



“Never Forget”

National newsletter of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association

October, November, and December 2013

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## IN MEMORY OF CLIFF CHADDERTON

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### DUES

**Dues are \$20 annually (January to December) and should be sent to your Region Membership person.**

#### *HKVCA President*

- Carol Hadley

As the heading of the newsletter announces, we are saddened to advise you that **Cliff Chadderton** passed away on November 30, 2013.

In his lifetime he championed many veteran causes including the Hong Kong Veterans. He became the Patron of the HKVA through his efforts to get compensation for our veterans by taking their story to the United Nations where six allied countries supported his efforts as well as the Human Rights community in Geneva.

Due to the worldwide coverage of the treatment to our veterans, in 1998 the Canadian government granted compensation of \$24,000 to each surviving Far

East PoW or to their widow for the forced labour that the Canadian servicemen endured while prisoners of the Japanese during the Second World War.

If anyone wishes more detail on this you can order *Canada's Hong Kong Veterans: The Compensation Story* through the War Amps website <http://www.waramps.ca/Military-Heritage2012.aspx?id=3712&terms=hong+kong+veterans>.

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RE: the **Memorial Wall** corrections - we received three proposals from the company who agreed to do the work on the Wall. The most expensive one was accepted by the National Capitol Commission/Canadian Heritage committee that oversees the work. So we have been applying for grants to increase our funds to pay for the corrections. We are getting favourable comments and hope to be able to move on this when the weather is warmer.

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There were many great things that happened at the National Convention in August but I would like to mention 2 at this time.

- A big thank you to Alan Sandeman, husband of Mitzi Ross who composed this song in memory of Lance Ross <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/never-grow-old-single/id734081969>
- Also on YouTube is the song **I'll never say Goodbye Again** song that was written by Private Elmer McKnight Canadian Prisoner in Japan and was sung by Paul Figsby in August. Just search the song title and listen.

\*\*

It was wonderful to see the Hong Kong story featured on the History Channel in **“Prisoners of the Sun”** during November with our veterans like Ralph MacLean interviewed.

Please note the important Special Meeting that will be done through the mail or email. These changes to our Bylaws are necessary as a result of the enactment of the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (“CNCA”) and if we don’t comply we will cease to exist as a corporation.

Please enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy, Prosperous New Year with family and friends. Always count your blessings as there are many who have none. All the best from my family to yours. Carol

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#### *HKVA President*

- Phil Doddridge

T’is the time of year to be merry, happy and jolly, but for personal reasons I find it difficult to be any of those. But let’s not be gloomy and wish everyone the merriest of Christmases. May you enjoy good health and prosperity throughout the New Year.

#### **Cliff Chadderton**

Front and centre is the news of the death of our patron and long-time benefactor. Cliff Chadderton passed from this earth on November 30. He was 94 years old.

It was gratifying to hear of his achievements as reported on CBC News.

Hong Kong Veterans owe thanks to Cliff for a number of things among them the \$24,000 settlement for atrocities suffered as POWs and for his input in the awarding of 100% pensions we survivors are receiving. He and Roger Cyr travelled to Geneva to put the Hong Kong Veterans’ case before the United Nations.

Cliff and his loyal and competent staff at War Amps in Ottawa were always ready to advise and assist in any way. We will always be grateful. We will remember him.

A few years ago when I put my web site together, I included a bit about Cliff in the

section I called "Giants in the Association". If you are interested, it can be found at [www.memoriesuninvited.hkvca.ca](http://www.memoriesuninvited.hkvca.ca)

That will be all for this time. Be good to each other and may, God Bless. Philip

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### Last Post

#### HKVCA

**Edith Rodgers**, widow of William A. Rodgers H 6769 died on September 24, 2013.

**Mary Dewar**, wife of Tom Dewar, WG, died on October 7, 2013.

**Stella Nobiss**, wife of George Nobiss, WG, died on October 7, 2013.

**Joyce Simcoe**, widow of John Simcoe (Zinko) W.G., died on November 5, 2013.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to all the families and friends as we share in your grief.

*We will remember them!*

††††

### From Derrill Henderson

Most of you know that I am continuously monitoring changes to the benefit packages available to our veterans and widows. Our association, through the National Council of Veterans Associations, are persistent in pressuring the government to fulfill the needs of our vets and widows in accordance with Canada's obligation to these special people. The most recent change is the increase of funeral service allowance to \$7,376.00 for those that qualify. We are working to remove the government's challenge as to the definition of "service related" as the qualifying determination.

You will have read about the closing of Regional offices by Veterans Affairs, and although distressing to our senior veterans, the greatest concern in the veterans community, is the plight

of the modern veteran. Afghanistan has left many scars on the bodies and minds of our veterans, and this must be addressed to ensure that the needs of these wounded service people, and their families are met.

That being true, there are several outstanding needs of the "traditional" veteran (up to and including Korea) and their widows that could be addressed without a major cost. These include Long Term Care and VIP for Life for Widows. In the case of the latter, we wish to remove and requirement for the veteran to have been receiving VIP in order for the widow to qualify, and also the flexibility to change services as the needs changes. Currently there are no options, once the existing functional change no longer exists, neither does the VIP funding.

To this end, we must live with the existing regulation, therefore we strongly urge our surviving veterans to apply for every possible VIP category in order that the widow receive the greatest benefits possible. Additionally for current widows, if you are classed as disabled and have completed the CRA's T2201E form for Disability Tax Credit Certification, or are receiving the Guaranteed Supplement. Please contact the War Amps immediately to ensure you are receiving maximum benefit.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information. I may be contacted through the HKVCA Web page, or if computers are not "your thing", my cell telephone is [613-601-5033](tel:613-601-5033).

Regards, Derrill - National Secretary, HKVA, and Vice-Chair, NCVA

### Membership Status

Region	R	V	W	Total
Atl	62	5	4	71
BC	77	4	37	118
Prairie	225	9	53	277
ON	172	12	45	229
QC	59	9	41	109
<b>Total</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>814</b>

### Legend:

V: Veteran, W: Widow, R: Regular

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### Join Our Email List



Mailing our newsletter is expensive! Want to make sure HKVCA makes best use of your dues and donations? Join over 330 of your fellow members and sign up for our email list to save postage costs. It's simple - just send an email to this address and we'll



make it happen: [hkvca@shaw.ca](mailto:hkvca@shaw.ca).

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### Memorial Day in Ottawa December 7, 2013

**L-R: Celeste, Tyler, Sean, Alexis, Pascale, Karen, Derrill, James**  
**Front: Jamie, Graham**

The attached photo has members of Operation Legacy (the CHAMP program of the War Amps). A number of these young amputees always show up for our events.

There were between 100-115 people at the memorial service on Saturday at the Memorial Wall.



### Our Library is Expanding!

Check out the last page in the newsletter to see the newest arrivals in our reading list. Of special interest is the latest book about Gander, **A Dog Named GANDER** written by Hong Kong veteran George MacDonell, and Sue Beard.

For our complete list plus ordering instructions be sure to check out the Suggested Reading page on our website: <http://www.hkvca.ca/store/reading.htm>

## ***Across the Nation***

### **BC Banter**

Lee Naylor, B.C. Region  
Director/Education Chair and Bev  
Campbell

BCSSTA Conference took place in October this year at the Vancouver Technical School. The historical portion of the presentation was presented by me, with Graeme Stacey working with the teachers to take back to their class room the new Photo Narrative class activity. During the presentation I introduced the new book and information on Gander which was very well received. At the end of the presentation I informed the teachers that I would be happy to assist them with their first introduction of "C" Force Story in the class room at their school.

Invitations to the interior of BC High schools of which were weeklong of multiple block preventions and class activities. Feedback information is as follows:

*In early November Lee Naylor travelled up to Kelowna to take part in a four day Social Studies 11 unit on Hong Kong Veterans at Kelowna Secondary School. He worked alongside three Social Studies teachers, Miss Kirsten Oleskewich (a teacher candidate from U – Vic who will embark on her career starting in January 2014, she is a keen student of history and herself took a real interest in our Veterans – she will most certainly continue to teach this chapter of our countries history), Mr. Don Bingham, and Mr. Graeme Stacey. Lee shared the story of our Hong Kong Veterans via his display boards and other Hong Kong memorabilia, as well as his extensive knowledge of our veterans via personal insights and his Power Point. Students listened, asked questions, and pondered various aspects of the Hong Kong story thus to avoid having our men continue to be Unknown and Often Forgotten Canadian World War Two Soldiers.*

*Specifics that were addressed by all three teachers over the four day period (and the walking encyclopedia Lee) included:*

- 1. Context of Hong Kong Veterans in WWII – as related to S.S. 11 and the broader context of the Second World War*
- 2. Who are Canadian Hong Kong Veterans?*
- 3. Canadians in the Battle of Hong Kong*
- 4. The 1929 Geneva Conventions, post battle implications*
- 5. Closure? An ongoing, contemporary issue post December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

*Student assessment of their learning was gauged by working on the Critical Thinking Consortium's Source Docs that had students, using various primary and secondary sources, address the question (yes it is obvious, but unique in the fact that students looked at various aspects):*

*What were conditions like for Canadian POW's in Japanese camps?*

*Students were to consider aspects of daily life in a Japanese prison camp that included: Food, shelter, sanitation and medical facilities, treatment by Japanese soldiers, working conditions, and freedoms. The results of this four day unit were clear in the student application of their knowledge as student work was insightful, thought provoking, and in the engagement that was evident while working in partners to answer the source doc question.*

*Following his time in Kelowna Lee went to Mr. Ian Busfield's school in Vernon, Kalamalka Secondary. Lee and Graeme met Ian Busfield through their work at the Provincial Social Studies workshop they gave on Hong Kong Veterans in 2012 titled, Canadian Hong Kong Veterans: In Battle, as POWs, Wounds and Closure (A Social Studies 11 Practical Overview, Lesson Ideas & Examples, and Assessment Samples for SS 11).*

*On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 our school, Kalamalka Secondary School in Vernon, was honoured to host Lee Naylor CD BC Regional Director/Education Chair of the Hong Kong Veterans' Commemorative Association. The purpose of Mr. Naylor's visit was to speak to the Social Studies 11*

*classes about one of the least known or understood of all the Canadian battles during the Second World War- the Battle of Hong Kong. Mr. Naylor's visit was over a year in the planning and was coordinated with his scheduled trip to Kelowna. It seemed fitting that on the day of Mr. Naylor's visit our school was holding our annual Remembrance Day ceremony. Mr. Naylor was an honoured guest along with School District trustees and district personnel.*

*The two - forty minute presentations regarding the Battle of Hong Kong and subsequent imprisonment of Canadian POWs was attended by over 100 grade 11 and 12 students in the school theatre. Mr. Naylor's command of the information was clearly evident and his passion for the events of December 1941 onwards was not lost on the students as they sat transfixed at the slides and video clips embedded in the PowerPoint. Throughout the afternoon the students were given the opportunity to ask specific questions which were individually addressed in a personal and sensitive manner.*

*Many of the students had only heard about the Battle of Hong Kong through reading textbooks and viewing brief video segments in class. The afternoon spent with Lee Naylor was something special. The emotions expressed on the faces of the students, as they learned the fate of the Canadian Regiments band of the individual soldiers in the battle, were very mixed. Some could not believe the bravery the Canadians demonstrated, others the horror of the Japanese POW camps. By the end of the presentation each of the student's understanding of the Canadian involvement in the Battle of Hong Kong was greatly enhanced. After the presentation Mr. Naylor stayed behind to answer individual questions from students and explain many of the displays that formed the backdrop for his lecture.*

*The Battle of Hong Kong is one of the least studied Canadian battles of World War 2 in high school. All too often high school courses focus upon the European*

*theatre and neglect the Asian theatre of operations. With presentations like the one from Lee Naylor of the Hong Kong Veterans' Commemorative Association the story and history of this truly courageous action will not be lost on future generations.*

Due to the ongoing issue with the Royal BC Museum I did not lay a wreath at the legislation building in Victoria along with Linda Quesnel and Gerry Gerrard HKV. The HKVCA wreath at the Victoria cenotaph was laid by Gwen Day (daughter of Bertram Gilbert, RRC (d) ) accompanied by Linda Quesnel, past BC Regional Director (daughter of Cliff Carpenter, WG (d). Gerry Gerrard (RCCS), who has been arranging the wreaths at the ceremony for 55 years, escorted Gwen and Linda to the foot of the cenotaph. This was the first time for Gwen to lay the wreath and she sent an email that read "I pray that we might share many more years of representing. My grandmother would have been so happy that her youngest son, Murray Goodenough, would have me attending a memorial for him and his comrades. My lovely son in law could not believe the vet doing all the placements, Gerry, had spent four years in a horrifying POW camp!!" Gwen and Linda were honoured to join Gerry at his Legion following the Remembrance Ceremony. It was a truly wonderful day with the weather co-operating beautifully. Family members laid wreaths in honour of our Hong Kong Veterans all around the province of British Columbia.

Mona Thornton daughter of Joseph Frenette RR 'A' Coy born in JACQUET River, NB, was instrumental in the Peach City Radio Active Award. Mona is a member of the HKVCA living in Penticton BC and has been very active with the education of her father and "C" Force as per her synopsis below. Outstanding work!

*Initially, I attended a presentation at the Penticton Museum given by a gentleman who had been a POW in Indonesia --he has written a book titled, "My Life With The Samurai". I had taken a few of my items there &*

*after seeing them some of those attending provided me with contacts that could probably help me. One of those contacts was Jim Trick. Eventually the Military Archivist at the Museum became intrigued & we went on to give a one hour presentation at the regular noon hour Brown Bag lectures sponsored by the Museum. This coincided with Remembrance Day 2010 & related to the POWs themselves.*

*In the meantime I had been in touch with many people including the author of "Dark Side of the Sun"--Michael Palmer, writing about his grandfather from PEI who was a RR POW. He was in the process of completing his book.*

*On one of my visits to New Brunswick I took the 2 binders of copied material I have to the Restigouche Region Museum but have not been able to do any follow-up with Bill Clarke there.*

*In the summer of 2010, Peach City Radio, an amateur radio group in town, had permission to do a series of 4 weekly broadcasts from the Museum as part of a Communications Exhibit. At the last broadcast I took along the 3 recordings I have wondering if they or someone they knew might be able to retrieve the messages from these old records as Dad was reading some of them.*

*Eventually, in 2011 (after losing touch for a while) I reconnected with Peach City Radio & was put in touch with someone locally who specializes in preserving vintage recordings & he retrieved the messages onto CDs--a very moving experience when I heard Dad's voice!*

*In February of 2012, Craig Henderson (from Peach City radio) & I gave another presentation at the Museum relating to the recordings & the message relay system that had been established during WWII. Mum received many from short-wave radio listeners from many people in the US + the recordings.*

*Lots of research was done by us & eventually we stumbled on Lisa Spahr (US) who had just published a small volume of letters her great grandmother had received about her son (Lisa's grandfather) who was a POW in Germany. During*

*her research she had not heard about the recordings at all! Since then she has written a 2nd book about the message senders and has been gracious enough to include a chapter about us in the new book.*

*Her goal is to have the message writers recognized in some way tangible. In the intervening times the 1 hour radio broadcast was done (have told everyone I know about it & many of them have passed it on!!) As you know it has been added to the HKVCA site. All those who have heard it have been very impressed & I have a long list of great responses.*

*The radio broadcast was presented to a panel of judges & given the inaugural "Spoken Word Award" for a program that is not interview or music related. Am thrilled about that!*

*Craig says his goal for 2014 is to write a radio play about the messages (he has done other radio plays) & the sound effects person has already volunteered his services! I am looking forward to that!*

*As well, Craig & I did a presentation at the UBC OK campus in October which was well-received by those attending.*

*All in all it has been a great learning experience for me & I have met so many people along the way who have shown so much interest & given so much help. Our museum Director here has mentioned may be doing something more in connection with this project--at the moment & into early next year several changes in staff are taking place but will see what he is thinking about--would love to have you come here*

*I do some archival work at the Museum during my weekly volunteer hours & have found some related items there & did write an article for our "Friends of the Museum" newsletter. Also, I did write an article for the HKVCA newsletter earlier this year.*

*At this time, while writing this quarterly newsletter, I am attending/presenting for the fifth year in a row with Graeme Stacey at the Association for Learning and Preserving WWII History in*

Asia symposium, two presentations per day for two days. A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our Veterans, family members and members from the BC Region Executive.

### Prairie Prose

- Carol Hadley

We are very appreciative of the donation that was made by one of our widows, Hazel Denton. Her estate provided another \$27,000 for the Memorial Wall.

The Manitoba Branch of the HKVA hosted the Annual Dinner at Neil Bardal Centre, October 20, 2013 where many members enjoyed the food and movie presentation of "The Winnipeg Grenadiers" which is one of 6 that have been made locally. We hope to have this made into a video that all can buy and view.

The annual SAGE (Social Science Teachers Workshop) conference on October 25, 2013 was attended by Carol Hadley, Barry Mitchell and Pat Bale with Carol giving a presentation on the HK battle and subsequent imprisonment. There were several hundred teachers who saw our display and were able to talk to us and pick up information. The workshop was well attended and the presentation was received with many questions and a request for more information so they were directed to the website.

**Saturday, 14th December** at the St James Legion we will be holding the **Ladies Tea & Tidbits** and hope many of the ladies will be able to join us.

We were disappointed that the Arden 7 project was not going to be ready for this year but look forward to its opening and dedication in 2014.

Vince Lopata reported there will be plaques put on French Island and Furey Island and that there will be a dedication ceremony in Pinawa in the spring – hopefully for the March newsletter we will know the date.

These plaques will join other dedications to the Winnipeg Grenadier/Hong Kong veterans at:

- The Tower of the Deer Lodge Centre
- Inside the entrance to Deer Lodge

- Deer Lodge Chapel
- Legislature 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- Manitoba Hydro – head office
- Great West Life – Hall of Honour

Also in Manitoba many of the Geographical locations are named for those veterans who were killed in battle so many lakes, rivers and islands bear the name of our Winnipeg Grenadiers.

**Veterans' Memorial in Brandon.** – thank you to Renate Christensen for sending in this picture and a note - *My son David and I attended the dedication ceremony on Sept.14th, 2013. It was about*



*an hour long. The speeches were quite moving. Many Brandonites came out for the event. Renate has laid a wreath for the HK Vets for many years in Brandon.*

**Merry Christmas to all from Alberta.** We have had a few winter storms already and are now bracing for another blizzard overnight. Ahhh Winter!

I heard from many of our Members about their participation in Remembrance Day Services. The Robb family from Edmonton (John McGee's daughter & family) attended a service at the Butterdome on the U of C campus and laid a wreath there. Kathie Carlson and her husband, John participated in the service in Lethbridge. Stan and Dawn Parker went to Turner Valley to honor Dawn's dad and all the other Veterans.

In Calgary, Doug Rees laid the wreath at the Jubilee auditorium. It was so great to have him join us for that service. He usually goes away for the winter so he is not in Calgary to be with us. Ralph Maclean also was in attendance. Gary and Karen Boland attended the service at the Military Museums and have agreed to attend this event every year on behalf of the HKVCA. We all went out for lunch after and had a chance to catch up with each

other. It seems like the only time we can get everyone together.

Mae Bolger was visiting family in Ontario and attended Remembrance services with the Coopers. She met them first at the HKVCA Convention in Calgary in 2007 and has stayed in touch with them ever since. It was quite an honor for her to be with them on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

We also were very proud to see the Hong Kong Veterans in the television show, Prisoners of the Sun. We always need to be reminded of what those guys went thru and the sacrifices they made so we can enjoy the life we have today.

Wishing you all the best of the Season! - Norma Fuchs

### Ontario Offerings

**From our Regional Director, Mike Babin:**

Other than the Memorial Wall there aren't many enduring memorials to the Hong Kong Veterans in Canada. Happily, the city of Oshawa, east of Toronto, has just named a street in a new subdivision after one of the nine soldiers from Oshawa who were part of C Force. The street, Edward Bolton Cres., was dedicated on a rather blustery November 8, and I was privileged to speak on behalf of the HKVCA. Edward Bolton was a rifleman in the Royal Rifles, and was sent from Sham Shui Po Camp in Hong Kong to Omine Camp in Japan in 1943 where he and his colleagues slaved in the coal mines until their liberation. A large contingent of Rfm Bolton's family members was present at the dedication, along with several elected representatives from the area, legion members and family friends.

**Family Members of Edward Bolton at Street Sign Dedication**  
Hopefully, we'll see more streets



named after Hong Kong veterans.

For those members in the

GTA, we're planning to hold a luncheon on Saturday, January 18. Please watch your email (and mail) for further details. Best Christmas wishes to everyone, and a Happy New Year!

### **Central & Southeast Ontario Area - Shelagh Purcell**

Exciting news from Oshawa Ontario where streets will be named for nine Hong Kong Veterans- all volunteers from Oshawa. Glen Lee [son of William James Lee, RRC] said a group of supporters have spent much time on this project. Mike Babin, HKVCA Regional Director for Ontario, attended the event November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The first HK Veteran to be honored was Edward Bolton, RRC.

It is surprising how many people still don't know that Canadians fought and were imprisoned in Hong Kong. Steve Chapman [son of Frederick Orland Chapman RRC] has been involved in the 'poppy' campaign every November and this year decided to see about laying a wreath. He also submitted an article to the local newspaper to make people more aware of our Veterans.

Barry Crawford [friend of HKVCA] told me about a program at Canton, north of Port Hope Ontario, where paving stones with a veteran's name can be purchased and are then placed around the grounds of the Canton Cenotaph. The "Canton Enhancement Project" is open to all veterans. Contact the municipality of Port Hope, 56 Queen St., Port Hope, Ontario, L1A 3Z9.

Sandra Fox, [granddaughter of Leonard Corrigan, WG] and co-leader Zem Ajward involve their Beaver Colony [Scouts Canada] ages 5 to 7, to make a wreath for November 11. The children trace their hand, with their name attached, and put this on their wreath for the Remembrance Day ceremony in Richmond Hill. And they write a thank you note to give to the veterans on Remembrance Day on behalf of the 8<sup>th</sup> Richmond Hill Beaver/Scout colony. They have an excellent relationship with the area Legion.

Also involved on November 11<sup>th</sup>, Connie Darling

[daughter of Edward Phillips, RRC] from Trenton, Fred Hurd [son of Edmund Lionel Hurd, RRC], Gravenhurst [a tradition each year] and John Russell [son of Albert James Russell, RRC] of Kingston who participates in the Collins Bay ceremony. Marilyn Wright of Wasaga Beach also mentioned the lack of knowledge of Hong Kong Veterans. At the War Museum in Ottawa, Marilyn saw a picture of her father that she had never seen before. She mentioned it to a volunteer who told her it helped make the display more personal. The two have remained friends. Marilyn also has her father's diary [LT. C.A. Blaver, RRC]

Lois Leppan [daughter of Fred Cooper, RRC] & eight or nine of her family always gather for the Remembrance Day Ceremony in the Keswick area.

Oda Barlow [widow of Edwin Barlow, RRC] now lives in Richmond Hill but used to be very involved in the Toronto HK meetings. Oda was in Winnipeg for this past summer's convention in August and heard the call for volunteers. She feels local meetings would help members get together to share ideas.

Howard Raper [friend of HKVCA] had a very good visit with Bob 'Flash' Clayton in late October and found him 'bright and cheerful'. Flash has been in the veterans wing at Sunnybrook Hospital for several months and Jessie is now in Mississauga. Howard is writing a book about Flash which he says will be simple and straight forward- aimed at the high school level.

Bruce Cadoret's [RRC] daughter says her father is doing quite well with assistance from a good caregiver. They are hoping to take Bruce to Florida this winter.

Marjorie Chatwell [widow of John Chatwell, WG] has new accommodation in Aurora. She is 91 now but still has good stories and memories of her husband and their involvement with blind veterans.

Fred Cooper [RRC] still living in his home and driving. He and his wife have been married 67 years. He's 96. Daughter Diane Day suggests Vancouver for the next HK Convention gathering.

I also spoke with Dena Claricoates [widow of Ronald Claricoates, RRC], Gloria Coughlan [daughter of Peter Gordon Coughlan, RRC], Irene Firlotte [widow of Lawrence Firlotte, RRC], Shirley Harper [daughter of Kenneth Royden Jackson, WG- who is going to Ottawa for the December 7<sup>th</sup> service], Sandra Harris [niece of Douglas B. Rees, RRC], Kathleen Mills-Sevigny [daughter of Alfred Mills, RRC], D. Burke Penny [nephew of Donald A. Penny, RRC], Jean Rose [widow of Jacob Rose, RCCS], Kittie Smith [widow of Thomas W. Smith, RRC], Evelyn Smith [Raymond A. Smith, RRC], Evelyn St. John [widow Ralph St. John, RRC], and Bill Whitman [nephew of Porter Pratt, RRC]. Thank you to all for their responses to my calls!

### **Report for the North East Region by Mitzi Ross**

Hello and best wishes to all of our members here in this region and all across Canada.

#### **Veterans and Widows Report:**

Eric Maloney is doing "fair to middlin". He is having a lot of problems with his legs and has trouble getting around, but he is thankful to have the continuous help of Jim Mirowski who has been a Godsend. He has also had some heart issues, but continues to remain positive and he is planning to join us on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the luncheon.

Mavis Martin and Susan Ewing are both doing very well and are out and about and very busy, especially at this time of the year. Mavis is planning to join us on December 7<sup>th</sup> for the service and the luncheon.

#### **Remembrance Day Ceremonies:**

We had wreaths laid at 10 cenotaphs in our region. They were laid by the following members: Derrill Henderson, Ron McGuire, Ted Terry & Hope Harris, Joanne Scaffidi, Mavis Martin, Sheila Forsythe, Joanne Parkes, Paul Connelly, Stanley Lasenba, Mitzi Ross.

#### **Upcoming Memorial Service:**

We have put together a committee to organize our annual Memorial Service which this year is commemorating the 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Beginning of the Battle of Hong Kong on

December 8, 1941 at the Memorial Wall. This year's ceremony will be held on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>. The committee consists of Derrill Henderson, Ted Terry, Anne Hyland, Ron McGuire, Gail Angel, Joanne Scaffidi, Rita Flannigan, Ian Doull, Alan Sandeman and Mitzi Ross. Following the service there will be a luncheon at the Baton Rouge Restaurant. I will have more to report on this event, and hopefully some pictures, for the next newsletter.

#### **Veterans Week:**

Ian Doull, Ann Hyland and Ted Terry were involved in the "Teachers Institute on Canadian Parliamentary Democracy, Resource Fair" on November 5<sup>th</sup> and then on November 7<sup>th</sup> they repeated their presentation at the Veterans Appreciation Day at Billings Bridge Shopping Centre. At both events they displayed books and pamphlets regarding the Battle of Hong Kong and spoke to many people regarding the Association, the Battle and the veterans. In the case of the resource fair, they distributed a lot of material to participating history teachers from across Canada. Both events went very well.

In closing I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe Christmas season and wishing you all the best in 2014.

#### **Ontario Education Committee Report by Pat Turcotte:**

There are unsung heroes in the Ontario Region membership who are doing good things. What follows is a sampling of the activities of two groups who fit that category.

For the past 5 years, three Ontario Region members, Ted Terry, Ian Doull and Ann Hyland, have looked after a very special event in Ottawa. Called a Resource Fair, this event is part of a Parliamentary Library initiative whereby 70 teachers are chosen from communities across the country to learn more about the workings of democracy by travelling to Ottawa, and being introduced to a number of institutions and situations that increase their understanding of how the country is run. Part of their week of study is a Resource Fair which, this year, took place

on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. The following is an excerpt from this year's report by Ted Terry where he discusses the event.

"HKVCA was represented at the Resource Fair by Ann Hyland, Ian Doull and I. Ian is a particularly valuable member of the team as he is bilingual and able to converse with the French participants. We found it very interesting to interact with the teachers, to discuss the HKVCA, and to provide information to them about our veterans and the Battle of Hong Kong. Having been involved in the Fair for the past five years, I find that each year more and more teachers are not only aware of the Battle, but also include reference to it in their teaching, especially at the Grade 10 or Grade 11 level. I would say that this year the majority were aware of the Battle and the subsequent internment of our soldiers. This was not the case in previous years. It appears that HKVCA, across Canada is getting the message out.

There are two special points to be made. Because we were in the main display room, we were able to set up all three of our Defense of Hong Kong banners. They drew a lot of attention. Another attraction this year was the new Gander book by George MacDonell and Sue Beard. It was prominently displayed; invited comment and many people took order forms with them. Teachers from the Elementary school level were particularly interested in the Gander story and considered using it as a way to promote the story of Canada's participation in the Hong Kong battle."

Ted, Ian and Ann have also expanded their involvement in the Ottawa community by taking part in a "Veterans Week" display in conjunction with Veterans Affairs Canada which occurs within a day or two of the Resource Fair. Much good work has been done here!

The second group consists of the three daughters of Augustin Cyr, RRC, Linda Guglick, who lives in Mississauga, Sandra Strom who has just moved to the Barrie area, and Jackie LeDrew, who is the Area Rep. in the North and lives in Chelmsford, just outside Sudbury. These three ladies have

made valuable contributions to the Ontario Region for several years now, but have had a special focus for the last two. Linda, Sandra, and Jackie have been in charge of the HKVCA display at the Ontario History and Social Science Teachers' Conference (OHASSTA) both last year and this year. The unique part of this situation is that OHASSTA has moved from its long-time venue in Mississauga to Niagara-on-the-Lake's White Oaks Conference Centre and Spa. Needless to say, it is a very promising location, except for the fact that the distance to the Niagara area makes it harder for many of the teachers in the far reaches of the province to attend. Here is a small sample of Linda Guglick's report on behalf of the three ladies on their second visit to the area.

"Friday, Nov. 15, 2013: This year we found a lot more new teachers coming through who were not aware of the Battle of Hong Kong. We found more of them approaching the period where they would be dealing with the Battle of Hong Kong in their classroom work, so the timing was perfect. They seemed very excited to get the resources we were handing out. We handed out 84 English and 6 French red folders, containing 7 pieces of helpful information. These folders included several pamphlets, book order forms, a copy of the HKVCA Writing Contest, and a CD-ROM of the Battle of Hong Kong. As well, the new book "A Dog Named Gander" was on display and was very well received. We were surprised at how many were sold (11). As many as 6 teachers asked about getting a speaker for their class so we gave them Mike Babin's cards for contact information. We three Cyr sisters were very happy to be involved. We even met another exhibitor who actually worked with our Uncle, who was a Hong Kong POW, back in the 60's. That was amazing!"

Both of these groups continue to work without fanfare doing great work on behalf of all of us. We could thank them by becoming more involved ourselves in some of the projects that are available out there. In Ontario, you

can reach Mike Babin, or any of the Area Reps, for more information about how you can be an HKVCA volunteer.

Pat Turcotte, Education Committee Volunteer, HKVCA, Ontario Region

### Quebec Quotes

- Lucette Mailloux Muir,  
QC Regional Director

Greetings everyone from Quebec Region.

Another year fast coming to a close. We recently held an executive meeting with the usual reports, year-end review and plans for the coming year.

Due to health problems our Membership Chairman Marcel Mondou declined from this position. With the consensus of the Quebec Region executive, yours truly will take over as Membership Chairperson in the interim until the next elections.

Many members attended Remembrance Ceremonies and activities in their respective area.

During the last few weeks, calls to our Veterans and Widows were neglected due to time permitting. A mailing was done to all members including a "Call" for 2014 renewal membership cards, news and Season Greetings.

That is it at this time. Take care. Season Greetings and Health for 2014 to you and yours from all members of the Quebec Region.

### Eastern Breezes

- Emmie Flanagan, Regional Director

Season's Greetings from Atlantic Canada. Remembrance Day in Belledune was well attended with a full house. The great grandson of a local Hong Kong Veteran was quite proud and felt most honoured to place a wreath for all Hong Kong Veteran's on behalf of the HKVCA.

I am pleased to say that I have acquired a very reputable individual to help with the fundraising for our Belledune 'C' Force Memorial. His name is David Doyle and he has worked on a number of Memorials over the past 20 years. David brings a lot of passion toward this project, as he sees the uniqueness of the Memorial on the International stage. He knows it will bring more attention to the plight of our Hong Kong Veterans, and their story will continue to be learned by many future generations who visit the site.

Letters were sent across Canada to Education Ministers and Teachers in October, for the Cross Canada Writing Contest. I look forward to receiving many entries in 2014.

I do not have much more news to report other than our 'Reunion Committee' will be meeting early in the New Year, to get prepared for our annual reunion in Campbelton, NB - September, 2014.

Wishing all our Hong Kong Veterans, along with their family and friends, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2014.

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### Humour

#### The Rugged Outdoor Woman

During her physical examination, a doctor asked a retired woman about her physical activity level. The woman said she spent 3 days a week, every week in the outdoors.

"Well, yesterday afternoon was typical; I took a five hour walk about 7 miles through some pretty rough terrain. I waded along the edge of a lake. I pushed my way through 2 miles of brambles. I got sand in my shoes and my eyes. I barely avoided stepping on a snake. I climbed several rocky hills. I went to the bathroom behind some big trees. I ran away

from an irate mother bear and then ran away from one angry bull Elk. The mental stress of it all left me shattered. At the end of it all I drank a scotch and three glasses of wine.

Amazed by the story, the doctor said, "You must be one hell of an outdoor woman!"

"No," the woman replied, "I'm just a really, really crappy golfer".

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

**PLEASE NOTIFY US AT  
[WWW.HKVCA.CA](http://WWW.HKVCA.CA) IF  
YOU HAVE AN ADDRESS  
OR EMAIL CHANGE SO  
THAT WE MAY STAY IN  
TOUCH WITH YOU.**

**THANK YOU.**

**May your troubles be less,  
your blessing be more,  
And nothing but happiness  
come through your door!**


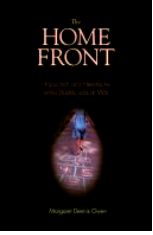
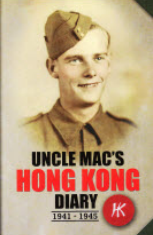
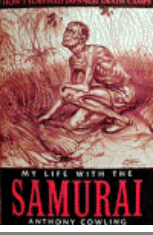

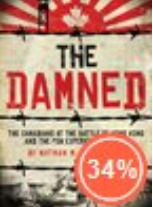
***Be kinder than necessary.  
Everyone you meet is fighting  
some kind of battle.  
You never know when a moment  
and a few sincere words can  
have an impact on a life.***

**Best wishes for a Peaceful  
Christmas and good health,  
good friends and happiness  
in 2014.**





## A Sampling of Our Latest Books

Title	Description	Author	ISBN/Publisher
<b>A Dog Named GANDER</b> 	<p>This book is dedicated to the 2,000 Canadian soldiers of "C-Force" who, in the face of an imminent Japanese threat, were sent to reinforce the far distant British Crown Colony of Hong Kong in October of 1941.</p> <p>40 Pages, Photos - Size 11" x 8.5"</p>	George S MacDonell & Sue Beard	ISBN10: 0986609916 ISBN13: 9780986609916
<b>The Home Front: Hopscotch &amp; Heartache While Daddy Was at War</b> 	<p>The Home Front is the story of his loved ones at home. Told through the eyes of young Margaret, it portrays her mother, Lucy, and younger brother and sister during the four long years their father was away. With poignancy and humour, the author offers a colourful picture of Canadian life during the dark days of World War II.</p>	Margaret Owen A Winnipeg writer and a retired school teacher. She has been writing since 1972 and has published many articles. The Home Front is her first book.	9781896150642 <a href="#">McNally Robinson</a>
<b>Uncle Mac's Hong Kong Diary</b> 	<p>This book, 185 pages long, has two distinctive sections; events before surrender, and while a POW. The subject matter has often been written about in the recent past, but this rendition covering December 1941 contains some very emotional language.</p> <p>Following the surrender, as to be expected with any publication with the words "Hong Kong Diary" in the title, the theme focuses on the lack of food, medicine, and freedom.</p> <p>Diary was compiled by his niece Betsy in 2010.</p>	Philip J.M. (Mac) Gallie, RRC	To purchase, call Betsy at 1-519-744-6633 Cost: \$25, postage included
<b>My Life with the Samurai</b> 	<p>My Life With the Samurai tells the true story of a 17 year old boy (AUTHOR) captured by the Japanese in Indonesia. This new, limited edition 3rd printing includes maps, photos, the names of those who fell in camp, in addition to new chapters which document the brutality experienced by many nations of S.E. Asia during the Japanese reign of terror.</p>	Anthony Cowling	Can be purchased from the author's <a href="#">web site</a>
<b>Hong Kong Internment 1942-1945</b> 	<p>Life in the Japanese Civilian Camp at Stanley This book tells the story of the more than 3000 non-Chinese civilians: British, American, Dutch and others, who were trapped in the British colony and interned behind barbed wire in Stanley Internment Camp from 1942 to 1945.</p>	Geoffrey Charles Emerson	Author's <a href="#">web site</a>
<b>The Damned:</b> 	<p>The Damned tells the largely unknown saga of Canada's first land battle of the Second World War -- fought in the hills and valleys of Hong Kong in December 1941 -- and the terrible years the survivors of the battle spent as slave labourers for the Empire of Japan.</p>	Nathan Greenfield Ph.D	Released in Oct 2010. <a href="#">Order from Chapters</a> : ISBN - 10:1554682193 ISBN - 13:9781554682195

Questions or comments: contact our librarian via email: [store@hkvca.ca](mailto:store@hkvca.ca) or send a letter to our corporate address - H.K.V.C.A. 1861 Robertson Road, Suite 164, Nepean, ON, K2H 1B9

### BARRY'S EMPORIUM

These "attractive" golf shirts are for sale—sizes Large and XL for \$30.00 apiece.

*Hong Kong Diary Revisited*—\$30.00

*One Soldiers Story*—\$20.00

*No Reason Why*—\$30.00

*Dark Side of the Sun*—\$25.00

Please send your order and cheque to: **HKVCA P.O. Box 381  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2H6**

### By Law Provision Changes

As a result of reorganization in the Charitable status organizations, there are fifteen “provisions” in our By-laws that must be changed. Mostly these are simply redefinition, and in summary they are:

- 1 - New definitions have been added which will assist in interpreting the By-Law.
- 2 - The term “Head Office” is now called the “Registered Office”.
- 3 - The identification of the “First Directors” has been removed as of no further use.
- 4 - Board Directors (i.e. Regional Directors) must now be elected yearly by “ordinary resolution” of the members (i.e. 50% plus one).
- 5 - Previously Directors could be removed by the Board by a 2/3 majority; now, if necessary, it requires a majority of an “ordinary resolution” of the members.
- 6 - Replacing Removed Directors- formally the Board could temporarily appoint members to fill any number of vacancies; now the Board is limited to 1/3 the number of Directors.
- 7 - Replacing any Director vacancies - Board can no longer do this - must be done by the membership.
- 8 - The Executive Committee may no longer make any independent decisions regarding the financial operation of the organization outside previously approved actions. Now these must be taken to the membership.
- 9 - The Board can no longer make the decision for Board meetings to be held outside Canada. It must go to the membership.
- 10 - The number of member signatures on a request to hold a special meeting has been reduced from 50% to 5%.
- 11- The notice for any meeting has been raised from 14 days to a minimum of 21 days.
- 12 - For mail-in Ballots or e-mail Ballots; these must be gathered and maintained to enable subsequent verification.
- 13 - There are new laws governing members voting by proxy. The changes to our By-Laws are minimal in this provision, governing how to name a proxy holder and how to revoke the proxy right.
- 14 - Notices and correspondence sent via e-mail are [word ‘not’ removed on 13 Dec 2013] considered legal documents.
- 15 - Supplementary Letters patent are no longer required when submitting a By-Law change.

**We are calling a “Special General Meeting” to deal with this matter on February 13, 2013 at St James Legion, Winnipeg, MB at 11:30 a.m. – if you are unable to make it we offer the ballot below to express your wishes.**

**Please complete, clip and mail the ballot below to:**

**H.K.V.C.A. 1861 Robertson Road, Suite 164, Nepean, ON, K2H 1B9 OR by e-mail to [derrill@sympatico.ca](mailto:derrill@sympatico.ca)**

**Any non-response will be assumed to be a positive reply to all provisions.**

✂-----

#### By Law Provision change ballot

Provision ForAgainst                      Provision ForAgainst                      Provision ForAgainst

(Please mark whether For or Against beside each Bylaw Provision.)

1 _____	6 _____	11 _____
2 _____	7 _____	12 _____
3 _____	8 _____	13 _____
4 _____	9 _____	14 _____
5 _____	10 _____	15 _____

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_