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INSIDE This Issue



Annual Terry Fox Run turns 40 Page 2



RCA Museum discover photo treasures Page 5



Command Team coins presented virtually Page 8



1RCHA A Bty BSM MWO Jason Power looks on (above) as British Army Master Tailor SSgt Emma Colton from the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery adjusts a belt on a soldier during parade inspection. One of two Drill Instructors (DIs) from 1st Battalion Grenadiers Guard on the Base for drill practice WO2 Dwain Oliver (left) observes Captain of the Guard Z Bty BC Maj Mike Crosier lead the way during rehearsal.

Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

Drill Instructors prepare 1RCHA for Queen's Guard UK duties

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

There's a lot of work preparing to be Captain of the Guard for an overseas trip to the UK this fall.

Just ask 1RCHA Z Bty BC Maj Mike Crosier, who has spent much of August learning his lines and mastering the choreography of forms and footwork required for his ceremonial role.

1RCHA soldiers will be joined by the Garrison Edmonton-based RCA Band in England, their plane laden with military kit, parade weapons and musical instruments when it leaves 17 Wing for the trip across the Atlantic Ocean.

This contingent is referred to as the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery United Kingdom Public Duties Contingent (RCA UK PDC).

But before they depart to perform public duties or sentry duty as Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, St. James Palace or the Tower of London, uniform preparation has been part of the process, too.

Besides two UK Drill Instructors (DIs) — both from the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards of the British Army, drill sergeant WO2 (MWO) Dwain Oliver and CSMIM Colour Sgt (WO) Gavin Hudson — coming over from the UK to help with Queen's Guard drill, Master Tailor SSgt Emma Colton of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery also travelled to Canada to work on the 135-plus ceremonial uniforms being worn by 1RCHA and the RCA Band.

It was a hive of activity on a Wednesday morning when the *Stag* visited the RCA Museum to see volunteer seamstresses Joanne Jesseau and Katherine Misanchuk working with soldiers and musicians when it came to their marching attire which was either too long in the legs or too tight in the waist or shoulders. Work is also being done at Base Supply.

SSgt Colton deftly chalked a soldier's tunic before asking for it to be removed, and added to the growing pile to the left of their makeshift sewing platform. Besides a steam iron, three sewing machines complimented what the trio were doing by hand when it came to alterations.

See **SWORDSMANSHIP** page 4



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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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Terry Fox Run celebrates 40th anniversary

"I don't feel that this is unfair. That's the thing about cancer. I'm not the only one, it happens all the time to people. I'm not special. This just intensifies what I did. It gives it more meaning. It'll inspire more people. I just wish people would realize that anything's possible if you try; dreams are made possible if you try. When I started this run, I said that if we all gave one dollar, we'd have \$22-million for cancer research, and I don't care man, there's no reason that isn't possible. No reason! I'm not doing the run to become rich or famous."

— Terry Fox on doing his Marathon of Hope

Shilo Stag

It was a journey by a young man which Canadians have never forgot.

Born on July 28, 1958 in Winnipeg, Terry Fox was raised in Port Coquitlam, BC, a community near Vancouver on Canada's west coast.

An active teenager involved in many sports, Terry was only 18 when he was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma — bone cancer — and forced to have his right leg amputated 15 centimetres, or six inches, above the knee in 1977.

While in hospital, Terry was so overcome by the suffering of other cancer patients, many of them young children, that he decided to run across Canada to raise money for cancer research.

He would call his journey the Marathon of Hope. After 18 months and running more than 5,000 kilometres, or 3,107 miles, to prepare, Terry started his run in St. John's, Newfoundland, on April 12, 1980 with little fanfare.

Although it was difficult to garner any media attention in the beginning, enthusiasm soon grew, and the money collected along his route began to mount.

He ran close to 42 kilometres, or 26 miles, a day through Canada's Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Ontario.

However, on Sept. 1, after 143 days and 5,373 kilometres — 3,339 miles — Terry was forced to stop running outside of Thunder Bay because cancer had appeared in his lungs.

An entire nation was stunned and saddened. Terry died on June 28, 1981. He was just 22. The heroic Canadian was gone, but his legacy was just beginning.

To date, more than \$750-million has been raised worldwide for cancer research in Terry's name through the annual Terry Fox Run, held across Canada and around the world. There are 14 schools and 15 roads in Canada named after Terry.

The 40th annual Terry Fox Run — you can walk, run, wheel or bike — is slated for CFB Shilo Sept. 17. Current planning for this event will see a donation table set-up outdoors at the GSH running track at 8 a.m. from where participants will start. An emcee will hold a briefing and warm-up starting at 9:30 a.m. The official run starts 15 minutes later.

There's a warm-up and run for children and students at 10 a.m. Half hour later organizers will provide refreshments and snacks while you listen to closing remarks.

BCcmd LCol Chris Wood and a United Way representative will then hold an opening ceremony to mark the start of the 2021 CFB Shilo United Way campaign.

Donations — minimum \$2/person is encouraged — to the Terry Fox Foundation are collected at prior to and during the event at the GSH outdoor track.

The Terry Fox Run is an annual non-competitive charity event held in numerous regions around the world in commemoration of Fox, and his Marathon of Hope, and to raise money for cancer research.

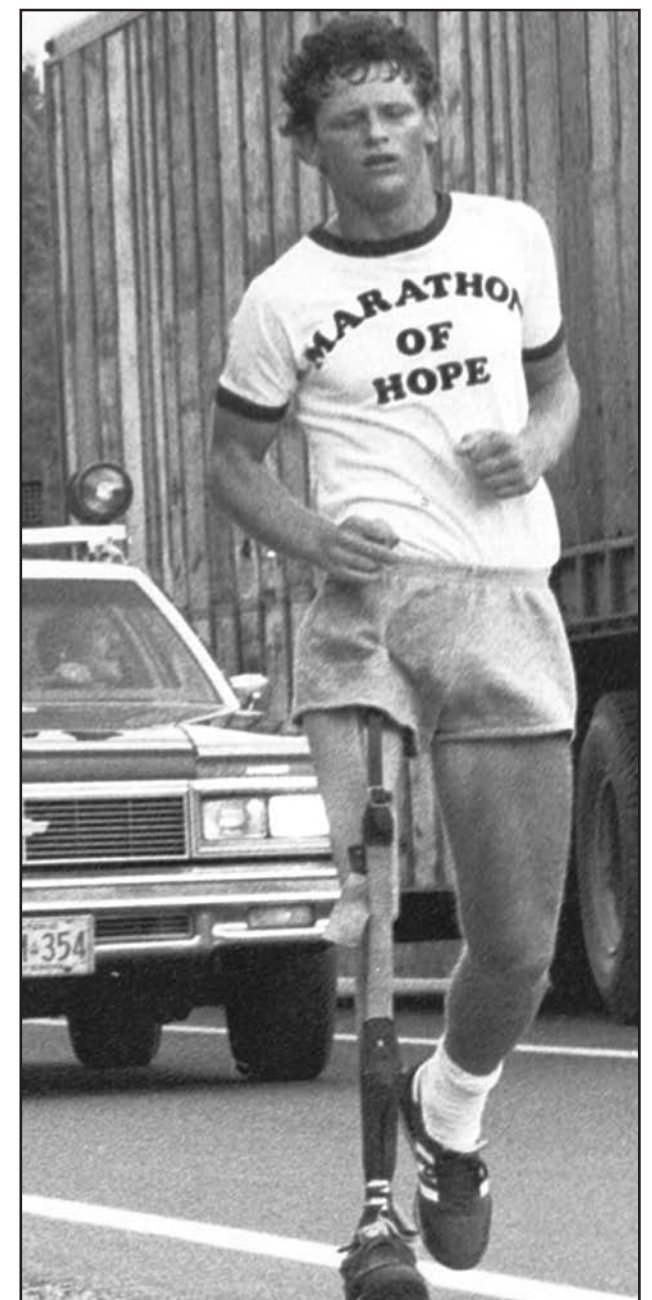
The event was founded in 1981 by Isadore Sharp, who had contacted Fox in hospital by telegram and expressed his wishes to hold an annual run in his name to raise funds for cancer research. Sharp had lost his son to cancer in 1979.

Since its inception, it has raised via the Terry Fox Foundation more than \$750-million (CAD). The run is informal which means that the distance often varies, usually between five and 15 kilometres; participation is considered to be more important than completing the set distance. There are also runs set up by schools of every level.

The Terry Fox Run has no corporate sponsorship, in accordance with Fox's original wishes of not seeking fame or fortune from his endeavour. During his cross-Canada run, he rejected every endorsement he was offered, including from multinational corporations such as McDonald's, as he felt that it would detract from his goal of creating public awareness.



Terry Fox running on Hwy. 17 north of White River, Ont., was taken by Stag editor Jules Xavier when he worked at White Lake Provincial Park in 1980. There's a memorial (above) to Fox outside of Thunder Bay, just off Hwy. 17.



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Light the Way — Walk Out of the Darkness Walk

Inaugural event runs in conjunction with World Suicide Prevention Day

Shilo Stag

This Base is holding its inaugural Light The Way — Walk Out of the Darkness Walk

Sept. 10 in conjunction with the World Suicide Prevention Day.

The walk is open to both civilian and military and is to give people the courage to open up about their own connections to the cause, struggle or loss, and a platform to change our culture's approach to mental health.

PSP is hosting the Light The Way — Walk Out of the

Darkness Walk in order to send a strong message that suicide is preventable and that no one is alone and to assist in improving community wellness.

This event includes a walk, ribbon ceremony plus a porch light ceremony. The Defense Team and others are asked to leave a porch light on commencing at 8 p.m. to honour those souls who have been lost to suicide.

The porch lights being turned on signify an open door, heart and mind for anyone suffering from mental health issues.

In the event of inclement weather the walk will be cancelled, but it is requested that all members continue to sup-

port the porch light ceremony in the evening.

The event will start from the Shilo MFRC's parking lot, with a welcome message at 8 a.m. from Health Promotion manager Ginger Lamoureux.

The ceremony starts at 8:15 a.m., with a message from a Base chaplain. Then ribbons will be placed on a nearby chain link fence along Royal Avenue adjacent to Ecole La Source at 8:25 a.m.

The actual five-kilometre walk commences afterwards at 8:45 a.m.

To register for this event e-mail Health Promotion at shilohealthpromotion@forces.gc.ca

CAF study wants your healthcare input

Shilo Stag

We want to know what you think about inclusive healthcare in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

The purpose of this study is to gain perspectives of patients, providers and employers in the CAF to build healthcare that is more inclusive, diverse, equitable and accessible for all.

Are you a current or previously serving member, provider or employer within the CAF? We are looking for volunteers to participate in the following research study: In-Service to All: Co-Designing an Inclusive Person-Partnered Model of Care in the Canadian Forces Health Services

How do you participate? Volunteers will be asked to complete a 15-minute online questionnaire around the following:

- participant attitudes around partnerships in CAF healthcare amongst patients, providers and employers;
- the experiences of underrepresented groups within the CAF; and
- perceived barriers to CAF healthcare.

Volunteers can express an interest in being contacted about additional study opportunities —including a collaborative workshop to co-design the future of CAF healthcare.

To participate, you must be aged 18 and older; comfortable reading, writing and speaking English, be a current or previously serving CAF member; be a current or previously serving healthcare provider within the Canadian Forces Health Services; and/or a CAF employer representing organizations and people who employ or manage people in the CAF.

Participation in this study is strictly voluntary.

To participate or learn more, visit <https://forms.office.com/r/4Lj1Np6Xf8>



Construction Workers are working on the roof of a new LAV barn for 2PPCLI. Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



REMINDER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You're Invited

to share your views about the proposed rate changes from Manitoba Public Insurance

The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (MPI) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for a 2.8% decrease to Basic Autopac vehicle insurance rates and premiums effective on April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023. MPI also filed a Special Rebate Application on July 19, 2021 asking that a percentage of premiums earned between November 22, 2020 and December 9, 2021 be returned to customers. The rebate amount is currently estimated at \$155 million and if approved, would be equivalent to a rate reduction of approximately 15%.

MPI will ask the Board on September 17, 2021 (by way of motion) that the two applications be heard together.

For further details, please contact MPI at inquiries@mpi.mb.ca or visit the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

An electronic based virtual public hearing on the proposed rate and premium decrease will be held commencing:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Please view the hearing via the PUB website link: <http://www.pubmanitoba.ca/v1/live-stream.html>

If you are interested in learning more about these applications, you are encouraged to observe the hearing via live streaming, or provide your perspectives through the Board's online comment tool. Public attendance at the hearing may be restricted, due to public health circumstances.

If you wish to speak at the hearing or make a written submission, please contact the Board Secretary, Dr. Darren Christle at 204-945-2638 or toll-free 1-866-854-3698, no later than **October 1, 2021**.

For more information, visit www.pubmanitoba.ca

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Swordsmanship advice provided by UK Drill Instructors

From the front

A steady flow of soldiers and musicians needing work on their ceremonial attire arrived at the museum, their garment bags being added to the “done” or “to do” piles.

All new uniforms are being built from scratch, with buttons and ranks added to the blue felt-like material which will be worn as a tunic and slacks. Most of this work is done with needle and thread, and a deft hand pushing and pulling the needle.

This will be a new experience for most of 1RCHA involved, while some of the musicians on Base now flew to the UK with 2PPCLI during their 2017 summer invite from the Queen during PPCLI’s 100th anniversary.

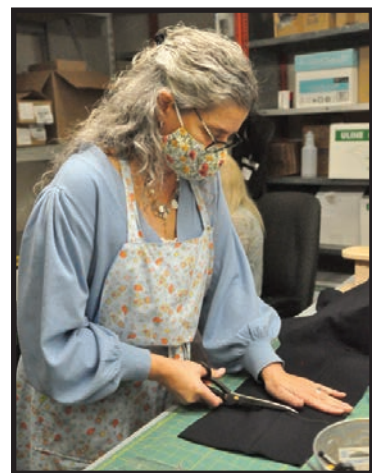
The actual Queen’s Guard in Britain do drill daily, with soldiers posted to that duty for three years.

For 1RCHA, each of the destinations where soldiers will be allocated to perform their ceremonial duties, including sentry duty inside Buckingham Palace, means different drills have to be honed to near perfection. Practice makes perfect, so twice-daily rehearsals have been taking place at Kapyong Parade Square, with soldiers scattered in small groups going over their forms and footwork.

The Queen herself invited the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and specifically 1RCHA, to be part of the Queen’s Guard starting later this month after the group departs Canada Sept. 20.

1RCHA’s fit for duty inspection is slated for the UK Sept. 24, and drill will continue under the tutelage of the DIs until their inaugural parade planned for Oct. 4. There’s also a formal UBIQUE 150 ceremony planned for Oct. 20.

There will be some early mornings for 1RCHA when it comes to parading at Buckingham Palace. Up at 4 a.m. to check kit, and finalize dress inspection. Then bused to Wellington Barracks where they leave for Buckingham Palace a kilometre away around 11 a.m. The parade lasts about 45 minutes.



Volunteer seamstress Joanne Jesseau trims material from slacks working out of the RCA Museum.

Then it’s a stay “in the box” at Buckingham Palace where soldiers can relax or sleep until they are called on to parade again. Perhaps a few will be invited for tea with the Queen?

Besides parading, there’s sentry duty for soldiers, usually a two-hour post which is not in front of tourists, nor are the soldiers wear-

ing those big bear fur hats.

Leading the way for the main body going on parade will be Maj Crosier, who offered his thoughts on this experience where a M777 is not involved during field exercises in a Q&A.

Shilo Stag (SS): *What were your thoughts when you were asked/tasked to lead 1RCHA for the Queen’s Guard invite which also marks the 150th anniversary for A and B Btys?*

MC: “The opportunity arose to conduct this task and I immediately jumped on it. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity which I was not going to pass up.”

SS: *How has the process of learning and mastering your lines and choreography of forms and footwork the past three weeks in preparation of the trip to the UK?*

MC: “Although the contingent was rusty from a lack of drill due to tempo and the pandemic, it has come a long way. The contingent quickly achieved the required standard.”

SS: *What are your favourite parts of rehearsal?*

MC: “Seeing the mounting/dismounting process come together and executed from start to finish without assistance.”

SS: *Least favourite parts of rehearsal?*



1RCHA CO LCol David Brassard observed the parade alongside British Army Drill Instructor (DI) Colour Sgt Gavin Hudson from the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards.



Captain of the Guard Maj Mike Crosier (above) leads the parade during a recent dress rehearsal and inspection. Prior to inspection soldiers helped each other (below) with their dress uniforms. *Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag*

MC: “The weather hasn’t been too bad, but the rain is always brutal and too much heat wears on the troops.”

SS: *What are you doing to memorize your lines/choreography ... or has muscle memory started to kick in?*

MC: “The UK Drill Instructors [DIs] have been extremely helpful and effective in their approach to the training which has absolutely fuelled this process. I created a rough script on my FMP which I reviewed at home before and after work. The 123-page provided manual was used to achieve additional clarity if needed.”

SS: *What’s it like working with your UK handlers in teaching you the choreographies of the various drills you’ll be using at your different venues in the UK?*

MC: “The UK DIs are incredibly professional and proficient instructors who’s dedication and hard work has quickly brought the contingent to a really good standard. Overall, they are easy to work with, very knowledgeable and an integral resource for our success.”

SS: *How have your two British drill instructors helped you, and the military members, hone their parade skills different from what you might see from your RSM or BSM?*

MC: “The only difference is the adaptation to different British-specific movements and orders. There was no significant difference in how the troops have developed and learned the movement from what I would expect from our own SMs.”

SS: *Watching from the sidelines from the start of practicing, to what you see three weeks later, what have you observed of the 1RCHA soldiers who have been honing their own skills when it comes to their forms and footwork?*

MC: “Over the last couple weeks the troops have gone from an expected rough state to a professional and in-sync contingent ready to fulfill their roles as the Queen’s Guard.”

SS: *What will you learn from your reconnaissance prior to everyone leaving for the UK? Is there a date set yet regarding your first actual Queen’s Guard parade where you’ll be front and center with your fellow*



1RCHA members?

MC: “The reconnaissance is in lieu of the recess we had to postpone due to the pandemic. We will first link in with CDLS [London] before joining the House Hold Division [HHD] and visiting all four locations. We will confirm accommodations and other real life support for the contingent and set the stage for their arrival. Our first guard mount is scheduled for Oct. 4 and our final dismount is Oct. 22.”

SS: *If there’s butterflies for you, or your men/women on parade, what advice will you be offering them before that moment when you might be*

parading in front of 20,000 to 38,000 residents/tourists out front of Buckingham Palace?

MC: “I’m sure there are a few troops who are nervous and I would tell them to be proud, remember who they represent and remember the hard work they have put in over the last six weeks in order to get to where they are now.”

SS: *What advice have the UK instructors given to you as the Captain of the Guard?*

MC: “Your swordsmanship on target in anticipation of your first parade? In addition to drill advice and mess specific recommendations once in the UK, the DIs have provided an abundance of corrective advice for personal drill across the contingent. There has been plenty of warning about the watchful eyes of some HHD senior leadership when it comes to officer sword drill, so extra time has been put into cleaning up the sword drill.”

SS: *If you have an opportunity to meet with the Queen, as Captain of the Guard, what will you say to the Queen when she asks you how you are enjoying being part of the Queen’s Guard?*

MC: “I would say; ‘Your Majesty this has been an incredible once in a lifetime opportunity which I have enjoyed greatly and am honoured to be part of.’”

SS: *Finally, how has this experience for you been doing drill and forms you as a Canadian soldier are not used to doing? And to be Captain of the Guard while marching on the historic grounds of Buckingham Palace?*

MC: “The DIs and our NCOs have done an incredible job of tapering/transiting the contingent to the unique forms required of us and so far this transition has been transparent. I am incredibly humbled and proud to be the Captain of the Guard for the RCA UK PDC and look forward to being the first Canadian Artillery officer to command this incredible contingent for this historic event.”



This photograph from November 1918 shows off 35th Battery's gun park in Mons.

Dusty photo album contains 35th Battery treasures

Andrew Oakden
Stag Special

Who were the Canadian volunteers which served overseas during the First World War?

By chance, I located in the museum archives an old album containing hundreds of First World War photographs belonging to Capt George A. Downey.

The collection includes excellent photos of the 35th Battery with 4.5-inch Howitzers in liberated Mons, Belgium, dated November 1918.

The Canadian military posted Capt Downey to the 35th Battery, 8th Brigade, 3rd Canadian Divisional Artillery — part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) — in April 1916.

I also located a historical record of the 35th Battery mobilized out of Sherbrooke, Quebec, in August 1915.

In 1914, the Canadian Government created the CEF, a field force recruited from the civilian population which would go on and defend Canada overseas during the Great War.

The CEF existed within the Canadian Corps, composed of four Infantry Divisions, subdivided by brigades, each with infantry battalions, artillery batteries, and other specialized units attached.

Canada recruited 260 infantry battalions and more than 80 field and heavy artillery batteries. Most artillery recruits went to field batteries; a smaller number went to medium batteries and heavy batteries.

Each CEF field battery had four guns starting in December 1914, which increased to six guns in March 1917.

These soldiers fought in France and Belgium on the Western Front.

From 1914 to 1918, more than 620,000 Canadians enlisted, with 425,000 going overseas to fight in the First World War.

The overwhelming majority enlisted as volunteers. Canada passed the Conscription Law in August 1917 — upwards of 24,000 Canadian conscripts went to France starting in January 1918.

The recruits came from different backgrounds, and most had never served in a military force or active militia. Many of the early recruits were unemployed.

English Canadians with loyalty to Britain made up at least half of the enlistment. French Canadians participated

in lower numbers.

For example, many young men from Montreal joined the 35th Battery and went on to fight with 4.5-inch Howitzers in France and Belgium.

Minority populations volunteered for the CEF with an estimated 4,000 First Nations, more than 1,000 Black Canadians, and more than 200 Japanese Canadians, in addition to other groups such as Ukrainians.

In 1914, Canada accepted recruits between aged 18 and 45, with the average age being 26. Canada looked for healthy recruits standing at least 5-foot-3 tall — Gunners had to be at least 5-foot-7.

Each recruit went through a strict medical exam. Canada rejected many due to failed medical. Common reasons for non-acceptance included flat feet, poor eyesight and rotting teeth.

About 20 per cent were married with children.

Regardless of their status, they all accepted the terms of enlistment "to serve in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force," until the war ended.

The Canadian Artillery equipped approximately 25 per cent of the Field Artillery with 4.5-inch Howitzers during the First World War. Canada had 15 howitzer batteries, including the 35th Battery.

After being raised, the 35th Battery spent two weeks in Montreal before moving to Valcartier for basic training, then shipped overseas to England, destined for France and Belgium.

Staff at the RCA Museum have on display one example of a 4.5-inch Howitzer which was in Canadian service from 1911 to 1941, replacing the BL five-inch Howitzer.

This gun was the main field howitzer during the First World War.

It included a rifled steel barrel, sliding breech block,



Capt George A. Downey on horseback in Mons November 1918.

smokeless powder, a hydro-spring recoil mechanism and two-part cased ammunition for quick loading and re-firing.

The gun used a steel box carriage which enabled the barrel to rest between trails to a maximum elevation of 45 degrees. The high elevation allowed the howitzer to lob shells into enemy trenches.

It could fire 16-kilogram ammunition to an effective range of seven kilometres.

Comparable to other Canadian batteries, the 35th fought in many famous Great War battles such as the Battle of Ypres (1915), Battle of the Somme at Beaumont-Hamel (1916), Battle of Vimy Ridge (1917), Battle of Hill 70 and Lens (1917), Battle of Passchendaele (1917) and the Last Hundred Days (1918).

The CEF lost 60,661 soldiers during the First World War, representing more than nine per cent of the total CEF.

More than 170,000 returned home with serious wounds. Post-war, Canada disbanded the CEF and reorganized to a much smaller military force.

Canada did perpetuate some of the unit numbers, battle honours and histories of CEF units which had fought during the war.

The Gunners of the 35th Battery enlisted for up to four years of service in France and Belgium. They went through "togetherness" in good times and bad times, firing their 4.5-inch Howitzers on the Western Front until the Armistice on Nov. 11, 1918, and remained overseas until March 1919.

The lucky ones returned home to start families and build communities, and in some cases, saved their wartime memories in old photo albums.

At the museum, we safeguard photo albums and artillery artifacts, such as the Capt Downey Collection and the 4.5-inch Howitzer, which reflect our proud history and heritage.



35th Battery officers' horse lines in Mons November 1918.



Officers and NCOs with 35th Battery and their 4.5-inch Howitzer in Mons November 1918.

Postponed earlier this summer because of inclement weather, the annual Command Team golf tournament finally happened Sept. 3 with ideal weather conditions on the 18-hole course. Organizer and fitness, sports and recreation manager Jim MacKenzie was his usual colourful golfer at the Shilo Country Club, while sports and recreation co-ordinator Andy Depner wore a unicorn mask to play incognito. No one scored a hole-in-one on the 13th to win \$10,000 from CANEX.

COMMAND TEAM GOLF TOURNAMENT



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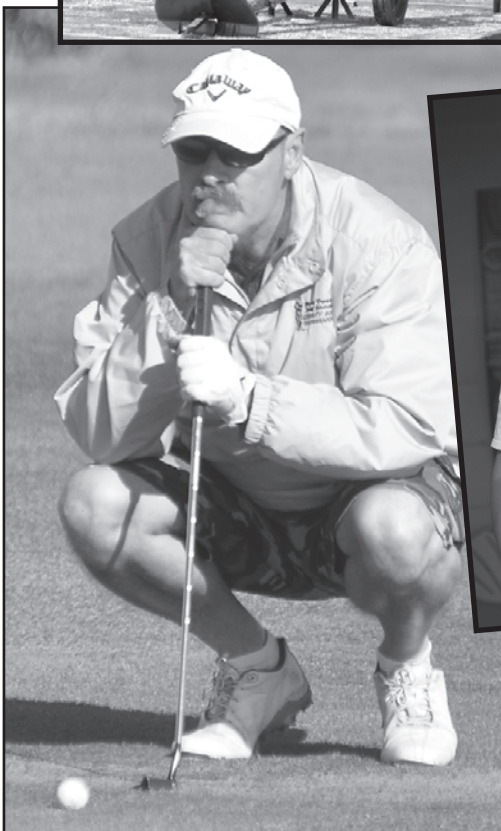
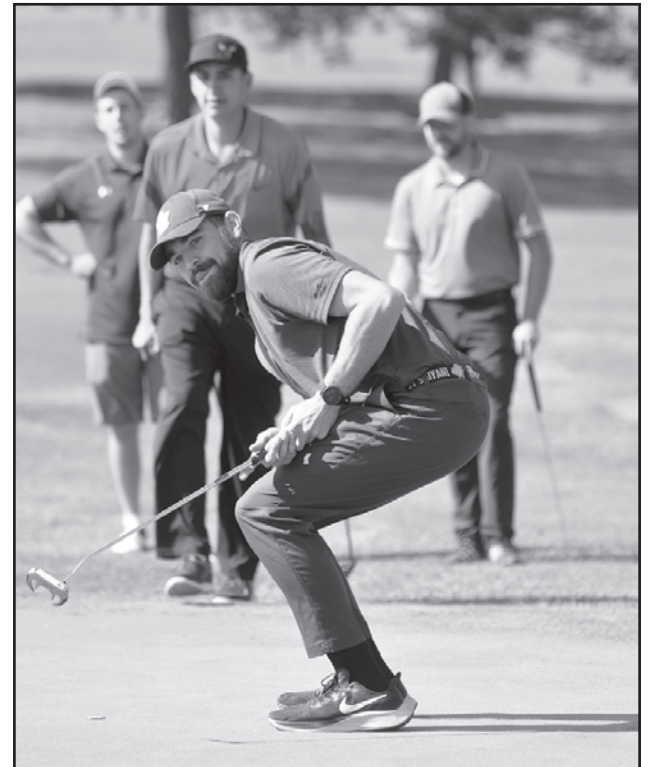
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Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



SHILO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

We are looking for ward representatives, vice-president



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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

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\$10 for first 20 words, 10¢ for each additional word Deadline for next issue: SEPTEMBER 16 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.

Registration

Brandon Curling Club located in the Keystone Centre has registration open now. We have league openings. Many evening leagues for men's, women or juniors. Visit new website www.branduncurlingclub.com or call 204-726-3560.

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.

Year later Pte Minary KIA when artillery hits his Lewis gun position Soldier writes home about shrapnel hitting his helmet

Note from great-great-niece Kendra Mindary: this is one of the few letters describing a bit more in detail the darker sides of the Great War and Cecil's experiences. Typically, he wasn't able to write about this sort of thing as the letters would get censored before mailing back to Canada.

829297
Pte C.E. Minary
France Aug 31 1917

Dear Edna

Well here I am again still alive and feeling fine as usual and hoping that this will find you all the same, I have not received any letter from you latly (sic) but expect one any day now, there has been quite a lot of mail these last few days although almost a month I got none at all hardly.

We are just out now after another trip in the

trenches and some trip too, the worst that I have been in yet. I guess you will have read something of the scrap that were (sic) in, in the papers and it was some fight too, I had a few close ones, was knocked of my feet once, blown down a dug out entrance another, and then a piece of shrapnel hit my helmet and put a kink in my neck for quite a while, but should worry, he has not found my number yet.

We had a bath and clean change of cloths (sic) the other day and it certainly made a fellow feel good, although I was not to bad off this time for I got a parcel just a few hours before we left to go up the line this last from Margaret Smith and there was a new shirt and a pair of socks in it, so I had a clean change anyway, there was a nice tin of honey in it to so there was some extra eats also. I got a parcel of eats the other night from a Mrs Anderson in Winnipeg, but it is all gone now.

They all seemed to be well at home by Annies let-

ter, the Boys have been doing well in Baseball she said that they had won two cups in two different Leagues and a hundred and twenty dollars in prizes and they were going to Souris on the ninth of August to play for a two hundred and forty dollar prize, so they ought to have a good days sport, I guess I'll be away behind the times when I get back, what do you think Edna?

I had a letter from Bertha Minary since she went back from her holidays and she sent me a snap of herself working in the hayfield, it is a good one too although she looked too well dressed to be working very hard.

Well Edna, this is all the news this time so will close hoping to hear from you soon.

With love to everyone your loving Cousin

Cecil
B. Coy Batt.
Canadian BEF

Letter home tells of soldier's death in 1918

Note from great-great-niece Kendra Minary: A little bit different kind of letter today. This one was written by soldier Cecil McKibbin to his father, describing what he knew of Pte Cecil Minary's death on Aug. 28, 1918. This letter was eventually passed on to the Minary family from the McKibbons. So heartbreaking, but having this letter helps complete the whole story of Cecil Minary.

France Sept 1st

Dear Father

Well just a few lines to let you know what I know about Cec. Minary as I guess Andy will be very anxious to know all he can about him. Well I can not tell you an awful lot, but I went over to the 52nd to see him to night (sic) and found out that he had been killed the last trip in the line. He was a No 1 on a machine gun and there was just one on there (sic) gun crew came out. The fellow I was

talking too (sic) was a fellow he was with the last time I saw him. He was one of his chums. The fellow that came out on the gun told this fellow about him. He looked at him the next day when they were coming out to make sure it was him. The fellow I was talking too (sic) got his pack and looked through it but could find no personal belonging to send home.

Its (sic) too bad as Cec sure was a good scout. Saw him three times so will miss him. I guess I am the only Wawanesa fellow left.

So I am not so awful unlucky after all. What say.

Got word that money was in the bank in Blythy also got that Post Office Order transferred so I can cash it in any Bank in France.

Well think this is all Hope business is good and that you are all well.

I am As Cor(?!)
Your Son Cec.



It has been 103 years Aug. 28 since Kendra's great-great-uncle Pte Cecil Minary was KIA in France.



NOTICE TO READERS

Newsprint is a porous material: there are no known cases of transmission of COVID-19 through paper products. The World Health Organization (WHO) says potential transmission of the virus is extremely low via commercial products. Papers are mechanically printed and bundled, wrapped for delivery and placed on news stands or delivered to outdoor points by our Base carriers. Be reassured, all of us involved in delivering the Shilo Stag to you are taking the recommended handling and distancing precautions. Newsprint does not transmit the COVID virus.

Fitness, sports and recreation manager Jim MacKenzie shows off the two Command Team coins presented virtually to Dale Bekar and Corry Goumans for their contribution to the Command Team golf tournament.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



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MASK OR FACE COVERING
MUST BE WORN INSIDE OF THIS BUILDING.

LE PORT D'UN
MASQUE OU D'UN COUVRE-VISAGE
NON MÉDICAL EST OBLIGATOIRE
DANS CET IMMEUBLE.



Golf supporters acknowledged with coins

Stag Special

Two individuals who have remained supportive of the annual CFB Shilo Command Team golf tournament were acknowledged virtually three provinces away when they each received a Command Team Coin.

This award was established to recognize the successes and outstanding achievements of the members of the CFB Shilo Defence Team as well as non-members of CFB Shilo whose contributions deserve recognition for support provided to members and employees on this Base.

The Command Team Coin is presented in the form of a coin which is given between the BComd and the BRSM to deserving military and civilian members and supporters.

Norland Limited vice-chairman Dale Bekar and blasting superintendent Corry Goumans from Pacific Blasting and Demolition of Burnaby, BC, received their Command Team coins from BComd LCol Chris Wood and BRSM CWO Jeremy Abrahamse during an online July 27 virtual presentation.

Goumans and Bekar were acknowledged by CFB Shilo's Command Team for their continued support to the CFB Shilo military community during the past 11 years.

Although Norland Limited and Pacific Blasting and Demolition may be located three provinces away on Canada's west coast, they have continuously been a part of the annual CFB Shilo Command Team golf tournament.

Norland Limited has been a significant supporter for this annual golf event held on the Base's scenic 18-hole golf course.

Goumans, whose brother is a Shilo resident and participates in the annual event, and Bekar have provided an array of prizes from Norland Limited for the past 11 years.

When the Command Team golf tournament initially started, CFB Shilo did not know about Norland Limited.

However, the company's desire to give back to the military community and, with the connection between Goumans and his brother Eppie, CFB Shilo has reaped the rewards.

On behalf of all soldiers at CFB Shilo, the golf tournament's organizer Jim MacKenzie offered his heart-felt thanks for being part of another successful tournament at the Shilo Country Club.



Dale Bekar and Corry Goumans have supported the Command Team golf tournament for the past 11 years.



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