



THE GUARDS STAR

Editor: Cpl Jeff Kingsbury, guardsstareditor@gmail.com ♦ Deadline for submissions for the next edition is Feb. 15th, 2022 ♦ Send all submissions and email additions/corrections to the Editor.

- December 2021 -

From the GGFGRA President MWO Stephane Marleau, CD

As we approach the holiday season, we are all thankful that the Regiment has started to return to normal pre-COVID activities. We are still however under limitations for association members as far as access to Cartier Square Drill Hall and the various messes where our members enjoy meeting and socialising. We hope that soon these activities can resume.

I had the privilege of welcoming home two serving members that deployed to the Ukraine on OP Unifier. Captain Declan Lloyd and Sgt William Jason both looked tired but glad to be home after a successful tour.

It was also great to see the Regiment provide a guard and the Band for the Nov 11th ceremonies at the National War Memorial this year after a COVID hiatus. These things may seem trivial to some but forms part of our Regimental DNA.

The Association would also like to offer its sincere condolences to CSgt Rob McKinnon whose father recently passed away as well as to CSgt Kinga Golebiowski who lost her mother. Our thoughts are with both of them.

In the coming year we will see more 150th anniversary activities ramp up. As such, the executive will be looking for people to step up in key roles. COVID has limited our ability to have our annual AGM but we are hoping to rectify that soon and hope to have anyone interested step forward for the 150th anniversary year. If you have time and are interested, do not hesitate to contact me.

Up the Guards!



Message from the Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding LCol Vincent Quesnel, CD, AdeC

Fellow Guards and members of the Regimental Family,

It has been a very busy fall season as the Regiment has gotten back into the swing of things. This fall saw a return of many familiar activities, such as the National Remembrance Day ceremony. Messes have reopened with masking and distancing, and both collective training and support to Rideau Hall have resumed after their long hiatus.

As we've resumed the regular training cycle, our attention is turned to what lies ahead. Significant efforts are going into the planning of the next year, including training, courses, Ceremonial Guard, and Fortissimo 2022. We are also hard at work planning for the celebration of our 150th, with a number of key activities and projects on the go, and a series of 150th products are already available in the CANEX store, with more to come! (www.canex.ca, search GGFG)

As we approach the start of our celebratory year, and move into a season of giving, I'd like to highlight the work being done by our 150th Charitable Campaign. The charitable campaign is set to culminate after more than four years. To make the upcoming year a true success, however, we need your support.

The charitable campaign has been designed to celebrate our 150th by giving back to the community that has grown the men and women who have joined our ranks and brought honour to Canada. With both celebration and community building in mind, we are in the midst of a \$500,000 fundraising campaign for critical projects that reflect our values, our community's needs, and that reinforce our Regiment's contribution over the past 150 years.

Message from the Regimental Sergeant Major CWO Greg Witol, CD

Since the inception of the Charitable Campaign, we have met with businesses, community leaders and members of the regimental family to directly raise over \$415,000 in donations and anticipated commitments. Our campaign has already had a major impact in our community and achieved real results. For example, besides our direct contribution, the regiment has helped raise over \$1M toward Veterans' House: the Andy Carswell Building. This pioneering three-storey, 40-unit supportive facility was specifically developed to provide a home for veterans "on the streets" and for those at risk of homelessness.

I would be remiss if I did not highlight the tremendous generosity of our Honourary Colonel, Dr. Bryan Brulotte. Working behind the scenes, he has been instrumental in both our efforts to conduct the Queen's Guard in London and the key elements that will celebrate our 150th. The recent announcement of his \$150,000 donation is greatly appreciated and will ensure the success of our efforts to mark this significant anniversary. HCol Bryan is a tremendous champion for the regiment and we simply cannot thank him enough!

As 2022 draws near, the Regiment's leadership is now reaching out to the entire Foot Guard family including the Senate, the messes, the band and the Regimental Association to encourage individual donations. No amount is too small and every dollar will go a long way towards making our 150th an event that will be remembered for decades. We are particularly seeking support for the youth recognition objective of the campaign.

I would ask that every member of the Regimental family lend a hand in helping to raise the funds necessary to achieve our charitable and celebratory goals. We are asking you to consider a donation of \$25 per month from now until Dec 2022 (or an amount within your means, either monthly or a one-time contribution). We also ask that you spread the word to other individuals who might also be prepared to contribute to marking this important milestone.

Giving is easy - go to ggfg150.ca and click on donations. The link on the Association Member 365 website will collect funds and they will go automatically to the 150th campaign. Should you wish to direct some or all of your gift to the Charitable portion of the Campaign (especially the Youth Award), make sure to put "Charitable Campaign" or "Youth Award" in the recognition box. You will receive monthly notifications of charges and once complete, you will receive your CRA Official Donation Receipt by email. You can stop the payments at any time should you need to. They will automatically stop after December 2022.

In closing, with so much ahead of us in 2022, I wish everyone a very happy and restful holiday break, I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Up the Guards!



It is hard to believe that the first part of the training year is coming to an end. Autumn 2021 has proven to be a very busy period for the Regiment. With the re-start of courses, collective training, and ceremonial tasks, there have been few, if any, days that didn't have some members of the Regiment tasked for something. While we are clearly not free of all pandemic restrictions, the increased tempo is certainly a sign that things are re-opening. And with that re-opening, we have a lot to rebuild.

I had to travel to the UK with my civilian employment in late September, and used the opportunity to meet with the London District Garrison Sergeant Major at the Household Division, and the Drill Sergeant of the Coldstream Guards over at Victoria Barracks in Windsor. They were very productive meetings, and Coldstream is particularly keen to ensure that our Regimental Alliance is strengthened. We will be seeking opportunities for small unit exchanges both in the UK and here in Canada. The Coldstream Guards are very interested in the chance to do some winter warfare training with us.

On top of trainings and tasks, we are also slowly returning to a Regimental social life. The re-opening of messes has been quite welcome, with a farewell Mess Dinner by the Sergeants' Mess to note the departures of both now-Captain Neal Porter and Chief Warrant Officer Guy Doucette from their tours as Sergeant Major. The upcoming Junior Ranks Holiday Dinner and the Carol Service at St. Bart's will provide more opportunities to bring back important social traditions.

Finally, as we ring in the New Year, we will be leaping into our 150th Anniversary year. While there will be lots of other information on this topic in the Guards Star, I'm particularly looking forward to the release of our special 150th Anniversary PT programme, designed by some keen members of the Regiment to provide a 150th challenge. The full info will be available on the 150th website, and while I won't give away everything here, there will be a Sergeant Major's Challenge on top of the regular programme: 150 push-ups a day, for 150 days, to be done every second day (recovery is important!).

I will continue to stress the key elements of rebuilding the Regiment as part of the overall CAF reconstitution; we need to develop leadership, meet our taskings, and continue to build our physical and mental strength. The discipline and devotion to service shown by the Guards is unsurpassed, and we need to maintain that approach.

With the holidays upon us, I encourage you all to take some time with friends and family. Things will not get any slower in the New Year, and with additional

planned 150th events, I have no doubt that 2022 will prove to be a busy and productive year.

Up the Guards!



Donation of \$150,000 For Remembrance Day
HCol Bryan Brulotte, CD



On Sunday November 7th, during the annual Remembrance church service, the Brulotte Foundation donated \$150,000 to commemorate the upcoming 150th anniversary of the Governor General's Foot Guards (GGFG), and the Guards Chapel (St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church). Bryan Brulotte has been the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment since 2013, and has been kindly supported by his wife Kaitlin in this endeavor.

This donation is a sincere expression of thanks to those steadfast Foot Guard soldiers who have preceded us since 1872, and who's contribution shaped a great nation. By every measure, past-present-future, Canada is an extraordinary democracy. It has been forged by committed citizens demonstrating that merit, hard work, moral fortitude, cooperation, and personal sacrifice, can build a better tomorrow.

"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

Up the Guards!



The Final Assault
HLCol Mark A. Matheson, MSM, CD

The LCC has provided a general sitrep of the 150th Charitable Campaign elsewhere in this newsletter.

To me, the situation is like the final assault on an objective. Through skilful fire and manoeuvre, accurate supporting fires, stealth, guile and a bit of luck, we have advanced to a laying up point just short of our target. Concealed from view, ammo and water is being redistributed, NCOs confirm each soldier knows their individual role in the upcoming attack, gear is checked and helmets tightened. In a few moments, the word will come to fix bayonets. The only thing more chilling than the sound of that cold steel being fixed to rifles is the OC's whistle to begin the assault. "Alright - Let's Go!"

While not quite as dramatic as a deliberate attack on an enemy position, the regiment's 150th Charitable Campaign is in a similar position. Despite COVID (remember, the easy way is usually mined!) the GGFG have met or exceeded all our goals save one – the creation of a GGFG Youth Award to encourage leadership, social responsibility and community purpose amongst the next generation in the Ottawa region. Thus far, roughly \$15K has been raised towards our \$100K target to create and sustain the youth award. Clearly, more needs to be done.

The LCC has made a direct appeal to the regimental family encouraging individual contributions to either the charitable or celebratory portions the 150th anniversary campaign in this newsletter. I fully support that initiative and will soon make another contribution to the charitable portion of our 150th campaign. Working in close collaboration with LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay (Ret'd), Chair of the 150th Celebratory Committee, it has been agreed that any donations not specifically earmarked for either the charitable or celebratory sides of the GGFG 150th Anniversary Campaign will be shared equally. Given the range to our Youth Award target, however, I would like to request that members of the regimental family consider specifically earmarking a larger portion of their donation in support of the GGFG Youth Award. As highlighted by the LCC, giving is easy – just go to ggfg150.ca and click on donations. Your donation will go a long way towards making the 150th a success.

Besides your direct donations, we have also embarked upon another rather novel and innovative initiative to raise money for the Youth Award. Led by Darren Fleming of Real Strategy and Past President of the GGFGRA, and Capt Stefan Sikorski, our Director of Music, the Regiment intends to host a charitable boxing tournament next Fall with proceeds going to the GGFG Youth Award. As Stefan notes, such an event recalls similar competitions here in Ottawa during the Second World War. In addition to supporting a good cause, I'm confident that such a tournament will enhance esprit de corps throughout the regiment and 33 Brigade, while also promoting that all important military characteristic – fighting spirit. You will hear more about this exciting event in the months to come, but in the meantime please consider supporting the tournament either as a competitor, by buying tickets or other contributions to the event. I'm sure it will be a night to remember!

The motto of our allied regiment, the Coldstream Guards is Nulli Secundus or “Second to None”. After 150 years of distinguished service to Canada, I think that adage also applies to the Governor General’s Foot Guards. We have much to celebrate and commemorate next year, but your help is needed to ensure the anniversary is a success. Please “fix bayonets” and help us in the Charitable Campaign’s final assault. Thank you – Let’s Go!



**From the Executive Director,
150th Anniversary Organizing Committee**
LCol Fran Chilton-Mackay, OMM, MSM, CD (Ret'd)

The Organizing Committee continues to work hard on behalf of all members of the Association. The year 2022 is fast approaching and the scheduled events and activities we are planning will be well underway. In anticipation of the Regiment receiving the task to assume Public Duties in the United Kingdom in the early fall of 2022, we have had to make the decision to move the Reunion Weekend to later in the year. We want all members of the Regiment, past and present to be able to fully participate in the celebrations for our 150th. To this end the Reunion Weekend has been moved to the weekend of **Friday November 18th – Sunday November 20th, 2022**. Events will remain the same and adjustments have now been made to the 150th website (www.gfg150.ca). A link will be provided from the 150th website to book rooms for both weekends at the Lord Elgin and Chateau Laurier Hotels. In the New Year you will be able to register for the various events on the 150th website so we can begin to have a good idea of attendance and plan accordingly.

We are pleased to report that the CANEX online store now has nine GGFG 150th items for sale, with a tenth item, the anniversary whisky glass, soon to be added. Now is the time to visit the online store and make your purchases (a direct link is provided from the 150th website). For those who live in Ottawa, the

CANEX store at 4210 Labelle Street has all of these items in stock to purchase. Please check out the merchandise and support the Guards. Katherine Taylor, local artist and graphic artist is also completing the Guards’ 150th Montage that has been commissioned by HCol Brulotte. Once done it will be produced in various sizes and framing choices and will be made available on the GGFGRA online site (again a direct link from the 150th website). The Cut Knife Hill whisky is currently still available through that portal.



We are still looking for a few more volunteers to be part of the LPGA Women’s Open taking place at the Ottawa Hunt Club from Aug 22 - 28, 2022. With enough volunteers we will be given our own hole to manage throughout the week through their Adopt-a-Hole programme. This is an exciting opportunity. Please get in touch with me (mackay3468@rogers.com) if you want to be part of this great event and watch world class golfers up close and personal.

You will have read articles from the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel and the Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding in earlier pages of this Guards Star regarding our appeal to you to support the Charitable and Celebratory fund-raising campaigns. Words fail to express our sincere appreciation to HCol Brulotte for his most generous donation of \$150,000 to the Regiment and the Guards’ Chapel. Please help us to make 2022 a year to remember.

I will be continuing to update you throughout the year as we all look forward to marking this important milestone in the history of our Regiment. Mark your calendars! See you in '22!



No. 1 Knocks Off the Rust in Return to In-Person Training

Maj Nicholas Fysh, CD
Officer Commanding, 1 Company

For the Rifle Company, this fall has been a welcome return to in person training. Vaccination rates have allowed us to get back to more or less “business as usual” while still remaining vigilant and maintaining force health protection measures such as masking and distancing to protect against COVID 19.

We had a very busy training program this fall and wasted no time getting back to business. In September the company conducted our annual IBTS qualification shoots at Connaught Ranges qualifying on the C7 rifle, C9 light machine gun, and C6 general purpose machine gun.

In early October a handful of the Company leadership conducted a tactical exercise without troops (TEWT) in Petawawa. The TEWT allowed leadership to practice tactical planning in a defensive context as well as plan out the defensive position that was used on the company defensive exercise a few weeks later. At the end of October, we conducted a Company defensive exercise to practice the occupation of a defensive position as well as defensive routine. This exercise was a combined exercise with the Algonquin Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, The Irish Regiment of Canada, who the GGFG are grouped as part of the “North Star Company Group” for collective training. This grouping allowed all three units to participate in an integrated Company defensive position with a mutually supporting platoon on their flanks.

In addition to Company lead collective training, this fall saw a number of soldiers from 1 Coy able to participate in some excellent supplementary training organized by 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment (1 RCR). In September 1 RCR conducted Mechanized Infantry familiarization training where soldiers learned about the LAV 6.0 infantry fighting vehicle and practiced the skills and drills specific to mechanized infantry. In October 1 RCR ran mechanized live fire section attack training. Both training events provided excellent supplementary training for members of the company. At the time of writing, the company is preparing to participate in a 1 RCR battalion level exercise at the end of November.

Once again this year, CSgt Kowlessar has been running leadership development training program to prepare the regiment’s junior leaders to attend leadership courses this summer. This is some of the best training members will receive in their career and will set them up for success on future training.

On a personal note, I wanted to thank Capt Cory Wyne, and Capt Ryan Barber who stepped up to run the defensive exercise as I took a step back in anticipation of the birth of my daughter. I would also like to thank Maj

Brian Wright for stepping in for me as acting OC 1 while I take parental leave.

There is still some exciting training to come this fall as well as an engaging program coming up this winter that will include a patrolling exercise, and a live fire defensive ex. The rifle company is ready to conduct more challenging training and continue to build our skills.

Up the Guards!



We Will Remember, 2021

Capt Stefan Sikorski, Director of Music

Every year, the Regimental Band looks forward to supporting what is the most meaningful date on our calendar, November 11th. Unfortunately, last year we were not able to play for our veterans at the cenotaph as the pandemic was just cresting its second wave.

This year, despite numerous logistical obstacles, we were able to revisit our yearly tradition of performing our annual *We Will Remember* concert in addition to supporting the national ceremony at the cenotaph. As the title dictates, the concert was played to honour the sacrifices of past and present veterans through the universal language of music. As the famous Finnish composer once penned “Music begins where the possibility of language ends”. In order to amplify our message, the Regimental Band joined forces with the Ottawa Children’s Choir.

In order to perform safely, the band played inside Cartier Square Drill Hall with the front gates open, and the choir performed outside. The result was a live concert to an outdoor audience. The part of the concert that had a noticeable impact on the audience was when the band and choir performed the French setting of the poem *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae entitled *Au Champ D’honneur* by Laura Hawley. Another notable part of the concert was when the band performed *Lake Superior Suite* by Canadian composer Cait Nishimura. Each movement of the suite corresponds to different parks around Lake Superior capturing the Canadian social posture with eloquence. Many Canadians found refuge during COVID outside within our provincial and national parks. The band was lucky enough to have had time to rehearse the piece with the composer present virtually to give feedback and insight. During the rehearsal, Ms. Nishimura made a point of communicating to the band that the feelings engendered by her music were reflective of her own experiences on the land in the parks. The land that our veterans have fought so bravely to protect.

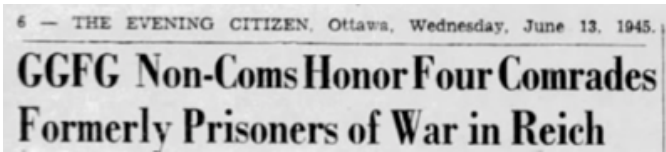
As an encore, the Regimental Band slow marched out of Cartier Square Drill Hall to greet the audience with the regimental slow march, Figaro, and quick march, Millanolo. The band is excited to continue

working with Cait Nishimura as she has been commissioned to write music for the 150th anniversary of the Regiment.



The Truck Driver Who Should Have Won a Victoria's Cross
Col Rob M. Foster, MSM, CD

Capt Neal Porter sent me another clipping from a newspaper, which was extremely interesting to read as it tells the story of the first soldiers of the Regiment to become Prisoners of War in the Second World War.



“Four Guardsmen proud of the tradition of ‘buttons two by two’ came home last night to be honored by the sergeants of the 2nd Battalion and their former comrades in the 1st Battalion in an extra mural celebrations held in the GGFG sergeants’ mess with the permission of Lt-Col P. Hannaford, officer commanding the 2nd Battalion. Welcomed by the colonel and the toast of the sergeants were: Cpl L. Pauze, 362 Friel street; Gdsm W.E. Webster, Ottawa; Cpl Walter George Simpson, 21 James street; and Gdsm. C. Brown, 439 Sunnyside avenue, captured at Dieppe and the first guardsmen to become prisoners of the enemy.

Cpl Simpson paid a warm tribute to Gdsm. Brown, only 19 years old. ‘he should have had a VC’ he declared. ‘I was in action with him at Dieppe. Brown’s truck was hit by a bomb which passed completely through his vehicle right over his knees. It failed to explode and then it came into our truck, the second in line. Then it let go. I got part of it in the face and right breast. But Brown kept carrying on with a grin on his face just pushing ahead and it was great inspiration to our boys. And believe me we needed it for we were blocked in many ways by sea walls and road blocks even after we got away from the beach blocks. When things really got going and we had a bridge blown behind us and were trapped, up there in No. 1 truck was boy Brown, still with a big smile on his face. You or nobody else will ever know what that meant to us right then. But I’ll tell you that is the kind of a boy who ought to have a VC. He was worth a half a regiment to us.



Cpl. George Simpson
Cpl. George Simpson Freed By Americans
After more than seven months in a German concentration camp, Cpl. George W. Simpson, son of

Machine Gun Hail. ‘We fought our way back through a hail of machine gun fire but finally it was of no use and we all became prisoners of the Huns. If things had gone right this probably might have been the start of the second front invasion but it just didn’t work so that was that. Brown went to camp with the rest of us as prisoners of war. But I’ll tell you right now if I was in a position to recommend him for a VC, instead of just a corporal, it would have been done. Forget the rest [of] us. But that Brown is a real soldier.

The reporter was unable to find Guardsman Brown who had slipped out of the mess while his comrades were offering him a tribute which, earned in battle, was apparently well deserved.”

To put the story in context it is important to remember the mobilization of the Regiment in 1940, training in Canada for two years followed by its conversion to tanks and becoming the 21st Canadian Armoured Regiment (G.G.F.G.) where it trained in England for another two years before landing in Normandy on 24 July 1944.

Brown’s story is the story of the Regiment and common to many Ottawa families as noted in the Evening Citizen from 1942, “Guardsmen Harry and Cecil Brown, two of the four sons of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Brown of 439 Sunnyside Avenue, think the British Isles are swell. They enlisted together and arrived in Britain last month and letters home are filled with their enthusiasm for the country and the people. Both boys mentioned the shortage of cigarettes over there. And reminded the family to keep them coming. Harry is 27 and Cecil is 21. They enlisted in the 21st Canadian Armoured Regiment of the Governor General’s Foot Guards two years ago.”



Gdsm. C. Brown

After landing in Normandy at the end of July 1944 the first month of the Regiment was the baptism of fire protecting the eastern-flank of the American build-up near Caen followed by moving into Falaise.

By the end of August the German defences were collapsing and they were in retreat. 21 Canadian Armoured Regiment, as part of the 4th Canadian Armoured Division was in the Centre with the 3rd Division on the Left and the Polish Division on the Right as they moved across the Somme River on 3 September, established a harbor for two days on the high ground east of Abbeville and then pressed forward to the Belgium border. Movement was swift and grueling as they

MISSING			
B	48894	Cpl. Ballargeon, A.	7 Sep 44
C	58898	Gdsm. Brown, C.	8 Sep 44
C	40137	Gdsm. Lavigne, R.	14 Sep 44
C	40148	Cpl. LeCompte, J.N.C.R.	7 Sep 44
B	48908	L/Cpl. McDonald, M.	7 Sep 44
C	58892	Gdsm. Morgan, T.A.	8 Sep 44
A	117031	Gdsm. Ondracka, L.W.	7 Sep 44
C	40150	Cpl. Pauze, L.P.	8 Sep 44
C	40130	L/Cpl. Simpson, G.W.	8 Sep 44
B	48820	Sgt. Stauden, G.	7 Sep 44

travelled roughly 500km in just over a month bypassing enemy pockets (such as the port of Dunkirk) to disrupt and break the will of the German Forces. The Regimental history of 1948 describes what this meant to the supply lines, "...the unhappy task of moving their columns of unarmoured vehicles through territory in which large pockets of enemy still held out. On September 8th the ration clerk, L/Cpl Simpson, in a truck driven by Gdsm Morgan, and the mail clerk, L/Cpl Pauze, in a truck driven by Gdsm C. Brown, set out for the ration point to collect the day's supplies. The route was badly signed and the trucks inadvertently drove to the outskirts of Bergues (about 16km from the hq). Here they found the road blocked by a blown bridge and as they attempted to turn around a curtain of mortar and machine gun fire was brought down. Abandoning the vehicles they were immediately surrounded by a platoon of enemy infantry and the entire party was taken prisoner, L/Cpl Simpson receiving minor wounds. The mail truck later was recovered, and while the parcels it carried were missing, the letters were still there. Curiously enough, all the stamps were cut off the envelopes, though the letters inside were undisturbed. Taken to Bergues the party was joined by Sgt. Stunden, who had been captured the previous day."

The War Diary for September has only one small paragraph "Great concern was shown over the missing of our two supply lorries, carrying the ration clerk and our postal orderly. So far nothing had been heard of in regards to their whereabouts after being absent for over 24 hours."

The parents of Guardsman Brown learned that their youngest son was missing on 27 September 1944. "Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs Edwin Brown, that their son, Gdsm Cecil W. Brown, 23, has been missing overseas since September 8." It would be another six months before the family would learn that he was alive and a prisoner of war. "Reported Prisoner. Gdsm Cecil W. Brown, aged 23, who was listed as missing last September while serving overseas with the GGFG's, is now reported to be a Prisoner of War. One of five members of his family in the services, Gdsm. Brown went overseas in October 1942. One brother is in Italy, and a sister is a CWAC corporal stationed in Ottawa."



All of the families waited with fear and dread when they received the memorandum that their family members were missing. Imagine waiting six months to learn that they were prisoners of war and then another six months to learn that they were free and on the way home! "2 Ottawa Soldiers, ... Now Reported Free. Two Ottawa ... men are officially known to be liberated from enemy prison camps, Defence Headquarters announced yesterday. They are Gdsm Cecil Brown, 4, L.Cpl George W. Simpson. ... Cpl Simpson was held for more than seven months in a German concentration camp. A member of the GGFG, Cpl Simpson has been overseas

since October 1942 as a Transport Driver. Prior to the outbreak of the war he was employed by an optical company here."

After returning to Ottawa Guardsman Brown met Irene Miller on a blind date in Ottawa and they married in June 1946. He made the Canadian military his career retiring in 1971 at Ottawa. Upon retirement he moved to Winnipeg MB & worked briefly with Canadian Corps Of Commissionaires. He had two sons with Irene Joan Miller between 1947 and 1954. He died on September 20, 2003, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the age of 82.



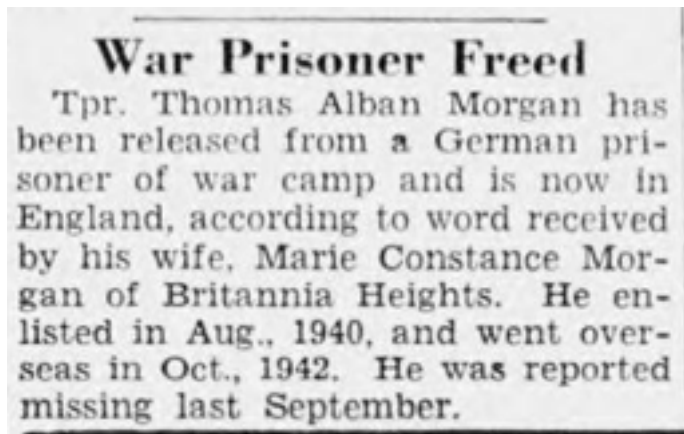
Cpl Phil Pauze who joined the GGFG in 1930 was known for skills as a hockey player on the amateur circuit. He signed up for active duty in 1939 and in 1942 went overseas as a transport driver and was eventually assigned the task of postal clerk. He was released as part of a prisoner exchange like his comrades. He remained an active member of the GGFG after the war retiring as a Sergeant in 1957 although he remained with the Association well into the 1960s. He married Vivian Cunningham in 1948 and spent their lives together until he passed in 2006 at the age of 86.

Cpl Simpson joined the GGFG in 1933 and was also part of the hockey team. He continued to serve in the Regiment on his return retiring in 1951. He married Edith Prentice on 3 September 1945. He passed away on in Renfrew on 8 March 1998 at the age of 82; his wife of the time was Rose Yantha.

An article in the Evening Citizen highlighted that Pauze and Simpson had the strange relationship of doing everything on the same day: joining for overseas duty with the GGFG, travelling overseas, being awarded the efficiency decoration on the same day, being captured together, liberated and returning to Canada. They both were accepted into the Civil Service and later joined the 2nd Bn, GGFG on the same day.

Gdsm Thomas Alban Morgan was the driver with Cpl Simpson and not mentioned in the reunion at the Sergeants Mess. He was taken prisoner and released with the others when liberated by the American military. He arrived in England in late April 1945. He was

married, at the age of 26, prior to serving overseas to Marie Constance Veladie Desormeaux on 25 Oct 1935; his occupation was monument designer. Marie filed for divorce in 1949 from Detroit where she had been living with her brother since 1937. It is not clear whether the divorce was actually carried out as all future references in the newspapers mention them as husband and wife. Morgan's father, Sergeant Owen Morgan served in the GGFG until his untimely death from an automobile accident in 1930 at the age of 46. He served in the Great War with the Iron Second where he was wounded along the Ypres salient on 23 Apr 1915. At the time of his death he was a member of the money order department of the Post Office Department.



The story of the four Guards who survived as Prisoners of War in the Second World War provide an interesting snapshot into our past and remind everyone of the importance of our support staff.

As always, if anyone has further information on this story or the members mentioned please let me know.



When A Father and Son Directed the GGFG Band Maj Jim R. Milne, OMM, CD (Ret'd)

In June 1872 when Tomas Ross applied to the Minister of Militia to be granted permission to form the Governor General's Foot Guards he stated in his letter "I have at my disposal a complete band who are prepared to enter at once in the new battalion." That band made it's first appearance at the end of that month at the departure ceremony for Governor General Lord Lisgar. The band soon established itself as an important part of the military and musical life of Canada's growing Capital City.

During it's first twenty-eight years of existence the band had five Bandmasters, some of whom served in that post more than once. By 1899 the Lieutenant Colonel Commanding the Regiment - Lt. Col. Jarvis -

decided that the band was being held back by of the lack of a steady hand in the band's leadership, and he set out to correct the problem. Early in 1900 Jarvis announced that he was appointing Joseph Miller Brown to be Provisional Bandmaster of the Regimental Band of the Governor General's Foot Guards. The appointment was confirmed on July 3, 1900. The position included employment in the civilian section of the Militia Department.

Joseph Miller Brown was born in Richmond Ontario on November 3rd, 1867. He came from a musically active family and was related to the internationally known Brown Brothers of Lindsay Ontario. As a teenager he served with the Ottawa Brigade Artillery Band and later the GGFG Band playing the Cornet. In 1886 he enrolled in the West Point Military Academy Band. The West Point Band was at that time directed by Arthur A. Clappe, who had been Bandmaster of the GGFG Band from 1877 to 1878. After two years at West Point Brown, he was promoted to 1st Class Musician and Solo Cornet. In 1891 Brown left the West Point Band to join the 1st Cavalry Band at Fort Grant, Arizona as their Bandmaster.

At the turn of the 20th century Ottawa was a growing community with a population of about 100,000 people, with another 11,000 on the Quebec side. There was a thriving music community as people liked to attend concerts, theatrical productions and dances. They also participated in the thriving music community as playing an instrument was a popular past time. There was also a small but thriving professional musician population, who performed in the numerous theatres and concert/dance halls in the city. In addition to the Band of the GGFG, the 43rd Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles, and the Artillery Brigade Band, there were civilian organizations bands such as the Masonic Lodge that had bands. Needless to say, there was competition amongst the bands for musicians to perform with them.

Militia pay was negligible in those days. The Bandmaster received a honorarium from the regiment and the musicians were paid by the money earned from engagements. Nor were instruments and music scores supplied to the bands by the government. The Bandmaster was expected to secure the engagements to cover those costs. Bandmaster Brown appears to have been successful in doing so. On June 1, 1903, the Ottawa Citizen newspaper reported that "the Ottawa Electric Railway is to employ the newly formed Garde Champlain Band for the concert as the GGFG has more work than it can attend to, and the 43rd Duke of Connaught's Own Band is holding out for more money as it is not so successful in securing engagements as the other band." By 1907 the GGFG Band had grown to 55 members. It had the most prominent position in the National Capital, including in New York State, providing steady employment for its members.

During World War One the GGFG Band was not activated, but it kept busy playing for patriotic events by using older members, or those in protected jobs.

However, Captain Brown, as he then was, took on the responsibility of forming two bands for the CEF, those of the 2nd and 77th Battalions.

By 1922 the band had begun to resume its pre-war activities. In that year the music reviewer of the Ottawa Citizen, T. Palmer, attended a concert by the band, and commented in the newspaper that "it was the first time in some years that the band had been heard at full strength, this being fifty all told." Also, that he was surprised that Ottawa had such a fine band.

In September 1923 Captain Brown became ill and died following surgery. He was accorded one of the largest military funerals Ottawa had seen and was interned at Beechwood Cemetery. He was succeeded as Bandmaster by his son, Joseph Thomas Brown. The new Director was born at Fort Grant, Arizona on February 14, 1895, He unofficially joined the GGFG Band at nine years of age playing the clarinet. Later he performed both the clarinet and saxophone with Orville Johnston orchestra and MacIntyre's Orchestra at the Chateau Laurier Hotel. He was also employed with the Post Office Department, but later moved to same position his father had held with the Militia Section, Dept. of Public Printing and Stationery.

During his tenure with the band, it continued to hold its position at the top of the musical life in Ottawa, playing many concerts in Ottawa, throughout Eastern Ontario, and northern New York State. In 1926 he was presented with an autographed photo portrait by Governor General Lord Byng, who praised Brown's work.

A highlight of Brown's Directorship was the band's December 1925 visit to New York City for the opening of Madison Square Garden and the introduction of National League Hockey to the city. The Ottawa Citizen headlined "Great ovation given to GGFG Band in New York", and "tremendous impression made upon New Yorkers by the appearance of Canada's crack regimental association." A special dispatch from New York stated: "The Foot Guards have virtually taken New York by storm. They are being lionized and may be induced to stay longer than originally planned." (They didn't).

Joseph T. Brown's successful work with his band led to his being commissioned as a Lieutenant in 1926 and in May 1927 he was appointed Director of Music GGFG, thereby becoming the youngest Director of Music in the Canadian Militia.

A major problem that Captain Brown had to face was the disappearance of employment opportunities for musicians. The disappearance of theater pit orchestras with the growth of "talking" movies, and people staying at home to listen to the radio rather than going out for entertainment. In a letter to the President of the Regimental Band Committee Capt. Brown wrote that "I regret to state that mechanical music is having a sad effect on all bands. In our own band a large percent of

musicians has made, in the past two years, about one third of what was made in previous years." It should be noted that Militia pay was very small compared to today. In addition, the band and regiment had to supply funds for purchase of musical instruments, music and other supplies.

One month after being promoted to Captain in 1932 he led the band through one of the most ceremonial functions performed by the regiment up to that time. To mark the GGFG's Diamond Jubilee, the ceremony of Trooping the Colour and Presentation of New Colours was performed at Rideau Hall. At the same time the Imperial Conference was being held in Ottawa and the Guards Band performed at a gala concert of Canadian artist at the Capital Theatre.

In 1934 the Lion's Club of Ottawa decided to sponsor a boy's band and Capt. Brown agreed to conduct and train the band with the assistance of Senior NCOs from the GGFG Band. During its existence the Ottawa Boys Band supplied many young instrumentalists to the GGFG Band.



In 1937 the GGFG Band performed at the opening of the International Peace Bridge before a distinguished audience including President Franklin Roosevelt and Prime Minister Mackenzie King (pictured above). This was one of the last major functions that the band appeared under Captain Brown.

In 1938 Captain Brown retired from the army to form a band for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He was appointed the first Director Music in the RCMP. After a further distinguished career with the RCMP from which he retired in 1949. Joseph T. Brown died in June 1956 and is also interned at Beechwood Cemetery.

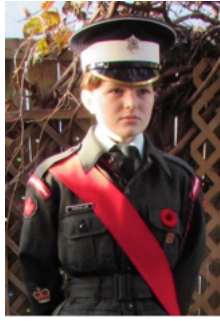
As a footnote to this article, many of you will remember Joe Pelisek, who held the position of President of the Governor General Foot Guards Regimental Association for a number of years. Through his mother, Joe was a grandson of Joseph T. Brown.



Off the Webcams and Onto the Parade Square: Update from 2784 GGFG Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps

C/CSgt Artemis Riedmueller

The GGFG cadet corps has always strived to educate and encourage cadets, and contribute to our community. These goals have become more important than ever during the pandemic. This past year, our senior cadets and officers have worked tirelessly to provide fun and educational zoom classes every Wednesday night to continue cadet training during the lockdown. Thanks to them, we are able to return stronger than ever. We have many new recruits, as well as returning cadets who were able to complete star level training last year and have received promotions. All of us were very excited to begin the new training year in person and get back to cadets as it once was.



We are all very excited to begin regular training and start doing all the activities that have been missed during the past year, but it is also important to work on essential cadet skills that we haven't had the chance to practice. Our classes will be focusing on reviewing drill and dress, which many cadets haven't had the chance to learn during the pandemic.



One of the things we've missed the most is outdoor activities such as FTXs. Already, many cadets have had the opportunity to participate in a few exciting events. For example, in October, cadets had the chance to go to Connaught Ranges to learn about air rifle marksmanship and abseiling.



This is just the beginning though; during the next year, cadets will get to go on many other fun activities. Before the pandemic, our corps did three field training exercise trips each year, which we unfortunately had to cancel. Luckily, this year we will be doing multiple day-long outdoor expeditions, during which cadets will learn orienteering, shelter building, fire building and many other important survival skills. We will also be starting a Marksmanship team, where cadets will be able to practice and improve their marksmanship skills and perhaps get the chance to compete in a regional Marksmanship competition in March, pending pandemic restrictions.

Another event that cadets have been encouraged to participate in is Remembrance Day activities. In the week leading up to November 11th, cadets volunteered to distribute poppies and collect donations for the Legion. The Poppy Campaign is a great way to contribute to our community as well as to support and show respect to the Veterans that have fought to protect many of the things we value. Twelve cadets from our corps were asked to be a part of the National Remembrance Ceremony at the National War Memorial. Three cadets were chosen to be part of the national color party and held provincial and territorial flags during the ceremony.



In the next year, the GGFG cadet corps will continue to work hard and have fun as we return to in-person activities. Thank you again to all our senior cadets and officers who have made all of this possible.



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