



Who We Are

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- Michael Robinson
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A Message from the President

Greetings to our Association Members and the extended Regimental family. We are now into the Fall of 2021 and this newsletter is a bit later than usual. The country is slowly opening, and people can see each other. I am happy to see that most people are getting vaccinations for COVID, as I am sure we are still going to see more outbreaks with this new Delta variant. All of that to say, your Association Board is working towards events in the rest of 2021, and certainly into 2022.

As I had written in the Winter Newsletter, the Commanding Officer has formed his planning team for the presentation of new Colours in Windsor, and the lay up of the current Colours in Chatham and a Freedom of the City in Chatham. All of this will occur, COVID not intervening, on the weekend of May 13-15, 2022. You will see more in a separate article in this newsletter. Kudos to Hardy Wheeler and the Artifact Committee members in working with our government sponsored hired students this summer to complete further work on our archives. You can read more about this in this edition of our newsletter.

Most members who pay dues on a yearly basis have once again paid their dues. However, we have members who have not paid. I am hoping that this newsletter can reach out to you and encourage you to pay your dues. We are looking for new members to join. Remember, there are two types of membership: life-time and yearly. As a private organization, the application form you fill out is also your request to join the Association. The Board reviews every application and must approve a new member.

Fundraising has been a huge challenge over the last year-and-a-half due to COVID restrictions. We had a good fundraiser through E&K Scot Association masks. We still have masks if anyone wants to order one. Donations have come in, which can and have received tax receipts. Your Board's challenge this fall and winter is to get fun events planned where we can hopefully gather, celebrate our fondness of this storied regiment, enjoy great comradeship, and raise funds for important endeavours, especially for the Trooping next year. Let us not forget that in the summer of 2022, we will celebrate the 80th year of the Essex and Kent Scottish, where the Essex Scottish and Kent Regiment amalgamated. More details will be in the next newsletter on how we will celebrate this historic event.

On your behalf, I want to thank the Board members and volunteers who have continued to work hard to ensure our Association remains strong and dedicated to serving our soldiers, their families, our Veterans, and the associate members of our Association. I pray that you and your family members are healthy. Fondest regards to all our extended Regimental Family!

SEMPER PARATUS

Morris Brause



Dieppe Memorial Service



The 79th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid was commemorated on 19 Aug 21 at Dieppe Park on the Windsor waterfront. This annual event remembers the 6,000 allied troops, mostly Canadians, who stormed the beaches that day. It was the bloodiest day of the war for Canadian troops. 907 were killed, 2,460 were wounded and an additional 1,946 were taken prisoner. 121 soldiers from the Essex Scottish Regiment were included in the casualties along with many captured.

Covid-19 restrictions, once again, muted the commemoration by limiting attendance. There

was representation from the Regiment, the Pipes and Drums, 31 Brigade, the City of Windsor along with a number of local residents.

This year's Dieppe Memorial Service was special for another reason. Pte. George Alfred Dixon died on the beaches of Dieppe that day. The Memorial Cross that was presented to his family after he was killed in action was returned to Windsor, the city where he lived. It was formally presented by Mayor Drew Dilkens to Madelyn Della Valle, curator of Museum Windsor, where it will be displayed with honour.

Pte. Dixon's Memorial Cross was discovered on eBay last year. A group of local people organized a funding campaign to purchase it and return it to Windsor. Their efforts were successful. We are grateful for all those who contributed to this community effort to bring Pte. Dixon's Memorial Cross home.

Submitted by Kim Gilliland



Curator Madelyn Della Valle with Memorial Cross

In Memoriam

Since the last newsletter, we were saddened by the loss of HRH Prince Philip and Roy Hare. We continue to honour those who have gone from our midst and we remember them.





Digitizing Our Archival Collection, Year Three



L to R: Canada Summer Jobs participants for 2021 at the Dieppe Raid Memorial in Dieppe Gardens, Windsor on August 19, 2021: Olivia Musselwhite, Nicole Pillon and Megan Chau.

Over the course of the summer, the three of us have had the privilege of working for the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment Association with the aim of documenting and preserving the Regiment's history and eventually making it accessible remotely. Continuing from the work done of the last two summers, we have made great progress towards having an online digital archive.

This opportunity presented us with several challenges, including both adjusting to working from home as a group and returning to the Tilston and Ansell armouries for the first time since 2019. We were fortunate to be able to add a new member, Megan Chau, to the project this year who was able to help us coordinate how we were going to work safely and efficiently as we transitioned back into the armouries. While working in masks all day and adhering to the safety protocols at the armouries was an adjustment, we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the E&K's artifacts in person once again.

Over the past ten weeks (June 14 - August 20), we catalogued and accessioned over 1600 artifacts, resulting in over 8000 photographs being taken. We were able to gain a better understanding of prominent individuals, such as Col. Alf Hodges and Col. Alan Prince. We particularly enjoyed the wartime letters that we discovered and the personalities that became evident through their personal correspondences. We were captivated by the wholesome letters Sgt. Jim Scott wrote to his mother during WWII wherein he bragged about his high grades at training, mentioned his hopes to take leave in Scotland, and begged his mother to please stop sending him socks and instead to send more chocolate in his care packages.

Due to the progression of this digitization project over the last three years, we were able to spend more time in the Ansell Armoury this year than in previous years. We enjoyed taking inventory of the artifacts and relics found in Chatham, as it gave us a better sense of the Kent Regiment's history pre-amalgamation. We are now more aware of the unique individuals that belonged to the Kent Regiment, including Major Si Steele, even as the mannequin dedicated to his likeness was quite stubborn and unwilling to be photographed when we attempted to document it.

It has been rewarding for us to see the progression of the project since we began working on it two years ago. When we first began in 2019, we thought that our most difficult task was going to be digitalizing the Regimental scrapbooks in the Tilston Armoury Long Room. However, we were sorely mistaken. We never



imagined that we would be handling the swords, uniforms, and medals of those who served in the Essex Scottish and Kent Regiment. These personal effects made the history more tangible for us, even if we sometimes struggled to figure out to whom they belonged.

Thank you to Hardy Wheeler, Mary Baruth, Blake Harding, and the other members of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment Association for allowing us to continue to be a part of this important endeavor. We appreciate both the opportunity to assist in encapsulating the Regiment's history and the chance to expand upon our professional experience.

Submitted by Olivia Musselwhite, Nicole Pillon, and Megan Chau (Canada Summer Jobs 2021)

Trooping Planning Committee Update

The Commanding Officer's Trooping Planning Committee has been meeting for months. The Association Board members who are on this planning committee are President Morris Brause (Secretary of the Planning Committee), Vice-President Jacquie Winand-Bacon, Retired Police Chief Dennis Poole, Past President Pat Coughlin, Blake Harding (former RSM of our Regiment), along with representatives from the Officers and NCOs of the Regiment, The Scottish Borderers, The Ansell Club, and Delta Company. There are two sub-committees working for the Commanding Officer to plan the events in Windsor on 13-14 May lead by Lt Tom Jaeger; and in Chatham on 15 May 2022 lead by the past RSM, CWO Brian Jordan.

Here are the key highlights for the Windsor activities:

1. Meet and Greet Happy Hour, Friday, 13 May 2022: will occur in the Drill Hall of the Armouries in Windsor, then breaking into the three Messes to enjoy comradeship.
2. Receiving and Trooping the New Colours, Saturday 14 May 2022: will occur on the Windsor waterfront in front of Caesars Casino in the afternoon of 14 May, followed by a VIP reception at Caesars. That night there will be a Gala Ball at one of the Caesars Casino ball rooms.

Here are the highlights for the Chatham activities:

1. Laying up the current Colours, Sunday, 15 May 2022: The Regimental Senate has approved the laying up of the current Colours in Christ Church, Chatham, on Sunday morning. Detail and capacity are yet to be determined.
2. Exercising the Freedom of the City of Chatham, Sunday afternoon, 15 May 2022: The Commanding Officer will parade his regiment through the City of Chatham on Sunday afternoon, exercising the Freedom of the City and providing the first public viewing of the new Colours in Chatham. Following the parade there will be a reception at the Old Armouries.

We hope that COVID will not interfere with these plans. Set these dates aside and plan to attend!

Respectfully submitted by: Morris Brause, President E&K Scot Regiment Assn and Secretary for the Trooping Planning Committee.



Receiving New Colours

The Essex and Kent Scottish will be receiving a new stand of Colours (Queen's and Regimental) in 2022. This important occasion will take place over the weekend of Friday 13 May through Sunday 15 May 2022. Major scheduled events include:

- A Regimental Meet and Greet at the Tilston Armoury the evening of Friday 13 May;
- Presentation of new Colours on the Windsor waterfront adjacent to Caesar's the afternoon of 14 May;
- Formal dinner at Caesar's the evening of 14 May; and
- Exercising the Freedom of the City of Chatham-Kent in Chatham the afternoon of 15 May.

At this time we are expecting that our Colonel-in-Chief, His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, will be in attendance. For those from outside the Windsor area, a block of rooms have been secured at Caesar's at a special rate. **Nightly rate and booking codes will be published when available.**

The Commanding Officer, RSM and all ranks of the Essex and Kent Scottish look forward to seeing you on this historic occasion.

Delta Company

It has continued to be another quiet number of months for Delta Company due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however members were still involved in assisting with care package preparations and letters to our troops serving overseas. The Executive continues to work with the CO and his team, and the Association, on the upcoming Trooping ceremonies, where D Coy can contribute to ensuring the Trooping of the Colour weekend is a memorable event for the Regimental family and friends. We are hoping to organize a Mess Dinner in late November of this year, if conditions continue to improve and authorizations through the government and the military can hopefully be obtained. We are looking forward to reconnecting with everyone as events begin to unfold in 2022!

Until then, stay healthy and safe!

Best Wishes,

Chief (Ret.) Dennis Poole
OC Delta Company





Roy Hare Memorial

All members of the regimental family were saddened to learn of Roy's passing on 29 March 2021 during our pandemic spring when proper gatherings were prohibited. As restrictions have slowly eased, it became feasible to have a memorial event on 11 September. Roy's daughter Pat arranged an event in keeping - as much as possible - with Roy's wishes.

Roy spent his postwar years in Sarnia, except for his vacation time at his cottage near Dayton where he grew up and had all his family. It was fitting to have his memorial at Legion Branch 62, where he had enjoyed many happy times and many dances...right up to the arrival of Covid-19. The Legion executive and members really stepped up to provide an excellent light luncheon, and the well-organized audio-visual equipment that aided our speakers in describing Roy and his exploits of 96 years. The afternoon was capped off by an impressive performance by the Legion Pipes and Drums augmented by the OPP Pipes and Drums, playing a set including Green Hills of Tyrol for Roy and Highland Laddie for the E&K.



Guests were treated to a short list of speakers from Roy's family, Legion family and Regimental family who recalled his person and personality as well as many of the highlights of his life. Special thanks go to RM Greg Childs who offered a very well researched and worded review of Roy's war years that was illustrated by appropriate photos - the management of same was coordinated by Don Oliphant. Many thanks also to HLCol Joe Ouellette who provided an eloquent remembrance of their time together on the pilgrimage to Ekeren in 2019. Mayor Bradley was clearly moved during his words when he was tasked with following Joe's farewell to Roy. As always, Spike Bell was recording the ongoings with his trained eye and camera.

It would also be appropriate for the Regiment to extend our thanks to Pat Hare for allowing us to assist in organizing the memorial to one of our last WWII vets. She truly put her "everything" into keeping him going as long as possible and spared no expense to fulfill his final wishes. Thanks also to the many members of the Regimental family who helped make the event memorable by their attendance.

Pat Coughlin





Keeping Connected Online

It is important to stay connected especially when we cannot gather in our normal way. Those wishing to keep in touch with the activities of the Regiment are encouraged to visit the Regimental website and Facebook page listed as follows:

Website www.ekscot.org

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6161648785>

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.

