

# NEWSLETTER

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CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDERS  
ASSOCIATION

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RR#5, SITE 6, COMP. 10  
SYDNEY, N.S. B1P 6G7

JULY 1995

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**ONE** of the world's greatest infantry soldiers walked the scene of time some 3000 years ago. We know him by his name David. He was a shepherd, poet, musician, soldier, and king. He is also renowned for his God inspired writings recorded in the biblical book of the Psalms. It is interesting to note that he credits the nation's victories to the Lord: "If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when men rose up against us: then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us." Ps. 124:2-3 (et al) Those of us who have survived the years can also thank God for preserving us unto the year of Jubilee. As we continue to celebrate throughout the year let us, with humble hearts, remember the ones we left behind as well as the many who have since passed on. A number of CBH vets went overseas to join first-hand in the V.E. Anniversary Celebrations with the citizenry of Holland while most of us had to settle for the doo-tube at home. The only CBHer most of us saw on T.V. was Tommy Kuchurean as he

rode on a truck in the big parade at Appeldoorn. One cannot help but wonder what effect this awe-inspiring demonstration of love and gratitude by the Dutch people for their Canadian liberators, has had upon the younger generation of Canadians (we trust that the many who have been sitting on the beaches of Normandy these many years have finally gained a little more insight into Canada's role in the war). The photograph shows a Dutch youth placing flowers at the grave of Sgt. H.D. MacLellan at Holten Cemetery.







**Top Photo: Bob Kipping and his wife Tamar, at Holten Cemetary**

**Bottom Photo: One of the hundreds of signs posted by the Dutch people to thank their liberators**



## **UPDATE NEWS**

A large number of the December 1994 Newsletters were returned because some members had moved while others had their existing addresses changed. I managed to pick up some local ones but many of the others are still unknown. If you are anticipating a change of address please remember to send a card to the Association. Sometime soon there will be a new address for the Association as well but we will be in the same location - a card will be mailed to each member in due time. If at any time in the future your mail does not reach us, you could call collect; the phone number is on the top of each Newsletter. A note of thanks to all of you who remembered to send in your change of address.

Our 26th Annual Reunion will be held in Sydney on Friday and Saturday September 15 & 16, with registration beginning at 1300 hrs. on Friday. Reunion Headquarters will be at Royal Canadian Legion Whitney Pier Branch 128. Reunion Committee members Bob Kipping and Hughie MacDougall reported everything in place for the reunion which promises to be an excellent festivity. The registration fee for the reunion will continue at \$25.00 per person.

With the passing of Pipe Major Billy Gillis there now remains two pipers, Danny Gillis Port Hood, and Archie Allan MacKay, B.C. and one tenor drummer, Melvin MacLean, Sydney Mines, these three, of our wartime pipe band.

You may now order your glengarry direct from:

L & M Highland Outfitters, Ltd.  
180 Wright Ave, Unit 1  
Burnside Park, Dartmouth, N.S. B3B 1R6

When ordering state Red and White Checkerboard border and size. They cost about \$65.00 plus shipping charges.

As of April 1, 1995, the Monument Maintenance Trust Fund stands at \$4,169.07. We had expected to reach our goal of \$5,000. by 1988. Now it appears that we will have reached it before the end of this year. Many thanks to so many of you for your very generous gifts of money.

Our reserve fund is in a GIC (1 year term) and it matured at \$5300.00 on June 21, 1995. Our general fund fluctuates between two and four thousand and as of July 5, 1995 it stands at about \$3,000.00. The trustees have access to the monument and reserve funds which are governed by a strict code. The executive have access to the general fund for the purpose of maintaining an active business agenda. Among other things this includes the publication of two newsletters each year as well as the gardening at the monument and the flags.

# DEATHS

Bain, Russell T.	82	Sydney, NS
Brophy, Allan M.	77	Kitchener, Ont.
Campbell, Jerry J.	75	Digby, NS
Cashin, Martin P.	76	Bras D'Or, NS
Gillis, Neil	74	East Bay, N.S.
Gillis, Wm B.(Billy)	81	Inverness,N.S.
Gauthro, John F.	69	Florida
Gunn, Wm. A.D. Judge	93	Moncton, NB
Jessome, Simon (Gordie)	86	Sydney Mines, NS
Layes, Joseph A.	79	Sydney River, NS
Lucas, Malcolm	84	Enfield, NS
MacDonald, Edison	?	New Glasgow, NS
MacFarlane, Angus J.	86	Glace Bay, N.S.
MacIsaac, J.D.(Little Judie)	76	Madison Hts.Mich
MacLeod, Alex J.	76	Dartmouth, N.S.
MacPhee, Charles	85	Glace Bay
Mulock, Raymond N.	84	Bridgewater,NS
Nicholson, Wm, R. (Rosco)	73	Glace Bay, N.S.
Norman, Leo Patrick	74	N. Sydney, NS
O'Dea, Ronald	70	Sydney, NS
O'Handley, James A.	72	Glace Bay
Peterson, L.W.	85	Truro, NS
Riley, Howard J.	79	Sydney, N.S.
Robson, John James	77	New Glasgow, NS
Rudderham, W.R. (Rocky)	84	Scarborough, Ont.
Tanner, William	78	Glace Bay, NS
Urquhart, Wm. (Billy)	76	West Bay, NS

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Many have survived the ravishes of war but all must succumb to the ravishes of time.

## A Hope For the Weary

*For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall behold, and not another. Job. 19:25-27*

I will sing of my Redeemer, and His wondrous love to me,  
On the cruel cross He suffered, From the curse to set me free.

I will sing of My Redeemer, And His heavenly love to me;  
He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God with Him to be.

## FROM THE PARK

A meeting of the 2nd Bn. NSII (CB) Unit Advisory Board was held in January 1995. Paul MacEachern and Bill Metcalfe were present as reps of the Association.

Here are some highlights: Brigadier Carl Arnold (ret'd) introduced a vote of commendation for LCol Rick Parsons CD, CO 2nd Bn. in view of his expertise in handling the affairs of the unit to which all those present wholeheartedly agreed.

Hon. Col Ted Slaney read a paper from a Canadian Military Headquarters group that addressed the militia programs for the whole country and again the commendation was given to Nova Scotia and to LCol Parsons in particular for the best program in Canada. We are all very proud of him for a job well done

LCol Parsons briefed the meeting on a number of activities which were most informative to the old timers who were present especially concerning Roles and Organization of Infantry Units.

The plans for the new 200 man Armouries was reviewed with all to bring the Senate up to date on the construction of the new facility. It is the CO's intent to make one room into a Highland Room that will contain the artifacts, pictures, and memorabilia collected that represent our past and our heritage. LCol Parsons requested feedback on whether he should make a move to secure current Unit artifacts that are in the Sydney Garrison Officers Mess, such as pictures and the Brass Bell. Of particular concern to the CO was the final disposition of the Colours and the German Eagle. It is the Unit's intent to designate the room in the new building on the top floor as the HIGHLAND ROOM and to line it with Oak display cases. Discussion took place on these issues and it was agreed that these items should be secured in the Highland Room for future generations and that all of the items belonged to the Unit and not the Mess. LCol Parsons committed to keeping the Senate advised of the new structure's development and of the Unit's success in securing artifacts throughout Cape Breton for future deposit in the Highland Room.

CWO John Clark (ret'd) presented the assembly with an update on the status of securing Highland Kit. At present orders have been submitted for the necessary equipment to dress a one hundred man guard. It is felt that we will meet our commitment of parading the guard for the Sept Freedom. Efforts to raise the necessary monies are still ongoing and it is hoped that the response to this drive will meet the challenge. New uniforms for the Band have been secured by buying the uniforms of the Royal Canadian Regiment whose band has been written off the order of battle. All ceremonial dress items are being recalled from the soldiers and will be kept in the Regimental stores and issued on as need basis. Sincere thanks to John Clarke for his untiring efforts.

Note: There was a notice in the Cape Breton Post that tenders would be close July 27 for phase one improvements at the Department of National Defence militia training installation, Victoria Park, Sydney.

**125 ANNIVERSARY**

**1871                      1996**

The Unit will celebrate its 125th Anniversary on October 13, 1996. When we hold our general meeting at our 26th Annual Reunion in September we would like to hear suggestions for activities at our 27th Annual to mark our 125th Anniversary. One thing that we could have is an Anniversary Cake and a Cake Cutting Ceremony.

The 2nd Bn has a brief projection of events for the militia:

- September (no date) 1995 - Freedom of Baddeck  
Parade at site of LCol Bingham's grave  
Firing Party and short service
- October (no date) 1995 - Highland March Inverness County
- January (1) 1996 - Levee
- April 09, 1996 - Vimy Day Cenotaph ceremony  
Lt. Governor Military Ball 125th Theme
- October 1996 - Freedom of the New Municipality of  
Cape Breton

Also in September 1996, the CBH Association will hold its 27th Annual Reunion 125th Theme.

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**Present Slate of Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>C.R. (Sharkey) MacDonald</b>
<b>V. President</b>	<b>Paul MacEachern</b>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>W.F. (Bill) Metcalfe</b>

**Area Representatives**

<b>Glace Bay</b>	<b>Robert H. (Bob) Kipping</b>
<b>New Waterford</b>	<b>Jake Ryan</b>
<b>Sydney</b>	<b>Ted H. Slaney</b>
<b>N. Sydney</b>	<b>Joseph (Joe) Corkery</b>
<b>P.E.I.</b>	<b>Mack MacKenzie</b>
<b>N.B.</b>	<b>Leon Sautiere</b>

## The Old Time Westerns

Remember when mothers and daughters went up and fathers and sons went down - that was in the days of the yodelling obituaries like Empty Saddles in the Old Corral, Old Shep and etc. Everyone who had a guitar, mouth organ, jews harp or a piece of tissue paper and a comb were strumming, singing, playing or bumming that wonderful old obituary:

Mother is dead and in heaven,  
Father is gone down below,  
Sister is gone to meet mother,  
But where I go nobody knows.

The first person in the song had to be a man otherwise she would have gone straight up! I wonder what effect the Women's Lib is having on this old reliable direction finder!

## The Fish She Is Very Small

Now that the grand strategy to destroy the Atlantic fishery has about reached its goal we can expect the next tin of anchovies we buy will have "Guaranteed 90% Turbot Content" on the label and as the rape of the fishery continues we should eventually see "Guaranteed 100% Turbot Content" below "The Fish She Is Very Small" on a tin of Millionaire Sardines!

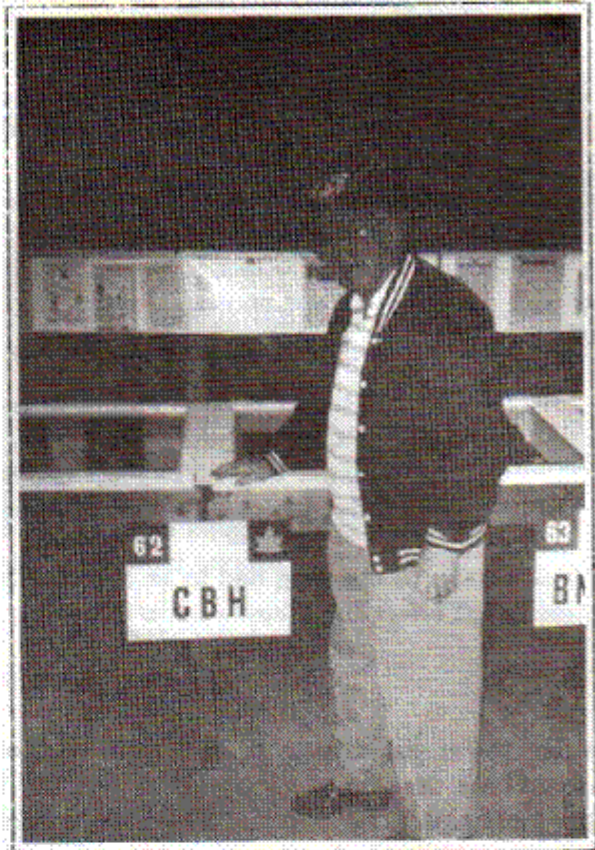
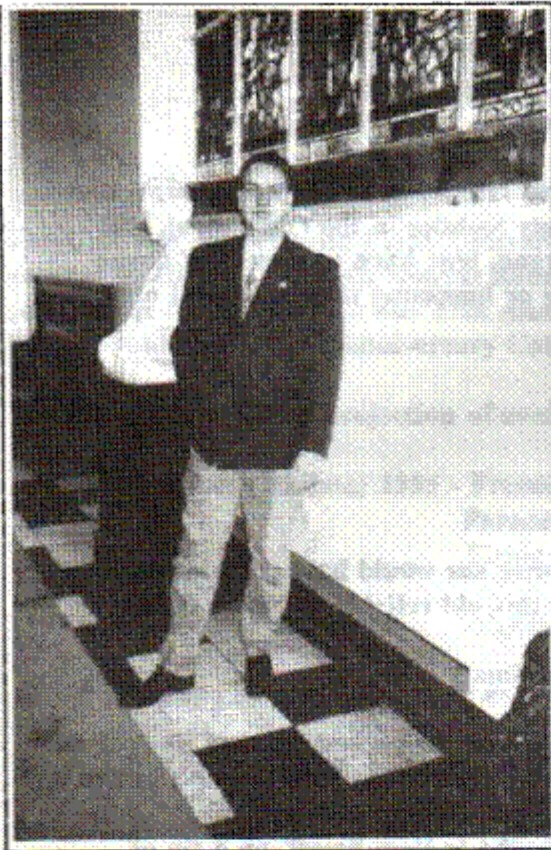
## Aims of Training

Remember when we would always repeat the aim of a lesson in weapon training and etc. The rifle: "The object of this lesson is to teach all ranks the most efficient way to handle the rifle in order to kill the enemy."

While we were at Camp Borden, Piper Billy Gillis was sent on a first aid course to learn the prescribed first aid methods for an Armoured Division. When he returned he set up a course of training for the unit. He was very determined to wipe out all previous St. John's Ambulance methods, which many of us were familiar with, and replace them with the Canadian Armoured Division methods, and he was adamant. One day while demonstrating pressure points around the neck and head, the young fellow he was working on fainted. Billy did not realize the great strength he had in his hand. After that, nobody wanted to volunteer for his demonstrations of pressure points.

Billy had many very rough adjectives and adverbs, and using his own mode of expression we invented an aim for the course: "The object of this lesson is to teach all ranks that the St. John's sling isn't worth a ??? to keep a man warm and comfortable." I never asked him what was wrong with a St. John's Sling for fear that I would become the first casualty to require Armoured Division First Aid!





Photos reading clockwise from top left: 1. Franz F.H. Lenseink, Delfzijl. Franz is a historian who is specializing in WW II and especially the battle for Delfzijl from both the Canadian and German perspectives. He is also an author and a guide along the route of our attack on the town and he is presently developing a war museum at Delfzijl. 2. Paul MacEachern was pleased to discover our unit's sign at a museum. 3. Joe Wassilaskus, Sydney Mines, and Mack MacKenzie survey one of the big ones at Delfzijl.

