

CSMMI *Journal*

WINTER 2014



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In This Issue

Admiral Sir Archibald Lucius Douglas, GCVO, KCB	1985
An Old Soldier	1984
A Note Regarding:	1986
Application for Membership	2004
Call to the Colours:	
The P.P.C.L.I. Title in the First World War	1994
Civilian Concert Party Of Canada	1993
Classified Ad Form	2003
Classified Ads	2000
In Memorial	1989
Journal Ad Rates	2001
List of Advertisers	1982
Message from The Executive Committee	1983
The Story Behind: "Silent Night" (2002 Movie) ...	1998
Tracing British Military Records Online	1988

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Message from The Executive Committee

2015 is our 50th anniversary
as a society and we have a lot to be
thankful for and excited about.

Quite a milestone!

I would like to thank Fred Tripp and Ken Keegan for all their hard work with the membership lists. 2015 will be a building year for the C.S.M.M.I. that will ensure our sustainability and relevancy for the years to come.

Due to increasing expenses within our organization we have had to have an increase in table fees to offset core costs. I would like to thank all of our bourse table vendors for supporting us on this. It is with you first and foremost we succeed with your years of knowledge and dedication to our Society.

Continued on Page 1990



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AN OLD SOLDIER

By Ross W. Irwin

There are many stories of child soldiers in the wars, some even children getting to the forward lines to do battle. A story I found in the Guelph Mercury was headed "Old Soldier Celebrates his 94th Birthday". This was printed in April 1931.

When additional sources are examined it makes a very interesting story.

William John Clements was born on the Island of St. Helena where his father was Drum Major of the 91st Highlanders. His birth date was April 12, 1837. He spent nine years on the Island and moved back to England when the regiment returned. Clements joined the Royal Artillery at the age of 20 and joined the Territorial's as Instructor when militia training began.

Clements immigrated to Canada in 1872 and joined the 13th Battalion at Hamilton. He soon moved to Guelph and became the Sergeant Major of the 30th Wellington Rifles.

The war broke out and the 34th Bn CEF was raised in Guelph. The battalion sailed for the UK with a strength of 41 officers and 1,102 other ranks, October 23, 1915. The 5ft-5 inches tall William Clements was one of the Privates. In 1915 his age would be 78!!! How did he get in?

Well, when you look at his enlistment papers he has stated his birth date as April 12, 1871 – an untruth by 34 years! However, cheaters never prosper and they caught him in England. As an aside, soldiers no taller than their rifle were usually assigned to the Pioneer Corps.

William Clements was a carpenter by trade. As noted he celebrated his 94th birthday in 1931 but died in February 1933 – the oldest warrior in Guelph.

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ADMIRAL SIR ARCHIBALD LUCIUS DOUGLAS, GCVO, KCB

by Ross W. Irwin

One of the few Canadian officers in the Royal Navy (but no connection to Guelph), Archibald Douglas was born at Quebec, February 8, 1842, the son of George M. Douglas. He was educated at the Quebec High School and as a boy of 14 (1856) entered the Royal Navy as a midshipman on H.M.S. Boscawen, flagship of the North America and West Indies squadron. He won rank as Lieutenant 1861; Commander 1872; Captain - April 20, 1880; Rear-Admiral - June 20, 1895; Vice-Admiral - May 5, 1901, Admiral - March 2, 1905. From February 8, 1907 he was on the retired list.

Douglas served in the naval brigade in the Congo and Gambia in 1860. He was Director of the Japanese Imperial Naval College, 1873-1875, and was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, 1st Class. In 1884 he was with the naval group in Egypt and became Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies squadron in 1898 and 1899. He was appointed the Second Sea Lord of the Admiralty from 1899 to 1902 and was head of an Admiralty committee investigating naval education in 1906. One of their recommendations was that engineer officers trained under the New Scheme of 1902 should have the opportunity to transfer to deck duties later in their career. He hoisted his flag on HMS Victory from March 18, 1905 to September 1, 1907. Douglas became Commander-in-Chief of the North America and West Indies Station from 1902-1907. He was made a Knight Commander of the Bath, (GCB) June 26, 1902, and Knight Grand Cross Royal Victorian Order (GCVO). He also held a Knight of the Legion of Honor (France) and the Order of Naval Merit, 1st class (Spain). Douglas held the Honorary post of A.D.C. to Queen Victoria and received an LLD from McGill University in 1910. Douglas died at Newnham, Hampshire, March 12, 1913.

Douglas had 4 children

Archibald Douglas, Commander RN, killed in action 1915

John Charles Edward, Major, Yorkshire Regt, killed in action 1915

David William, Lt-Commander, HMS Black Prince, killed in action 1915

Daughter ??

A Note Regarding: the gratuity paid to surviving veterans of the War of 1812

In the last journal I read with some interest the article about the gratuity paid to surviving veterans of the War of 1812. Our members may be interested in knowing that in 1875 the Parliament of Canada decided to honour living veterans of the War by voting \$50,000 to be equally divided amongst acceptable applicants. At the time, it was believed there would be few veterans still alive and that consequently those who qualified would receive a fairly handsome award.

To qualify an applicant had to provide proof of service by completing the appropriate forms (some still to be found at Library and Archives Canada); listing the names of their commanding officers, the unit they served with and the engagements in which they were involved. Before the gratuity could be paid the forms had to be submitted for approval. When everything was finally settled the total gratuity issued to approved applicants amounted to just \$20.00 per man.

In 1877 the Department of Militia and Defence published a report stating the, "names of all veterans who have proved their rights to partake of the grant... and the action taken in each case during the current financial year; also the names of all who have applied for a pension upon whose cases no decision has been given". This government document is available for researchers at the North York Central Library, the Toronto Reference Library and the Canadian Military Institute. I'm also sure Library and Archives Canada would hold a copy, although I've never had need to request access to their copy.

The copy at the North York library can be found on the 6th floor in the genealogy department, reference number 331.25291355C and at the Toronto Reference library on the fourth floor, film FCIHM 63006. The CIHM designation refers to the Canadian Institute of Historical Microreproductions, a web enterprise which reproduces significant Canadian documents for access online. By entering CIHM 63003 or the full name on your search engine researchers can view the 1877 report on their own computer.

If you're searching for your War of 1812 ancestors or to add documentation to the Military General Service Medal you own, it might be worth the effort to view the list of names provided in the report. The report itself offers the name of the applicant, place of residence, name of unit in which they served and if they were granted the bounty. More importantly it also provides some important reference numbers which should not be overlooked. Using these reference numbers researchers can now contact Library and Archives Canada and request the actual journal entry listing the veteran's submission for approval of the grant. What you will receive is similar to what was printed in our last Journal: name of applicant, age of applicant, known post office address and name of Member of Parliament, list of officers who supported the request for gratuity and a list of all the engagements in which the applicant fought. It will also state if the applicant was entitled to a medal. Interestingly, the gratuity was also awarded to Native Warriors and their names can be found in the final report too.

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Tracing British Military Records Online

By Ken Cox

Many times I have had collectors approach me about tracing British military records. Often it is difficult for us in Canada to fully document these records because in the past it has entailed hiring a professional researcher in England. However, in the last few years more and more of these documents have been coming online. So, what's new and what's worth checking if you're interested in discovering something a little more about the name on that medal, document or certificate of service?

Start your search at the U.K. National Archive (<http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/>). When you enter this site click on 'shop online' in the right hand corner and then the 'documentsOnline' found on the left-hand side of the page. What should appear is a choice of options for you to select from- for instance naval officers' service record cards have just come online. Click the 'search' option and then enter the information concerning the individual you are seeking. To download the file to your computer will require you paying a fee of 3.50 English pounds. There are a wide variety of Army, Navy and Air Force records for you to search with more and more coming online. Personally, I have found some very interesting information in World War I, Squadron War Diaries.

Your next step of course is to access the information on the two pay-per-view sites - Ancestry and Findmypast (<http://www.ancestry.com> and <http://www.findmypast.co.uk>). Both these sites are adding new military records regularly and in the last year have made available Victorian Era attestation papers and of course medal rolls. Ancestry is free at your local library and both sites can be accessed at your closest Family History Centre of the Church of Latter Day Saints. To find your closest L.D.S. centre go to: (http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/FHC_Results.asp?) or simply enter family history centres in Ontario in your search engine. You do not need to be a member of the Church to utilize their services and would be surprised by the military resources they have available for viewing. As an aside, If you're searching for information about First World War pilots don't forget to check the Aero Club records available on the Ancestry site. Many pilots acquired their training through this organization and unlike the government established training centres the 'club' took a photograph and recorded specifics about their students on individual

cards. If you're lucky you may be able to add a photograph to that RFC Victory Medal.

Sometimes it is almost impossible to acquire information through the obvious channels and this is when it might be worthwhile seeking help from other knowledgeable collectors or military historians. There are some very good 'military forums' online which are worth visiting. You can enter a request for information by joining a web forum and may be surprised by the response. If you're looking for information about British First World War records try <http://www.westernfrontassociation.com>. This site hosts some smaller military forums which can help you to narrow your search. If it's Victorian records your searching then it might be useful to visit <http://www.victorianwars.com>. The Napoleonic site at <http://www.napoleon-series.org> is also worth visiting and if you're looking for British Boer War information try <http://www.angloboerwar.com>. You can make requests about Second World War British merchant marine seamen at <http://www.mercantilemarine.org> and a site I've had some luck with <http://www.britishmedalforum.com> is also worth a visit.

Two other sites worth investigating are 'UK Military Family History on the Internet' (<http://www.ukmfh.org.uk>) and a site associated with Ancestry.uk and the National Archives (<http://www.theoriginalrecord.com>). U.K. Military Family History, or UKMFH for short, claims to offer over 1000 resources in all things military. This site can be searched by either category or country. The 'Original Record' site contains some fabulous digitised records including the Zulu War Medal Role for 1877-1879 amongst others.

Hope some of this information helps and good luck with your search.

In Memorial

From Andy Traverse

Brian McDonald, (C.S.M.M.I. Member 1778) passed away after a battle with cancer. He was an active supporter of the Society and in recent years he organized the security arrangements at the annual shows.

A keen collector of model soldiers and toy trains, Brian was also passionate about military history. His medal and badge collecting was specialised and centered around his historical displays to which such items added greater effect. He will be greatly missed by his large family and many friends.

Continued From Page 1983

As mentioned before we have 50th anniversary pins available to the membership and bulk rates for dealers as well. Please contact me if interested in purchasing these pins and wearing them to promote us in this key year. We will have them for sale as well at our monthly bourse shows. We also have high quality embroidered blazer crests that are available. Note that 100 percent of proceeds go right back into revenue for us so we can continue to function and keep our costs down.

Once again thank you Bryan Patterson for taking over the Treasurer position temporarily. We are putting a call out to anyone willing to fill this key role. Please contact me if interested.

The Society is in great need to fill the position of Web Master as Tim Burt is ready to retire. Our web site is one of our most important avenues in attracting new members and promoting the interest and goals of the Society.

The Executive Committee and myself wish you a wonderful and safe Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your President, Sean Bolger



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CIVILIAN CONCERT PARTY OF CANADA

By Ross W. Irwin

The Halifax Citizens War Services Committee formed a Concert Parties Division in early 1940. The group entertained at Halifax and Debert and in July 1945 sailed on the Ile de France to England to entertain troops still in the UK and Germany for six weeks. They gave 2,300 shows.

The Concert Party consisted of 13 uniformed men and women. They wore standard Canadian Army uniforms but included a maroon beret similar to the airborne forces and a shoulder title as described above. Their names:- Band leader, Hugh Mills, Julius Silverman, Fay Webber, Irene Spence, Lila and Charlotte West, Billy McGhie, Mary and Marjorie, Bob Bernie, Herb and Irene, Dorothy Hamilton.

The information was found in a recent seniors magazine.



Badge – shoulder title, cloth,
CIVILIAN / CONCERT PARTY / CANADA, with
CIVILIAN and CANADA in silver thread,
CONCERT PARTY in gold, on a dark green cloth.

Call to the Colours:

The P.P.C.L.I. Title in the First World War

©B. Alexander 2014.

On August 4, 1914, with Britain's declaration of war against Imperial Germany, the Dominion of Canada was also automatically at war. Immediately the Canadian government began mobilizing an overseas contingent. A wealthy Montreal merchant, manufacturer, and militia officer, Andrew Hamilton- Gault, offered to raise and equip an infantry battalion at his expense. To quickly field this unit the decision was made to recruit experienced soldiers, preference given to former British service personnel who had migrated to or were visiting Canada, and other suitable recruits, Canadian or colonial. Granted permission to organize the battalion by the Canadian government, the unit was named the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in honour of the daughter of the Governor General of Canada. The task of organizing and commanding the battalion fell to Lt.-Col. F. Farquhar formerly of the Coldstream Guards, assisted by the sponsor, and now second in command, Maj. A. Hamilton-Gault. The call went out, and within days the P.P.C.L.I. was recruited to full strength.

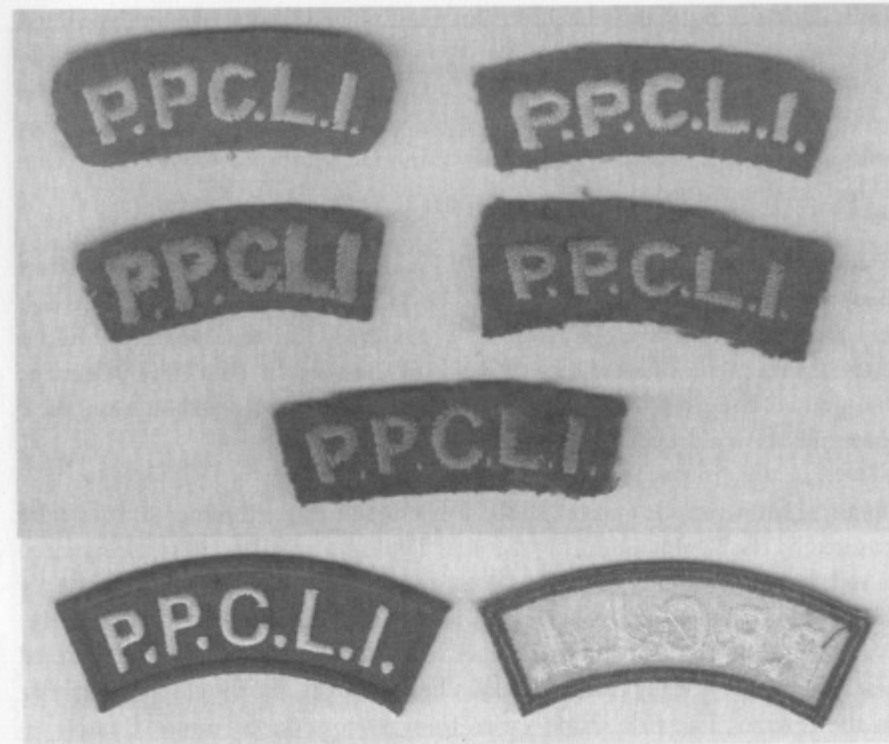
Wishing to unify and instill regimental pride and esprit de corps in the new battalion, Lt.-Col. Farquhar and Maj. Hamilton-Gault sought ways to achieve these ends. Modelled on the Guard's regiments of the British army, the PPCLI adopted many Guards practices.

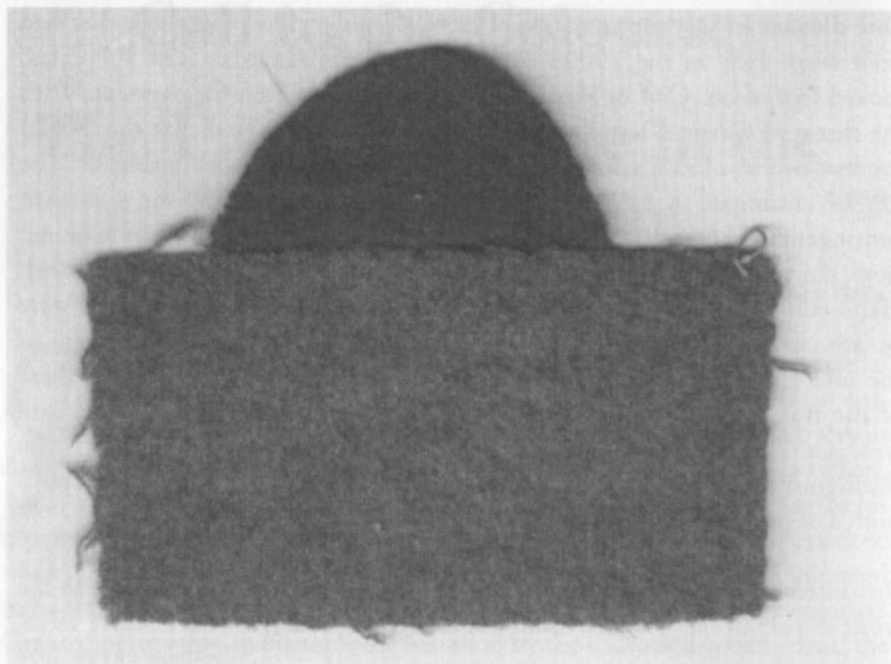


One distinction was the purchase of cloth shoulder titles, like those that had been worn early in the 1900's by the Coldstream Guards. The P.P.C.L.I. moved to Quebec City in September, prepared to embark for overseas. With the threat of German naval activity, the Royal Navy insisted that the PPCLI proceed overseas in the convoy sailing with the first Canadian contingent. The PPCLI encamped at Lévis, across from Quebec Waiting for the Canadian contingent to be assembled. While at Quebec, the first cloth titles were acquired from the most unlikely of sources, the Sisters of Charity (The Grey Nuns). Hand embroidered by the Sisters, the first issue of titles for the battalion were constructed of white embroidery on a scarlet arc. Using the abbreviation of the unit's name, the titles read P.P.C.L.I., with the colours reflecting those of the titles formerly worn by the imperial Coldstream Guards. Taken into wear while awaiting embarkation, the coloured flash on the drab service dress distinguished the unit from all the other Canadian battalions, and became a source of pride for the Regiment.

Recruited from trained soldiers, the P.P.C.L.I. were ready to proceed to the front as part of the 27th Division British Expeditionary Force in early 1915.

Continued on Page 1996





Under British command the battalion continued to wear the embroidered titles, which soon became a mark of distinction. In November of 1915 the P.P.C.L.I. was transferred to the 7th (Canadian) Infantry Brigade, part of the 3rd (Canadian) Division. The embroidered title remained in wear by the other ranks after the transfer; it was the only authorized embroidered battalion title in the Canadian Corps.

In addition to the shoulder title, the P.P.C.L.I. wore their unique battalion patch for the 3 (Canadian) Division, the green semi-circle over the French gray rectangle. The white and red title continued in wear on the shoulder of the P.P.C.L.I. tunics through the end of the war. In 1920, the Regiment was granted the dress distinction of wearing the embroidered title on their peacetime service dress.

Obtained from various makers, successive issues of the embroidered titles were acquired by the Regiment during the war. Typically, the titles were constructed on red or scarlet wool with various coloured backing material, usually a heavy weave white or buff coloured cotton with white or buff coloured embroidery. Documentation for the different issues has not been found; the First World War titles were typically embroidered in heavy cotton, showing heavy stitching on the reverse. The title shape varies from a pronounced upwards curve to

being nearly flat. Similar construction was used until early in the Second World War, making it difficult to determine the date of titles. Private concerns, such as Gamages, Hemsleys, and other suppliers offered P.P.C.L.I. titles for sale. Of varying quality, these were available to any officer or soldier willing to spend a few pence. Machine embroidered titles replaced the heavy embroidery titles during the Second World War.

The P.P.C.L.I. claims the distinction of being the first British Empire battalion to wear embroidered shoulder titles in the First World War. Setting the precedent for other distinctive cloth shoulder titles, the Regiment earned well deserved honours on the field of battle. The white and scarlet title quickly identified them to friend and foe alike. The distinctive P.P.C.L.I. shoulder title continued in wear through the inter-war period, through the Second World War, Korea and up to unification. Made redundant by Canadian Forces uniform policy in 1968, it was reinstated for a period of time before it was finally withdrawn from wear on the DEU. In 2013, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Regiment, the P.P.C.L.I. was granted the privilege of wearing their embroidered title on the DEU uniform until 2015.



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C.S.M.M.I. #422

The Story Behind: "Silent Night" (2002 Movie)

A German mother, Elisabeth Vincken (Linda Hamilton), who had already lost her eldest son in the Battle of Stalingrad and whose husband is a cook serving in the German army, and her son, Fritz, are seeking refuge in a cabin near the front lines in the Ardennes forests region of western Europe. They are invaded by three American soldiers and then soon after three German soldiers, and after much resistance the mother manages to convince the enemy soldiers to put aside their differences for one night and share a Christmas dinner.



The Germans were planning to kill the Americans, but eventually they and the American soldiers share their rations to make a proper Christmas dinner. This includes homemade cookies and other goodies. Throughout the night the Americans and Germans befriend each other, despite the fact that they will eventually have to return to the war. The next morning an American MP soldier comes and is surprised by what he sees. As he learns of what has happened he turns his rifle on the American soldiers and begins talking with the Germans. Realizing the officer is really a German soldier who has infiltrated the American lines, the Americans surrender and the three German soldiers get their weapons. The German infiltrator then orders the three other soldiers to execute the Americans. Just before he is about to shoot the mother, one of the German soldiers knocks him out, saving her. The soldiers depart, with the Americans taking the German infiltrator as a prisoner of war, and also one of the Germans, who is only fourteen - neither side wants him to die in a future battle. The Germans also return to their side. All say good bye and wish each other good luck for the rest of the war.

In the present day, an elder Fritz (Michael Sinelnikoff) is visited by Private Jimmy Rassi's grandson, Christopher, with Fritz handing over Rassi's dogtags.

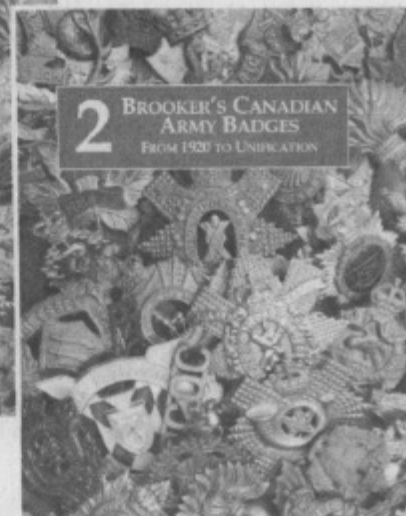
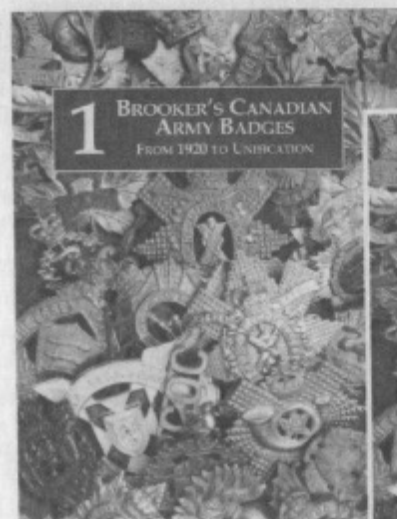
Notes:

This story was profiled on Unsolved Mysteries, in which Fritz Vincken was seeking the information on the soldiers. The episode resulted in Vincken being reunited with Ralph Blank. 1995.

Source: [wikipedia.org/wiki/Silent_Night_\(2002_film\)](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Silent_Night_(2002_film))

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519-942-4245. Please leave a message. (1)

FOR SALE: Canadian War Medals for WW1,
WW2, Korea. Also some British. Please visit my
website at: www.hughcrawfordwarmedals.net or
contact Hugh Crawford by Email for a CD copy
at wheelgirl77@yahoo.ca (2)

WANTED TO BUY Canadian Militia 1908
Star Pattern Helmet Plate #28. FENIAN RAID
MEDALS to the Stratford Rifle Company, Stratford
Infantry Company and 28th Battalion. WILL
PAY TOP VALUE. Please contact John Parker
(#678) by telephone at (519)-273-7568 or Email
ajyparker@sympatico.ca (5)

WANTED TO BUY Any item pertaining to the
Metropolitan Toronto Police Department - 1834
to present (badges, patches, photos, books,
etc.). Will also purchase existing police related
collections, corrections departments, forestry,
VIA Rail. Call Joe at (905)-431-6644 or Email
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Journal Ad Rates

In 2013, the Society will produce Journals and Newsletters. Advertising
in any or all of the publications may be obtained at the following rates.:

ADVERTISING RATES PER PAGE OR PART PAGE

AD SIZE	APPROXIMATE MEASURE (in inches)	RATE / ISSUE
Full page	7 1/4 x 4 1/2	\$ 50.00
Half page	3 5/8 x 4 1/2	\$ 25.00
1/3 page	2 3/4 x 4 1/2	\$ 20.00
1/4 page	3 5/8 x 2 1/4	\$ 15.00

Coloured advertising space on the Journal cover is available at a rate of
\$75.00 per issue and is assigned on a "first come" basis.

INSERT PAGES

Inserts should be of light weight paper and must be provided ready-
folded for insertion in the Journal mailings. The base rate is \$ 60.00 per
mailing but this may be subject to an increase should additional pages
result in an increase in the costs of mailing the Journal.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Payment must accompany the advertisement. The placing of classified ads
is restricted to C.S.M.M.I. members. Please use form provided in Journal.
Advertising space will be provided, as a service, to members who are
searching for items to buy, sell or trade. The rate for each block of 20 words
is \$2.00 / block of 20 words or any part thereof. Name, address, telephone
number, etc.. are NOT COUNTED as part of the 20 words.

Photographs for classified ads will be printed at a cost of \$ 10.00 each
(black and white). A SASE should be included if the return of the pictures
is desired.

Anyone interested in placing an advertisement should contact Fred Tripp
by E-mail at frathy@vaxxine.com, by telephone at (905)-934-3442 or by
regular mail: C.S.M.M.I., P.O. Box 28034, 600 Ontario St., St. Catharines,
Ontario Canada L2N 7P8

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Classified Ad Form

The following form may be used for classified advertising in future Journals. If there is not enough space, complete your ad on a separate piece of paper and attach it to the form.

NAME _____ NUMBER _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE / STATE _____

COUNTRY _____ POSTAL / ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

(Please circle the appropriate heading)

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Ad Rate: \$2.00 per 20 words or any part thereof.

Text of the classified ad at the rate of \$2.00 per 20 words or any part thereof:

Amount of remittance \$ _____ Please mail, with remittance to:
C.S.M.M.I. Journal, P.O. Box 28034, 600 Ontario St.,
St. Catharines, Ontario Canada L2N 7P8

Application for Membership

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY MEDALS AND INSIGNIA

(Founded 1965)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Please show any changes with a *)

Name	Membership Number	New Member
------	-------------------	------------

Address		
Street	City	
Province / State	Country	Postal / Zip Code

Communications		
Telephone Number(s)	Fax Number(s)	Email address

Collecting Interests

Do you authorize the C.S.M.M.I. to publish the above information ? If "YES" is not checked, then we cannot publish the information.	Yes	No
--	-----	----

(Signature)

(Date)

MEMBERSHIP FEES

\$35.00 (Canadian funds) for Canadian Memberships

\$35.00 (U.S. funds for American and Overseas Memberships)

Please enclose \$35.00 for 1 year renewal or \$70.00 for a 2 year renewal

Please return this completed form, with a cheque or money order made payable to C.S.M.M.I.

To: Ken Keegan (Membership Secretary)

P.O. Box 63075, University Plaza RPO

Dundas, Ontario,

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Early admission (8:00 am) to monthly shows.

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Would you be interested in receiving on-line copies of the CSMMI Journal ? YES _____ NO _____

CSMMI ANNUAL Show & Convention

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AUCTIONS

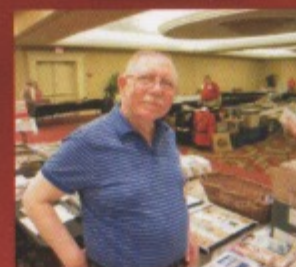
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