

MAY 2013



Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders

The Glengarrian

UP THE GLENS!

FROM THE EDITOR | MAY 2013



Time has not been on my side; for the past three months I have worked nights, and now I have returned to the sunshine. Well into mid March and we still have snow. For the last little while the Glengarrian has taken a backseat, but now we're getting it out. Many thanks to Helena Schaefer-Stevens, the Assistant Adjutant, who helped me move the newsletter to press.

The past year has been a great one for the pipe band; we took eighth place at the Highland Games 2012 in the band competition, participated in many parades, including those for the unit, the War of 1812 events, the St Andrews Ball, the Commemoration activities so be sure to look for us around SD&G this summer.

Thanks to the efforts of Capt Erik Doucet and Sgt Rob McCallum, the band has started a Cadet Pipes and Drum programme with thirteen pipers and six drummers in training. Good luck to the members of the programme and I can't wait to see the younger members joining in.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind members that many have not yet paid their yearly dues—as you know, your membership fees go towards supporting the Association and the Unit!

I would be amiss if I did not mention that we will be sad to see HCol Sean Murray leave his position at the unit. His support in the past several years has been instrumental in the publishing of the Glengarrian and he has, without a doubt, been our biggest supporter.

Thank you Sir!

GOOD HEALTH UP THE GLENS

Perry Coughlan
Editor Glengarrian

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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER



Fellow Glens,

As you all know by now, we are in the midst of War of 1812 bicentennial commemorations; and anniversary of enormous importance to our regiment. In the spring of 2012, we received word that our perpetuation of the local regiments of Militia that took part in that defensive war against American invasion has been officially recognized; we are now the rightful inheritors of the honours of our forbearers the Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles, the 1st and 2nd Glengarry Regts, the 1st Stormont Regt, the 1st Dundas Regt, and the 1st Prescott Regt. This was followed in September by presentation to the regiment of commemorative War of 1812 banner and—more importantly—the announcement that the Glens have been awarded three War of 1812 battle honors: NIAGARA, CRYSLER'S FARM, and DEFENCE OF CANADA 1812-1815. Accordingly, we have requested a new set of colours which include the three new battle honours and three First World War honours—HILL 70, ARRAS 1918, and HINDENBURG LINE—which we carry, but are not currently emblazoned on our Regimental Colour. As you might imagine, such a thing takes time, however I expect that our Regimental Reunion in 2014 will likely incorporate that consecration and presentation of our new Colours.

Befitting our founding immediately prior to and proud history of service during the War of 1812, the Glens serve as the 33 Canadian Brigade Group (BBG) lead for 33 CBG support to War of 1812 bicentennial commemorative events. Working with our civilian partners in the St Lawrence War of 1812 Bicentennial Alliance, the Glens planner and coordinated or executed 33 CBG unit support to thirteen War of 1812 commemoration.

DILEAS GU BAS

Rob Duda

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Officer

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTING RSM

A wise old RSM once said to me that the Wos and Sgts mess was a sacred place because it was the only mess that a member required to earn his way into. The hard earned privilege of being a member of the most unique group of military practitioners in the world, an army non-commissioned officer, is paid in blood and sweat. Be it through dangerously earned experience gained on patrol in Panjwai district of Southern Afghanistan's Kandahar Province and/or difficult cordon and search operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, every member of the SD&G Highlanders Wos and Sgts mess has paid the price and earned their right into our sacred place.

While earning their rite of passage into our mess, they gain the distinct privilege of leading the soldiers of the regiment which is married to the responsibility and expectation that they will do so with the utmost professionalism, all while upholding order and discipline. They earn the privilege of being part of a command team for which, through an advisory role, they assist the commanders of the regiment to shape their plan. In conjunction, they own the task of ensuring the soldiers of the regiment are trained and prepared to bring the plan to fruition.

To make reference to the United States Marine Corps SNCO creed: The SNCO is bound by duty to execute the demands of his position to and beyond what he believes to be the limits of his capabilities. He is the mainstay of discipline, and carries himself with military grace, unbowed by the weight of command, unflinching in the execution of lawful orders, and unswerving in his dedication to the most complete success of the mission. Both his professional and personal demeanor shall be such that he may take pride if his juniors emulate him, and knowing perfection to lie beyond the grasp of any mortal hand, he shall yet strive to attain it, that he may ever be aware of his needs and capabilities to improve himself. He shall be fair in his personal relations, just in the enforcement of discipline, true to himself and his fellow soldiers, and equitable in his dealing with every man.

Over the past two years the Wos and Sgts mess oriented its focus on honoring past members who served the Mess, the Regiment, the CF and Canada. On February 9th, 2013, for the second consecutive year, the Sergeant Claude Nunney, VC, DCM, MM mess diner was held in honour of the Victoria Cross recipient. Prior to the mess diner, the unveiling of the past RSM wall took place which displays all available pictures of the great men that were once privileged to be appointed as Regimental Sergeant Major. Beneath the pictures is a pace stick dawning with gold plaques engraved with the names of the appointed CWOs who once carried it. This pace stick has been retired and a new pace stick is now following in its place and is being passed down from RSM to RSM. The intent of these changes is to physically transform the mess into the sacred place that it truly is, to put on display the standard that our SNCOs are expected to live up to in fulfilling their duties and to pay homage to those who paved the way for us today.

Through the experience they have gained on operation the members of the SNCOs are ready to follow in the footsteps of our predecessors, accomplish the mission and make the regiment proud.

MW Gerald Colgan
ARSM



THE HONORARY COLONEL'S REPORT



I suppose that it is fitting that the Editor honoured me by requesting that I write a small piece for the Glengarrarian about Colonel Sean Murray. I have known Col Murray for 32 years as a colleague and over the last six years as a Glen. In both capacities he has exhibited the character traits that have made him a valuable friend of the Regiment. Col Murray's first foray into the realm of the SD&G Highlanders occurred in 2004 when the Unit was looking for a new and challenging location to conduct our winter warfare exercises. He willingly stepped up and offered his property in Denholm, Quebec. Not content to simply offer the land for our use, he threw in a few snowmobiles, a BV206 and his Property Manager, Robin Craig, as GD! From that moment forward, he has proven his generosity to the Unit over and over, be it land use, vehicle support, Senators tickets or funding of the myriad events that go on behind the scenes. Col Murray

has brought much to the table, not the least of which are his business contacts and acumen which will elevate and benefit our Unit for many years to come. Even the Glengarrarian that you are reading right now has its form and professional appearance as a direct result of his leadership and generosity. Whether it was in the field, on the parade square, on the ice with the hockey team or advocating for the Glens at Brigade and higher meetings, his input has resonated for six years. I know that Col Murray will continue to support the Regiment for many years to come; his enthusiasm and innovative ideas will always be an asset to the Glens. Thank you Sean, thank you Sir.

Jim Mills
Major

Dear Glens

Thanks you very much for you wonderful hospitality.

We remain deeply grateful for the role the Glens played in liberating our Country at the end of the World War II.

Wim Geerts
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Col B Shearing, Hon Col S Murray, Col R Duda, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Wim Geerts and Hon Lt Col Brookes



THE BATTLE OF MATILDA

On June 18th, 1812, President James Madison declared war on Britain. Within days of the declaration, Captain Ault's Flank Company of the 1st Regiment of Dundas was mustered and stationed at Mariatown to provide escort duty to the brigades of bateaux travelling along the St. Lawrence River. In 1812, the St. Lawrence River was the main transportation route between Quebec City and Upper Canada. Its strategic importance was recognized by both sides of this war.

On September 16th, 1812, a brigade of bateaux was carrying military stores along the river from Montreal to Kingston. It was being escorted by the Dundas Regiment's No. 1 Flank Company with Captain Ault in command and a detachment of The Royal Newfoundland Regiment (one of Canada's first fighting regiments) under the command of a Major Heathcoate.

After passing Iroquois Point, the bateaux came under fire, when they were attacked by about 500 American militia. A part of Captain Ault's Flank Company under Ensign Clark was ferried across to Presqu'isle Island. They reached the island just as two American vessels filled with troops prepared to land. Ensign Clark's party camouflaged by bushes and trees opened fire on them with sufficient effect that the enemy withdrew to Toussaint's (Toussand's) Island and took shelter there in the woods. In the resulting confusion, one of the small American boats got adrift and was picked up by our militia.

As written in James Croil's "Dundas or a Sketch of Canadian History", members of the 1st Regiment of Dundas assembled in large numbers. Specifically mentioned were Captain Ault, Captain Shaver and Colonel Allan McDonnell. Colonel McDonnell was a veteran of Culloden. Croil wrote: "The news that blood had been drawn, and that too, in their own county, fired the dormant enthusiasm of the old warriors who had served under Sir William Johnson and his son Sir John, in the revolutionary war. Many of them tottering under a load of years, seemed now to renew their youth, at the prospect of meeting the descendents of their ancient foe in combat, and hurrying to the scene were soon foremost in the fight."

The men of the Dundas Regiment were joined by two companies of the 1st Regiment of Grenville under Captains Monroe and Dulmage. Lieutenant R.D. Fraser (future officer commanding Fraser's Provincial Light Dragoons) brought a nine pounder gun from Prescott. This gun had been captured from the French at Chimney Island. The gun's fire was directed into King Peter's Bay.

Well sustained fire from the Canadians compelled the Americans to withdraw to the other side of the river. The Americans experienced considerable loss. Precise numbers are not known. For the Canadian side, they suffered one killed and several wounded.

This was the first of a number of situations for the 1st Dundas Regiment to be called upon to safeguard our area during the War of 1812. On one of the bateaux was Lieutenant James FitzGibbon. He was the officer who received the warning of impending attack by the Americans from Laura Secord.

Ensign Duncan Clark with seven men who participated in the Battle of Matilda would enlist in the Incorporated Militia in 1813. While stationed at Fort Wellington, Clark was the officer who gave the alarm that the Americans were moving down the St. Lawrence River on their attempt to capture Montreal in November 1813. He would later serve at the Battle of Lundy's Lane.

For actions such as the Battle of Matilda, the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders have been awarded the emblazonable battle honour "DEFENCE OF CANADA – 1812 – 1815."

On Sunday, September 16th, 2012, a small ceremony was held overlooking Toussaint's Island to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the battle. The event was under the leadership of Carolyn Goddard and Kim McInnis, members of the Chesterville & Area Historical Society. A small guard made up of Glens and Foot Guards were lead to the ceremonial site by Piper Dwight Grant. Joining Acting Commanding Officer of the SD&G Highlanders, Major Jim Mills were MP Guy Lauzon, MPP



Jim McDonell, South Dundas Mayor Steven Byvelds, Deputy Mayor Jim Locke, Councillors Evonne Delegarde and Jim Graham, and Robert Irvine, Vice President, The Friends of Crysler's Farm Battlefield. Adding more authenticity to the event were re-enactors from the Canadian Fencibles and Grenville Militia. RSM (CWO) Pyle, SD&G Highlanders and Captain John Zaluska, 1st Grenville Militia re-enactors, laid flowers following the piper's lament in honour of those killed and wounded 200 years ago during the engagement. A War of 1812 Bicentennial Prayer was read prior to a moment of silence and the presentation of arms. Members of the Grenville Militia fired three shots across the river in memory of those killed as part of the closing of the ceremony.

Submitted by Bill Shearing

IF WE REST WE RUST.

This small piece is the first in what I hope will be a regular feature of the Glengarrian.

When I first joined the regiment in 1968 I was told by my recruit course instructor that our Regimental motto *Dileas Gubas* was Gaelic for "If we rest we rust." I have since learned, as all of you have, that it actually means "faithful unto death". I must admit the official version sounds more dramatic but the alternate was a good motivator for the young recruits.

I have since adopted it as the unofficial motto for our Regimental Museum. The museum, much like an armored vehicle in a battle, must keep moving forward.

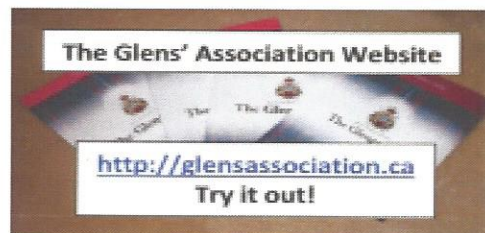
By now you've probably noticed the odd looking vehicle parked on the parade square. It is an M3A1 scout car, an American vehicle used by some WW2 Canadian army units. The Glens were not entitled to one, but our Intelligence Officer Reg Dixon was able to acquire one and used it in the North West Europe campaign. I figured if it was good enough for Reg, it's certainly good enough for us. I was able to speak to a very good friend of the museum

Sources:

- Donald E. Graves, "Field of Glory, The Battle of Crysler's Farm, 1813"
- James Croil, "Dundas or A Sketch of Canadian History"
- J. Smyth Carter, "The Story of Dundas"
- John Graham Harkness, "Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry - A History 1784 - 1945"
- W. Boss & W.J. Patterson. "Up The Glens, Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders, 1783 - 1944"
- Richard Feltoe, "Redcoated Ploughboys, the Incorporate Militia"
- Mike Phiher, "Lifeline, The War of 1812 Along The Upper St. Lawrence River"
- Kim McInnis, "Notes -200th Anniversary, The Battle of Matilda, Toussaint's Island & Preque'isle Island"

who donated this amazing scout car now on display. Feel free to ask your Museum staff if you have any questions about it, or any other artifacts in your Museum.

Leon Chamois
Curator.



MEMBERS OF THE SD&G HIGHLANDERS RECEIVE THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal was struck in 2012 to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the accession of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second to the throne as Queen of Canada. The Diamond Jubilee Medal is a way for Canada to honour her Majesty for her service to the country. At the same time, presentation of the medal honours contributions and achievements made by Canadians. Over the year, 60 000 Canadians have been recognized.

As her Majesty is the head of the Canadian Forces, a number of Diamond Jubilee Medals were awarded to members of the SD&G Highlanders. The medal was presented on October 4th by Honorary Colonel Murray. The following members received the medal for their contribution to the unit and the Canadian Forces.

- Capt Eamer
- MWO Colgan
- WO Taggart
- WO Stang
- Sgt Clement
- Sgt Kirkpatrick
- Sgt Hodgson
- Sgt Sabourin
- MCpl Stoness

Former unit members MCpl MacDonald and MCpl Franklin were also awarded the medal. Finally, Maj Denbeigh received the medal for his work as aide de camp to the Ontario Lt Governor, The Honourable David C. Onley.

Capt Boudreau, Adjutant



Sgt Kirkpatrick receives the Diamond Jubilee Medal from HCol Murray



Maj Denbeigh with his honour the Honourable David C. Onley and her honour Mrs. Ruth Ann Onley

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SD&G HIGHLANDERS PIPES AND DRUM

At the annual Red George Regimental Mess Dinner in February of 2012, the Commanding Officer of the 2403 SD&G Army Cadet Corps approached a member of the Regiment's pipe band and asked if there would be interest in teaching piping lessons to a few of their cadets. Two of their cadets received some piping lessons at summer camp, but had no lessons to attend for the remainder of the year.

Unbeknownst to the local cadet movement, the SD&G Pipe Band was in the process of seeking new members to ensure the long lasting sustainability of the band. With the recent recruitment of two proficient musicians, Sgt Rob McCallum (drumming) and Pte(R) Chris McDonnell (piping), the prerequisites to start a piping and drumming programme for the local cadet movement were ideal.

In the Fall of 2012, the Pipe Band held a meeting with the Commanding Officers of 110 Stormont Sea Cadet Corps and 2403 SD&G Army Cadet Corps to propose a plan to

teach piping and drumming lessons to cadets. The aim of the programme was to promote the highland music traditions by exploiting the benefits of the National Cadet Piping Program at Camp Borden in the summer months, and providing continual year/round lessons at the home unit. After completing their cadet service, musicians would have the option to join the SD&G Pipe Band either as a volunteer or a member of the Reserve force.

The Commanding Officers of both Cadet corps fully supported the programme, and registered a total of 24 cadets in the programme in November of 2012. The level of interest greatly exceeded expectations. Today, 22 cadets remain enrolled in the programme and attend weekly lessons at the Armouries. Due to the outstanding support of the SD&G Highlanders, the two Cadet corps, the volunteer instructors, and the parents of the cadets, the future of the SD&G Pipe Band is in good hands.



This photo is before the Glens went overseas. Any info on this photo would be greatly appreciated. We are asking for help on identifying the band members, as well as, the location of the photo. Please contact Greg Pollard

MOTION TO AMEND GLENS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

A motion to extend the term of office of executive members of the Glens Association be changed from one to two year terms was brought forward during the St Patrick Day's Meeting by Col Masson and seconded by Cam Martel. Future discussion on this topic to follow.

PADRE'S CORNER – A TALE OF TWO CHAPLAINS

by Rev. Andrea Harrison,
Chaplain for the SDE&G Highlanders, and
Minister at St. Andrew's United Church, Williamstown

On February 22nd, 1813, when Lt Col (Red George) Macdonell, of the Glengarry Light Infantry, led troops across the St Lawrence from Prescott to Ogdensburg, they were accompanied by two chaplains, Bishop Alexander Macdonell and Rev. John Bethune.

As the troops advanced across the ice from Prescott, in full view of the enemy, a Presbyterian Minister [Bethune], Bible in hand, marched on one flank, and the Priest [Macdonell] on the other, holding aloft the Cross.¹

Rev. Macdonell, then Vicar-General of Upper Canada, and known as the "Warrior Bishop" lived in the Parish of St. Raphaels, in Glengarry. Just to the south of him, in the settlement of Williamstown, lived his colleague Rev. Bethune. Both were battle-hardened chaplains.

Rev. Bethune emigrated to North Carolina from Scotland in 1773, and was recruited as chaplain to the 1st battalion of the Royal Highland Emigrants, later known as the 84th Highlanders Regiment. He was wounded and captured at Moore's Creek Bridge - the first skirmish in the American Revolutionary War. He was held as prisoner of war in Philadelphia, and upon release traveled north to Nova Scotia, where he served with the 2nd battalion and assisted with recruitment amongst Scottish Highlanders.²

By August 1779 he had moved to Montreal to take up his appointment as chaplain to the 1st battalion of his regiment. There he performed his regular duties as chaplain, administering the ordinances of marriage and baptism for military personnel of the 84th and other regiments. From 1783 until the disbanding of the 84th in the following year, Bethune was stationed at the garrison on Carleton Island (N.Y.). On demobilization, he spent a year at Fort Oswegatchie (Ogdensburg, N.Y.) before returning to Montreal in 1786.³

In 1787, Rev. Bethune moved, with other Scottish Immigrants/Loyalists, to Williamstown, where he founded St. Andrew's Church (formerly Presbyterian and now United) - where I now serve. Padre Bethune was 61 years of age when he crossed the St. Lawrence with his troops.

Rev. Alexander Macdonell was 49 years of age when he marched across the river. A legend, whose authority rests with Sir John A. Macdonald is recounted as follows:

"... one of the men showed a disposition to fall to the rear; he was observed by the Catholic Padre, who sternly ordered him to resume his place. After a second warning, as the man still hung back, the Chaplain, who had the powers of a Vicar General, halted and excommunicated him on the spot. 'It would have been better,' added Sir John, 'for the man to have faced the Yankees than the wrath of Maighster Alastair.'"⁴

Bishop Macdonell, apparently, after returning to Prescott, "found a wounded Canadian lying in an inn kept by a man of doubtful loyalty."

The Chaplain saw that the man was as much in need of stimulants as of priestly counsel and went at once in



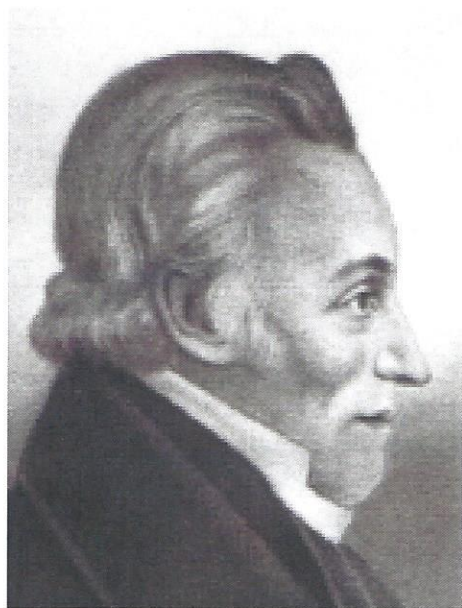
Bishop Alexander Macdonell
(1762-1840)



search of some brandy. Excuses of various kinds were made by the woman of the house; her husband was absent and had the keys and so on. The Chaplain told her he would take no denial and that if she did not procure the brandy forthwith he would have it in short order. She still demurred, whereupon he walked to the taproom door and with one kick lifted it off its hinges, and not only the wounded man, but all others of His Majesty's liege subjects, had all the brandy they required after their hard day's fighting."

This was not Bishop Macdonell's first experience in battle.

Born at Fort Augustus in Glengarry, Scotland, Rev Macdonell was successful in persuading the British Government to establish a Catholic corps, the Glengarry Regiment, and he was their chaplain. They were initially stationed in Guernsey, where Macdonell met Isaac Brock.⁵ They went to battle in Ireland during the 1798 United Irish Rebellion. At the Battle of Vinegar Hill, "the Chaplain, upon this and all other occasions, accompanied the regiment to the field with the view of preventing the men from plundering or committing any act of cruelty upon the country people."⁶



The Rev. John Bethune
(1787-1815)

The Catholic chapels in many of those parts had been turned into stables for the yeomanry cavalry, but the Chaplain, when he came, caused them to be cleaned out and restored to their proper use. He also invited the terrified inhabitants and clergy to resume their accustomed worship, and laboured not in vain to restore tranquility and peace to the people, persuading them that if they behaved quietly and peacefully the Government would protect Catholics as well as Protestants, and impressing upon their minds that the Government having entrusted arms to the hands of the Glengarry Highlanders, who were Roman Catholics, was a proof that it was not inimical to them on account of their religion. These exhortations, together with the restoration of divine service in the chapels, the strict discipline enforced by Colonel Macdonell, and the repression of the licentiousness of the yeomanry, served in a great measure to restore confidence to the people, to allay feelings of dissatisfaction and to extinguish the embers of rebellion wherever the Glengarry Regiment served.⁷

Rev Macdonell's work was noticed beyond the battle lines, and General Brock would remember this chaplain when the War of 1812 was arising.⁸

As we remember the Battle of Ogdensburg, it is fitting that we remember both of these fine chaplains.

Sources:

¹LCol Boss and BGen Patterson, *Up the Glens: Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders 1783-1994* (Cornwall: The Old Book Store, 1995).

²Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online, <http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?BioId=36388>

³Ibid

⁴LCol Boss and BGen Patterson, *Up the Glens: Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders 1783-1994* (Cornwall: The Old Book Store, 1995).

⁵Conversation with Williamstown historian, David Anderson, 21 Feb, 2013.

⁶A Sketch of the Life of the Hon. and Right Reverend Alexander MacDonell - Raising of the Glengarry Fencible, or British Highland Regiment; <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/macdonell/chapter2.htm>

⁷LCol Boss and BGen Patterson, *Up the Glens: Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders 1783-1994* (Cornwall: The Old Book Store, 1995).

⁸Conversation with Williamstown historian, David Anderson, 21 Feb, 2013.

STORMONT, DUNDAS & GLENGARRY HIGHLANDERS GLENS ASSOCIATION REPORT ON THE 2012 ANNUAL REUNION

The 65th Annual Glens Reunion was held on the weekend of June 8th and 9th at the Cornwall Armoury. Following a long-held tradition established by the 1st Battalion, the reunion was scheduled for the weekend closest to D-Day.

The first Glens Reunion took place back in 1948. There were more than 500 Veterans of the 1st Battalion in attendance. Back then, the 1st Battalion organized their own reunions, alternating the location between Cornwall, Peterborough, Kingston and Brockville. As the decades passed and the numbers of veterans decreased, it became increasingly difficult to organize reunions in the four locations. Since 2005, all reunions have been held at the Cornwall Armoury. A few years later, the 1st Battalion Association ceased operations, and the task of organizing the Reunions was taken on by the Glens Association. This continues today, made possible by many volunteers, by the availability of the armoury, and by the assistance provided by the regiment and by its members.

It is safe to say that the 2012 Glens Reunion was a great success. This year required a considerably greater amount of time and work to pull together than in past years. Much of this additional work load was for the planning and organization of ceremonies related to the presentations of the Leesten (Netherlands) street signs.

For anyone not familiar with Leesten, and the background of the street signs, here is a quick overview. In 1945 there were 11 Glens killed in battle in the Leesten area of the Netherlands. In the years following the war, Leesten became a part of the larger municipality of Zutphen. A few years ago, the municipality began construction of a residential development in the area where the battle had taken place. The town leaders decided to name 10 streets and a bridge after the 11 Glens killed in Leesten. At that time, a ceremony was organized, and duplicates of the street signs were presented to the families of the fallen Glens. In 2011, Zutphen replaced all of the street signs with a new design. The new design signs show additional information about the soldiers that the streets were named after. At the same time, they sent a complete set of the new design signs to Glens CO, LCol Duda, with a request that they be presented to the families. In discussion with the Glens Association, it was decided that the Association would take on the task, and would incorporate the sign presentations into the 2012 Glens Reunion.

The reunion organizing committee was expanded to form a few new sub-committees, expressly for the street sign presentations. A fund-raising drive to provide hotel accommodations and reunion dinners for the family members was very successful. Contributions were received from the United Counties of SD&G, legion branches in Morrisburg, Long Sault, Lancaster and Cornwall, the Regimental Foundation, and many individual members of the Glens Association.

Invitations were sent to all of the families of the Glens killed in Leesten. Five of those eleven families (a total of 17 people) were able to come to Cornwall for the Reunion Weekend, and to receive their signs.

The Glens Association was also successful in inviting the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to attend the presentation ceremony. His Excellency, Ambassador Wim Geerts, accepted the invitation to attend the Glens Reunion and to make the presentations of the street signs on behalf of the people of the Netherlands.



Back to the Glens Reunion...

Friday evening was the usual casual get-together, held in the Wos and Sgts' Mess. Attendance was good, and lot of stories were recounted, friendships rekindled, and a few refreshments enjoyed. On more than one occasion, glasses were raised and the Battle Cry, "Up the Glens" could be heard. Snacks were enjoyed throughout the evening, especially that nice, fresh St. Albert's cheese.

By noon on Saturday, things started to happen. The Wos and Sgts' Mess opened for check-in and a continuation of the previous evening. The Regimental Museum was open, and there were numerous displays on the Parade Square. Thanks to Leon Chamois, his wife Isabel, and son David for all their (ongoing) time and effort involved in the museum. More to come later about Leon's newest toy, a WWII vintage White scout car...

Early in the afternoon was the Glens Association Annual General Meeting. Congratulations to returned President Ron Coughlan and to new Vice-President Bill Shearing. All other executive positions also remained the same for another year. Thank you to Cam Martel for handling the election procedures and duties.

Following the Glens Association meeting, Ambassador Geerts arrived. He was given a tour of the Armoury, and then taken to a reception in his honour, upstairs in the Officer's Mess. Here, Ambassador Geerts

was introduced to the family members of those killed in Leesten.

At 5:00pm, the Memorial Service began, hosted by Glens Padre, Rev. Captain Andrea Harrison. The names of all Glens killed during and since WWII were read out by six current members of the Regiment: Cpl D. Boulanger, Cpl S. Coughlan, Sgt M. Sabourin, MCpl M. Novy, Cpl J. Lefrance, and Cpl M. McDonell. The reading of the names of the fallen comrades was accompanied by Greg Pollard's slide show, showing background information and photographs of the Fallen Glens.

After the Memorial Service, a special presentation was made to Glens Cpl Eric Monnin MMV, an Afghanistan Veteran. Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Bob Brooks introduced Cpl Monnin to the audience and described the actions taken by him on July 19th, 2010 to provide medical assistance in the field to his Warrant Officer, who had been wounded during an ambush. It was for this act of heroism that Cpl Monnin was awarded the Medal of Military Valour (MMV). The award was also presented by Governor General David Johnston at Rideau Hall on June 22nd. Congratulations and thanks to Cpl Monnin were expressed by all in attendance with a standing ovation.

The Leesten Street Sign Presentations were then made by His Excellency Wim Geerts and Glens Honourary Colonel Sean Murray, with assistance from Greg Pollard and Ray Poitras. Five of the signs were presented directly to the families. The remaining signs were presented to WWII Veterans, several of whom were there in or near Leestenon those days in 1945. As per the wishes of the families, some of the street signs will be staying with the Armoury and will be displayed permanently in the Regimental Museum.

Thanks to LCol (ret'd) Roy Clarke for taking on the task of contacting the families and getting them here for the presentation. Thanks to Glens Association President Ron Coughlan and LCol (ret'd) Bill Shearing for a very ▷

successful fund-raising drive. Thanks to Greg Pollard and Ray Poitras for all their efforts in setting up and assisting with the street sign presentations. Greg even made the bases for the signs, and still managed to set up his own, always interesting, displays. Thanks to Rev. Capt Andrea Harrison and the 6 current members for their participation in the Memorial Service. Thanks to LCol (ret'd) Bill Shearing for being the MC for the ceremonies. Thanks to Perry Coughlan for taking on the computer and coordinating all of Greg's slides to the reading of the names of the fallen Glens. Thanks and apologies to anyone else that I have missed for recognition... so far.

The formal Reunion Dinner began at 7:00pm. We seated 150 people for the dinner, by far the largest attendance in recent years.

Veterans at the dinner: There were six Glens 1st Battalion WWII Veterans: Bruce Chisolm (Montreal), Walter Solly (Cornwall), John Stevens (Woodstock), Joe Sullivan (Peterborough), Harry Towes (Montreal), and Bill Whiteacre (Toronto).

Other WWII Veterans included: Signals Corp Veteran Lorne Warden (Cornwall), Sherbrooke Fusiliers Veteran Ervin Clement (Cornwall), and Navy Veteran Calvin Scott (Cornwall).

There were also a number of Glens Veterans at the dinner from post WWII conflicts: LCol (ret'd) R. Clarke (Afghanistan & Golan), MWO G. Colgan (Afghanistan), LCol R. Duda (Afghanistan), 2Lt M. Eamer (Cyprus), Major J. Mills (Bosnia & Sudan), Cpl E. Monnin MMV (Afghanistan), WO L. Quennville (Afghanistan & Sudan), Sgt P. Redmond (Bosnia & Macedonia), WO Taggart (Cyprus, Afghanistan, Croatia, Rowanda, Kosowo).

The Dinner was served in a buffet format. The excellent dinner was provided by Prestige Catering and Owner/Chef Gilles Lefebvre. The service provided by the Prestige crew was also excellent. Thanks to the MC for the dinner, 2Lt Matt Eamer and to all those presenting toasts.

The mood music during and after the dinner was provided by DJ "Georgie", with a good supply of tunes from the war years.

During dessert and coffee, a rousing round of entertainment was provided by our own pipes and drums band, with 15 members in attendance. Thanks to Pipe Major Steve McDougald and Drum Major Perry Coughlan for organizing this much anticipated and appreciated part of the evening.

Following the dinner, and a bit of time to relax, everyone was piped outside the front doors of the Armoury to watch the Sunset Flag-Lowering Ceremony. Thanks to CWO Grant Pyle for organizing this ceremony, and for all the other things that he and his people played a part in, behind the scenes.

At his point, the reunion functions were complete. It was time to sit and relax, visit, enjoy a quiet drink, or even have a dance to the sounds of Glenn Miller. As the evening went on, people gradually wandered off, ending a very busy day. Many pleasant comments were made about looking forward to coming back in 2013...



Some well-deserved thanks: To Ron and Juliette Coughlan, and Annette Fontaine for operating the kit shop; to Perry and Peter Coughlan for somehow finding time to handle Glens Associations dues renewals and issue new membership cards; to Sgt Pat Redmond and his crew for the furniture set-ups; to Johan Stevens for being the official Reunion Photographer; to 2Lt Helena Schaefer-Stevens for producing the Table Menus, the Battle Honour cards, and generally putting up with all of our annoying requests. To LCol (ret'd) Bill Shearing for handling the Reunion publicity and for producing all of the name tags and guest seating cards. To the Glens Commanding Officer, LCol Rob Duda for all the assistance provided and by various members of the Regiment. A special thanks goes out to Joy Clement. In addition to being the Glens Association secretary and Wos and Sgts' Mess bartender, Joy selected and picked up the wines for the dinner, and picked up and prepared all of the snacks for Friday night and Saturday.

We pulled another one off! Thank you to the committee of workaholics for a job well done: to co-chairmen Ron Coughlan and Greg Pollard, to Regiment Representative, CWO Grant Pyle CD, to publicity coordinator LCol (ret'd) Bill Shearing, to Regimental Museum Curator Leon Chamois, and to Treasurer & Drum Major Perry Coughlan.

But, most of all, a big **"THANK YOU"** to everyone attending the 2012 Glens Reunion. This is **YOUR REUNION**. Without **YOUR** participation, there can be **NO REUNIONS**.

I have one closing request... for next year, and for future years, PLEASE make an effort to get others out for the reunions. In particular, it would be great to see more of the current members and "Young Veterans" of the Regiment attending future Glens Reunions.

Up the Glens

Tim Gault,

Reunion Coordinator

July 10th, 2012

FALLEN COMRADES



Lawrence "Loren" Warden
Charles E Thibault
Douglas H Melancon
Donald R Nicholas
Robert C Carter
Alfred Link

Percy H Froats
Reverend Cleary Villeneuve S.F.M
George E Hanson
Leroy Moore "Roy" Leach
Eric J Robillard

LEST WE FORGET

"GLENS TOUR 2012 – FROM D-DAY TO V.E. DAY"

TOUR SUMMARY

The latest Glens Tour departed from Cornwall on September 6th, and returned home on September 19th. The tour was organized by Tim Gault, Bill Shearing, and Roy Clarke. The logistics for the tour were arranged by Jolly Tours & Travel of Cornwall, Carol MacAleese, co-owner Jolly Tours escorted the group. There were 39 tour participants, including 4 WWII Veterans: Glens 1st Bn Veteran Harry Towes, Sherbrooke Fusiliers Veteran Ervin Clement, RCAF Veteran Larry Welch, and REME Veteran Ralph Moyer. Also on the roster was Glens CO, LCol Rob Duda, and retired Glens LCol's Bill Shearing and Roy Clarke. The Padre duties were handled by Rev. Lorna Casselman. Piper for the tour was Thomas Smith, from Ottawa.

The tour left the Cornwall Armoury on September 6th by highway coach, to Pierre Elliot Trudeau Airport in Montreal. Air France Flight AF345 departed Friday evening and arrived at Charles DeGaulle Airport in Paris on Saturday morning (7 hour flight + 6 hour time difference). There was a 2-3 hour coach ride from Paris to the Normandy area of north-west France and the city of Caen, home base for the first 4 nights of the tour was the Ibis Hotel, Caen Centre, Port de Plaisance.

At Caen, we met up with Dr. Jean-Pierre Benamou, OBE, MSM, MT, long time historian, Friend of the Glens, Honorary member of the Glens 1st Bn, and President of the D-Day Normandy Academy. He spent the next three days directing the tour to many of the monuments, cemeteries, receptions, and places of significance to the Glens. Locations such as Bernieres-sur-Mer, the Juno Beach Centre, Hells Corner, Urville, Magny-sur-Dives, the Abbaye d'Ardennes, and Canadian War Cemeteries at Beny-sur-Mer and Bretteville-sur-Laize. As always, Jean-Pierre's ongoing narration was incredible and much enjoyed by everyone, as was the afternoon spent experiencing much of his collection of artifacts and vehicles. Rides in the half-track and Dukw were awesome. That evening, the tour hosted a dinner at the Ibis hotel for our "Friends of the Glens" in France.

Leaving Caen, the tour destination for the next 3 nights was the Best Western Richmond Hotel in Blankenberge, Belgium. En route were several stops of significance to the Glens, including Boulogne, Outreau, Dieppe, and the Calais Canadian War Cemetery.

The first day in Blankenberge was a WWI day. The tour crossed back into France to visit the Vimy Monument and tunnels under Vimy Ridge, then back into Belgium to Ypres and the Menin Gate.

The day the tour arrived in Blankenberge we were met at the hotel by Fred Jones. Fred is another long-time historian, friend of the Glens, Honorary member of the 1st Bn, and owner of the "For Freedom" Museum at Knokke-Heist. The second day in Blankenberge included visits to the Glens Monument at Knokke, the Adagem Canadian War Cemetery, and then to Fred's Museum. The "For Freedom" Museum exhibits many Glens items, and in a unique and impressive format. During a reception at the museum, the group also met Fred's mother Georgette and brother Danny. The group was free to explore and shop in the beautiful city of Brugges in the afternoon. On the way back to Blankenberge, the supper stop was in the city of Ghent. Most of the group enjoyed an after-dinner drink or two at the "Glengarry Pub".

Next morning the tour left Blankenberge, heading into the Netherlands. Destination for the next 2 nights was the Mercure Hotel in Nijmegen. En route were stops at Breskens, Hoofdplaat and the landing dike on the Scheldt. On the way into Nijmegen was a visit to the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.

The Glens guarded the bridge over the River Waal at Nijmegen in 1945. It was here that they blew up a German "Biber" mini-sub, and gained the distinction of being the only Infantry Unit to ever sink a submarine.

That first night, the tour hosted our "Friends of the Glens" in the Netherlands for a visit and dinner at our hotel. The group got to meet our Dutch "Friends of the



Glens", Harm Kuijper (and wife Nina), Harold Kip, and Wigger VanderHorst (and wife Lenie).

The next day, the tour started out at the Glens Monument at Warnsveld. A short distance away is the neighborhood of Leesten, where 10 streets and a bridge are named in honour of the 11 Glens killed there in 1945. Lunch was a special treat, at the seniors complex where Harm works. Harm showed a Glens video that he produced, and the group got to interact with some of the residents. Our piper, Thomas Smith serenaded Harm's mother, a resident of the complex, from below her balcony. She was thrilled. The afternoon was spent visiting the Holten Canadian War Cemetery, before returning to Nijmegen, then dinner at the hotel.

Leaving Nijmegen, the tour passed through the town of Leer, Germany, where the Glens crossed the Ems River from north-west Holland; then on to the Emden, where the Glens were on May 8th, 1945, when Germany surrendered, ending WWII. Returning to the Netherlands, the group stopped for the night at the Mercure Hotel in Groningen.

From this point, the Glens functions were completed, and members of the tour became "tourists". A short stop was made at Leeuwarden, then across the Ijsseldijk which

separates the salt-water North Sea from the (now) fresh-water Ijsselmeer. This is a major land reclamation (polder) project in the northern part of the Netherlands. Arrival in Amsterdam was shortly after noon. Hotel for the next 2 nights was the Ibis Amsterdam. Location was adjacent to the Central Railway Station, and overlooking the Canal Tour Boat docks, in the centre of the city. The afternoon was free to explore or to relax. Dinner was at the hotel.

Last full day in Europe started off with a step-on guide and a coach tour of Amsterdam, the remainder of the day was free.

Late in the morning of September 19th, the group arrived at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. KLM Flight 671 departed late afternoon, and arrived back in Canada in the early evening (same day... 6 hour time difference / 7 hour flight). A coach trip back to Cornwall and early to bed for all.

A "Photo Swap" afternoon was held in the Officer's Mess on November 4th. General consensus was that "A Good Time Was Had By All."

UP THE GLENS

Tim Gault,
Glens Tour Coordinator,
November 17th, 2012

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