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Volume 60 Issue 18



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September 23, 2021

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Canines join Terry Fox Run participants Page 6



Master Tailor prepares soldiers for UK Page 8



2PPCLI CO LCol Jesse Van Eijk was part of the notification team which met with LCpl Morgan Jenkins' next of kin in Regina, Sask., last month.
Photo Padre Capt Sean Smallwood

Once a Patricia, always a Patricia
Long-buried soldier identified as LCpl Jenkins

2PPCLI
Stag Special

In May 2019, the Directorate of History and Heritage (DHH) received a report from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission detailing the potential identification of Grave 12, Row A, Plot 5 in the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery, in Haucourt, France.

Extensive research undertaken by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the DHH concluded this grave could only be that of LCpl Morgan Jones Jenkins, as no other candidate matched the details.

Historical research was conducted using numerous archival sources, including war diaries, service records, casualty registers and grave exhumation.

In November 2019, the Casualty Identification Program's Casualty Identification Review Board, which includes members from DHH, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and representatives from the Canadian Forces Forensic Odontology Response Team and the Canadian Museum of History, confirmed the identification of LCpl Jenkins of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI).

When LCpl Jenkins fell in action during the fighting at Jigsaw Wood

on Aug. 28, 1918, near Haucourt, France, no one could have imagined his family would receive an official notification 103 years later to the day.

The original plan was to make a public announcement in the spring of 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 environment, the announcement and the rededication ceremony of LCpl Jenkins' headstone were postponed.

The notification finally took place Aug. 28 in Regina, Sask., and a headstone rededication ceremony will take place at the earliest opportunity in France at the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery.

With no known grave until now, LCpl Jenkins was listed on the Vimy Memorial in Pas de Calais, France.

LCpl Jenkins enlisted for the Great War on July 8, 1915, in Saskatoon before joining the 3rd University Company of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), based out of McGill University. He joined PPCLI in the field on Jan. 21, 1916 and was wounded in battle on May 4.

He was first declared missing on Aug. 28, 1918, and declared Killed In Action (KIA) on the same day. Born on May 14, 1888 in Llantwit Vardre, Pontyprid, Wales, to Elizabeth and Rev John Jenkins, he was 30 when he was killed.

See **SOLDIER'S** page 5



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The Shilo Stag is produced every second Thursday.

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday prior to the week of publication. Submissions can be sent to the Stag via email at stag@mymts.net, dropped off at the Stag office located in CANEX or via Inter-base mail.

Submitting articles and photos for print:

- Please submit articles as a MS Word Document.
- Include the author's full name, rank, unit and contact information.
- Include photos with your articles whenever possible, however, do not embed photos in word documents.
- Please submit photos as high resolution jpegs (if scanned 300 dpi), digital images or in hard copy format.
- With photos, include a cutline which names the individuals in the photo; what's taking place; and the name, rank, and unit of the photographer.

• • •

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Facebook by visiting:<http://www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG>

Platoon chief garners community award

Stag Special

It was no surprise when a CFB Shilo EMS platoon chief garnered the Marguerite Cory volunteerism award during a recent Wawanesa Community Foundation annual grants and community awards barbecue.

Besides being Wawanesa's fire chief, Dennis Gullet is also the community's EMO co-ordinator for flood emergencies.

Wawanesa Community Foundation Inc chair Glenn McGregor paid tribute to all of Wawanesa's volunteers, who keep the community vibrant and close-knit.

"Our nominee this year will come as no surprise," he said. "This family has an unmatched commitment to doing good for our community. Unmatched work ethic and great ability to rally volunteers ... spearheading our beautiful new waterpark, upgrading our community camping facilities, installing a great new playground and ball diamond improvements."

He added, "Dennis, with his family often by his side, leads from the front. The entire family is often involved with cleaning the fire hall and equipment, riding shotgun into any and every community cause. I couldn't be more proud to present this award."

The Marguerite Cory volunteerism award is presented annually, the recipient selected by a community panel from submitted nominations, recognizing outstanding contributions to the community located south of CFB Shilo on Hwy 340.



DENNIS GULLET

Cory, who died in late 2018, was a tireless and dedicated volunteer in many aspects of the Oakland-Wawanesa community, uniting rural and village in many common community causes. Cory exemplified the selfless community giving which the spirit of this award recognizes.

Shaun Cory, Marguerite's son, assisted in the presentation of the volunteerism award to Gullet.

"As mentioned, all of Dennis' family are often engaged right beside him. Not only volunteering their time, but also with the many sacrifices the family makes to share their father with the community," said McGregor.

"We are so fortunate to have this type of deep family commitment to improving our community. Although they would never seek this recognition, there is no more deserving family than the Dennis and Tanya Gullett family."

According to McGregor, volunteerism is alive and well in Wawanesa and was the main theme of the awards barbecue which recognized the community's dedicated volunteer emergency services personnel.

Their dedication, commitment and professionalism is absolutely top shelf — no better around. Wawanesa is so fortunate to have these individuals calling the community home.

During this event, all volunteer ambulance attendants and volunteer firefighters were asked to stand as the crowd showed their deep appreciation with much respect for our emergency services volunteers.

Nursing mothers have space at work

Lori Truscott Stag Special

Returning to work after having a child is a challenging transition, but for those mothers who are also nursing those challenges are compounded.

But things have just been made a little easier at CFB Shilo with the establishment of a nursing room at Base headquarters.

Published this past July, CANFORGEN 116/21 laid out recommendations for what is now required to ensure members of the Defence Team who are nursing their children are supported.

Washroom facilities are not appropriate spaces for a mother to nurse a child. A designated lactation room needs to be sanitary and private and should include a number of things such as a comfortable chair with arms, a locking door, and close proximity to a sink to wash hands and pumping pieces.

According to the CANFORGEN, pumping and or nursing is a protected right and the directive is intended as an interim measure until further changes towards inclusive practice of pre- and post-natal care are made.

Stigma and fear can sometimes make members reluctant to identify the need to pump or nurse, which is why commanding officers shall have a lactation plan in place and identify a minimum of one lactation room per 400 personnel in order to support their members.

Commanding officers shall consider potential secondary spaces for future use.



2Lt Amanda Chmelyk inspects the refrigerator in the recently opened lactation room at Base headquarters. One of the requirements for these rooms is that mothers who are pumping must be able to store their breast milk safely. *Photo submitted*

"This is our starting point," said Base COS Maj Scott Youngson. "We know the room will need improvement to make it more comfortable and those [improvements] will come as we get user input."

In fact, the room will be receiving new flooring and paint right away. A few other items, like reading material and softer lighting, will also be added.

For now, the room is functional.

2Lt Amanda Chmelyk assisted in setting up the space. She hopes it will permit nursing mothers to return to work with one less worry.

"Returning to work after having a baby is stressful enough," she said. "Hopefully, this space will allow a mother to continue to nurse and provide for their child without the stress of figuring out how to do that."

For now, access to the room can be arranged through Base Duty Sgt Sean Cawdell at Base headquarters.

Lori Truscott/Shilo Public Affairs

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Reinvigorated Shilo DAG looking for volunteers

Maj Scott Youngson
Stag Special

CFB Shilo is committed to creating a respectful, inclusive and supportive environment for all members of our Defence Team.

This fall, we will be reinvigorating the Shilo Defence Advisory Group (DAG) committee. Our combined committee is comprised of five specific DAGS: Defence Aboriginal Advisory Group (DAAG); Defence Visible Minorities Advisory Group (DV-MAG); Defence Women's Advisory Organization (DWAO); Defence Advisory Group for Persons with Disabilities (DAGPWD); and Defence Team Pride Advisory Organization (DTPAO).

Each group requires volunteers as military and civilian co-chairs who will participate in the Shilo DAG committee meetings.

As a co-chair of one of these groups, the time commitment amounts to about two hours per month.

While the DWAO currently has both co-chairs identified, we are looking for volunteers for the remaining groups.

In order to create a welcoming and fair work environment for all our members, five specific Defence Advisory Groups (DAGs) have been created to provide unfettered advice and grass roots insight to DND and the CAF leadership on issues relevant to their respective designated group on the implementation of Employment Equity (EE).

We are committed to achieving equality in the workplace so that no person shall be denied equal employment opportunities or benefits for reasons unrelated to ability.

The role of DAGs are to affect or assist in:

- Policy development on issues related to recruitment, retention, promotion and training; and
- Employment equity initiatives and identification of systemic barriers.

On military Bases/Wings where there are limited numbers — such as CFB Shilo — to support individual DAGs, it is encouraged that members combine their resources to encompass all five groups into one and to address issues collectively.

At CFB Shilo, we will endeavour to have as many individual groups under the CFB Shilo (combined) DAG as possible.

All military members and civilian employees may participate in any of the DAGs and should contact a co-chair for more information on participating.

With a renewed interest, the single CFB Shilo (combined) DAG which currently encompasses all five DAGs will evolve into separate DAGs over time, as increasing numbers warrant.

How do I participate?

Your contribution is important and can be helpful in any number of ways depending upon your interests and time availability.

Volunteer assistance with any of the following areas would be greatly appreciated as we work together to create a useful and viable advisory forum: Advisory processes; event planning and organizing; and general participation.

How much time will volunteering take from my work?

As in any volunteer organization, your time commitment can and will vary. Therefore, volunteers do as much as they can to comfortably contribute.

The energy and efforts of many will reduce the commitment of each individual. For most DAG members the time commitment amounts to two hours per month.

Supervisors are expected to allocate a reasonable amount of time to their employees to attend the meetings of the DAGs. This was emphasized in joint DM/CDS letters signed in January 2007 and November 2016.

To volunteer, contact either of the Shilo Defence Advisory Group co-chairs via e-mail: Maj Scott Youngson at scott.youngson@forces.gc.ca or Silvia Ukleja at ukleja.silvia@cfmws.com



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Running virtual

1RCHA had ideal weather conditions taking part in the virtual Army Run.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

Former 1RCHA CO receives CDS commendation

Shilo Stag

A former 1RCHA CO has been recognized by the Commander of Military Personnel Command.

LCol Ryan Stimpson was one of 18 military members to receive a CDS commendation.

Currently the G3 with 3 Div at Garrison Edmonton after passing on command of 1RCHA to LCol David Brassard, LCol Stimpson received his commendation “for exceptional resolve and leadership” when deployed as commander of the Canadian Joint Task Force (JTF) in Yavoriv, Ukraine from April to October 2020.

He was joined by other CAF members who received the Meritorious Service Cross or Meritorious Service Medal for their actions in Canada or on deployment around the world.

Other CAF members to receive the CDS commendation included:

- MWO Jason Rennie “for remarkable ability to bring people together during a global pandemic” while deployed



LCol Ryan Stimpson

to Ukraine as the MP training group Sergeant-Major from September 2020 to March 2021.

- Now WO Andrew Tubb “for personal efforts, professionalism initiative in developing an in-depth training package for members deployed on operations” from Garrison Petawawa for three years starting in 2019.

- Now MCpl Lindsay Blanchette “for her quick and professional ability when intervening during a suicide attempt by a resident of a long-term care facility” during her deployment on Op LASER in June 2020.

- Avr MK Podiluk “for contacting 911, taking control of the scene by directing safety measures to bystanders, prioritizing the casualties and providing first aid to the most injured individual after witnessing a fatal vehicle accident” near Saskatoon, Sask., on July 9, 2018.

- S3 Mackenzie Hollister-Sheppard “for quick and decisive actions when navigating the Zodiac into a rocky outcrop to rescue two survivors” while deployed on board Patrol Craft Renard in the Southern Gulf Islands, BC, on Nov. 2, 2020.

Got Bulk Garbage?

Bulk items, yard waste, tires, and electronics may be disposed of Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Shilo dump located two kilometres east of Rick’s Restaurant on Aldershot Road



Items may be placed for curb-side pick-up the following dates ONLY for fall clean-up:

Oct. 12 & 13

Items should not be placed earlier than the evening prior to pick-up

Prairie Thousand adventure ends in Lethbridge, Alberta

Flat tires near finish line no deterrent for Sgt Rob Nederlof

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

With the finish line on the horizon heading for Lethbridge, Alberta, Sgt Rob Nederlof twice had to dismount and fix a flat tire.

"I did not realize the rim on my 15-year-old road bike was damaged, so twice I blew my tires," the 50-year-old recalled on his Prairie Thousand adventure. "This sucks, I said to myself, but I got the tires fixed and carried on."

With another police escort leading the way on Hwy 3, the Lethbridge police service guided Sgt Nederlof to the police station via busy city streets where he was greeted by the police chief.

"This was an amazing experience. I had fun doing it," he said of his fundraiser for Wounded Warriors Canada. "The media and police were great, especially the police in Regina and Medicine Hat providing me with an escort in traffic when I was arriving in those cities."

Covering 1,000 kilometres had its challenges, with the only mechanical issues fortunately happening on the final day as he headed for Lethbridge.

Sgt Nederlof had to watch for road kill, transport truck blown tire debris and an assortment of coffee cups and other garbage thrown from vehicles as he pushed himself on the side of highways busy with summer traffic. He planned to arrive in Lethbridge Aug. 20.

The Base Maintenance IC vehicle staffer said the weather conditions co-operated, with most days starting out around 7:30 a.m. While his



Arriving at the border of Saskatchewan and Alberta, Sgt Rob Nederlof poses for a photo taken by wife Marina.



Sgt Rob Nederlof chats with the Lethbridge police chief after arriving in that Alberta city following the completion of his fundraising ride for Wounded Warriors Canada.

Photos from Prairie Thousand Facebook

A stop at Maple Creek was a highlight from the family adventure, with the Nederlofs choosing camping to motel stays en route to Lethbridge.

He also became media savvy thanks to the interest along the way, with mainstream media — radio, television and newsprint — all interested in why he was raising funds with his Prairie Thousand event. He also did a radio podcast.

"I could have done the trip sooner, but we stuck to our planned nine days on the road," he said. "I had media interviews set up in places like Medicine Hat, Swift Current and Regina, so I kept to what we had planned out."

Wanting to do something with a purpose, his

legs did all the work pushing his pedals, he was entertained on his ear buds with rock music playing.

"I would have to say my second day was the worst for wind. I had a good head wind I rode into, but for the most part it was decent for riding, with cool days helping after experiencing the earlier heat waves when I was training [riding to and from Wawanessa on Hwy 340]."

Having served 22 years in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), Sgt Nederlof's training prior to leaving Aug. 11 made the ride go smoothly. He was able to power thru some of the windy days, and also navigate terrain that was not always prairie flat.

"I had a chance to look around when I was riding," he offered. "It's a lot hillier on the prairies than what people think, and I experienced going west."

Wife Marina was along for the road adventure, leading the way or following her husband as he pedalled on Hwy 1 going west. She fed him and made sure he was hydrated during occasional breaks.



Sgt Rob Nederlof conducts another media interview, this time with Global News, en route to Lethbridge, Alberta.



Sgt Rob Nederlof takes a break from riding Aug. 20 after arriving at his Alberta destination.

idea for the Prairie Thousand was born where he could combine his love of cycling — Sgt Nederlof admitted he was overwhelmed by the support from those he met en route or what he saw on his social media platforms like Facebook.

"I never expected what I was doing would receive the support it did. Plus I was not expecting the donations we collected ... I was aiming to raise \$5,000, and we collected almost \$20,000."

Thankful for the support he received from family, friends and his military family, Sgt Nederlof also received great support from key sponsors like his Curse Coffee Co in CANEX, Co-op Heritage and Forman Mazda.

His 27-speed road bike was taken care of by A&L Cycle, while his body and what he endured during training was cared for by Leo LaRocque Physiotherapy.

"I never hit a wall when I was cycling, but I put that down to all the kilometres I put on my bike when I started training in March," he said.

What's next for Sgt Nederlof?

"Planning is in the works for a second Prairie Thousand," he offered. "This time I'm looking to ride west to east, so 2022 would be Edmonton to Minnedosa [using Hwy 16]."

There's a reason why he'd like to do another ride, and it's not about riding for himself following this inaugural adventure going east to west.

"I'm not doing this for my own health," the Calgary-born soldier said. "I am doing this for the mental health of others. The goal of this journey [was raising] funds and awareness for Wounded Warriors Canada and the support dog program."

He added, "I have a passion for cycling and

recognized that could be the best way for me to help. Spreading the message there is mental health support and taking that message across the prairies is something I could do."

Prior to organizing Prairie Thousand, he researched various support groups available to CAF members and decided Wounded Warriors Canada was the best fit for his goal.

His goal was \$5,000 which would go to pay part of the \$15,000 cost of raising and training a PTSD support dog. Reaching more than \$20,000 was tremendous.

"An animal like this means the difference between life and death for someone," he said. "It may not be a military member ... it might be a first responder or dispatch operator. Anyone that experiences trauma has the potential of suffering from PTSD."

"I want to ensure for as long as I am physically and mentally capable of supporting Wounded Warriors Canada, I will do everything I can. This cycling journey is my way of contributing. Plus, I like dogs."

There was another reason why the sergeant wanted to contribute to Wounded Warriors Canada. "As a veteran of three tours of duty, I have seen too many people suffering from PTSD and other mental health issues, and rather than simply be a witness I want to contribute to the healing of these men and women."

The only difference for Sgt Nederlof's 2022 plans is the road bike he pushed on the Prairie Thousand will be retired this fall, and a new road bike is on his shopping list so he's ready for the daily two-way treks from Wawanessa to CFB Shilo next spring.

See Sgt Nederlof's August adventure by visiting www.facebook.com/PrairieThousand/ or <https://twitter.com/PrairieThousand>

Soldier's mother never received telegram carrying sad news

From the front

The notification team in Regina consisted of 2PPCLI's CO LCol Jesse van Eijk, A/RSM MWO Pete Dunwoody and Padre Capt Sean Smallwood.

They had the opportunity to meet LCpl Jenkins' next of kin in Regina and commemorate the sacrifice of the First

World War soldier.

LCpl Jenkins' niece Margaret Schaffer told the notification team LCpl Jenkins' mother — Margaret's grandmother — never received the telegram, for some reason, informing her that her son had been killed in France.

Margaret went on to say her grandmother never gave up hope, "... and until the day that she died, she left the back

door of the house open and the light on just in case he might come back home."

It was truly a humbling experience for all involved as it showed that even after 103 years, the sacrifices of our fallen are still being remembered and honoured by Canadians and those who are currently serving today.

Once a Patricia, always a Patricia!

Analysis of PPCLI war diary helped CWGC find where exhumed LCpl Jenkins was reburied

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

Unlike an episode of CSI which identifying the dead is done in 60 minutes, putting a name to the remains buried in Plot 5 Row A Grave 12 which previously listed the dead Great War soldier as UNKNOWN LCpl PPCLI KIA 30-8-1918, took years to tell the story of his whereabouts on an overseas battleground.

Earlier this year his next of kin in Regina, Sask., after 103 years, received notification from the Department of National Defence (DND) that LCpl Morgan Jenkins' remains were discovered after the conclusion of a 10-year investigation.

An analysis of the details of the action of the PPCLI at that time and the deaths of Lance Corporals revealed the only possible candidate for the remains conclusively was LCpl Morgan Jones Jenkins Regt #475898. All others are accounted for in the CWGC records.

The findings are based on the following:

- The Circumstance of Death file of LCpl Jenkins states that he was "previously reported missing and now killed in action." He was reported missing after taking part in the attack on Jigsaw Wood, north of Boiry-Notre-Dame.

Late in the afternoon of Aug. 28 a comrade saw him moving forward towards the enemy despite calls from his comrades. He disappeared behind a shelter and was not seen alive again. The file reports that the reported location of his grave was Sheet 51 b 123 d.6.2.

- The Canadian War Graves Register confirms the remains were not located as of Nov. 30, 1918 and thus his name was to be included on the Vimy Memorial as a soldier having no known grave.

- The War Diary of the PPCLI confirms the unit was in the area in late June 1918 as part of their capture of Jigsaw Wood. The narrative of the action from Aug. 26 to 29 is referenced in the entry of Aug. 25, 1918, as the war diary narrative was written after the battle. It was during this period and at this location that LCpl Jenkins went missing and was later presumed dead.

- The area where the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) was extensively involved in the August 1918 Battle of Arras from Aug. 26 to Sept. 5 is depicted on a Nicholson map. An extract of that map shows the path of the PPCLI on the north flank of the 42nd Battalion (two of the 7th Infantry Brigade) to take Jigsaw Wood.

- The path of the PPCLI is shown on an extract of trench maps used during that period of action in the 1918 Battle of Arras. The unit was on the east side of Jigsaw Wood, precisely where the casualty report states LCpl Jenkins disappeared. Where he wandered off to at that time is unknown. All that is reported was he was seen going behind a shelter after which he was never seen again.

- There is no question there were a large number of Canadian soldiers lost in the 1918 Battle of Arras. The CWGC database reports 3,253 killed in action of which 58 were from PPCLI. Of these only three were Lance Corporals — Lindsay, Shaver and Jenkins.

Lindsay and Shaver are recorded as being buried in the Vis-en-Artois Cemetery in 4.C.11 and 10.C.10 respectively. Jenkins is reported as being named on the Vimy Memorial for the missing.

- To be absolutely sure there were no other missing Lance Corporals of the PPCLI,



LCpl Morgan Jenkins' collage features his university portrait (left), and a photograph taken of the PPCLI soldier during the Great War. He was initially reported MIA, so his name was included on the Vimy Memorial.

more than 100 records of the PPCLI Lance Corporals were checked using the reference text of Hodder-Williams (Volume 2), available at www.archive.org website. All of the men were accounted for other than LCpl Jenkins.

- The CWGC's Graves Registration Report Form shows that sometime after the battle, the remains of LCpl Jenkins were recovered and buried in Plot 5 Row A Grave 12 of the Vis-en-Artois Cemetery in Pas de Calais, France. At that time in September 1920, the identification of the remains was not completed and the date of death was reported as Aug. 30, 1918.

- The CWGC's Concentration of Graves (Exhumation and Reburials) Burial Return provides the details on the location where the body of LCpl Jenkins was exhumed. This document, which appears to be dated 6/1/1920 contains the information that there was a cross on the battlefield grave that indicated that this unknown Lance Corporal of the PPCLI had been killed on Aug. 30, 1918 and was initially buried at Sheet 28 132 d.4.5.

- The location of the last reported location of LCpl Jenkins relative to where the body was exhumed is depicted on a period extract of a trench map, showing the area from Arras to Jigsaw Wood. As he was not reported seen after he disappeared, the question remained as to how he moved from his last known location to a reported burial site north of Jigsaw Wood and then to the Vis-en-Artois Cemetery?

- When the initial report on LCpl Jenkins was written in December 2014 — the first of the reports written — the standardized reporting process had not yet been developed and the investigative techniques, although sound, were in their infancy. One of the things the team learned during the intervening period was to check others exhumed and buried with the unknowns.

What this revealed in this case was that Plot 5 Row A Grave 14 at Vis-en-Artois Cemetery contained the remains of Pte R.C.(L.) McGihon #639536, also of the PPCLI and KIA on Aug. 26, 1918.

What this analysis clearly shows is that Pte McGihon was initially buried in the Pelves Canadian Cemetery, five kilometres east of Arras in Row A Grave 24.

From the CWGC reburial the co-ordinates for that site are Sheet 28 132 d.4.5, exactly matching the exhumation location of LCpl Jenkins.

From that we know that after Jenkins went missing, his body was recovered and buried in the Pelves Canadian Cemetery, later exhumed and reburied at the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery.

Referring back to the CWGC information on Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery we find a reference to the exhumations from this cemetery: It was increased after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from the battlefields of April to June 1917, August and September 1918, and from the smaller cemeteries in the neighbourhood, including Pelves Canadian Cemetery, nearly 1.6 kilometres due south of the village, containing the graves of 39 soldiers from Canada who fell in August and September 1918.

From the investigative report updated from December 2014 to the standard format in 2015, the evidence is conclusive the remains in the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery in Plot 5 Row A Grave 12 are those of LCpl Jenkins, who was reported missing from his unit and presumed to have died on or about Aug. 28, 1918.

The Canadian War Graves Register confirms the remains were not located as of Nov. 30, 1918 and thus his name was to be included on the Vimy Memorial as a soldier having no known grave.

Canine company join Terry Fox Run participants



Mother Nature provided excellent weather for the annual Terry Fox Run, with a number of participants including their dogs for the morning outing.

Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag




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The *Shilo Stag* is looking for another sales consultant for its team. Help us sell the Brandon business market on advertising in the *Stag*. They have a captive audience — especially with people here who are new to the community after being posted here from elsewhere in Canada. Where do you shop for new glasses; groom your dog; take the wife out for an anniversary dinner; buy a new car or have winter tires put on the van with the advent of winter; shop for back to school clothes and supplies? Working on commission, you can set your own hours. The more you hustle and sign advertisers up to promote their business in the *Stag*, the more you earn. Drop by the *Stag's* office in CANEX and see Jules about the job. Or call 204-765-3000 ext 3013/3093. Be part of the award-winning *Shilo Stag* team.



SHILO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

We are looking for ward representatives, vice-president



Ward 1: Kingston, Leaside, Royal, Sapper, The Packway
Ward 2: Alfriston, Sennybridge
Ward 3: Kingston, Lundy's
Ward 4: Esquimalt, Frontenac, Kingston, Larkhill
Ward 5: Citadel, Petawawa, Kingston, Royal
Ward 6: Kingston, Royal, Stonehenge, Ubique, Woolwich

If interested in being part of your Shilo Community Council, visit www.cafconnection.ca/Shilo/In-My-Community/Shilo-Community-Council/About-the-Council.aspx, or contact SCC mayor Capt James Smith to submit your name for consideration: james.smith7@forces.gc.ca

CLASSIFIED ADS

E-mail: stag@mymts.net • Phone 204-765-3000, ext 3013 or ext 3093

\$10 for first 20 words, 10¢ for each additional word Deadline for next issue: SEPTEMBER 30 at noon

Free ads (non-profit only) restricted to members of the CAF, employees of CFB Shilo and the residents of the surrounding area.

Employment

CANEX needs you: Sales associate part-time position with 13 to 32 hr /week required. Must be available days/evenings, and weekends. Starting salary is \$12.53 per hour, progressing to \$14.77 per designated pay band. Under the direction of the department supervisor, a clerk/cashier scans customer purchases, processes transactions, and accepts payment. He/she prices, stocks shelves, counters and display areas with merchandise and keeps stock in order. He/she performs cleaning duties as required. Apply in person at CANEX admin office, or NPF Human Resources office at base HQ.

Services

Need your taxes done? Fast, friendly, and personal service. Located outside the gate. For all your income tax needs contact Ingrid Wasserberg at 204-763-4357. OPEN ALL YEAR.

Services

Looking for a job on the Base? Submit resumes to NPF HR office via e-mail quoting competition # to npfhrshilo@cfmws.com OR for more detailed information on the jobs offered at CFB Shilo visit: www.cfmws.com

Base Chapels

St. Barbara's Chapel
Next service: Battle of Britain Sept. 19
Padre Lazerte - ext 3381
Padre Smallwood - ext 6836
Padre Walton - ext 3088
Padre Chang - ext 3089
Our Lady of Shilo Chapel
Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Confessions by appointment
Padre Nnanna - ext 3090
Padre Agustin - ext 3698
(BTL chaplain)



LETTER HOME FROM FRANCE

Editor's Note: During the First World War Pte Cecil Minary served in the CEF, beginning his military training at Camp Hughes prior to being shipped to England for further training. He saw his first action soon after Canada's involvement in the Battle of Vimy Ridge in France. His great-great-niece Kendra Minary has spent the COVID pandemic going thru the original letters he wrote home from England and France prior to being KIA on Aug. 28, 1918. The Lewis gunner died on the battlefield after his crew was hit by a German artillery shell. The Stag will share Kendra's great-great-uncle's letters with our Stag readers to give you a peek at what a soldier was contemplating with pencil and paper while in the UK training or in France in a trench waiting for the next attack or counter-attack. Cecil's letters are transcribed as they were written, so this includes his spelling, grammar and punctuation. Of note, from his letters home he rarely described his clashes with Fritz, instead preferring to enquire about life on the family farm or what his family and friends were doing back in Manitoba. Unlike some some soldiers who would share their war stories in their letters, Pte Minary had his own distinct writing style no matter if it's his dad, sister or a relative. He also made the job of Army censors easier by not including war details which would be blacked out. That's the reason why his letters are "somewhere in France" once he left England for the Western Front.

Great-great-uncle posts final letter from Halifax before leaving Canada

enroute to Halifax
Sept 17th/16

Dear Sister Annie

Just a few lines tonight before I go to bed for I may not get a chance to write in the morning as we get into Halifax about two in the morning.

We have all enjoyed the trip fine, after we left

Montreal yesterday morning we had a march at Chaudierjuc and we seen the Chaudier falls there, they are about 100 feet high, This morning we had a march at Cambelton and tonight we had an hours march at Moncton and then we stayed an hour at the station shaking hands. The crowd was nearly as big as Winnipegs. There are ten troop trains coming in a string half an hour between each. We are the forth

(sic) train, eight of the trains are from Camp Hughes good for old Manitoba, the other two are from Pit-tawawa (sic).

We get on the boat some time tomorrow so I will say good bye for this time untill (sic) I get across and then I can give an address to write to.

With love to all
From Cecil.



Base's United Way campaign underway

BComd LCol Chris Wood and BRSM CWO Jeremy Abrahamse were on hand for the raising of the United Way flag to help kickoff the 2021 campaign. Rocked Community Fitness co-owner Jennifer McMillan is this year's campaign chair (far left beside CWO Abrahamse). "Small steps, small donations, small amounts of time — lead to big change in our community," she said. "It's not about what you can accomplish or solve on your own but what impact we have together. Join me in supporting this year's campaign — acknowledge hard things exist and help build the support systems that we need to make a difference." The 2021 United Way Brandon and District annual campaign is also underway, with this year's focus bringing light to key areas which desperately need attention. In the times of the current pandemic, social agencies and services are being pushed to their brinks, and it's not uncommon for users to be placed onto a 'waiting' list for help.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

Master Tailor rides with historic ceremonial unit

Jules Xavier

Shilo Stag

Having served in the British Army for 16 years, SSgt Emma Colton now has the distinction of being the first woman to have the title Master Tailor.

"This is my job with the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, but I also ride," she told the Stag while sewing ceremonial uniforms for the RCA Band and 1RCHA. "I was told I would not ride again after I had Carpal Tunnel Syndrome [CTS] surgery on both wrists, but ignored that and I'm back riding and sewing after I healed."

CTS is a medical condition due to compression of the median nerve as it travels through the wrist at the carpal tunnel.

1RCHA and the RCA Band needed their ceremonial dress uniforms altered or made from scratch with the sewing skills of SSgt Colton and her two assistants, Joanne Jesseau and Katherine Misanchuk, working out of the RCA Museum.

"We've worked on more than 135 full uniforms, including 100 tunics, plus pants," explained SSgt Colton, who was joined at CFB Shilo this summer by UK Drill Instructors (DIs) drill sergeant WO2 Dwain Oliver and CSMIM Colour Sgt Gavin Hudson.

Both DIs are with the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards of the British Army and possess knowledge of the drill needed for the Queen's Guard ceremonies. They mentored the soldiers going to Britain as part of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery United Kingdom Public Duties Contingent (RCA UK PDC).

SSgt Colton combines deft moves with needle and thread, but also uses a special sewing machine to ensure tailoring is done correctly, so buttons don't fall off or pants hang properly to the right boot lace when a soldier is at attention.

"We learn on the job when it comes to our sewing skills, just like I learned how to ride," she explained.

Graduating to the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery is no easy task, according to SSgt Colton, even if you have dressage or equine skills. Riding a horse in a team while pulling 13-pounder guns is not simple, and requires plenty of practice.

"Just because you know how to ride a horse does not mean you pass the riding assessments," she said. "This is a military position, and it's better that you are learning to ride because you don't come in with bad habits."

Recruits looking to make the grade must "pass out" during the Recruit's Ride. Successful candidates are presented with their spurs by the CO which they are now permitted to wear.

This was the first step in SSgt Colton's career towards riding on parades. She then moved onto Detachment Ride which advanced her riding skills and enabled her to ride in Detachment behind the guns for ceremonial events.

Returning home after much of the key sewing was completed, along with the DIs, SSgt Colton is back at work at the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich, which is a 10-minute train ride into Central London. She has four workers in her shop, plus two bombardiers.

"We had a lot of long days doing this work, but Joanne and Katherine have made it fun as us three ladies made sure the [ceremonial] uniforms properly fit," she said while cutting away an arm from a spare uniform to fix a damaged arm on a tunic for a 1RCHA soldier involved in Queen's Guard rehearsals on the Kapyong Parade Square.

"We had to do a lot of alternations from the initial measurements done on uniforms,



SSgt Emma Colton stitches a rank crest onto a uniform while sewing out of a room at the RCA Museum.

Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



A member of the RCA Band checks on his sewing outside the RCA Museum.

SSgt Colton was involved in the recent funeral for Prince Philip, and on Sept. 6, 1997, the coffin of Diana, Princess of Wales was carried on a gun carriage by members of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. In 1952, the King's Troop carried the coffin of King George VI from Buckingham Palace to the Palace of Westminster.

SSgt Colton said she's especially proud to be part of the Musical Drive, with many of the manoeuvres remaining unchanged since it was first performed in 1897.

She shared a few of her videos on YouTube, pointing out the start, known as the Big Drive, featuring the Scissors, where her whole team criss-cross at gallop, displaying choreography, teamwork and discipline.

Women were first admitted to the King's Troop in 1996. The trades include: mounted gunner, gun team driver, farrier, saddler, logistics and SSgt Colton's trade, tailor.

The King's Troop has more than 130 draft horses which do two jobs: chargers have a bigger presence on parade and are much taller, while gun team horses, which are a little shorter and stockier to fit into a harness, pull the guns.

SSgt Colton pointed out the 13-pounder guns were in active service during the First World War. Some of the guns on parade fired the first round in the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

While Britons are commuting to work, SSgt Colton and the King's Troop are walking their horses. For morning exercise, each soldier will ride one horse and hold two in hand round the streets of London and the home station Woolwich.

but that's part of the job as you make adjustments for the musicians, based on what instrument they play, and those soldiers who are on parade. When you are wearing these uniforms you need to look sharp and proper during inspection."

SSgt Colton acknowledged 1RCHA and the RCA Band will receive a thorough inspection once they are in the UK for their ceremonial duties from Queen's Guard officials. They are particular when it comes to being on parade for the Queen and the thousands of tourists who gather to see parades.

SSgt Colton is equally busy back home, looking after the ceremonial uniforms her fellow King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery soldiers wear during their busy schedule. Including her own which she wears while riding an Irish draft horse.

SSgt Colton also deployed to Afghanistan with the 5th Regiment Royal Artillery, which became a Surveillance and Target Acquisition (STA) regiment in 2009 and was re-equipped with radar equipment.

The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery is a ceremonial unit of the British Army, quartered at Woolwich. It is a mounted unit and all of its soldiers, including SSgt Colton, are trained to care for and drive teams of six horses pulling each of six First World War-era QF 13-pounder guns used today to fire salutes on state occasions.

Its duties include the firing of royal salutes on royal anniversaries and state occasions, and providing a gun carriage and team of black horses for state and military funerals. The unit is most often seen providing gun salutes on state occasions in Hyde Park and Green Park.

After the Second World War, King George VI expressed the view that, following the mechanization of the last batteries of horse-drawn artillery, a troop of horse artillery should be retained to take part in the great ceremonies of state.

Accordingly the Riding Troop was reformed on April 17, 1946 at Shoeburyness as a six-gun Royal Horse Artillery battery for the Household Division.

King George VI declared the Riding Troop would be



Master Tailor SSgt Emma Colton from the British Army inspects an RCA Band uniform to see if it requires additional adjustments.



13-pounder guns of King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery at the 2009 Trooping the Colour.