



## Mess and RUSI Vancouver Members News April 12, 2011

### Wednesday Lunches – Vacation Shut down

We are going to take a short break as Mrs Lum has decided to take a well-deserved vacation to make one of infrequent trips to visit her family in China. To accommodate this, there will be **no lunches** at Bessborough on **May 18, May 25 and Jun 1**. Last lunch May 11<sup>th</sup>, lunches restart on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Lunches will continue after that, as usual, through the summer months.  
No speakers have been announced for April.

### Vimy Day Commemoration

The Vimy Day Commemoration ceremonies went off very well on Saturday. I was pleasantly surprised by the turn out. I was expecting to see a couple of dozen people, instead there was around 200. There were parties from all the local unit associations, local units, 39 CBG HQ, RUSI Vancouver, NOABC, the Legion and ANA Vets (both colour parties attended), RCMP, Salvation Army, French war veterans, the VFD and a good contingent of Army Cadets from local units, who are adopting Vimy Day as their day to parade. (Navy Cadets parade for the Battle of Atlantic and the Air Cadets for the Battle of Britain Commemorations.)

The weather cooperated nicely, although it was a little chilly, especially sitting on those concrete benches. (took a bit to get my legs moving after I stood up)

Student Preston Arens gave a description of his recent visit to the Vimy site and later gave a Commitment of Remembrance. Christopher Gaze gave a reading of Rudyard Kipling's 'My Boy Jack' and later gave the Act of Remembrance

The ceremony lasted about 30 minutes and flowed smoothly, ending with a proclamation signed by Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson declaring April 9, 2011 Vimy Day.

There was great media coverage and most major TV networks had items on their local news shows that night

A **well done** to Cam Cathcart, who is the moving force behind this Commemoration ceremony.  
Hope to see more of you in attendance next year.

Royal United Services Institute –  
Vancouver President Jim Stanton  
lays the RUSI wreath



Bob Mugford and Al Woo lay the wreath for the  
Vancouver Artillery Association

## **HISTORIES OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY**

*published by the RA Institution (thanks to Ian Newby for the lead on this item)*

*A 6 volume set*

### **1. THE WESTERN FRONT 1914-18**

The part played by the artillery in the fighting on the Western Front, described on a year by year basis. Numerous annexes with details on personalities, organisations, command and control, orders of battle, developments in the science of gunnery and much more.

### **2. THE FORGOTTEN FRONTS AND THE HOME BASE 1914 - 1919**

The story of the part played by the artillery on all fronts during the Great War, other than the Western front, and in the defense of the UK.

It includes artillery from all over the Empire.

### **3. ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY 1914-55**

An account of the appearance, development, growth and success of a form of artillery the like of which had not been seen before 1914 in the Royal Artillery

#### **4. BETWEEN THE WARS 1919-1939**

The story of the Royal Artillery between the wars, mainly the product of the memories of many officers who served during the period. Theatres of active service operations included Russia, Persia, Palestine and the North West Frontier.

#### **5. THE YEARS OF DEFEAT 1939-41**

Covers the campaigns in Norway, France, N Africa, E Africa, Crete, Greece, and the defense of Gibraltar, Malta and the homeland (Battle of Britain).

#### **6. THE FAR EAST THEATRE 1941-46**

Concerned with the Regiment's part in the war against Japan, with the early defeats and with eventual victory.

For more details, go to: [http://www.naval-military-press.com/special-offers-military-books/?utm\\_source=NMP+Customer+Mailing+List&utm\\_campaign=ad5ce2e4ae-Gunner&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.naval-military-press.com/special-offers-military-books/?utm_source=NMP+Customer+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=ad5ce2e4ae-Gunner&utm_medium=email)

And a further book of interest just about to be published:

#### **The Diary of an Artillery Officer.**

The story of a Royal Artillery Officer in World War 1.

#### **Bick, Arthur Hardie.**

The diary of an artillery officer [electronic resource] / written by Arthur Hardie Bick ; edited by Peter Hardie Bick ; foreword by Brian Reid. -- Toronto : Dundurn Press, c2011.

Electronic monograph in PDF format. Issued also in print format. Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-4597-0041-3 : \$26.00

1. Bick, Arthur Hardie 2. World War, 1914-1918-- Personal narratives, Canadian 3. Canada. Canadian Army. Battalion, 3rd--History 4. World War, 1914-1918-- Regimental histories-- Canada

I. Bick, Peter Hardie. II. Title. D640 B53 2011a

#### **From the 'Punitary'**

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories.

After an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse.

"But why?" they asked, as they moved off.

"Because," he said, "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."

#### **Murphy's Rules of Combat Operations.**

Teamwork is essential; it gives the enemy other people to shoot at.

# **NOABC Annual Battle of the Atlantic Dinner**



*Founded in 1919*

*The President and Directors of  
The Naval Officers' Association of  
British Columbia*

*request the pleasure of your  
company and guest(s)*

*at the*

## ***Annual Battle of the Atlantic Dinner***

*(Dine the Ladies Format)*

*on Saturday, 30 April 2011*

*1830 for 1930*

*Wardroom, H.M.C.S. Discovery*

*\$75.00 per person*

*Mess Dress or Black Tie*

*(Ladies Equivalent)*

*(Optional Business Suit)*

*Miniatures*

*Please note that seating is limited to 78 diners*

*Booking early will ensure seats for you and your guests*

For Reservations form go to:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbm9ub2FiYzJwcm9qZWNoGd4OjMxODdjNDdkM2I1NmUwYzI>

**A Special Play at The Pacific Theatre – [last day this Saturday](#)**

***Jake's Gift*** - Apr 6 — 16 By Julia Mackey

A powerful and surprisingly funny drama about a Canadian World War II veteran who reluctantly returns to Normandy, France, for the 60th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion. While revisiting the beach he landed on sixty years earlier, Jake encounters Isabelle, a precocious 10-year-old from the local village whose inquisitive nature and charm challenge the old soldier to confront some long-ignored ghosts.

*Jake's Gift*, written and performed by Julia Mackey, plays April 6-16 at Vancouver's Pacific Theatre, Wednesday to Saturday at 8 pm with matinees on Saturdays at 2 pm. Tickets \$16.50-29.50 (HST not included).

To reserve call 604.731.5518 or visit [www.pacifictheatre.org](http://www.pacifictheatre.org).

*Pacific Theatre is located at 1440 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver (12th Ave. & Hemlock). The entrance is on 12th Avenue marked with "Pacific Theatre" above the door.*