



Mess and RUSI Vancouver Members News 15 Feb, 2011

Wednesday Lunches

Last week, Peter Duffy gave a very interesting talk about his post war experiences as a pilot with BOAC. He spoke mainly about his time on the Concorde and everyone enjoyed it immensely. We hope to get him back again one day to talk about his experiences with the Comets

On Feb 23rd, The Navy brings in the 'big gun' as our NOABC comrades present Canada's Senior Naval Reserve Officer for a post lunch presentation. **Commodore DW Craig CD**, Commander, Naval Reserve Headquarters, will talk about Canada's Naval Reserve, now and in the future.

Bob Chown is working up another **Ladies Lunch, for March 16th**. We encourage members to bring their significant others, special friends and/or any other person they can push, pull or drag to the Mess for lunch that day. A good way, also, to introduce potential new members to our group. Of course Ladies and guests are welcome at any lunch, we just encourage you to work a little harder to bring someone that day. Remember to explain our Dress Code to your guests before they arrive. Jackets and ties for men, equivalent for ladies.

'Project Reconnect' Announced

Chief, Personnel Support Programs announces the beginning of a two-year pilot project called "Reconnect". "Reconnect" is a Morale and Welfare program focused on former Canadian Forces members and their families.

The pilot project will be conducted in the National Capital Region. The mission of the program is to promote a sense of community by fostering opportunities that enhance the quality of life and overall well being of former members and their families.

The objective of "Reconnect" is to create awareness for MW programs and services (Canex, SISIP, Canadian Defense Community Banking and PSP) currently available to former members and their families and to deliver recreation programming suited to meet the needs of the retirees.

If you are a former CF member, you and members of your families may be interested in helping develop the programs to be offered and/or getting involved as a participant. I encourage you to log on to the website www.reconnect-cf.ca and join our mailing list by contacting the program coordinator, Lesley Lehman at lehman.lesley@cfpsa.com

The Canadian Forces' Decoration

The Canadian Forces' Decoration: (the book) Written by renowned Canadian honours historian Christopher McCreery, MVO and produced by the Directorate of Honours and Recognition, this special historical project was undertaken to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the creation of the CD by King George VI. This book highlights the long history of this decoration and pays tribute to the extraordinary men and women of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces who have earned this honour and wear it with pride and distinction. The publication can be downloaded from the website. <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhr-ddhr/pub/cfd-dfc-eng.asp>.

A Gurkha soldier fights off 40 train robbers

Sunday, January 16, 2011, 4:55

Thanks to Maj Tom Buchenauer for the lead to this story.

Bishnu Shrestha, a brave Gurkha soldier in the Indian Army, defeated 40 train robbers while returning home after a voluntary retirement. The Indian army awarded Bishnu with the Sourya Chakra, Bravery Award and Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha medals during the Indian Republic Day celebration on January 26.

While on the train, the Maurya Express from Ranchi to Gorakhpur, on September 2, 2010, 35 year-old Bishnu saved a girl about to be raped by the train robbers in front of her helpless parents. After looting the train, when the robbers started to strip a 18 year old girl in front of him, he couldn't contain his calmness. He took out his kukri and took on the group of 40 robbers, alone. In the fight, he killed three of the robbers and injured eight others. The remaining robbers fled the scene to save their lives.

The police arrested the eight injured robbers and recovered Rs. 400,000 in cash, 40 gold necklaces, 200 cell phones, 40 laptops and other items left by the robbers while fleeing the train.

In recognition to his bravery, his regiment has given Bishnu a cash reward of Rs. 50,000 and it has also terminated his voluntary retirement, so that he could get a customary promotion after he receives the medals. In addition to that, he will also receive a cash reward from the government, special discounts in international air tickets, and discounts in Indian railways train tickets.



Update on Vic Coroy

From Vic's wife, Pat:

I am happy to report that Vic is out of ICU and back into a room - Kidd 739, bed 2. There is a phone in the room but he is often away. He is getting treatment at the other end of the hospital - dialysis 3 times a week and plasmapheresis (*the removal, treatment, and return of blood plasma from blood circulation.*) alternately 3 times a week. Sunday is his only day off! We know

for sure that he will be in the hospital until at least the 24th of February because of the treatments but beyond that we have no idea.

There is certainly a long way to go but at least they've started. There are more tests yet to be done and other issues to be dealt with when he is a bit better. Today he had food and drink for the first time since last Saturday when he went into the ICU. He looks so much better now and is perking up - even wearing pj's instead of the nasty hospital gown! He is doing all that he is told to do and putting all his effort into getting better. I am really proud of his determination.

He will soon be up for visitors so if you are going to be in the Kingston area you might want to drop in. It would probably be a good idea to call me (613 399-5863) the evening before - we usually know the day before when he is scheduled for treatment the next day.

We both want to thank all of you for your prayers, good wishes and support.

and from an old Gunner comrade, Bob Chamberlain:

I visited Vic today at the Kingston Hospital (KGH). He is now sitting up and taking some solid food. He was cheerful and accepts his medical situation. He requires more tests yet to counter his failure of the auto immune system which affects all body organs such as the kidneys and lungs.

Coast Guard Ship to be named for Captain Nichola Goddard

On 10 February 2011, a moving ceremony was conducted at the National War Museum to mark an announcement by the Canadian Coast Guard of the decision to name its new Hero Class Mid-Shore Patrol Vessels in honour of fallen Canadian heroes. Among them is one of our very own, Captain Nichola Goddard, who made the ultimate sacrifice in her role as Forward Observer in combat on 17 May 2006 in Afghanistan. She joins two World War One Victoria Cross winners who were previously honoured last year, along with Cpl Mark MacLaren (RCR), two RCMP members, two Coast Guard members, and one member of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

The Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Peter Mackay, delivered solemn remarks highlighting the sacrifices made by all these brave Canadian Heroes, singling out Captain Goddard's distinction as the first Canadian woman killed in combat. In a related news article, Captain Goddard's sister Victoria was quoted as saying: "It is fitting. She'll defend and protect, continuing to do all the things we expect our military to do." The ceremony was well attended by family members, as well as reps from the CF, Coast Guard, RCMP and DFO. The Royal Regiment was represented by Colonel Kevin Cotten, Army G3.

May this act as a poignant and fitting tribute to all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great nation, especially those of our Gunner Family. We will remember them

Legal Services For Former CF Members

The Community Legal Assistance Society has sent us the following statement:

We have looked into the supply and demand for legal services for former CF members. We have decided to start accepting cases of former members who are dissatisfied with the result of

their hearing before the Appeal Branch of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board, to go to Federal Court and appeal the decision.

As with our other programs, we will not be charging any fees for these services. These new services will be offered under our Community & Disability Law Programs. More information regarding these programs can be found at:

http://www.clasbc.net/community_and_disability_law_program.php

Please circulate this information to any stakeholders or former members who might be interested to know.

The Community Legal Assistance Society is located at:
300 - 1140 West Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 4G1
(604) 685-3425 ext. 335 Toll Free: 1-888-685-6222

Honour House Skills Conversion Program

The Honour House Skills Conversion Program, formerly the Reservist Re-entry Program has access to the World of Work Inventory career assessment test.

“These Career tests help you narrow down, from the thousands of occupations, the ones that are most suitable for you. They do this by matching your test results to the requirements of the many available careers. The result is a list of occupations which fit your unique profile. And from that list you can begin more fully exploring those that are most appealing to you.”

More information on this program can be found at:

<http://www.bcit.ca/honourhouse/> and <http://wowi.com/>

From the ‘Punitary’

Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. Unfortunately, all the Swiss league records of teams' names were destroyed in a fire, ...and so we'll never knowfor whom the Tells bowled.

A man rushed into a busy doctor's office and shouted, "Doctor! I think I'm shrinking!" The doctor calmly responded, "Now, settle down. You'll just have to be a little patient."

Murphy’s Rules of Combat Operations.

- If at first you don't succeed, call in an airstrike.

- If you are forward of your position, your artillery will fall short.

15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA
Officers' Mess
St. Patrick's Day
Whiskey Tasting Night

The 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA welcomes you to attend their annual Whiskey Tasting event. There will be food, beverages, draw prizes, and of course, pipe music.

This is the annual fundraiser for the Regimental Fund which greatly appreciates your support.

Tickets are \$40.00 per person for Whiskey Tasting or \$30.00 if you are only having beer, wine, or soft drinks at the bar.

DATE: Friday March 4th, 2011

TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Bessborough Armoury
 2025 West 11th Avenue
 Vancouver, BC

DRESS: Business casual.
 Kilts, to be sure, are welcome.

CONTACT: Lt Clint Godsoe,
 Entertainment Representative
 Email: cgodsoe@hotmail.ca



15th Field Officer's Mess

Mark your calendars - Please

It's a

Ladies Day

For

St. Patrick's Day.

Wednesday,

March

16th

