



SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

# REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

## SEAFORTH ARMOURY REOPENS!

### HIGHLAND HOMECOMING CELEBRATION A HUGE SUCCESS

Highland Homecoming took place on September 20<sup>th</sup> in front of about 1500 members of the Regimental Family and general public. It began with the regiment and cadets marching from Jericho Garrison to the Seaforth Armoury, led by the Pipes & Drums.

While the march was taking place, Harjit Sajjan, Minister of Defence, and HLCol Rod Hoffmeister cut the ribbon to dedicate the new 39 Brigade Headquarters, the Major General Hoffmeister Building, in honour of Rod's father.

In the afternoon, there was a Parade and Drum Head Ceremony to recognize the return to the Seaforth's home and the addition of the Afghanistan Battle Honour to Regimental Colours. A hollow square was formed by Soldiers, Cadets, Association members and veterans of the war in Afghanistan.

The more than 50 Afghanistan veterans in attendance were recognized for their service.



Regimental Padre Jim Short blesses the Regimental Colours during a ceremony recognizing the addition of Seaforth's newest battle honour, Afghanistan.

The formal part of the day concluded with a rousing Military Tattoo featuring the Seaforth and Vancouver Police Pipes & Drums, as well as the Band of the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery and Chor Leoni Men's Choir.

[More Highland Homecoming on Page 4](#)



### Message from the President

Greetings Fellow Seaforths! Happy 2017, I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and are excited for all the changes and exciting activities the upcoming year will bring. It has been a typically busy fall & winter period for the Association and the Regimental family. As you all know, Highland Homecoming on September 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 marked the Regiment's ceremonial reoccupation of our historic home, the Seaforth Armoury. [\(Continued on page 2\)](#)

### SO WHEN IS THE REAL MOVE?

While the Seaforth Armoury officially reopened on September 24<sup>th</sup>, the regiment is still parading at Jericho Garrison. The delay is due to problems with the furniture contract and installing computer servers. The date of the regiment's actual move back is expected in spring 2017.

## Message from the President (Continued from page 1)

While we have not actually moved the regiment back to the armoury, we have been able to conduct all of our ceremonial functions there since the opening ceremony. It has been awe inspiring, to bring people through the building for the first time in many years, and show them the many changes!

Following Highland Homecoming we had Remembrance Day at the Seaforth Armoury. This year was even better attended than our usual fine showing. Nearly 20 Association members rode our bus downtown to the Cenotaph, and with those already downtown, we had a marching contingent over 25. Well done!

The officer's mess conducted both the annual Passchendaele Dinner and the Christmas luncheon in the refurbished Anderson room.

Following that, the Ortona Dinner was held on the parade square, and was a most memorable event, with better Association attendance than in many years. As in previous years the Association was once again able to award several educational Bursaries to members of the Regimental family, congratulations to the recipients.

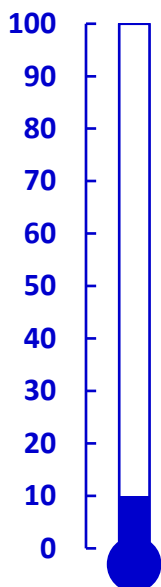
2017 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge. This year's Vimy Memorial Service will be on Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1500 followed by the Seaforth Reunion Dinner at 1700. The Association is conducting a battlefield tour in April, and we have moved the dinner so that the members attending the tour may also attend the dinner. Last year we saw the highest attendance of the Association's reunion dinner in decades and we hope even more Seaforths will attend this year!

A busy holiday season is now behind us, and an even busier period of activities and exercises is ramping up. I am excited to continue to see us grow in numbers, and to also see more and more participation by the Association with the serving members.

Caber Feidh!

Josh Muir CD

President



### 2017 Association Dues

It is a new year and that means it is time to pay your 2017 Association dues! We have 442 members but most of them have not paid their dues in many years. Last year we had 74 paid up members. This year we are aiming to have 100 paid up members by Remembrance Day. Currently we only have 10 but we are on our way. Dues amounts for 2017 are:

Ordinary Members \$20

Associate Members \$20

Lifetime membership \$400

Dues can be paid by mailing us a cheque, by credit card through the kit sho, or in person to a member of the executive. Mailing address and contact info is on page 6.

## A MONUMENT TO MARK THE ARMOURY

Any of our members who have passed by the Armoury lately will have noted even more work going on, at the south west corner of the Armoury's footprint. Canada company and Hlcol Hoffmeister has arranged for our procurement of a LAV 3, to be permanently displayed in front of our Home! I am excited for this addition, and feel the general public passing by us from now on will be left in no doubt the building contains a military unit with long history and a long connection to the city of Vancouver!

## New Kit Shop Item!

Glencairn  
whisky glasses

\$20 each



## Vimy Dinner 2017

We've seen this event grow over the last few years under the watchful administration of Mr. Ciccone, despite the many difficulties associated with holding the Vimy Dinner while away from our ancestral home. All good things must come to an end however, and he has passed the torch to the next generation of association members to organize.

He leaves big shoes to fill, considering that not only is this our first year back at Seaforth Armoury since the move, it is also the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Vimy Ridge. This is the reason you may have

noticed that the dinner is being held a little earlier this year than usual. It has been moved to the first of April to accommodate the fact that we will be sending a sizable contingent over to Europe for the Anniversary proper; we certainly would like them to be able to attend our event here at home as well.

It is an honour and privilege to be organizing the Vimy dinner for you all this year. On behalf of the association executive I hope that you and your loved ones will be able to join us in celebration and remembrance of this auspicious battle from our history.

### KIT SHOP NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS

The Kit Shop now accepts Credit Cards (Visa, MC, Discover, Amer. Expr.) for online and in person purchases. There are service fees, depending on how you pay:

- In person fee 2.65% of total order.
- Online 3.4% + 18 cent fee for entering it manually.
- Receipts will be either emailed or texted to you, (email is default).
- Until further notice we are not accepting EMT payment.

## Upcoming Events

### 100<sup>th</sup> Vimy Memorial Service and Seaforth Reunion Dinner

1 April 2017

Location: Seaforth Armoury  
Parade Square

Time: 1500

The Vimy Dinner is quickly becoming one of the best regimental events of the year. The new Chair of the Vimy Dinner Committee, Ryan Difine is dedicated to making this event even better. The event will start at 1500 with a memorial service to remember our fallen Seaforths, complete with a vigil guard of serving members mounted around the Vimy Cross. There will then be a brief reception at 1600, followed by dinner at 1700.

While all the elements of a formal mess dinner are included, the format has been relaxed so that we do not bore our guests. Please feel free to invite a guest and give them a chance to experience the Seaforth family.

### Association Annual General Meeting

May 2017

Location: The Seaforth Armoury  
Anderson Room

The Annual General Meeting will be held this May. Elections will be held for all positions. Only those members who have paid their 2017 association dues will be eligible to run for positions and vote.

As of last year the committee has three permanent positions, President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Nominations will also be accepted for "Members at Large".

## Last Post

The Association regrets to announce the passing of the following Seaforths over the last year:

**David Richard Rolfe** (84) Patrons Corps

**Norman Safarik** (98) Service in WWII

**Wayne Bergunder** (62) service in Cold War

**Richard Francis Troy** (71) service in Cold War



"Having served with you in strange places, in peaceful days and in the stench of war, it has been my greatest privilege to have known your courage and your brave unselfishness, to have been your friend."

-Padre Durnford

## Highland Homecoming

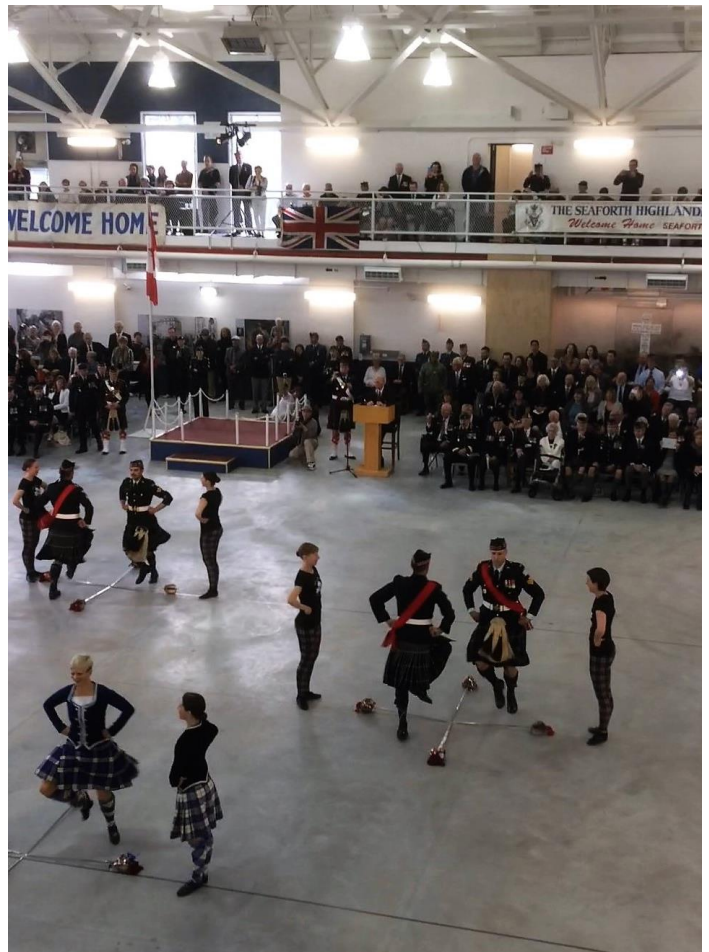
Operation Highland Homecoming was a great success. It was excellent to see so many members of the Association on parade, in the hollow square, as they dedicated the regiment's newest battle honour, Afghanistan. A wonderful day.



The finale of the military tattoo that took place as part of Operation Highland Homecoming, the reopening of the Seaforth Armoury.



Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan and HLCol Rod Hoffmeister cut the ribbon opening the new General Bertram Hoffmeister Building. HLCol Rod Hoffmeister is the son of General Hoffmeister. Behind them is former CO BGen MacKenzie and HLCol Shields



The Seaforth Highland Dance Team and members of the dance group A Shot of Scotch, do a broadsword dance as part of the military tattoo during Operation Highland Homecoming.

## Name that Seaforth

The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Museum and Archives has hundreds of photos that have recently been digitized in order to help preserve the history of the regiment and make it more accessible. The next step is trying to identify who is in the pictures and what was happening when they were taken. We need your help putting names to faces and events. Can you name these Seaforths?



Who are these guys getting a fine pic in front of the armoury?



Does anyone know what parade this was and who that is inspecting the asphalt of the outdoor parade square?

Stags on berets is an awkward look, anybody know who is in this parade from the 1980's?

**Send info about these pictures to [Seaforthassoc@gmail.com](mailto:Seaforthassoc@gmail.com)**



Thanks to Steven Macklam, a Seaforth who served with 5 PI on the Sunshine Coast in the 1960's. Steven remembered this photo from the March 2016 newsletter and let us know this Exercise took place in Comox Harbour in 1968. In Steven's words "I also recall that was the first and only time we were issued the US style helmets. The DND probably didn't want to have us on CBC with the antiquated helmets." We are trying to find out if any of the CBC footage of this exercise still exists.

## Regimental Senior Appointments

### **Colonel-in-Chief**

HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

### **Honorary Colonel**

HCol Michael Shields

### **Honorary Lieutenant Colonel**

HLCol Rod Hoffmeister

### **Commanding Officer**

LCol Paul Ursich

### **Regimental Sergeant Major**

CWO John O'Connor

### **Honorary Major**

Brian Kerr

### **Honorary Captain**

Shannon Johnson

### **Regimental Secretary**

Allen McLeod

### **Regimental Padre**

Maj Jim Short

## Regimental Association Appointments

### **President of the Association**

Josh Muir

### **Treasurer**

Kent Fabian

### **Secretary**

Patrick Farrell

### **Directors at Large**

Rod Hoffmeister

John O'Connor

Neil McRae

Bob Best

Dave Mitchell

Yuri Miljivich-LaRoche

### **Association Padre Neill McRea**

Cell: 778-888-1559

## Contact Information

### **The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada**

#### **Regimental Association**

Email: [president@seaforthhighlanders.ca](mailto:president@seaforthhighlanders.ca)

[treasurer@seaforthhighlanders.ca](mailto:treasurer@seaforthhighlanders.ca)

[Secretary@seaforthhighlanders.ca](mailto:Secretary@seaforthhighlanders.ca)

Website: [seaforthhighlanders.ca](http://seaforthhighlanders.ca)

Facebook Page: The Old Guard Seaforth Regimental Association

Twitter: @SeaforthAssoc

#### **The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Orderly Room**

Email: [vanor5128@forces.gc.ca](mailto:vanor5128@forces.gc.ca)

Phone: 604-225-2520 Ext 2811

## Regimental Association Kit Shop

Email: [kitshop@seaforthhighlanders.ca](mailto:kitshop@seaforthhighlanders.ca)

Facebook Page: Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Kitshop

Twitter: @SeaforthKitshop

### **Clothing**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Blazer Crests.....                            | \$30  |
| Fishing Hats .....                            | \$15  |
| T Shirt Cotton Blue.....                      | \$10  |
| T Shirt Sweat Wicking Blue (Small to XL)..... | \$20  |
| Regimental Polo Shirt, Blue.....              | \$40  |
| Seaforth Hoodies.....                         | \$40  |
| Coal Harbour Jacket (Navy Blue).....          | \$50  |
| Regimental Tie, Polyester.....                | \$30  |
| Regimental Tie, Silk.....                     | \$40  |
| Diced Hose.....                               | \$100 |
| Tartan Hose.....                              | \$100 |
| <b>New!</b> Low Crown Glengarry.....          | \$125 |

### **Jewellery**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Junior Ranks Cap Badge.....                     | \$15  |
| Cap Badge Officers (white brass).....           | \$80  |
| Cap Badge WOs, and Sgts (white brass).....      | \$80  |
| Cap Badge WOs, and Sgts (Silver).....           | \$135 |
| Cap Badge Officers (Silver).....                | \$135 |
| Regimental Ring (Sterling Silver).....          | \$110 |
| Seaforth Lapel Pin (Enamelled Blue Shield)..... | \$3   |
| Blazer Buttons (small).....                     | \$8   |
| Blazer Buttons (large).....                     | \$9   |
| Tie Tacks, (Sterling Silver).....               | \$10  |

### **Miscellaneous**

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Flask with Engraved Seaforth Crest.....           | \$50                  |
| Pint Glasses.....                                 | \$30                  |
| <b>New!</b> Glencairn.....                        | \$20                  |
| Water Glasses.....                                | \$20                  |
| Water Bottles.....                                | \$15                  |
| Zippo Lighter Engraved with Crest.....            | \$40                  |
| Ice Buckets, Drum w/Regt. Battle Honours.....     | \$10                  |
| Seaforth Crest Sticker (static cling).....        | \$4                   |
| Seaforth Crest Sticker (adhesive).....            | \$2                   |
| Seaforth Camp Morale Patch.....                   | \$5                   |
| Seaforth/Afghanistan Commemoration Patch.....     | \$20                  |
| Blazer Buttos.....                                | Med \$8.....Large \$9 |
| Regimental History (1919 - 1965) by R.H. Roy..... | \$35                  |
| DVD Return to Agira Op Husky 2013.....            | \$20                  |
| Smokey Smith Print.....                           | \$5                   |

Note: All items are subject to availability

**Let us know what you think of the new newsletter!  
Email us or leave a comment in the Facebook group.**