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A Message from the President

Greetings to our Association Members and the extended Regimental family. What a great Fall we have had. We have welcomed our new Commanding Officer of our Regiment, LCol Gordon Prentice, and thanked outgoing Commanding Officer, LCol John Hodgins. We have seen Sgt Roy Hare, his daughter Patricia, our Hon LCol and a few others travel to Ekeren in October to represent our Regiment in some fine ceremonies that remembered the great contribution of our Regiment during WW II. Once again, our Regiment had a great Field of Valour Dinner in Chatham in November, and we finished off the year in providing support to the traditional Soldiers' Christmas Dinner.

In the next few months we will be supporting our Hochwald Dinner on 7 March 2020 and preparing for some fundraisers to continue to build funds for our forthcoming Trooping of the new Colours which we anticipate will happen within the next few years. Your Executive will continue to work closely with the Regimental Executive Committee to make some long- range financial plans in support of Regimental goals to enhance what we can do for Veterans, serving members and our families.

We had a very successful campaign to raise funds to support a few veterans and members to attend ceremonies overseas last fall, and we are already anticipating more requests coming from Europe to have representation at 75th Anniversary celebrations recognizing the end of WW II. As we reflect upon the accomplishments of our Regiment over its sterling history, let us not forget about our current soldiers and the fine work that they are doing. Our Regiment continues to be a strong unit that focusses on well trained soldiers who are able and willing to support our military missions overseas and at home.

I hope that you will once again enjoy another edition of our Association Newsletter. If you are reading our Newsletter and you are not a member of our Association, why not? We encourage our extended Regimental family and friends to join. Please contact us, and we will be delighted to sponsor you.

Have a great 2020! Fondest regards to all our extended Regimental Family! SEMPER PARATUS

Morris Brause



Change of Command

The Essex & Kent Scottish Regiment was pleased to welcome the new CO, Lieutenant-Colonel Gord Prentice.

LCol Prentice began his military career while attending high school in Chatham joining the local Army Cadet Corps (#59) in 1978 followed by The Essex and Kent Scottish in 1980. Following the completion of infantry training and the basic parachute course he transferred to the Regular Force in September of 1983 and was subsequently commissioned as a 2Lt and posted to 3 RCR Winnipeg in September 1984. Deployed to Cyprus in 1986 as a platoon commander on the "Green Line" he was later awarded the Medal of Bravery for actions while on patrol in Nicosia. Returning to Canada, he was promoted to Captain and posted to Hamilton in 1987 as the Regular Force advisor to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry. In 1990 a posting to London saw him assigned to HQ 1 RCR followed in 1991 by a posting to CFB London. After a short stint as a Military Observer in El Salvador, he left the Regular Force in 1993 transferring briefly to the Primary Reserves (4 RCR) before accepting overseas civilian employment with the UN.



In 1997 he rejoined The Essex and Kent Scottish and was quickly deployed as part of the 1 RCR Battle Group to Bosnia in 1998. Returning to Canada saw the completion of his Bachelor's degree requirements (Political Science) at UWO. After a leave of absence from the Primary Reserve to again accept UN civilian employment, he started long term Class B (full time Reserve service) with The Essex and Kent Scottish in 2000. Promoted to Major, a tour to Afghanistan followed in 2003. On return to Canada, a new Class B was taken up at 31 CBG HQ in London where he was employed, with the exception of a Military Observer task to Sudan in 2007, in various staff capacities until 2010. Transferring back to the Regular Force, Maj Prentice was posted to LFDTs (now CADTC) in Kingston and assigned to work on capability development issues related to the Canadian Arctic. In 2011 he was posted back to London as G3 of 31 CBG where he remained until retiring from the Regular Force in 2016. He was then employed as a Reserve member of 31 CBG HQ assigned to specific planning functions primarily related to the Canadian Arctic until being offered command of The Essex and Kent Scottish.



Col Joe Robinson Commander 31 Canadian Brigade Group inspecting the troops.

He is married to Sanja whom he met in Zagreb while working for the UN. They have two daughters, Maya 10 and Emma 9, attending primary school in London. A recent graduate of the Joint Command and Staff Programme, he is currently completing the final requirements necessary for award of the Master of Defence Studies at RMC.



The E&K Scot Association would like to thank LCpl John Hodgins for his many years of service and leadership to the Regiment. He joined the E&K Scot in 2002 after completing a component transfer from the Regular Force. His first appointment was as Officer Commanding Alpha Company.

In 2010, LCpl Hodgins was appointed to the position of Deputy Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and appointed Commanding Officer in September 2015. Bravo Zulu!

Highlanders Tug-o-War Challenge

The Essex and Kent Scottish tug of war team battled hard this last summer. They defeated several highland regiments across SW Ontario, including the long standing incumbent from Toronto, successfully winning the championship at both the Glengarry Games in Maxwell Ontario, as well as the Highland games in Fergus.

The team practiced over successive weeks, with the aid of their coaches John Purdie and Rob Kyle, building the strength, technique and endurance. The team appreciates the support of the Association, both in participation and funding for the events.

The Highlanders Tug-o-War Challenge inspires the character, dedication to building physical fitness, leadership and self-discipline while promoting teamwork, esprit de corps, loyalty and commitment. This was exemplified by the performance of the team in 2019. The soldiers are looking forward to begin training ahead of the 2020 season. Semper Paratus



Way to go E&K team! We're all proud of you.

Tom Jaeger

In Memoriam

Since the last newsletter, we were saddened by the loss of Dick Turner, James Frederick Mason, Phillip James Osmon, Jack (Buddy) Kitchen, Don Avery, Garney Ryan. Gary Dick and William Moss.





Essex Scottish Inaugurates liberation memorial in Ekeren Belgium



Mr. Koen Palinckx, Mayor of Ekeren laying a wreath at the memorial.

On Friday, October 4, 2019, a four person delegation of serving members of the Essex and Kent Scottish assisted Mr. Roy Hare who was a sergeant in the Essex Scottish in inaugurating “Canadien Plein” or Canadian Square in the city of Ekeren Belgium. Ekeren is a city within the Antwerp region. Mr. Hare was part of the Essex Scottish Regiment which liberated Ekeren on October 4, 1944. To commemorate the liberation, Ekeren built a park and mounted a 26 pound field artillery piece along the road used by the Essex Scottish when they marched into the city. Mr. Hare, now 94, actually fired the artillery piece, a weapon similar to the one on which he had been trained 75 years earlier.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Vincent Charron of the Canadian Embassy, the Canadian Defence Attaché Colonel Timothy Young, the Mayor of Ekeren Mr. Koen Palinckx as well as numerous other dignitaries from Belgian government, military, academia and business.

The Essex and Kent delegation serving as Mr. Hare’s honorary guard was composed of Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Joe Ouellette, Major David Mimmagh, Corporal Kale Brown and Piper Corporal Nathan Duczman. Mr. Hare was accompanied by his daughter Ms. Patricia Hare.



Mr. Hare preparing to fire the 26 pounder.



A notable related story involves 10 year old Aiden Dick who heard that Roy Hare was traveling to Belgium and wanted to help. He opened a roadside lemonade stand one day in August 2019 in front of his home in Belle River. Most of the people who came by were complete strangers. They were also supportive of the cause and quite generous. In one day Aiden was able to raise \$989.50 to help Mr. Hare to travel to Belgium. News of Aiden’s efforts reached The Mayor of Ekeren who acknowledged his contribution with a framed letter, a photograph and assorted gadgets. Aiden was thrilled and so are the rest of us.

Joe Ouellette & Kim Gilliland

Aiden Dick and Roy Hare sharing a moment. Well done Aiden!



Mash Bash #5

MASH BASH #5 was held Saturday September 7 in the Drill Hall at Tilston Armoury. As always, our objectives were to provide a forum where we could share our Regimental pride with the community, in this case by hosting them at one of our homes. A committee composed of Delta Company and Association members put together a plan that included prepping of Drill Hall, assisted by Master Warrant Officer Al McCabe who captained the assembly of some mod-tent segments, arranging MASH chow from Koolini's, arranging a 16 prize array that was both ticket-drawn and silent auctioned, and awarded prizes for best costumes.



Our meals served tally was 120, including our excellent Pipes and Drums, who performed twice for our enthusiastic guests. Best costume was unanimously awarded to Doreen Capnerhurst, who totally embraced the concept of the "MASH patient". One of our fresh thoughts for this event was to offer guided tours (limited) of the Armoury, particularly for our first-time guests. To that end, Artifact Committee members Hardy Wheeler and Eric Skelton, assisted by our summer student Nicole Pillon took groups through the Officer's Mess and Long Room, as well as the Unit Lines and Chapel. Many thanks to that little group, who organized the tours themselves and generated a lot of positive feedback from tour participants.



Final results...our format adjustments worked out pretty much as planned. We delivered on our plans to show off the Regiment to quite a number of "first-timers" to one of our events. Food was an upgrade. Band was once again fantastic-thank you Pipe Major Dave Mercer! Program rolled out pretty crisply and the event wrapped up at a tidy time. While the financials of the event were independently positive, the final results were dramatically bolstered by Dave Woodall's independent fundraising efforts, which boosted our net profits over our objectives.

Going forward...think we have a workable template to potentially reuse with some massage in the future. Our very early September date was not a plus for us, as that is a very busy time for everyone. Thanks to all who chipped in with volunteer time, raffle prizes, pushing ticket sales, setting up, serving food etc!

Dave Woodall
Cy McGrath

Cathy MacDonald
Pat Coughlin





Archives Update

Over the last eight weeks, we have had the privilege of being able to take part in preserving the history of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment by photographing and cataloguing documents and scrapbooks located in the Tilston and Ansell Armouries. Though we often worked through a thin layer of flaking leather and dust gone orange with age, the task of documenting and digitizing a public record of this region's military history has been a fulfilling one for us as we work toward our professional careers. Throughout the summer, we have aimed to create the basis for a database that is searchable and accessible online. While this project is by no means complete, the work we have done will help researchers to access information about the Essex and Kent Scottish in the future. We have catalogued roughly 2240 pages of paper artifacts and have taken approximately 4200 photos that will be contributed to this resource.

While recording the contents of each page, we found many anecdotes that have highlighted the social nature of the regiment throughout its history. For example, Colonel McIntyre inserted personal and often humorous commentary into published accounts of events. For us, this closed the span of time between his lived experiences and our understanding of them. His personal telegrams to his wife, Rosemary, were very moving for this reason. For example, he gave Rosemary the nickname "Rosie-Posy" in the scrapbook.

One of the most prominent figures featured in the collection was Major F.A. Tilston. Despite his newfound fame for having received the Victoria Cross, he remained humble and frequently praised his fellow soldiers for their contributions at Hochwald. His simple desire to have watermelon when he returned from the front surprised us in its mundane nature. Seeing records of the public celebrations of his sacrifice illustrated for us how he became a source of pride for the community both during the post-war years and in the decades following.

Though Tilston's actions were well-documented in the press, the sheer volume of both military and civilian accounts showed us how widely the Essex and Kent Scottish have impacted the citizens of the Windsor-Essex community since its conception. We have been told that there was not a family in Essex County that was unaffected by the Dieppe Raid of 1942, and working with these documents made vivid the influence of the regiment both on the battlefield and in the homes of those who supported it.


Though our dust allergies might disagree, it has been a pleasure being able to learn about our local military history in such a hands-on manner. Grasping fragments of the regiment's past through the filter of white gloves (though they are decidedly no longer white) has been a truly unique opportunity for us. Thank you to Mary Baruth, Hardy Wheeler, and the Regimental Association for allowing us to be a part of this important project and for making us feel welcome during our time with the regiment.

Olivia Musselwhite & Nicole Pillon
The Essex & Kent Scottish
CSJ Museum Collections Technicians

Editor's note: Thank you Olivia and Nicole. Words cannot express our appreciation!



Hochwald Mixed Dining-In



The Commanding Officer and the Regimental Sergeant Major
of
The Essex and Kent Scottish
request the pleasure of the company of you and your guest at the

**75th Anniversary of the
Battle of the Hochwald
Mixed Dining-In**

to be held at the
Major F.A. Tilston, VC Armoury
4007 Sandwich Street
Windsor, Ontario
on Saturday, 7 March 2020
6:00 pm for 7:00 pm

Dress
Military: Mess Dress or DEU #2B
Civilian: Black Tie or Business attire with
miniature medals

RSVP
By March 3rd on the following website:
<https://ekscotevents.ticketspice.com/hochwald-dinner>
Please ensure that you place your name and email, and
specify your dietary choice and restrictions.

All members of our regimental family are invited to attend the Hochwald Mixed Dining-In at the Tilston Armoury on March 7, 2020. The dinner commemorates the Victoria Cross earned by Major Fred Tilston on March 1, 1945. Invitations have been sent to previous attendees but if you want to attend this important social event please reserve by March 3, 2020 through the following website:

<https://ekscotevents.ticketspice.com/hochwald-dinner>

Any questions may be directed to Lt Adam El-Batal:

phone: 519-980-3362

email: Adam.El-Batal@forces.gc.ca

We ask that you wear Mess Dress, DEU #2B, Black Tie, Business Attire (with medals) or equivalent for ladies as this is a semi-formal event.

The tariff is \$50.00 per person

Please specify menu choices as follows:

- Herb chicken
- Salmon
- Vegetarian
- Other dietary restrictions

Dieppe Memorial Service

To commemorate the 78th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid and especially members of The Essex Scottish who participated in the 1942 Raid on Dieppe join us at the Dieppe Memorial in Dieppe Gardens, Windsor at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, 19 August 2020. Serving members of the Regiment and the Pipes and Drums will be in attendance. Everyone is welcome.



A Reminder to all Members

Just a friendly reminder to pay your dues if you have not already done so. Also if anyone has changed their email or postal address, please notify Cathy Macdonald at ekbrat@gmail.com so we can keep our records up to date.

Thanks to everyone for your contributions. Kim Gilliland, Editor.