

## The Raven & The Rock

## The Glens' Association Newsletter—August 2020

## **OUR ASSOCIATION**

Our Association's beginnings had a great role model in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Association with an executive organization, newsletters, and annual reunions on the weekend closest to the anniversary of D-Day in the four founding cities of the Battalion. Close to five hundred were at the first reunion in 1946 just months after returning from Europe. The reunions alternated between the Peterborough, Kingston, Brockville, and Cornwall until 2005 when their remaining reunions were held at the Cornwall Armoury.

That is when we became involved in reunions. Our Glens' Association under the guidance of our Association's patriarch John Angus McDonald started by assisting the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. A few of our Association members have had the honour of participating in 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion reunions. Two and a half day events with meet and greets, meetings, dinners, and church parades for a service of remembrance. Members who were suffering from health problems attended as long as possible. Wives and children would be with them.

Our Association is the result of a recommendation by Lieutenant Colonel Robert (Bob) Brooks while serving as Commanding Officer. Before coming to The Glens, Bob was commanding officer of the Royal Montreal Regiment. He served as our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel and was serving as Honorary Colonel at the time of his tragic death in July 2013. Thanks to Bob, our Association was formed in 1992. Since then, it has been lead by dedicated members.

Our Glens' Association was created with the well-being of our Regimental Family in mind and its wish to support its serving members and former members. Following the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion's example, annual reunions were scheduled with the meet and greet, an annual meeting, dinner, and service of remembrance. Our reunions now cover only one and half days. The Service of Remembrance is held after the annual meeting. Originally, the reunions were scheduled in June like the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Association but were changed to May in hopes of more Unit participation.

Our Association also saw another role in promoting the Regiment throughout the surrounding communities by events in the Armoury and within the United Counties. In promoting the Regiment, "Open Houses", "Living History Days", and related book launches have been held. The Association has supported two visits of students from Caen, Normandy. A few members join in the remembrance of The Battle of Crysler's Farm on each November 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. This local battle is one of our Regiment's War of 1812 battle honours. This remembrance event was initiated by three members of the Association in 2005 and has carried on despite the weather on the mound. The last initiative of the Association was sponsoring an annual Regimental Family Levée.

We have never faced a challenge like Covid-19. When we can return to our reasons for being is uncertain. But if we follow our Regimental motto (Dileas Gu Bas – Faithful Until Death) as members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Association did, we will carryon when permitted.



The Brooks Family grave on
The Bishop's Parade Ground
at the Historic Parish of St. Raphael's.

Bob was committed
to The Glens.

We thank him for
The Glens' Association.

Once a Glen, always a Glen!



## Up The Glens!