



A Message from the President

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I would like to take time to thank all members of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regimental Association for their support and dedication. It has been a very busy time. The trooping was overall a big success with many, many people working very hard for its success.

The Ansell club held their annual golf tournament fundraiser which was the first one post-COVID but also a great success. Finally, the Association hosted their annual BBQ with Trot with the Troops. Thanks to Dan with Pat, Tom and many others who worked hard to put it together.

Thank you to our summer students who worked so hard with the Archive Committee to once again make it such a success. We can all look forward to the Field of Valour and other upcoming events.

Thank you to our outstanding board for your continued hard work and dedication.

Respectfully,

Jacque Winand-Bacon

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 16 November 2023 beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Ansell Armoury in Chatham. All members are invited to attend and as we review the past year and plan for events in the coming year.



Trooping of the Colours

11 May 2023 to 14 May 2023 marked a significant event in the life and history of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment. The Trooping of the Colours had been delayed for three years due to the global pandemic. When it happened, it was an event worth waiting for. We were especially honoured by the presence of our Colonel-in-Chief, His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent,



The weekend began with an Officers Mess Dinner on 11 May 2023 followed by a reception with HRH Prince Michael. A Meet and Greet with the Regimental family occurred on Friday evening at the Tilston Armoury.

The main event of the weekend was the presentation and trooping of the new colours to the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment at the Riverfront Festival Plaza in Windsor on Saturday afternoon. The new colours are significant because they bear the new battle honours for Detroit, Maumee, Niagara (War of 1812) and Afghanistan. An evening Gala Ball at Caesar's Windsor followed the presentation and trooping.



On Sunday morning the old Colours were laid up in Christ Church Anglican Church which is the Regimental Church in Chatham. This is where they will be preserved and stored for the future. This will be the first time that Colours have been laid up in this church since 1954 when the Colours of the Kent Regiment were deposited there for safekeeping. The Regiment was further honoured with a Freedom of the City Parade in Chatham on Sunday afternoon followed by a reception at the Old Chatham Armoury.

Thank you to everyone who worked so diligently to make this event such a very memorable one.



Digitization of Regimental Artifact Collection

Members of the Association Artifact Committee were busy during the summer of 2023 with a continuation of the Canada Summer Jobs project. This was the fifth consecutive year we received grants from Service Canada that has allowed the Association to catalogue the entire collection of objects and framed photos at both the Ansell and Tilston armouries with description, location and high-definition photos but also digitize all documents, scrapbooks, donated collections, 1,000s of photographs and a multitude of historically significant items.

This year's Canada Summer Jobs project differed from previous years with one participant working for eight weeks at both armouries. Previously, the projects were Tilston Armoury based with some days at the Ansell Armoury. The Tilston project greatly benefitted by the return of Nicole Pillon for the fifth summer, four paid and one as a volunteer. Nicole has a Masters of History from the University of Windsor and is currently furthering her studies at the University of Ottawa. This year, Nicole focused on researching and recording new exhibits from our in-house digital images, open-source images, newspaper clippings and interviews. These exhibits are suitable for the entrance to the Tilston Armoury or in a public venue like our rotating exhibit that exists at Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 594 on Howard Avenue. The new exhibits are: Windsor Star articles on World War II written by Maj. (later CO and HCol) Alf Hodges; War Art; Battle of the Wheatfield 1944; Dieppe Raid 1942; Families who served together overseas; Fr. Maj. Mike Dalton; Hochwald Forest and AMaj. (later HCol) Fred Tilston; POW Camps; Sports during war; and Vimy Ridge and ASgt. Ellis Sifton.

About 40% of our Artifact Collection is located in the Ansell Armoury. In the previous four years some of the objects were catalogued and scrapbooks digitized but much remained to be done. This year we employed Hania Tomaszewski for eight weeks at the Ansell Armoury. Hania is a graduate of St. Clair College Office Administration – Health Services program. She was able to complete the digitization of the Ansell Collection first by identifying and updating the 554 previously catalogued objects, scrapbooks and documents then cataloguing with descriptions and digital images of 96 new individual items and collections plus digitizing a wide selection of scrapbooks, newspaper clippings and photos all with a searchable database.

Both locations finished by uploading everything to a OneDrive cloud account and external hard drives to enable access by multiple users and back-up of irreplaceable digital files and folders. The summer is over but the work of the Artifact Committee continues toward creating an online presence of the regimental collection for both committee and public viewing. Additionally, under the guidance of Dan Leblanc we are assembling a collection of more recent photos with captions from personal sources of unit training and overseas deployments. If you can help, contact Dan.

Nicole and Hania were excellent employees who put their talent and heart into the improvement of the Regiment's digital archival collection. We wish them success in their future endeavours. These 2023 Canada Summer Jobs projects would not have happened without the hands-on involvement of Artifact Committee members Mary Baruth, Blake Harding (Chatham project) and Hardy Wheeler (Windsor project); and assistance from Kevin Shaw, Ron Bodner and Bill Carruthers.



Donation of “Liberation of Dieppe”



Original photograph



Don Waffle's painting

The County of Essex unveiled a donated painting at the Civic Centre Wednesday afternoon, September 20, that immortalizes the sacrifice and valour during the Second World War of soldiers from Essex County and Windsor serving with a storied local regiment. Hanging outside Council Chambers, the painting depicts members of the Essex Scottish Regiment with pipes and drums marching in September of 1944 upon the liberation of Dieppe, the French town where so many of their colleagues had perished two years before.

The painting was donated to the County of Essex by the late Don Waffle, whose father, Van Waffle, enlisted in the Essex Scottish Reserve upon the outbreak of the Second World War, eventually earning the rank of Major. Don Waffle grew up around the regiment and was fascinated by its long and proud history. His painting, *Liberation of Dieppe*, is based off an historic photograph.

"Thank you for the great honour of accepting this painting by my late father, Donald Robert Waffle. He was honoured by the County of Essex for accepting it for permanent display at the Essex County Civic Centre," said Michael Waffle in a letter read aloud during Wednesday's unveiling. "I know he would have been very proud to be standing here today."

The *Liberation of Dieppe* painting shows men with pipes and drums marching in the streets of Dieppe. Dieppe was liberated by the 2nd Canadian Division, including the Essex Scottish Regiment, now known as the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment, in 1944. The same unit came under heavy fire from the Germans during an ill-fated raid on Dieppe on August 19, 1942. Of the 553 members who stormed the beach that day, only 51 returned to England following the raid.



"Every corner of Essex County was affected by the tragic loss of local soldiers on that fateful day. There are family members of those soldiers with us today. They will never forget and neither shall we," said Warden Hilda MacDonald. "Despite the unimaginable setback, members of the Essex Scottish marched on to continue serving Canada during the Second World War, and they were there as part of the Allied forces that turned the tide."

MacDonald said the County was honoured to display Waffle's "stirring painting" as a "symbol of their sacrifice and victorious spirit" and lauded the regiment for its continued efforts at home and abroad.

"The service and sacrifice of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment on the national and global stages continues to make us thankful and proud," said MacDonald. "Today's ceremony celebrates a moment in the courageous regiment's history and also honours the Essex and Kent Scottish of today."

The motto of the regiment is Semper Paratus or Always Ready and it has served Canada continuously since 1885. Members of the regiment fought in the War of 1812, including the capture of Fort Detroit, and served in both World Wars. In recent years, its members have served in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Croatia, Ukraine, Latvia, Egypt, Cyprus and the Middle East.

Submitted by the County of Essex

80th Anniversary of Dieppe “Operation Jubilee”



19 August 2023 marked the 81st anniversary of Operation Jubilee, known locally simply as the Dieppe Raid. Eighty-one years ago, nearly 5,000 Canadians stormed the beaches of the French coastal town of Dieppe to test the German defences. Of those who landed that morning, 3,367 Canadian soldiers were killed, wounded or taken prisoner. Only 51 of the 553 Essex Scottish who landed on Red Beach returned to England that day which represented an astonishing 90% casualty rate. This raid impacted virtually every family in Windsor Essex.

This year's memorial was significant in that there are no longer any surviving veterans of the raid. The last one, Sapper (Ret'd) John Date, was in attendance at last year's 80th anniversary but even he now has gone to join the brothers-in-arms who went before him. Although there are no surviving members of the raid left, their sacrifice will not be forgotten. We will continue this annual commemoration and seek to be as faithful to King and country as they were.



HONOURING OUR REGIMENTAL FALLEN ... A GATHERING EXPEDITATION

“I wanted to put the faces to the names of our 1,300 fallen from Windsor and Essex County who knew that they were doing the right thing in serving crown and country and publish the results of my research” says, Gene Lotz, military historian, Essex and Kent Scottish Association member and author of *The Anguish of War*. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/753722449071517/>.

Many who filled the ranks served with an engrained sense of patriotism following in the footsteps of their fathers and grandfathers. “Their names are listed on our war monuments, but there’s more to them — their lives lived. Who are they. My book brings our boys back home”, adds Lotz.

At the invitation of MPP Anthony Leardi, Lotz presented his book to the Legislative Library at Queen’s Park in November 2022. This 2-volume set documents the lives of veterans “of all stripes” who gave up a piece of individuality to become part of something larger than themselves. Each chapter (from the Boer War to the Afghanistan War) shines a light on the lives of generations of our Regimental family - many who got creative with their birth certificates, who quit school and walked away from their jobs, who left their families and the comforts of home and rallied to the colours -- *taking the war to the enemy*. Some examples of their stories follow



Reverend, Walter Brown, an assistant Curate at Windsor’s All Saints Anglican Church and who became chaplain of the Essex Scottish Regiment when WW II broke out. Unarmed when Canadians landed on the beaches in Normandy on June 6, 1944, he comforted the wounded in the field until he was captured and subsequently bayoneted by members of the Hitlerjugend Waffen SS. The murdered Padre was found in July on a road leading to Caen. His suitcase containing his communion set was found beside him. Lotz’s research notes that Brown’s communion set somehow found its way to Huron College Chapel where the communion set is still being used to celebrate the Eucharist on Remembrance Day.

John Edward Northwood of Chatham, Ontario enlisted with the 21st Regiment of the Essex Fusiliers in Windsor, Ontario. His letter written from Paardeberg, South Africa to his parents, contained the these words: “then began an awful carnage, bullets fell like hail around us and there was a perfect hell fire. Moans, groans, and prayers were heard on all sides, and it rent



one's very heart to hear them. The ground was covered with dead, and it was an awful sight. Walter had been shot in the head with an explosive bullet and his brains were scattered."

Walter Raymond McCulloch White was the first Windsor resident to fall in the Boer War at nineteen years of age. White, originally a Colour Sergeant in the 21st Battalion of the Essex Fusiliers, was assigned to Company B of the Canadian Contingent. In his letter written to his aunt White stated, "I am about 9000 miles from you, fighting for my Country and my Queen. It is very lonesome out here, for me – my thoughts go far away home across the sea to my darling mother, whom I may never see again. It makes tears come to my eyes but aunt, war is war; so I must not complain." White fell on February 18, 1900, taking water to a wounded soldier on the battlefield.

The Anguish of War honours our fallen who did great things with courage and through their sacrifice earned the glory of their distinguished places belong to the ages.

Submitted by Andrea Grimes

Ansell Club Golf Tournament



The Ansell Club held its 12th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, 05 August 2023 at Hidden Hills Golf & Country Club in Dover Centre. This was the first tournament since Covid-19 made such events difficult. The aim was to bring together past and present members, and friends of our regimental family in friendship, fun and recreation.

Fifty-one golfers registered for the 10:00 am shot gun start and best ball format. Specialty holes included closest to the hole and a putting contest.

Following a successful 18 holes the golfers gathered at the Col. E.M. Ansell

Armoury in Chatham to enjoy a BBQ steak dinner with all the trimmings. The golfers were joined by an additional twenty-five who shared in the feast. In total, the event cleared close to \$2,000.

We were quite pleased with the turnout considering the three years absence due to the pandemic and are hoping to build on this year's success to bring this annual event back to its pre-Covid days.

Submitted by Blake Harding.



Trot with the Troops

Another successful Trot With the Troops event was held on 16 September 2023 at the Ansell Armoury in Chatham. This year the “trotting” was basically replaced by regimental family BBQ. The Military Family Resource Centre was on hand to support the event. Thanks especially to Dan Leblanc and Jeff Morrison for doing the lion’s share of the organizing. Net funds raised at the BBQ were \$167.52.



Coming Events

Field of Valour dinner will be held at the Kent Venue in Chatham on 04 November 2023. This is a professional development day culminating in a very special dinner, where key aspects of our Regiment’s continuing history are discussed and our Pipes and Drums entertain the soldiers and guests alike. There is some limited seating available for non-serving members who wish to attend.

Planning for the annual **Hochwald Mixed Dining In** is underway. More details will be sent out when they are available. The date of 09 March 2024 is firm so please mark it on your calendars.

Keeping Connected Online

It is important to stay connected even when we cannot gather in person. 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>



Tartan Day Fundraiser

The Tartan Day Fundraiser will be held on 06 April 2024 at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 594 located at 5030 Howard Avenue in Oldcastle. Cocktails will begin at 5:00 pm with dinner from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The buffet will include fish and chips, coleslaw and salad with dessert to follow. Non-fish and vegetarian alternatives will be available if requests are made ahead of time.

Traditional highland entertainment will follow dinner and, of course, the bar will be open. We are looking forward to a fun time.

Ticket prices will be shared when they become available.

Membership – Have you joined or renewed?

Your membership is important to the extended Regimental Family. It is your chance to keep updated on events with the serving members, enjoy social activities, and support each other. We raise funds for many activities and consistently support our serving members in many ways: BBQ and social events, support to the annual Soldier's Christmas Dinner and financially assisting with special equipment for the troops. We also send care packages to deployed troops and provide support to our Veterans' families when a Veteran passes away. Whether serving or retired, it is important that we have your support. Please join or renew soon!

Cathy MacDonald, Membership Chair



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.