



## **APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER**

**Meet and Greet:** Wednesday 9 April 2014 -11:30 hrs (lunch service begins)

*(Please bring a guest)*

**Meeting Start:** 12:00 hrs

**Speaker:** Joe Chaisson , WW I: Re-enactor:

War Underground: Presentation on Tunnelling

**Lunch Menu:** Garden House Salad with *The Catering Company* Signature Dressing

Chef's Choice Of Soup

Assorted Premium Sandwiches on Artisan Buns

Shepherd's Pie / Beef Gravy / Roasted Vegetables

Coffee, Assorted Desserts

### **Speaker For 9 April 2014 GCC Meeting**

Joseph Chiasson retired from his position as Chief Engineer for London Health Sciences Centre where in addition to regular duties as Chief Engineer of the Powerplant and Utilities Coordinator, he served as head of the confined space rescue team. Joe has a BA (History) from UWO and is heavily involved in WWI education programs for the *History Matters Association* that targets primarily Grade 10 students in the London, Owen Sound and Mississauga areas. Joe presents on a number of subjects including the underground war and has re-enacted the American Civil War, War of 1812 and World War One. Please join us at 11:30 am on Wednesday, 9 April when the lunch service begins. The meeting begins as usual at 12:00 hrs.



## Speaker Roster- 2014

Below is the program planning for the remainder of 2014. Please note these dates in your calendar.

14 May 2014	London Police Services	Chief Brad Duncan
11 June 2014	Territorial Battalion Groups	L Col Joe Robinson
10 September 2014	COS 31 CBG – Present & Future	LCol Dan McLean
8 October 2014	HMCS Prevost & The Naval Reserve	LCdr Iain Findlater
12 November 2014 (Speaker and AGM)	WW II Battle of Ortona	LCol Joe Murray

## GCC Executive/Past Presidents' Retreat



On Saturday 22 March, the GCC executive and past presidents participated in a retreat focused on reviewing the GCC's mission, key activities and other related matters. A key question for GCC is "Where are we going for

the next 3 years?" and discussions served to lay the foundation for a 3-year plan. Initial work begun at the retreat will be reviewed and discussed further at the next executive meeting, then brought forward to the GCC membership for its consideration. Linda Lustins did an excellent job facilitating the discussion; Linda's full profile can be viewed at <http://ca.linkedin.com/pub/linda-lustins/25/571/aa3> It was clear from discussions that the GCC's mission continues to focus on building a greater understanding of the Canadian Forces within the civilian community. Our mission will continue to drive and give direction to our activities.

### **Randy Warden Receives Lieutenant Governor's Military Service Pin**

As background to this recognition of Randy Warden, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor (Saskatchewan) indicates the following about the military service pin.

Throughout our history, men and women have served in wars, dangerous peacekeeping missions, and vital domestic operations. They have made enormous sacrifices to represent our nation and to defend the principles of peace, freedom, and justice. The Lieutenant Governor's Military Service Pin symbolizes the gratitude of the Crown and the people of Saskatchewan for those who have served with honour and valour. The pin is intended to be worn on civilian clothing, so that we might recognize those who serve when they are not in uniform.

Randy Warden's military service took him to Saskatchewan a number of times, both to Regina and to Canadian Forces Base Dundurn. After his military service, he lived in Saskatoon in 1984 and 1985.





Page 4

<http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

Randy served in the regular force with 2nd Battalion, *Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry* and achieved the rank of Sergeant. He then served for more than ten years with the supplementary reserve followed by two years as a reservist with 4th Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment here in London. Congratulations Randy !



### **"Col. Bob Newman Memorial Golf Classic"- Thursday 12 June 2014**

This is a reminder that the Garrison and Commissionaires are holding the "Col. Bob Newman Memorial Golf Classic" as a joint Golf tournament on Thursday 12 June 2014 at the Forest City National. Cost is \$100.00 which includes a Golf Cart (a must) with a GPS so that you know your yardage at all times. A steak dinner at the mess is included as well as a large prize table. This is a best ball play and all are more than welcome to participate.





# THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

London & Region

Page 5

<http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

## News from HMCS Prevost

HMCS PREVOST sends congratulations to shipmate and Public Affairs Officer Lieutenant (Navy) David Lewis for his award on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 of the Meritorious Service Medal. Shown with David is his wife, Sherrie, and Governor General David Johnston at Rideau Hall in Ottawa after the Ceremony. The Meritorious Service Medal recognizes a military deed or activity performed in a highly professional manner, according to a very high standard that brings benefit or honour to the Canadian Forces. David was recognized for his efforts at the design, creation and dedication of the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial at HMCS PREVOST, preserving the memories and legacy of our Royal Canadian Navy and its efforts during this long fought battle on the North Atlantic from 1939-1945.



Lieutenant (Navy) David Lewis shown with David is his wife, Sherrie, and Governor General David Johnston at Rideau Hall on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014.



## **31 Canadian Brigade Group Commander's Column- An Informal View of the Brigade's Activities**

*This short article, normally penned by a member of the Brigade staff, will offer a casual look at ongoing activities in 31 CBG. Written with an intent to avoid heavy use of military lexicon, acronyms and abbreviations, the Commander's Column supports information sharing to groups with diverse backgrounds and will, hopefully, offer a less formal view of the Brigade overall, or the examination of specific issues or events. I welcome suggestion of topics you would like to see covered in these columns.*

*B.A Millman Colonel Comd*



"How was the North?" ...

..."Cold"

The Canadian Arctic is vast, beautiful, and a challenge to human survival, even with the most modern clothing and equipment. But the enduring sense of it that many winter visitors return with is that the North is "cold." In February 2014, over 300 soldiers, mostly from 31 Canadian Brigade Group (31 CBG), were in the Arctic for a training experience that all will look back on with pride of accomplishment.







## THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London & Region

Page 7

<http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

31 CBG can take pride in the successful completion of Exercise TRILLIUM RESPONSE 14. This exercise, conducted in the area of operations of Joint Task Force – North, was coordinated and supported primarily by 31 CBG. The central training audience was the 4th Canadian Division's Arctic Response Company Group (ARCG) which has been formed by the Grey and Simcoe Foresters with augmentation by other units. Also deployed were elements of the Territorial Battle Group, along with elements of 31 CBG Headquarters. In all, over 300 Canadian Armed Forces members deployed to the Nunavut town of Rankin Inlet and operated in its vicinity for a week in bitter cold to prove our deployment capability and the effectiveness of our cold weather training.

Exercise TRILLIUM RESPONSE 14 was the 4th Canadian Division's component in a number of Canadian Army exercises conducted in the Far North this winter. These exercises promote our national sovereignty in the North and consolidate our collective skills in the Defence of Canada Role in that extreme environment.

Few of the Brigade's soldiers had been "North of 60" before this exercise, and the weather conditions were certainly severe enough to validate the careful preparations made to ensure each participant was trained, or refreshed, in winter warfare practices. The challenges of conducting dismounted and snowmobile operation in the arctic can be daunting. To assist our troops in their tasks, the deployed force was supported by twenty very capable Canadian Rangers for whom the arctic is home. The value of the skills and knowledge the Rangers have to offer to troops new to arctic conditions cannot be underestimated.

For many of the participants, Exercise TRILLIUM RESPONSE was a radical departure from the focus on training for Afghanistan that the Army has maintained for the past decade. While cold weather training is a





## THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London & Region

Page 8

<http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

common soldier experience in any Canadian unit, preparing for daily temperatures of -30C and wind chills below -40C means that there is little leeway in the need to learn good cold weather skills. Care of self, of fellow soldiers, of weapons and equipment, all become critical requirements exercised by all ranks that, if not executed with care, could mean a failed task or mission. The soldiers of 31 CBG met the challenge and learned valuable lessons in Arctic operations. They travelled across the ice on foot dragging their toboggans, by snowmobile, and by Twin Otter aircraft equipped with skis for ice landings. They set up and conducted live fire range practices with all their rifles and machine guns. And they lived, slept and ate in the bitter cold with the Canadian Army's cold weather tents and equipment.

Exercise TRILLIUM RESPONSE 14 proved our soldiers ability to operate in the Arctic. It also proved the ability of the Arctic Response Company Group to deploy and function in the north as a discrete tactical group. Finally, it has proven that the skills to design, coordinate, and conduct complex training exercises, involving the gathering of soldiers from across the Brigade and transporting them 2300 kilometers to an Arctic training locale are resident in our Brigade.

In bringing the exercise to a close, the North taught the soldiers one final lesson: winter, like the enemy, has "a vote" in what you do. Three passenger aircraft were initially scheduled to redeploy at "endex". Weather conditions deteriorated rapidly on the day of departure, and, although two aircraft were eventually able to depart, the third was delayed for several days in Rankin Inlet. Arrangements had been made for the soldiers to stay at Canadian NORAD Region's Forward Operating Location during redeployment – the stay, for some, was simply longer than expected.

With the completion of Exercise TRILLIUM RESPONSE 14, 31 CBG has no time to rest on its laurels. Even now, the next series of training exercises, culminating in another 4th Division training event coordinated by 31







## THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London & Region

Page 9 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

CBG, is being prepared. In August 2014, over 2000 soldiers from across Ontario will converge on the Welland Canal area for Exercise STALWART GUARDIAN 14. This exercise will practice operations in urban and semi-urban areas, defence of vital points and resources, and the complex operating requirements of facing an opposing force ranging in scope from combat elements to aggressive protesters. Over the coming months, the training and practice of command teams in planning exercises will occur in parallel with the training and refreshing of a wide range of basic combat skills for unit soldiers. The placement of the exercise at the conclusion of summer training at the 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division Training Centre in Meaford means that many soldiers on Exercise STALWART GUARDIAN will be practicing and confirming the new skills they have learned over the summer. In doing so, the exercise will validate not only the Brigade's preparations throughout the spring, but also the summer training experienced by our soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers in the weeks before deploying to defend the Welland Canal.

**Update:** 31 Canadian Brigade Group maintains a steady pace of training across all of its units and all of our units are now starting to focus on preparing for the summer training cycle. With soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers planning to head for training centres in Meaford, Borden, Gaagetown and elsewhere as both students and staff, there is a need to ensure preparatory courses and training are completed before the summer stand-down at home units. This provides an impression of how busy the Brigade gets with the annual training cycle.

The current nominal strength of the Brigade, including all those just starting their training and those still in release process, is about 2130 personnel, all ranks.

We always have to keep in mind that many Reserve members, due to scholastic and civilian career commitments, are not available for much of the year to be tasked away from their units. Despite this, 31 CBG shares a heavy load of task throughout the year to meet the Brigade's and the Army's needs. The soldiers of 31





## THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London & Region

Page 10 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

CBG, in 2013, filled the following total, and summer training tasks. These tasks can vary between a few days in length to months away from home, but the greater share is dedicated to maintaining the capabilities of the Army Reserve during the summer training season.

- 31 CBG in 2013, total tasks filled by Brigade personnel – 3240
- Summer training tasks – 1746 (54%)

While the Individual Training focus is already starting to look at the challenges for this summer, the staff of the Brigade Headquarters continue to plan the divisional exercise in August. Exercise STALWART GUARDIAN 14, although a 4 Canadian Division training event, will be planned and conducted by the staff of 31 CBG. Training Battle Groups generated by each of the Divisions three Reserve Brigades will converge on the Welland Canal zone for a week of domestic operations training in urban and semi-urban areas. The detailed planning for STALWART GUARDIAN will be keeping Brigade staff busy right up until the exercise is run in August.

In the near future, we will see another re-alignment of Brigade units. 49<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, and the Company of 31 Service Battalions, which are both located in Sault Ste Marie, will be reassigned to 33 Canadian Brigade Group (headquartered in Ottawa).





# THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London & Region

Page 11

<http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Canadian International Military Tattoo

Members of the Garrison Community Council are invited to participate in this event in Hamilton (see details below). For further information or to book a seat, contact: LCol Armin Grunwald and Judy Grunwald, RLMI Tour Directors, or Armin Grunwald, 427 (London) Wing, Tour Committee Chairperson, Telephone: 519 474 2194, email: [rlmi@rogers.com](mailto:rlmi@rogers.com) or [wing427tours@rogers.com](mailto:wing427tours@rogers.com)

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## Royal London Military Institute and 427 (London) Wing, AFAC

TOUR NO. 28



## *23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Canadian International Military Tattoo at Copps Coliseum, Hamilton and Dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn, Ingersoll*



**Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2014 - \*Cost Per Person \$110.00**

**Closing Date for Final Payment is the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2014**

**55 Tickets and seats have been reserved**

### ITINERARY

- 10:45 a.m. Meet at Wolseley Barracks Offices' Mess  
(Royal London Military Institute Website [www.rlmi.ca](http://www.rlmi.ca) )  
(427 (London) Wing, AFAC, Website [www.427wing.com](http://www.427wing.com))
- 11:00 a.m. \*Bus leaves WBOM, Bldg. #92, 701 Oxford Street East, London N5Y 4T7**  
56-seater with washroom and air conditioning



# THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

London & Region

Page 12 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

12:00 p.m. **\*\*Lunch Break at Tim Hortons on Highway**

2:00 p.m. Arrive at Copps Coliseum (doors open at 1:30 p.m.)



2:30 p.m. **\*Performance starts: Canadian International Military Tattoo**  
<http://www.canadianmilitarytattoo.ca/>

5:00 p.m. Leave Copps Coliseum after performance

6:30 p.m. **\*Dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn and Spa, Ingersoll,**

**Appetizer:** Elm Hurst Manor Greens

**Entrees:** Oven Roasted Chicken Supreme, or  
Herb Crusted Atlantic Salmon, or  
Roast Top Sirloin of Beef Burgundy Style

**Dessert:** Chocolate Fudge Cake with Chocolate Sauce [www.elmhurstinn.com/index](http://www.elmhurstinn.com/index)



8:30 p.m. Arrive Wolseley Barracks Offices' Mess, London...



**\*Tour Includes:** Bus transportation (including tip for bus driver); ticket to Canadian International Military Tattoo and 3-course dinner at the Elm Hurst Inn. Changes may occur.

**\*\*Note:** All "Breaks" mentioned in the Itinerary are at your own expense.

**Please:** Complete "Medical Information Form" and bring it with you on the Tour. Thank you.

**For further information or to book a seat, contact:** LCol Armin Grunwald and Judy Grunwald, RLMI Tour Directors or Armin Grunwald, 427 (London) Wing, Tour Committee Chairperson, Telephone: 519 474 2194, Email: [rlmi@rogers.com](mailto:rlmi@rogers.com) or [wing427tours@rogers.com](mailto:wing427tours@rogers.com)  
Make cheques payable to "RLMI" and mail to 333 Hartson Road, London, Ontario N6H 5B7 and let us know your choice of the Entrée for dinner: chicken, salmon or beef





**THE  
GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
London & Region

Page 13 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>

## **London Military Family Resource Centre/ Forest City Road Races**

A reminder to support Military Families through *Forest City Road Races*! The Races will be held on April 27, 2014. Dust off your sneakers and join the LMFRC team at [www.forestcityroadraces.com](http://www.forestcityroadraces.com) OR sponsor our unit and help us win bragging rights!

Our runners:

**Family member: Joanne Brumwell**

[https://onlineregistrations.ca/or/site/user\\_pledge/139221463755166257](https://onlineregistrations.ca/or/site/user_pledge/139221463755166257)

**Staff member: Gary Willaert**

[https://onlineregistrations.ca/or/site/user\\_pledge/139144397820372274](https://onlineregistrations.ca/or/site/user_pledge/139144397820372274)

Further information about the *London Military Family Resource Centre* can be found at <http://www.familyforce.ca/sites/London/EN/Pages/default.aspx>

(Please also see the poster on the next page.)



*London Military Family Resource Centre*



**THE  
GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
London & Region

Page 14 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>



*London Military Family Resource Centre*



Support our team & your unit in the  
**FOREST CITY ROAD RACES**

**April 27, 2014**

**Bragging rights go to the unit that  
generates the most donations for the  
LMFRC through their runner!**

Donate to your runner online at  
**[www.forestcityroadraces.com](http://www.forestcityroadraces.com)**

Click on **Sponsor a Runner** and search by name.

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## **Runners: Team LMFRC!**

**Family member:** Joanne Brumwell– 10K

**4 RCR:** MCpl Marc Philippon – 10K

**31 Svc Bn:** Capt Joanna Simion – 10K

**HMCS Prevost:** LS Jennifer Fiddler – 10K

**LMFRC:** Gary Willaert – 10 K

**Regional Cadet Support Unit:** Lt Cuyler Hollands– 21K

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## **Afghanistan: Logistical Support Experiences of ISAF Military Forces**

Thanks again to Captain Bob Waring for his presentation to the GCC on 12 March 2014. Bob spoke about his five years as the Theatre Director for Skylink Aviation providing contracted commercial fixed wing strategic heavy lift and tactical rotary and fixed wing combat resupply in Afghanistan. He provided an overview of the challenges of providing civilian contract aviation support to ISAF Military Forces during the Afghanistan War communicating the highs and lows, challenges and successes with an overview of the country, the aviation, geographic, logistic, security, infrastructure and personnel challenges. Bob spoke about how challenges were addressed and highlighted both successes as well as failures/losses. The focus of the presentation was on the mission and the people working their magic under the most dangerous and austere of conditions to support our troops in a timely and effective fashion. Dayle Waring spent the last ten years with Bob deployed to both Darfur and Afghanistan where she was the Senior Manager for Supply, Administration and Finance. Bob and Dayle have been married for 36 years and live in Hensall.

A retired, commissioned from the ranks Logistics Transportation Officer, Bob Waring has over thirty- five years of extensive international management experience including NATO service in Germany, United Nations service in Egypt, Cyprus, Yugoslavia, Haiti and Angola. He also has African Union service in Darfur, Sudan as well as war service during the first Gulf war. He most recently was in Afghanistan for 5 years. Bob has held critical senior leadership positions in aviation and logistic operations, multi-modal transportation management, multinational negotiations and agreements, and the international movement and sustainment of large numbers of personnel, equipment and dangerous goods.





## **Royal Canadian Sea Cadets: Get on Board !**



**Royal Canadian Sea Cadets** learn about the naval and maritime environment by participating in a variety of activities on and off the water.

Sea Cadets specialize in sailing, seamanship, shipboard life, naval communications, power boat handling, boat repair, and marine engineering. Selected senior cadets have the opportunity to attend international exchanges, to sail aboard a Tall Ship or participate in ship deployments aboard Canadian Navy and Coast Guard ships. Additionally, Sea Cadets can compete for a chance to participate in annual sailing regattas!

Sea Cadets also participate in ceremonial events and citizenship activities that allow them to connect to their Canadian naval heritage.

The hands-on activities, exciting challenges and leadership opportunities for Sea Cadets are many. Canada's motto, A Mari usque ad Mare ("From Sea to Sea") can be applied to Sea Cadets. With Sea Cadet Corps found all across the country and given Canada's abundance of water and shoreline, the opportunities are many whether inland or on either coast. You are bound to observe a Sea Cadet making a splash somewhere, from sea to sea!

Sea Cadets participate in...

- Sailing, Nautical activities, Naval communications, Team sports, Shipboard life, Tall Ship training



### International Exchanges and Cultural Visits

Sea Cadets have the opportunity to participate in International Exchanges and Cultural Visits in the following countries: Australia, Bermuda, Japan, South Korea, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America





# THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

London & Region

Page 18 <http://www.gcclondon.ca/>



## 2014 GCC EXECUTIVE

President: Jan Delaney

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Jack Scott

Secretary: Keith Roden

Past President: Heather Broadhead

1st Vice President: Barry Sandler

3rd Vice President: Gerry Treble

Treasurer: Lynn Coates

Garrison Advisor: LCol Dan McLean



## REMINDER RE WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL GCC MEETING

**Joe Chaisson , WW I: Re-enactor, will speak to the Garrison Community Council on the topic of *War Underground: Presentation on Tunnelling***

**... please also plan on attending on 14 MAY 2014 when our guest speaker will be Chief Brad Duncan, *London Police Services*.**