



The Raven & The Rock

The Glens' Association Newsletter—September 2022

REMEMBERING OUR COLONEL-IN-CHIEF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Memories from our Last Honorary Colonel – Jim Brownell

The passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II on September 8, 2022, rekindled fond memories of an audience I had with her at Buckingham Palace on June 26, 2018.

With Her Majesty being the Colonel-in-Chief of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders since November 11, 2013, a delegation had been invited to the Palace for an audience with the Queen. The audience was to include a report on the Regiment by the Commanding Officer and the presentation of a gift and updated book on the Regiment's 150 year history.

Over the course of several months, Andre Pommier of Pommier Jewellers in Cornwall designed and crafted a beautiful brooch, made exclusively with gold, silver, diamonds and precious stones from Canada. The brooch was fashioned in the design of the cap badge worn by The Glens.

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel John Denner, Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Christopher French, and I flew into London on June 25th, with the audience planned for noon on June 26th.

It is fair to say that we were a slight bit nervous when we arrived at the Palace, but all nervousness disappeared when greeted at the door to a very ornate parlour by the Queen. She greeted and welcomed each of us by name and invited us to join her at chairs and a sofa in the room.

Her Majesty embarked on a short conversation with each of us, with her charm and quick wit being very evident. To say the least, I can say that we were in awe of her interest and intelligence regarding the themes that unfolded in our chats. The Queen then invited us over to the presentation table where the brooch and regimental history book were on display. She was truly interested in the design of the brooch. Upon putting it back in the presentation box, she concluded with the words, "It's beautiful!"

It was an eighteen minute audience. With a chin bow and handshake, our audience concluded. As we made our way to the corridor, we noticed one of Her Majesty's corgis curled up in a corner.

To say the least, this audience and presentation were magical moments, and we felt so blessed to be in the presence of Her Majesty. Her graciousness, charm, and curiosity truly spoke to the pledge she took more than 70 years ago, a pledge that matched the Regiment's motto "Dileas Gu Bas" - Faithful Unto Death.

Service at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, Monday, October 19, 2022

Veterans Affairs Canada requested that the Glens' Association nominate a former member to attend the service in Ottawa. LCol (Retired) Rob Duda represented our Association.

Unit Participation in Memorial Services

The CO and four members were part of the 80 member Canadian contingent in London, England. See the Unit's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SDGHighlanders.

Lt Justin Towndale and three members participated in the ceremonies in Ottawa.



HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II
Colonel-in-Chief, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders



The Queen's Brooch

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Up The Glens
Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry
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Glens' Association Website—<http://www.glensassociation.ca>