as busy. There is some strain, but all is going well. I am sure that you are as proud of our troops as I am.

All the best and I hope to see you during our Moreuil Wood festivities or some other time soon.

Perseverance,

Commanding Officer

Summer 2008 Edition

The deadline for submissions for the Summer 2008 Strathcona Newsletter is **11 July 2008**. Submissions should be forwarded to **newsletter@strathconas.ca** or mailed to: Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) PO Box 10500 Station Forces Edmonton, AB T5J 4J5 Attention: Kathy Stephen

Continued from Page 2 Regimental Sergeant-Major

all. Unfortunately as you all know I will not be here to greet you upon your return. You are in good hands with **Major Chris Adams** and **MWO Tony Batty**.

C Sqn continues to perform in theatre and is looking forward now to the end of their tour and return to Canada for some much deserved leave. **Major Trevor Gosselin** and **MWO Geoff Bamford** have done a tremendous job as has the whole team. Unfortunately they will not

have too much of a break as we will begin to reconstitute the Sqn for TF 1-09. This process will begin in the April-May time frame. The New Officer Commanding will be **Major John Cochrane** and

the SSM will be

WO Rick Stacey. He is due to be promoted in the coming months.

E Coy is continuing to keep the LAV TUA alive and well. As the CO mentioned, a number of their personnel have been tasked out to several units and organizations to fill short falls but more importantly to give them the opportunity to serve in theatre along side their comrades. The Coy has been outstanding in

all their efforts given the number of people that have left and very few replacements. Well done to **Capt Jim Caruana**, Officer Commanding, and the CSM, **MWO Tim Turner**.



OC and SSM C Squadron Maj Trevor Gosselin and SSM Geoff Bamford

HQ Sqn-What can be said about HQ Sqn? Not enough! They are unsung members of the Regiment. So much of what they do sometimes goes unnoticed; they work efficiently and quietly behind the scenes. They have in my opinion, the hardest job in the unit. We ask them to do miracles with sometimes very little notice and a shortage of resources both equipment and people; however, they always manage to come through with flying colors. I am always astonished by their can-do attitude and the professionalism they show. Every member of HQ Sqn should

> be very proud of what they do, for without their efforts the rest of the Regiment would not be able to do their jobs. Well done to all and to the team of **Major Earl Jared** and **MWO** Kevin

Muhern. You all have a busy year ahead in 2008 but I have no reservations about the quality of support that you will continue to give the sabre squadrons and the Regt.

As we move ahead in 2008 and all the challenges that will come with it, the hallways of RHQ will continue to be a bustle with folks like the operations staff sorting out plans

> and taskings, the Regt 2IC keeping the Society on the straight and narrow, the Adjt dealing with all the Administration and keeping busy, the CO Kathy putting this newsletter



A Sqn, FT 1-07 Welcome Home and Medals Parade 14 Sept 2007

together and getting ready for March. We will all be working together in the same direction to achieve the same goal.

Happy New Year to all Members of the Strathcona Family.

Perseverance.

RSM

Regimental Association Alberta Branch Bob Lett

Greetings from Calgary. I trust everyone had a great holiday season.

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is **Bob Lett**, I served with the regiment in the 60s and 70s. I've been around the Association for many years, holding all the different positions on the Exec. Committee including as the President for 3 years just prior to **Don Crossman** coming in. I have also been heavily involved with a few of the last reunions.

When I say it's great to be back, it is truly heart felt. We all have a vested interest in our Association. The Alberta branch is running relatively smoothly but like all new management teams, there will be some changes coming. I have a very enthusiastic Exec Committee

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the LTF upon re-deployment from TF 1-07

Your Dispatches

How many do you remember?

This is in response to the photograph of the Strathcona Baseball team in the Fall Newsletter, 2006. I just took a trip down memory lane after visiting the Strathcona website for the first time. To stick with the first issue, I remember most of the faces on the picture of this team. However, I don't think that this was just a Strathcona baseball team of the 70's. I think that this was a picture of one of the squadron teams and it was probably taken in 1970 or 1971. The Strathcona regiment went to Cyprus in 1972 and it was there that a baseball team was put together that was a fantastic team. One of the players in the middle back of your picture was one of the pitchers on this team known fondly as 'Smiling Mel.' If my memory serves correctly the 72 Strathcona team never lost a game to the American teams in Cyprus and there was some excellent ball that was played.

Iam very impressed by the Strathcona website and by your newsletter. Of course, I could expect nothing better from a regiment that I was proud to have served in. Although many of the roles have changed since then for our members I see that the pride in serving our country is still being maintained. It is great to see what is taking place even beyond the regiment such as support for the families and the reunions.

I note that **Peter Wonderham** is shown as an assistant for the newsletter. Is that by chance the same **Pete Wonderham** who served with the Strathconas in the early 70's?

You can bet I will be visiting this website again.

Perseverance

Al Pijnenburg Oakville, Ontario

Thanks, Al. We'd like to have all the names you can identify on the team for the records. And, yes, you have the right **Peter Wonderham**. Pete served as RSM 1993-95 then went off to do other good things for the Army. He is now wintering down south but we expect him back in Calgary in the spring. **Editor**



How to start that is the question. I have just read past issues if your newsletter. It has brought back many memories of mine as I grew up in Camp Borden from the age of 3 to around 8 or 9. Bill Sutherland, Jack Cade, Jim Quinn, Bob Rutherford and many many others I remember from my childhood. and from my fathers funeral in 1973.

For many years I have wanted to know stories about my dad so I could pass them on to my children so he could come alive for them instead of just being a picture on the wall. Names I have read in the Tumpeters Last Call reminds me that time marches on and I can't delay any longer. So if you have stories about my dad..like how he got the name "**Pappy**" or any others please write or email me.

Who is my dad - Major Victor W.Jewkes.DSO,MC,CD

Many thanks and my God bless you all.

Sylvia Jewkes Wawota Saskatchewan e-mail sylvia.jewkes@gmail.com

p.s. I would like to recieve a copy of the newsletter if possible.

Sylvia, your father is indeed a Strathcona legend and very fondly remembered by many of us. Hopefully you will receive some great stories, some of which may even be true. Have you visited our Museum in Calgary? The staff there will certainly be able to dig out some photos of your dad. You will definitely receive a copy of the Newsletter. **Editor**



Enclosed is from last Saturday's London Free Press and when I attended the "Goodbye to Barry", Mrs. McGill asked me to let the Regiment know of Barry's sudden passing.

Barry was from BC and was an active member in the RCAC Regt in Kelowna. He was well known to many older Strathcona's due to Reserve Trg etc. When I was stationed in London, Barry was a WO2 training WO for the 1st Hussar's and I worked with him; he also served in Camp Borden with Morley Sample in the Wireles Sqn in the summers.

When I retired in 1968, after a short stint as Bursar at Alma Girls College, I won a competition as a Programme Manager with manpower and when I arrived there Barry was one of the PMs; and went from CMC to Fanshawe College as a manager of Co-op Programme until he retired.

I trust you will include a small paragraph in the next Newsletter as Mrs. McGill enjoys reading about the many people she has met over the many years.

Sincerely

Hugh Mackie London ON Hugh, thank you for passing this on. It was sad to hear about Barry however the good news is that you are still alive and kicking. John Roderick has asked us to pass on his personal best wishes – it is a long time since those Borden days. Editor.



Would you please notify all members of the association on your list of the death of my father George Tomlinson on June 5th 2007 at the age of 93. He was a resident of the Col Belcher Care Centre at the time of his death. George was transferred to the Strathconas in England after the 16/22 Sask. Horse was disbanded. He was a troop leader in A Sqn but was appointed to be Regimental Quartermaster before the Regiment was action in Italy. He remained with the Regiment until he volunteered for the Jananese Theatre in mid-1945. He was discharged in the Fall of 1945. He has been a faithful member of the Legion since that time and also the Association for many years. Except for reunions which he attended in Calgary and Winnipeg, he was not always able to be involved in Association events until he moved to Calgary in 2001. *We enjoyed being able to participate* in dinner meetings and Melfa/M. Wood functions together for these past few years.

A memorial service was held at All Saints Anglican Church in Cochrane AB.

Perseverance

Rod Tomlinson

Rod, you father was a fine gentleman who is very much missed, especially by his many old friends in the Regimental Association in Calgary. **Editor**.



To: Lord Strathcona's Horse- Royal Canadians-Veterans of World War II

Iwanted to contact your organization to see if there are any veterans interested in being interviewed for a project we are conducting on World War II. I represent the Saint Vincent College Center for Northern Appalachian Studies in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. As an institution that is based in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, you may think it odd we are contacting your group. However, being that World War II encompassed many nations, we felt it necessary to document the experiences of not only US veterans but other countries as well.

Currently we are gathering material for a book on World War II that will include veteran accounts from not only the United States but also Great Britain, Russia, Canada, and Australia.

World War II has grown in mystique in the United States. Often times the US role, great as it was, overshadows the tremendous contributions made by the Commonwealth Nations. As I began researching Canada's commitment in World War II, I steadily grew more amazed with each new fact I unearthed. There are battles and campaigns fought by the Canadians that many Americans never heard about. Better known, perhaps, is the Canadian involvement in the Normandy invasion of June 6, 1944. However, what is less known, but no less deserving, is the Canadian Navy's vast commitment in Atlantic convoy duty.

Also, the Canadian stand at Hong Kong in December 1941 is to your nationwhat the Bataan Death March is to ours. And lastly, the mainly Canadian-led raid on Dieppe in 1942 paved the way for the future invasion of continental Europe.

Therefore, I would like to put a call out to your group to see if there are any veterans willing to fill out a detailed questionnaire about their service with the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II. This questionnaire can be mailed or, in some instances, emailed to the individuals taking part in the project. In addition, phone interviews can be set up at a later date. I can be contacted at the following email address:

owen1918@msn.com or by my home phone which is (908)-269-5230. Also, you may view the Center's work and publications on World War II online at the following web address: www.stvincent.edu/napp

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and to all World War II veterans of the Lord Strathcona's Horse, I would like to give them my heartfelt thanks for their service.

Sincerely,

David Wilmes

Hopefully some of our veterans and armchair historians will contact Mr. Wilmes. His letter is also being sent to our Museum staff for follow up. **Editor**.



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Sadly I must once again pass on the news of the death of one of the family. MGen A. James Tedlie

passed away in Victoria on I January. Gen Jim served the Regiment and the Corps with distinction, having served as Commandant of the School. Director of Armour. and as Commander 4CMBG when the Regiment arrived in Iserlohn, Germany in 1965. He was one of our more colorful senior officers and blessed with a great sense of humour, although that wasn't quite so obvious the time that I, as a 2Lt and his designated aide, overslept and made him late for a Regimental Nevertheless parade. he was obviously a man who did not hold a grudge and I was fortunate enough to enjoy his company on many subsequent occasions.

One of my favourite recollections of his sense of humour was a comment he made at a meeting at 4CMBG HQ in late 1965. The Commander 1 British Corps was to visit and the Brigade was going to put on a parade that replicated one done for the Queen earlier in the year. All units were to be in their vehicles except the Strathconas (tanks were not permitted on the Fort Henry parade square) so the Regiment was to provide a 100 man dismounted guard. At this particular meeting Dick MacDonald was representing the Regiment and I, a Garry at the time, was representing Recce Sqn FGH. Dick mentioned that there was concern that, as the Regiment was

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just moving into Germany, the dress blue uniforms might not arrive in time. The rest of the Brigade was to be in combat clothing. BGen Tedlie looked down the table, smiled, and said "Dick, I know the Strathconas would like to be mounted but on this occasion I think shaking hands will suffice!" As a Garry I thought that was a great line and, come to think of it, having now been a Strathcona for 31 years, I still think it is funny.

I'm sure others will have similar recollections that will find a place in our Newsletter, so send them in to Kathy please.

Farewell General Jim, you will be missed.

Colonel John E. Roderick, CD (Ret'd) Colonel of the Regiment

In Oct 1946 I was as an RCD Trooper posted to Fort Churchill on the windswept shores of the Great Hudson Bay.

I first met **Major Tedlie** on the hill coming down from the base hospital, he was driving a jeep and wearing an RCD Battle Dress Tunic and of all things a Cameron Kilt under which he wore nothing. I was quite astounded and approached him and told him he was improperly dressed and we became good friends as he told me he was commandant designate to **Col D Cameron** of Ft Churchill.

He was a well liked by all ranks,,,

My next encounter was when he commanded the brigade in Petawawa, on his Unit Inspection he opened one of my drawers in Sgts Qtrs and took out an apple and took a bite out of it and said "Where do you keep your dirty laundry" and I replied that I had none as I do it every night. He responded "Oh, I wear mine". He had a terrific sense of humour.

In 1970 he visited National Defence College where I was employed as Training Sgt Major. During a symposium including many high ranking Officers, he spotted me and immediately came over and gave me a hug and re-newed aquaintences. **Gen McLellan** remarked that we should talk later as the Minister of National Defence was waiting for us to be seated.

He was a great guy and a real trooper I found when I visited at his home in Sidney BC in 1986, he said he wanted me to see his back kitchen where he was in the process of writing a book. He had a shingle over the door "TROOPERS ROOST".

Submitted by Norm Wood



He will indeed be missed by many! I would like to offer my condolences to **General Jim's** family and friends.

I had the personal pleasure of serving as his Batman/Personal Steward at Hill Top House during the last months of his serving as Commander of Canadian Army National Forces (Europe). I was also present at his Farewell Dinner, September 1, 1966 and to this date still cherish the Menu with Jim and Marg's best wishes and Thanks.

General Jim exemplified what it takes beyond the Rank to be a leader of Men. This evening I will toast him with a bottle of Heidsek Dry Monopole Brut, the same Champagne he and Marg graciously provided for my wedding that same year!

Submitted by Maurice Boismenu Former FGH/LDSH/12 RBC



I got to know the then **Co. Tedlie** who served as the Commanadant of the RCAC(S) in Camp Borden. As regiment had gone to Germany, I was not eligible to be part of this and got posted instead to transport at Camp Borden.

One day, I was assigned to be the driver for Col. Tedlie and had more than the usual time to chat with him. On that same day he invited me to have a look at a job he thought I was suited for, I became a bar stewart at the RCAC(S) officers mess. I loved the job, took in some stewart courses and took charge of the place when the then Sgt Dunville (RCD) was posted to Gaza. When his tour of duty expired, the then Col. Tedlie posted me to Gaza since General Guyani there preferred Armoured Corps stewarts in his mess.

I met the then **Col Tedlie** after his retirement during armoured corps weekend in Camp Borden. He saw me from a distance and came to see me, greeting me as if we had been friends for years. I had never forgotten that incident. **MGen A James Tedlie** was a great CO, a fine officer, a true gentleman and one who really cared for his people. I am sure he will be missed by his fiends and family.

Sincerely,

Harry Promm.





ENews continued

The Regiment is extremely proud to announce that Major (Ret'd) W.J. 'Danny' McLeod is the recipient of the 2007 Birchall Leadership Award, which was presented by the Royal Military College of Canada at a dinner in Toronto on 23 November 2007. Named for Air Commodore Leonard Birchall, the World War II hero and 'Savior of Ceylon', this award is presented annually to a recipient who has displayed tremendous leadership in all facets of life. Major Danny McLeod epitomizes the criteria for this prestigious recognition.

Major McLeod has experienced an extraordinary life during which he has conducted himself with courage and distinction. His extensive achievements in his military and civilian careers is exemplary.

Enlisting with the South Alberta Regiment (now South Alberta Light Horse) in 1939, Danny McLeod quickly worked his way through the ranks.

As the first Canadian posted to the Sandhurst Military Academy in the United Kingdom, Danny placed first in his class and was awarded the Belt and Sword of Honour. While serving

in World War II with the South Alberta Regiment, he was awarded the Military Cross for bravery in action. Later in life, after serving with Lord Strathcona's Horse (Roval Canadians) and the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps in Borden, Danny demonstrated his love for sports, and continued to lead out of uniform. He established an athletics program at the Royal Military College, directed the establishment of the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union, and he coached several hockey teams concurrently (RMC, Kingston Frontenacs of the OHL, and Kingston Senior A 'Aces'). For his leadership of the Frontenacs, the OHL named Danny 'Coach of the Year' on two occasions.

Danny received the Birchall Leadership Award at a dinner in Toronto on 23 November 2007. General Rick Hillier, the Chief of the Defence Staff, was the guest speaker for the event, and Don Cherry was on hand to make a special introduction.

T.J. (Trevor) Cadieu Major Second In Command

Strathcona ENews is an email distribution list that is used by the Society and the Regiment to disseminate information pertaining to the Strathcona Family. If you would like to have your name added to the list, please email

ldsh@strathconas.ca

Please note; it is not possible for others to post to the Enews Distribution list, so you can be assured you will not be bombarded with emails.

The Strathcona Mounted Troop

By: Lieutenant Peter Beitz

Due to the Regiment's operational tempo overseas at the onset of 2007, many of the Strathcona Mounted Troop members were taken from the stables to fill positions in the fighting troops. As a result, the Mounted Troop was down to five members at the beginning of 2007. The ranks were soon filled by 11 new recruits, who, under the supervision and guidance of **Captain Darryn Gray** and **Sergeant Wade Alexander**,



New Swords

began training vigorously for the upcoming ride season.

The Mounted Troop was able to put together a 14 soldier ride for the 2007 season. It performed its first riding event, The Saskatchewan Tattoo on May 24th, with outstanding results. Other events that the Mounted Troop participated in included: the Spruce Meadows competitions, which encompassed the "National," "Continental," "Canada 1," and the "Masters"; the Calgary Stampede; the Ralston Rodeo; the Bon Accord Harvest Days; Mozart on the Mountain; the PNE; and many others. The 2007 ride season was a great success, and various awards were given to deserving riders. The *George Gardiner Memorial Trophy* was presented to

Corporal D.E. Hordyk for being the most professional rider of the year. **Trooper D. Graham** was honoured with *The Mounted Troop New Rider Award* or being the most improved rider of the year. *The Mounted Troop Best Rider Trophy*

> was presented to **Trooper J. Zhou** for being the most proficient rider of the year. Finally, **Corporal D.G. Samms** was awarded the *The Best Tent-Pegger Trophy*.

2007 saw the revitalization of the Mounted Troop with regards to dress, equipment, and overall image as the result of the generous contributions by the Mounted Troop's most prominent patrons: **ATCO Group, Spruce Meadows** and the **Southern Family**. The improvements to the Mounted Troop included

the painting of the horse trailer and the purchase of four-horse trailer, 14 new 1908 trooper swords, an improved sound system, horse coolers, a new horse shelter, and winter blankets for the horses, among other things.

With the Christmas Holidays over, the Mounted Troop is gearing up for another successful ride season in 2008. The annual Equine Course is set to commence



by the end of January, as soon as 14 new recruits arrive at the Mounted The three month course Troop. will teach each new rider all the essential skills he needs to properly care for his horse, groom and tack his horse, and become a competent and professional rider. In April, the ride team will be selected and dress rehearsals will be conducted on a daily basis. For the 2008 ride season, the Mounted Troop is aiming to put on an 18 soldier ride, the largest ride that the troop has performed in decades. The riding schedule for 2008 is still evolving, but the expected events will most likely parallel those conducted throughout the 2007 ride season.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Peter Beitz and Sergeant Wade Alexander, the Mounted Troop will also complete the final phases of its revitalization efforts by the end of 2008. These improvements will



Cpl Darren Roberts exits the Double Dome

be illustrated through the purchase of Steele Arch Saddles, new horse saddle blankets, new horse shipping boots, and new ceremonial tunics, among a few other things. The completion of the revitalization stage will return the Mounted Troop's ceremonial dress and image to its original status when the troop was first formed in 1923. 2008 is gearing up to be another successful ride season, as all members within the Mounted Troop will strive for excellence in an effort to maintain the cavalry culture, tradition, and heritage alive in Western Canada.



(L-R) Bustard Suggitt Wright and Porter

	STRATHCONA MOUNTED TROOP 2008 Musical Ride PREVIEW				
	МАҮ				
12–31:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				
	JUNE				
4-8:	"National" Spruce Meadows, Calgary, AB				
12-15:	"Continental" Spruce Meadows, Calgary, AB				
19-22:	100th Annual Wainwright Rodeo, Wainwright, AB				
26-29:	"Canada 1" Spruce Meadows, Calgary, AB				
	JULY				
2-6:	"North American" Spruce Meadows, Calgary, AB				
4:	Calgary Stampede, Calgary, AB				
9-15:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				
17:	Capital Ex Parade, Edmonton, AB				
19:	Siemans 100th Festival, Siemens, SK				
23-31:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				
	AUGUST				
1-17:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				
18-19:	Brandon Tatoo, Brandon, MB				
20-31:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				
	SEPTEMBER				
3-8:	"Masters" Spruce Meadows, Calgary, AB				
11-21:	OPEN FOR BOOKINGS				



Museum 2008

Warrant Officer D.E. MacLeod

In the last year our Museum staff has been busy. The expansion plan for the Museum of the Regiments (now called "The Military Museums") has been going full-bore for over a year. At time of writing, we are about a week from taking possession of an expansion of the building that will double the exhibit space. The new space will see the inclusion of the Naval Museum of Alberta (moved from their current location a few blocks North on Crowchild trail) and will also include a new Airforce Museum. This new expanded facility will allow the public to explore Canada's military heritage from the point of view of all three services. While the expansion doesn't affect our gallery or displays, it will provide us with a new, properly conditioned storage and research space for our archives. Currently we are preparing to move our archival holdings into the new area.

For the past few months one of our volunteers, **Jim Adams**, has been working toward the completion of the cataloguing of our artifact collection with **Sgt Giberson**. He has been doing stellar work and it seems that **Sgt Giberson** is constantly hustling to keep up to him. Our Gallery Host volunteers, **Dave Cathcart**, **Doug Cooper**, and **Bob Wallace** have given countless tours, sharing our proud history with over 30,000 guests. Whether currently serving or retired, it seems the pace is the same, flat out with your hair on fire. (For those that still have hair.)

In the Archives we have started digitally copying our more prized possessions. The University of Calgary has graciously agreed to do the scanning of our unique history documents. They provide us with a digital copy and return the original material. This is a unique project that, when we originally estimated the cost, had numbers ranging up to \$120k and a three to four year time line. Currently the University is doing the work for free and keeping copies for use in their library. We are getting what we needed to preserve our archival heritage and are spreading the word of our predecessor's sacrifices on a wider front by making it more accessible.

More gallery upgrades are in the works for the near future as we have recently gathered the final bits of money to allow the installation of our Wall of Honour. The Wall will display our Honour Role engraved in stone in a central location in the gallery. This is a costly project and it took a bit of time to gather the funds (it's okay 2IC it's mostly other people's money.) but, we now have the lion's share with the rest on the way and will start installation shortly.

Our future plans include the finalization of our storyboard upgrade project, continuing the digital copying of our Archives, the continuation of our artifact cataloguing and preservation work, and the production of an Afghanistan display.

As always, it's good to be a Strathcona, **Perseverance**,



Continued from Page 5

Regimental Association Alberta Branch who are all anxious to get on with the job. Rev. Bob Green is our honorary padre and Dave Cathcart will remain as our hospital rep. Dave has been doing this job for years and I'm very grateful to him agreeing to stay and help out .Clair Lane, SliderWelch and Ron Howard have stepped up to look after the different portfolios. Howe Owen will be a great help as this year's Vice President. Retired **RSMs** Cady, Shadbolt and Wonderham have offered to return as part of our advisory Committee

This past year's observations are from a personal point of view, and not as the President, however I did find the year to very full and busy for our members.

Some of the highlights were the annual golf tournament here in Calgary; this should be re-named the **Owen Invitational Golf Tournament** because the Owen family seems to win everything including the random prize draws. What's this all about, Howe? We had approx. 30 to golf, then all returned to RCL #285 for the presentations and a light lunch. It was a good day and we all had a great time. I think even the team the Regiment sent down to join us would agree. To Pete Wonderham, Jim and Deanna Deighton, my team mates, thanks for your patience.

In late Sept. a group of us from Calgary traveled to Ok Falls BC to attend the BC group annual dinner/get together. The gang there did a great job of hosting the party as well as organizing things for us to do the whole weekend. Tours, golfing and just plan old visiting. The entire weekend was enjoyed by all. The Col of the Regiment. **Col. John Roderick (ret'd)** also managed to fit this event into his busy schedule. I know the BC group appreciated the extra effort that he made to be there. The update on the Complete Family's Activities that he talked about was very interesting and well received by the audience.

The golf in BC isn't any better than in Calgary but I did receive a free lesson on the proper way to play the game, as did my playing partner Jim Deighton, from the old timer, Bob Bartlet. He is 84 years young and frankly showed us young whipper snappers just how it's done ... Well done **Bob** and thanks. We all want to thank, the **Ellards**. MacDougalls, Salmons, Reeds, Armstrongs, and the rest, it was a fun day. Unfortunately Bill Finch took ill while traveling to Ok Falls. He had to spend the weekend in their hotel room, confined to bed. With his wife's help Bill made it home to Calgary and has since made a full recovery. Maybe next year Bill! Finally to the group that organized the weekend Wes Westerguard, Bill and Pat Wood, Al and Mary Kaatz, and others -well done. Please invite the Calgary bunch to next year's event.

Back to Calgary where the pace never seems to slow down much. It is nice to let you know that the ID MacKay Luncheons are still a success. There is generally 25 to 30 people show up as well as a generous number drive in from the Regiment. They range in rank from the Col. of the Regiment (Ottawa/Kingston), CO, 2IC, RSM, SSMs all the way to 2nd Lt .and Tprs. It is really great to get such a diverse crowd all in one room. The lies told get better as the lunch progresses of course, but isn't that the way it's always been. I think ID, himself, might be the best example of this, as we have all heard the stories once or twice but he does make them more interesting each time he tells them.

I hope you'll forgive me ID as it's your good sense of humour that has gone a long way to making these lunches the success they are today. The lunches are generally held on a date between the Association's general meetings, so basically there is a Strathcona get together once a month. Listening to most people they think this is super. The next luncheon is scheduled for 31 Jan 08. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The dates for the Association meetings this year are:

Mar. 11th. 08 May. 6th.08 Sept. 9th.08 Nov. 4th. .08 Jan. 13th.09

These will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion # 285 Horton Rd. South West Calgary.AB.

Call to Order at 1900 hrs. Sandwiches and coffee offered at conclusion of all meetings.

I'd like to congratulate and wish the Regimental Society and the Regiment all the best on hosting Reunion 2010. I'm looking forward to coming to Edmonton to visit with all the old friends. Please, if I or the Alberta Branch can be of any help, just give us a call.

In conclusion let me say again IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK.

The next letter I write will and should be a little more structured or formal but I said earlier this is just some observations from an old Zipper head.

Perseverance

President 2008

The Genesis of a Regiment

Submitted By Murray Cayley

Nobby Clark was a quiet man who gained the respect and even affection of those who knew him as RSM, Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians). Some still remember him from the Cyprus years, 1979 thru 1981. Few are aware that, as **Captain RBE Clark, MMM, CD (Retired)**, Nobby devoted himself to filling in and clarifying gaps in the Regiments history, its raising in Western Canada and subsequent service in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War. He searched the records, the literature and then, against the background of his own youth in South Africa, traveled extensively there at his own expense, visiting battle sites, identifying regimental graves and determining the facts surrounding certain controversial events in the Regiments experience. His purpose was to contribute to a more complete and accurate record of those times. He has left us a remarkable legacy in a major documentation of his findings, completed shortly before his death, which, with the support of his family, has been dedicated to the Regiment. A group has been put together including old friends who are re-editing this large manuscript to make it more accessible within the Regiment. While this will necessarily take some time, progress reports will appear in the Newsletter in the form of edited excerpts and commentary of which this is the first. Let's begin with Nobby's own words (somewhat abridged) about his objectives and purpose:

Anglo-Boer War 1899 - 1902 Lord Strathcona's Horse

The Genesis of a Regiment, Strathcona's Horse 1900-1901

Captain RBE Clark, MMM, CD (Retired) Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

Young soldiers who had served under such dynamic Strathcona Regimental Sergeant Majors as **Dick Cuniffe**, **Blinky MacDonald**, **Rick Gaunt** and **Squint Armer** will attest to the pride and esprit de corps these legends generated in their lessons on Regimental History. Commanding Officers all placed a good deal of emphasis on the value of Regimental History in the development of loyalty and integrity in soldiers under their command. Throughout my career and as Regimental Sergeant Major, I had been troubled by a perceived void in the early part of our history whether considered from the regiments' inception in 1885 or by the genesis of the regiment as Strathcona's Horse in 1900. Ultimate pride will often provoke a conglomerate of thoughts and of imaginary concepts regarding Regiment: Our Regiment the corps d'elite; The cavalry, dash and daring; The skill of frontier scouting; Saddle horns and lassoes, revolvers, rawhide, wide brimmed hats and spurs; Man and horse; The Western elite personified. Cognizant of rumors concerning our early history in South Africa, I went to South Africa in 1998 on a fact-finding mission simply to satisfy my own curiosity regarding our early history. I was able to locate, photograph and record all of our war graves in South Africa and to establish the two graves located in Gravesend and Woolwich, England. Early on during my trek of our Battle Fields I was deeply impressed by the high regard held of Steele's Strathcona's Horse both by the Boers and by the British Army who had served with the Strathcona's. Tributes upon tributes are found which by such key players as **Lord Kitchener, Sir Redveres Buller, General CF Clery, The Earl of Dundonald and Major General Knox**. I also discovered a document identifying a feature in the Lydenburg area as Strathcona Hill.

On my return to Canada 1 made a point of visiting all of the recruiting depots from 1900 in British Columbia which I have also recorded. I have written up this document as a conglomerate of facts based on my research of the Strathcona's Horse in South Africa, with a tie-in to its initial formation in Canada as a contribution to the overall historical record of the Regiment.

(Note) while much of what follows in text will be familiar to some, both Nobby's style and the new findings make this document a refreshing, interesting and informative read. The selections following are meant to be only an introduction to the main work. Nobby begins with an introduction to Lord Strathcona and then details his proposal to raise a regiment:

On 31 December 1899, at the height of a tremendous wave of patriotism bringing volunteers rushing to the colours of the British Empire in support of the Anglo- Boer War, **Lord Strathcona** cabled **Sir Wilfred Laurier** offering to raise, equip and land in Cape Town at his own expense, a regiment of mounted men from the Canadian North West subject to the consent of the Canadian Militia. On 3rd January, **Sir Wilfred** assured **Lord Strathcona** of the full cooperation of the Canadian Militia. On 10th January 1900, **Lord Strathcona** made his formal offer to the British Government who immediately accepted his munificent offer and invited him to communicate directly with ` the British War Office. The British colonial secretary, **Joseph Chamberlain**, informed Strathcona personally that should he have "the slightest difficulty" with the War Office or any other department,

Strathcona could count on him "to arrange it."

Professor Carmen Miller: Painting the Map Red, details the recruitment and organization of Strathcona's Horse: "What Lord Strathcona had in mind was two squadrons of mounted men, about four hundred men and horses in all, drawn from the Canadian North-West, an area which he still knew fairly well.

Lord Strathcona wanted the men to be proficient and experienced rough riders and rangers, unmarried, expert • marksmen and at home in the saddle. He had no difficulty accepting Borden's suggestion that the contingent be known as Strathcona's Horse. Borden's most successful suggestion was the • appointment of Colonel Samuel Benfield Steele to command the Regiment. Born at Purbrook in Simcoe Country, Ontario, on - January 5, 1848, Steele had joined the militia at sixteen during the Fenian • raids, and later served as a private • during the Red River uprising. Two years later he joined the North West Mounted Police, where he rose to the position of superintendent, serving in • the Northwest Rebellion and the Yukon. Energetic, shrewd, tough, a diplomatic manager of men, Steele was a meticulous administrator. Strathcona had no difficulty agreeing to this appointment.

(Note) The story of the organization of the Regiment is well known. Nobby offers his own observations and many illustrative details are found in the text:

The plan and organization for the mobilization of 537 all ranks and 599 horses within a matter of 10 days is quite phenomenal given the distances from the Manitoba, Ontario border to the Pacific and the rudimentary methods of communication in those days. Kudos must go to LCol Sam Steele who is the personification of leadership, a quality that he demonstrated time and again throughout his command of the

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) 90th Anniversary Commemorating The Battle of Moreuil Wood Event List 2008								
Date	Time	Place	Event	Dress				
Thursday 27 March	0830 hrs - 1600 hrs	Edmonton Garrison Fitness Facility	Regimental Sports Day	Regimental PT Gear or Suitable Attire				
	1600 hrs - 1900 hrs	Edmonton Garrison Officers' Mess	Happy Hour (Open Invitation)	Dress of the day or Suitable attire				
	1830 hrs for 1900 hrs	Edm Garrison WOs' & Sgts' Mess	Senior NCO Mess Dinner (By Invitation Only)	Mess Kit, Black Tie or Association Dress				
Friday 28 March	0830 hrs - 1500 hrs	RHQ Conference Room Bldg 405	Regimental Society Board of Directors Meeting. (By Invitation only)	Dress of the Day or Suitable attire				
	1900 hrs for 1930 hrs	Location to be determined	Officer Mixed Mess Dinner. (By Invitation only)	Mess Kit or Black Tie				
Saturday 29 March	0945 hrs for 1000 hrs	Lecture Training Facility	Regimental Moreuil Wood Parade (Open Invitation)	Military 1A (medals), Jacket & Tie or Association Dress				
	1200 hrs	Regimental Lines Bldg 405	Post Parade Reception (Open Invitation)	Military 1 A (medals), Jacket & Tie or Association Dress				
	1315 hrs	Garrison Lecture Training Facility Theatre	Regimental Society Annual General Meeting (Open Invitation)	Dress of the day or Suitable attire				
	1830 hrs	Regimental Lines Bldg 405	Regimental All Ranks Dinner & Dance (RSVP for complimentary tickets)	Relaxed				

regiment. Of even greater note was the patriotism and support shown the Strathcona Horse at all of the recruiting depots throughout the West.

In our next installment we will follow the Regiment on its triumphant excursion across the nation to Halifax, across the seas aboard the SS Monterey to getting established and into action in South Africa.

BINNY, Vic 19 September 2007, Vernon, BC BOWLES, Dennis age 92, 15 April 2007, Manitoba BYORS, Bill 7 October 2007 CLARK, George age 74, 22 November 2007, Alymer, ON GARDNER, James age 86, 29 October 2007, Barrie, ON GILMARTIN, John age 65, 14 December 2007, Duncan, BC HODGKINSON, Gordon age 96, 13 September 2007, Calgary, AB HORNBURG, Nathan KOCR age 24, 24 September 2007, KIA Afghanistan JONAH, Enoch age 82, 18 May 2007, New Brunswick KOZICKY, Helen age 91, 24 March 2007, Calgary, AB LEDOUX, Leonard age 83, 2 March 2007, Manitoba LUTTYCK, Alexander (Sandy) age 86, 26 October 2007, Calgary, AB MACGREGOR, Allan age 43, Edmonton, AB MCGILL, Barry age 70, 4 April 2007, Michigan NICOLAY, Clarence (Nic) age 86, 6 March 2007, Calgary, AB RAMSAY, Dean age 85, 5 May 2007, Port Hope, ON SANDSTROM, Lawrence 28 December 2006, Manitoba SCOTT, Richard (Dick) age 84, 16 August 2007, Calgary, AB TEDLIE, James age 91, 1 January 2008, Victoria, BC TOMLINSON, George age 93, 5 June 2007, Calgary, AB WARD, William (Bill) age 81, 26 May 2007, Calgary, AB WYLIE, John age 78, 13 December 2007, Calgary, AB WIEBELSKIRCHER, age 62, 6 June 2007, Selkirk, MB

rumpe

In Loving Memory of Wives

FITZ-GERALD, Dorothy (MWO E.J. Fitz-Gerald), 30 August 2007, Vernon, BC
GRAHAM ,Sally (HCol Alan Graham, SALH), 21 September 2007, Fort Nelson, BC
LITTLE, Norma Jean (late LCol W.R.C. Little), 19 December 2007, Meaford, ON
MILROY, Ann Tilton (Brownie) (late LGen W.A. Milroy) 23 May 2007, Ottawa, ON
SAWATZKY, Helen (Jake), 24 June 2007, Calgary, AB

Our apologizes for lack of details in some cases Editor