

# WASURERU-NAI

“Never Forget”

Volume 4, Number 2

October, 2002

## NEWSLETTER OF THE HONG KONG VETERANS' COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION

### HKVCA HAS RECEIVED OFFICIAL CHARITABLE STATUS !!

#### **THE HONG KONG VETERANS' COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION NOW HAS CHARITABLE STATUS**

It's official. As of 26 September 2002 the HKVCA is now a charitable organization under Canadian federal tax legislation. After almost two years of work and several applications, the Association has been notified of its new status by the Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency (formerly Revenue Canada). As Derrill Henderson notes, the Association executive past and present underwent a steep learning curve in order to satisfy CCRA standards, which required some changes to the manner in which the Association was set up.

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Once our accounting and reporting structures are fully compliant with CCRA regulations, the HKVCA will be allowed to issue tax receipts for charitable donations. This will enhance the Association's ability to fund projects in accordance with its mandate, and has been a long-term goal of the HKVCA executive.

Congratulations, and *well-done!!* to all who worked to make this possible.

#### **President's Message**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I bring you greetings and hope that you enjoyed a great summer. There is nothing like sunshine and fresh air to clear the thinking processes and rejuvenate the body.

One piece of exciting news is that this Association is a small step away from receiving our Charity Status and possibly it may be factual by the time this newsletter is published. Our Executive members in Ottawa have been very diligent in their efforts to achieve this and we appreciate the time and persistence that it has taken.

Another wonderful item is the generosity of George MacDonell who has donated his book "One Soldier's Story" and all the profit of the sales to the 'Commemorative Association'. To manage this huge endeavour, a committee of representatives from all the Regions, headed by Derrill Henderson,

Director of Publications, has been formed. The Publications Committee is promoting the sale of George's book by seeking corporate sponsors to place the book in libraries and schools. This has the double benefit of bringing our story to the attention of the youth of Canada while hopefully raising some money for the HKVCA. The Publications Committee reports to the Executive Committee and with George's input, the funds from this project will assist in initiating more of the ideas relating to the mandate of this Association.

Last year at the National Convention held in Winnipeg, your Executive were made aware of a project that was started in British Columbia by a Canadian History teacher, working in his Masters program, with the assistance of Lionel Speller, Don McPherson and Larry Stebbe. The teacher, Graeme Stacey, as reported in the BC newsletter, has been instrumental in developing a syllabus for senior high education, which includes the Asian-Pacific theatre of war. Our veterans have assisted with this project with their recollections of events of the Battle of Hong Kong and subsequent treatment as Prisoners of War. We now have Ontario and Manitoba with this project ongoing with the expectation of success.

The Alberta/Saskatchewan veterans have asked the 'Commemorative' for assistance with their Branch and we have initiated the formation of a Regional Council. Kathie Carlson and Sheila Rattie will be contacting the 'Commemorative' members for help and a commitment to our veterans. So if you have some time we would appreciate any involvement that you

are able to give. Willingness to serve and to learn is our only prerequisite.

Our website ([www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca)) has had some wonderful changes to it due to the expertise of our Web Master, Linda May and her committee of Ron Parker and Claire Hachey. They would welcome contributions by the veterans and their families in the form of prose, poetry or pictures with captions. This is your web site. It is also the window to the world for others to learn about our HK veterans and their issues. The information on the website shows how their families and friends have taken the torch to ensure the memories do not fade away.

During this past summer, successful gatherings were held in the BC, Quebec, and Maritimes regions, hopefully reported elsewhere in this newsletter. Unfortunately I was unable to attend these events due to expansion in my work life and early retirement of my husband. However I anticipate the time when I will be able to attend your events and meet you all personally.

The BC Region arrangements for our next **National Convention**, to be held in **Victoria, August 13 – 17, 2003** are well underway. Hopefully there will be a large attendance to this HK family reunion and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

I wish to encourage you to be involved in the HKVCA in your area. Not only is it informative and fun, your participation offers an opportunity to help promote the values that our fathers, uncles, and/or family members cherished and fought for. If you need further information, the names, addresses and other pertinent information of the Executive members are available in the newsletter or contact us through the website.

As our next newsletter will be in the spring, I will wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for good health and happiness in the coming New Year.

Sincerely,  
Carol Hadley

## REGION/BRANCH NEWS

### British Columbia Region

A lot has taken place in our region since the last newsletter in March. The most memorable events for us were the luncheons in Victoria on May 18<sup>th</sup> and Vancouver on May 25<sup>th</sup> (see photo, back page). There were almost eighty Hong Kong Veterans, widows and HKVCA members in attendance. The luncheons provided an opportunity for old friends to see each other again and for new friendships to form. Everywhere we looked we saw smiling faces, people talking and laughing and a lot of hand shaking and hugging going on. It was an honor and a privilege for the sons and daughters, grandchildren and friends of the HKVCA to meet some of the Hong Kong Veterans, wives and widows. Special thanks go out to Lionel Speller and Larry Stebbe for all their efforts to make the luncheons a huge success.

On Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, I was honored to attend a gallery opening in Victoria for a series of paintings named "Now and Zen" by William Allister. I met Will and his wife Mona at our luncheon in Vancouver where they shared with me that they had returned to Japan for several months in 1983 with a goal - forgiving but not forgetting. "The goal - forgiving but not forgetting - brought a fine inner peace at last." Mr. Allister is a HK vet who is also the author of two award winning novels, *A Handful of Rice* and *Where Life and Death Hold Hands*. The paintings were wonderful and it was a pleasure to have a quick visit with them again. Lionel and Ida Speller and Barbara Komorsky were invited to the one-man showing. We all had a nice visit and enjoyed viewing the paintings.

Harvelyn McInnis just phoned to ask me to attend a "Reading" at Bolen Books here in Victoria on October 1, 2002. The book "*Letters to Harvelyn*" has just been mailed out to bookstores across the country. The publisher is Harper Collins. You may recall that this book is a compilation of letters written by Harvelyn's father while he was imprisoned. Following is an excerpt from Professor Jack Granatstein, former Director, Canadian War Museum, who reviewed the book. "This collection of extraordinary letters by Major Kenneth

Baird of the Winnipeg Grenadiers adds much to our understanding of both the battle at Hong Kong and the prisoner of war experience. There is not a shred of political correctness in these letters, most of which curse the Japanese roundly. This brutal honesty makes the book all the more valuable. " Professor Granatstein is the author of *Waging War and Keeping the Peace* published by University of Toronto Press.

Following the meeting for the Ladies' Inter-Club (Legion) Pool League in Victoria, one of the ladies told me she had just returned from a visit back east. Since absolutely every other location in Canada is "back east" from Vancouver Island, I asked her "How far back east?" "Greenwood, Nova Scotia." was Norma Goodwin's reply. "It's such beautiful country." I offered, "You must have had a wonderful time." We hadn't spoken often before this, except when we played pool against each other, so I sensed she had a purpose in mind. She said that, during her visit, her son-in-law showed her some photos. "I know that lady"; she told him "we play pool together. Her name is Linda". I expected she was going to tell me that she saw a picture of someone who simply looked like me, not that she had actually seen a picture of me. She said he told her I was the lady who knew about the Hong Kong Veterans. I was totally taken by surprise. Quickly I asked her what her son-in-law's name was. "Blair Mehan", was the reply. He's married to Norma's daughter Christine. Blair was the amateur military historian and member of the Forces who I told you about in our last newsletter. The pictures were of the ceremony at the Victoria Cenotaph on Christmas Day in 2001. I was completely amazed when Norma told me that she had seen a picture of me all the way on the other side of Canada.

That's my "Isn't it a small world?" story and my lead-in to invite you all to come and visit us for the National Convention in 2003. Who can tell where in the world pictures of you at the event might turn up? You just never know.

**HKVCA National Convention 2003:** We are very pleased to announce that the HKVCA National Convention will be held in beautiful Victoria from August 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> 2003. The venue has been set as the Traveller's Inn, City Center location. Please put these dates aside and plan on attending. Please "talk it up" in your local

newsletters. The Registration kits will be mailed out to our membership in March 2003. To ensure you receive your kit, please keep your local regions up-dated with any change of address. We are looking forward to playing host to the country.

We do sincerely hope to see many of you at the National Convention. Take good care of each other.

Warmest regards,

Linda Stewart, HKVCA Regional Director, BC

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### Manitoba Region

(Summarized from the Manitoba newsletter: *Hong Kong Veterans' Association of Canada*, Manitoba Branch, October-December 2002, Carol Hadley, Editor.)

Our City Hall display dedication is set for November 4, 2002. We will have *Ferdinand the Bull*, the coloured Honour Roll and several other items in the display. The Winnipeg Grenadier cadets will be present and hopefully the media. If you are able to make it, please come on down. I urge you to contact Lora Wachtendorf if you have any items that could be put into the museum. These items will be preserved properly and available for all to see. It is very important to have our history available for our youth to learn and understand what has happened in the past. Carol Hadley and I attended the Peacekeepers Parade and Wreath laying Ceremony at the Cenotaph on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2002 in which I participated by laying our wreath.

Our Annual V-J Day Remembrance service was held at All Saints Church at Broadway & Osborne on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002. There were about 45 people in attendance with Rev. Judy Whitmore saying the blessing. Special guests Melvin Swan, President of the Aboriginal Veterans of Manitoba and Joe Maconse, of the National Council of Aboriginal Veterans, spoke on this auspicious occasion.

A committee of Pam Heinrichs, Carol Hadley and Pat Atkinson, are trying to have Canada's participation in the Asian-Pacific theatre of war emphasized in the Senior High School curriculum.

They have several aspects ongoing at present and with more of a report to come.

Our Annual Reunion Dinner will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at the Holiday Inn Airport West on Portage Avenue. Information packages have been sent, so please, if you plan on attending send in your replies soon. Also if you have items for the silent auction, please call and let me know, thank you.

Last but not least, hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.

- Juliet Lafortune, Regional Director

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### Québec Region

Hope you all had a wonderful, safe summer in spite of the record heat that we experienced. Yes, like all of you we were quite busy with the reunion etc.

*Quebec Reunion 2002:* A very well attended annual reunion was held in Granby. The organizing committee thank all who participated either in person, notes, donations, raffle tickets etc. Thanks to each of you. Veterans present at the reunion with families and friends were Oswald Clark, T.G. Hutchinson, Philip Doddridge, Flash Clayton, Vic Bujold, Dick Keays, Jean Paul Dallain, Pat Poirier, Henry Lyons, Albert Russell, Arnold Ross, Robert Barter, Bryce Craig, Lance Ross, Robert Olscamp, John Levitt, Eric Batley and Dempsey Syvrett. On Friday a well attended joint meeting of the HKVA and HKVCA was presided by Lucette M. Muir and co-chaired by Philip Doddridge. Other than the usual procedures questions were asked, clarifications were made etc. All in all everyone received answers to their query. On behalf of the National BOD, Carol sent wishes to all for a successful reunion. A lunch and tour of the area in the afternoon and the day closed with a dinner and social evening at a cabane a sucre (sugar place).

A commemorative ceremony and parade was held on Saturday. Special thanks to Flash Clayton for taking over as Parade Marshall. Thanks also go to Derrill Henderson for his most appropriate prayers etc during the ceremony. A Roll Call of all deceased HK Veterans' since our last meeting was read. *We will remember them!*

Following the recent death of our Hong Kong Veterans' Association National President Harry Atkinson, our vets and members were not all able to go to Winnipeg for the funeral. A special tribute from the Quebec region Vets to Harry Atkinson and a poppy drop was held during the ceremony. Lori Smith and Marge Dwyer were invited to also deposit their poppy. Philip Doddridge and Lucette Muir deposited their respective wreaths. Dorothy Sauson was invited to deposit a wreath in the name of all widows. The mayor of Granby and the Federal Member of Parliament also deposited wreaths.

Philip Doddridge took the Salute. Those Veterans were marching straight and proud! Thank you Vets. The day closed with a banquet dinner, social evening and drawings.

As usual we sadly note the departure of more of our comrades. Some of these names may have been mentioned elsewhere, but in the interest of keeping the record straight, they are mentioned here. In no particular order: Lewis McFaun RRC, Morgan Davies RRC, Raymond Murray RRC. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM!

*Book Corner:* The Royal Rifles of Canada in Hong Kong book by Grant Garneau is available and for sale at the cost of \$ 50.00 per copy including shipping. Don't shoot the messenger but Christmas is fast approaching, what a better way to solve a gift problem by giving a book and by the same token helping to ensure the memory of the Battle of Hong Kong is not forgotten and the proper recognition is given to those that served in that theatre of War. Contact: Lucette M. Muir 450-375-7439 e-mail

[lucette.mailloux.m@sympatico.ca](mailto:lucette.mailloux.m@sympatico.ca) Philip Doddridge 418-392-5838 e-mail [Philed@globetrotter.qc.ca](mailto:Philed@globetrotter.qc.ca)

### Elections

The executive committee elected for the Quebec Region:  
Regional Director East, Nancy Doddridge  
Regional Director West, Marcel Mondou  
Secretary, Debbie Batley-Everett  
Treasurer, Allan Marshall  
Regional Director Quebec Region, BOD, Lucette Mailloux-Muir  
Veterans Spokesman, Philip Doddridge

Greetings to all. Have a Merry Christmas and Health and Joy for the New Year. Take care.

Lucette M. Muir  
Quebec Regional Director.

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### Québec-Maritimes Branch (HKVA)

I wish, first of all, to thank you for providing this space for a message from the HKVA. (May I call it the Senior Branch?)

The Last Post has sounded again for a number of our Comrades. Yesterday I attended the funeral of Raymond Murray, 83, in Chandler, Quebec. There were six HK Vets there, all of us well past our allotted time of fourscore and ten years. Arnold Hunt, 92, Lance Ross, 91, Hector Hunt, 89, Arnold Ross, 85, John Duguay, 80, and Phil Doddridge, 80. It was another reminder of the importance the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association.

With the Fall issue of the Quebec Branch newsletter just off the press, it is a little difficult to find something different to say. However, I want to repeat that our request for help in establishing our Military Museum received such encouraging results that we are now able to proceed with the work. To all our supporters, I offer a sincere and heartfelt thanks.

In order to receive official status there are a number of hoops to jump through, details that we didn't consider when the project was first started. All this, of course, costs money, such as architect's fees, museologist's fees, licences, and other incidentals. With your help we will be able to take a step forward, and achieve our aim of opening in June of next year. Our web site will soon be on line. You will be able to find it at [www.baychaleurmilitarymuseum.ca](http://www.baychaleurmilitarymuseum.ca).

We have received disturbing news from Hong Kong that the commemorative plaques that were installed on a temporary basis when we visited in 2000, have not yet been mounted on permanent installations. You will recall that there is one at Sai Wan Hill where the Royal Rifles attempted to prevent the landing of Japanese forces on December 18, 1941. A second plaque is at "Lawson's Bunker" at Wong Nei Chong Gap, and a third at Jardine's Lookout,

where Sergeant-Major Osborne lost his life. At this time we are awaiting contact with Veterans Affairs with the hope that work can be started on the permanent installation of these memorials.\*\*

\* Some of our readers may not know about the organization in England called Children and Families of Far East Prisoners of War, or COFEPOW. They are a very active group with a huge membership representing many countries from all over the world. They issue a quarterly newsletter with many interesting items and stories of POW experiences. Their website is : [www.cofepow.org.uk](http://www.cofepow.org.uk). It is well worth a look. Membership is L8.00 per year.

The reunion of the Quebec Branch in Granby in August was a resounding success. Lucette and her team deserve a huge vote of thanks. More will no doubt be said elsewhere in this letter. The Maritimes-Gaspesian Branch also held their reunion on Labour Day Weekend in Florenceville, NB. Neil Darrah has been carrying the torch for many years and continues to run an effective organization.

Good health and happiness and much success to all.

Phil Doddridge

(\*\* Ed. Note: see **Notes and Comments** for an update on this issue.)

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### Ontario Region

The Ontario Region has been extremely busy this year. Here are a few of the things we've been involved with.

One of the most recent happenings was the The Granby Reunion: August 15-18, 2002. Lori Smith, South West Area Rep., and I were both able to attend. It turned out to be a very special weekend – from the "Meet and Greet" Thursday night, to the General Meeting of the Quebec Branch, Friday morning and the scrumptious meals, tours and great music of Friday afternoon and evening. The Parade and Remembrance Ceremony on Saturday morning was extremely moving, and, after a little free time in the afternoon, the weekend was capped with a Banquet and Dance on Saturday night. The hospitality was tremendous. Many thanks to Lucette Muir-Mailloux, Marcel

Mondou and the rest of the Quebec Executive for planning the weekend so well. It was a great opportunity to meet a lot of veterans, and their families, and to learn more about the Quebec organization, its activities and its projects.

The Ontario Region is very pleased to be a part of the country-wide "One Soldier's Story" Project begun to interest companies in donating copies of George MacDonell's book, "One Soldier's Story" to the schools and libraries of this country. It's a wonderful book, and it's still not too late for individual members in Ontario to get the word to Pat Turcotte or Derrill Henderson re passing along the names of companies you know of that might be interested in the project.

Ontario's "Hong Kong Unit in the Schools" Project: A Committee, organized specifically to initiate the writing of a "Hong Kong Unit for Ontario's Secondary Schools", has now engaged Mr. Nick Brune, a Secondary School teacher in Oakville. He is a distinguished educator for a number of reasons, but in particular for having won, this year, the Governor General's Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Canadian History. He has been involved in writing several History textbooks for use in Ontario schools, and works with such ground-breaking organizations as The Dominion Institute. The Ontario members of HKVCA will be asked to spread the word about the importance of including this Unit, when completed, in the Ontario Curriculum at the Secondary School level, so that our students can become more aware of the significance of the Hong Kong story in their study of Canada's participation in World War II. Much good information and advice was provided by the B.C. HKVCA, who already have a working Unit in the B.C. schools. Many thanks to Linda Stewart, Lionel Speller and Graeme Stacey in particular.

Ontario members of HKVCA, please note: We urge you to look after 3 things:

1. Your dues for 2003 – before the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, please!
2. Your wreath – if you had one last year, it will be there for you again this year. If you didn't, consider contributing to the "Spirit of the Torch" Fund. Our goal is 6 new wreaths, one in each of the six Areas in the province.

3. If you can, consider a donation to the Ontario Region of HKVCA so that we do our share in promoting the Hong Kong Veterans' story to the province and the country, in the remaining months of 2002, and in 2003.

Pat Turcotte  
Secretary, Ontario Region

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### A Message From Her Majesty the Queen

Phil Doddridge has received the following message, dated 10 September and addressed to him as National President, HKVA, from Major-General C. H. Elliot, CBE, Defence Services Secretary, Buckingham Palace:

*Dear Mr. Doddridge:*

*The Queen has been deeply touched by the many messages of condolence that have been received after the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. Her Majesty has asked me to convey to you her sincere thanks to all Members of the Hong Kong Veterans Association of Canada for their kind message of sympathy.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Christopher Elliot*



**THE MEMORY  
PROJECT**

### The Memory Project: Connecting Veterans and Youth in Classrooms and Over the Internet.

The Dominion Institute is pleased to announce the latest volume in the series of free Memory Project educational booklets, "Canada and Global Conflict: Susan Beharriell and Don Ethell's Half-Century Timeline".

This curriculum-based teaching tool with classroom activities, available to educators free-of-charge, follows the careers of a Peacekeeper and an Intelligence officer through the last half of the 20th century. It also includes an essay by General Romeo Dallaire on peacekeeping and conflict resolution into the new millennium.

This booklet, along with the Memory Project Volume One (Grant McRae's WWII Timeline) and Volume Two (Len Badowich's Korean War Timeline), and the documentary video "Crew of Seven" (all available free of charge), prepare students to welcome a veteran into their classroom to share his or her stories.

Hundreds of WWII, Korean War, and Peacekeeping veterans from across the country have been trained in classroom presentation-making, and are looking forward to sharing personal stories of Canada's past with your students, and answer their questions. After the visit, students can log on to [www.TheMemoryProject.com](http://www.TheMemoryProject.com) to record the stories they are told, or to share their reflections on the veterans' story. Veterans, too, preserve their stories in the online archive.

To join the Memory Project Speakers' Bureau or to recommend a friend, contact the Dominion Institute at 416-368-9627 (or toll-free at 1-866-701-1867) or by email at [staff@dominion.ca](mailto:staff@dominion.ca). And, share your story in the Veterans' Archive at [www.TheMemoryProject.com](http://www.TheMemoryProject.com)

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### VETERANS' CORNER

#### The "Push" for increased widow's benefits.

Many of you are aware of the initiative by our Patron, Cliff Chadderton, to have Veterans Affairs continue the VIP (Veterans Independent Program) for the widows. This will allow them to remain in the family home should they desire. For those unfamiliar with the program, "the goal of the Veterans Independence Program (VIP), which was introduced in 1981, is to help eligible veterans and certain civilians remain healthy and independent in their own homes or communities. Under VIP,

the Department contributes to the payment of services such as grounds maintenance, housekeeping, meals-on-wheels, personal care, care by health professionals, transportation for social activities and nursing home care". Cliff is promoting this through the National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada (NCVAC). We wholeheartedly support his efforts in this cause and are ready to assist whenever called upon.

We have an additional concern however, and that is we believe that some type of Medical and Dental plan is also warranted. Several vets have expressed this concern, both for spouses and widows. Our interpretation of the War Veterans Act implies that this is an obligation of the Canadian Government. Whether we are justified in our interpretation is a matter to be determined, but we have taken the initial steps of writing a previous Minister of Veterans Affairs to get our concern on record, and have brought up the subject in conversation with the Deputy Minister.

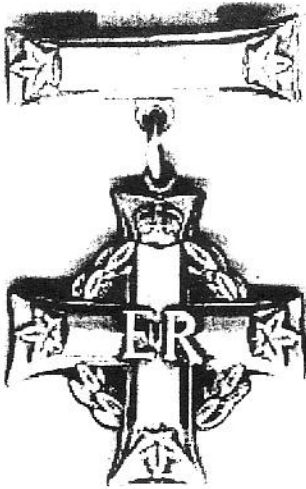
Our next step is to gather data to support our position that such a program is required. To that end, we ask that widows and veteran's wives complete and return the questionnaire enclosed with this newsletter. It is not necessary to sign the questionnaire, but should you have immediate concerns you would like us to pursue, please identify yourself and provide a telephone number where you can be reached.

This issue is being forwarded through the Hong Kong Veterans Association of Canada because the initial steps were directed by Harry Atkinson and we do not wish to "change horses midstream", but the Commemorative Association has allowed the use of its corporate address for mailing purposes and will assist as required.

Rest assured that no action will be taken that might jeopardize Cliff Chadderton's thrust for the VIP for widows.

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## MEMORIAL CROSS



You will all remember what was commonly known as the the Mother's **Silver Cross**. It was often shown on national television over the years on November 11<sup>th</sup> as a mother of one of Canada's fallen heros laid a wreath at the National War Cenotaph. It was a very special honour for the chosen one as she represented every mother of every fallen soldier of every conflict in which our nation fought.

The correct (official) name for this is the Memorial Cross, and several years ago, the qualifications for this Cross were changed. The physical condition currently suffered by all Hong Kong veterans (avitaminosis) qualifies under the present interpretation of this ruling. It can be now awarded to the family, as implicated on the Eligibility Form, of any veteran whose death can be attributed to injuries acquired during active service. The Cross may **ONLY** be worn by the recipient on Remembrance Ceremonial occasions. There are no official rules as to where the cross must be worn, but traditionally it was worn "over the heart". There is some debate as to whether it may be worn above or below other medals. If you are one of the few where this is an issue, let your conscious be your guide.

Harry Atkinson, as one of his last issues with Veterans Affairs, had a "desk" established where submission for this Cross for HK vets would be fast tracked through the system. Derrill Henderson, National Secretary HKVCA, is controlling

these submissions. We have had several trial runs to iron out the wrinkles of the system, and are now prepared to deal with all requests.

If your family has never received a Memorial Cross, please complete and return the Eligibility Form enclosed in this newsletter. If you can also provide a copy of the death certificate and a cause of death statement, in any form, it will shortcut the process even more. Only the Eligibility statement is necessary, the other just helps things along.

The department of Veterans Affairs responsible for issuing the Cross is very busy getting the applications processed and the Cross(s) engraved, since many families are applying for them. They will be processed in batches in order of date received by the "desk".

You will be notified of the status of your application on a regular basis.

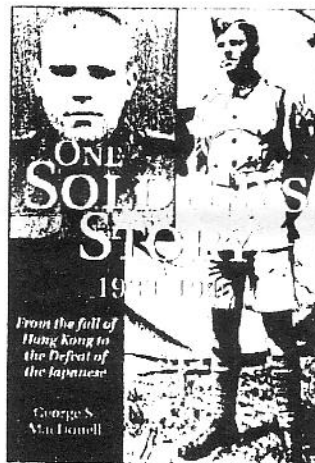
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### BOOK CORNER

All books mentioned below may be purchased through the H.K.V.C.A. at the corporate address:

**Suite 164,  
1 Stafford Road,  
Nepean, ON K2H 1B9**

### Hot Off the Press!



George MacDonell's book, "*This Soldier's Story*", was such a hit that it has been picked up by the Dundurn Press for another printing. George has increased the book to 53,000 words and has added more photographs.

This new release is called, "One Soldier's Story" and will be available in most book stores.

A major thrust your association is making is to have multiple copies purchased by companies to give to schools as a means of promoting Canadian history. If you know of any companies that have done such promotional activities in the past, and may be willing to do so again. Please forward their name (with a contact person if possible) to the address above. If your employer uses such promotions, please suggest to the individual in charge of Advertising or Community Relations that they consider this as a good way to get "Good Will" within their community - at a very reasonable cost.

Keeping the Hong Kong event before the public eye is one of our mandates, and what better way than telling school children about this particular chapter in Canadian history.

### We have on Hand:

*17 Days Until Christmass*, by Leo Paul Berard: \$20.00 (postage & handling incl.)  
*Guest of Hirohito*, by Kenneth Cambon M.D.: \$20.00 (p & h included)  
*The Royal Rifles in Hong Kong*: \$50.00 (p & h included)

### New supply on the way

*Banzai You Bastards*, by Jack Edwards: \$48.00 (p & h included)

**Just Released:** *Letters to Harvelyn. From Japanese POW Camps: A Father's Letters to His Young Daughter During World War II.*

As described by Linda Stewart in her British Columbia Region report (above), this book, written by Harvelyn Baird McInnis and published by Harper Collins, is now available in bookstores. It features the letters of Major Kenneth Baird, Winnipeg Grenadiers, written to his family during his time in battle and as a POW following the surrender of Hong Kong.

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### In Memoriam

Once again, it is our sad duty to inform you of the deaths of the following Hong Kong veterans and family members, deceased since publication of the last newsletter. We

offer our sincere condolences to the families of:

Albert W. Bilodeau, RRC  
21 June 2002  
Sidney Blow, WG  
10 July 2002  
Charles Brady, RRC\*\*  
27 June 2002  
George B. Chanell, RRC  
17 November 2001  
Charles Chesser, RRC  
3 May 2002  
Paul Dancause, RRC  
13 April 2002  
John Davies, WG  
25 July 2002  
Morgan Davies, RRC  
21 August 2002  
Robert Dunlop, RRC  
23 May 2002  
William J. Hickie, RRC  
10 May 2002  
Lewis McFawn, RRC  
4 August 2002  
Raymond Murray, RRC  
9 September 2002  
Carl Olsson, RRC  
21 October 2002  
Wilfred Orr, WG  
5 July 2002  
Ray Squires, RCCS  
21 June 2002  
Arthur Roberts, RRC  
20 June 2002  
Austin Roberts, RRC  
April 2002  
Nick Zytaruk, WG  
9 April 2002  
\*\* Charles ("Charlie") Brady was a former national president, Hong Kong Veterans Association

#### ***WE WILL REMEMBER THEM***

The following deaths have occurred within the greater "Hong Kong family":

Edith (Mrs. David) Adams  
24 April 2002  
Ann (Mrs. George) Harbour  
  
Dorothy (Mrs. Alvin) Davidson  
18 July 2002

#### **HKVCA**

Wayne Kelso  
July 2002

#### ***NOTES AND COMMENTS***

##### **Sorry•We're Late...**

We have been trying our best to keep to a September-and-March newsletter schedule. Unfortunately, due to unavoidable circumstances, the planned September issue has become a late-October issue. We will do our best to make this a one-time occurrence!

##### **Check Our Website!**

As Carol has note in the President's Report, the HKVCA is fortunate to have a fabulous website. Our Web Master is **Linda May**, assisted by Ron Parker and Claire Hachey. Linda hails from Brantford, Ontario; she is the daughter of Juliet Lafortune and the grand-daughter of Hong Kong veteran **Marcien Lafortune**. Check out Linda's handiwork at [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca).

##### **Hong Kong Documentary on History Channel**

A documentary entitled "*Slaves of the Rising Sun*" has been produced and will be broadcast on the **History Channel**; broadcast is scheduled for **8 December 2002**. Many of our Hong Kong veterans were interviewed for this program. Mark your calendars.

##### **HKVCA National Convention 2003**

Mark your calendars! August 13-17 in beautiful **Victoria, B.C.** See Linda Stewart's BC Report for details.

##### **New Military Museum, Chaleur Bay, Québec**

As Phil Doddridge noted in his Québec-Maritimes report, plans for a military museum in the Gaspé are well underway. The opening is tentatively scheduled for June of 2003. The website should be activated very soon: website address is [www.baychaleurmilitarymuseum.ca](http://www.baychaleurmilitarymuseum.ca).

##### **Hong Kong Plaques: an update**

In his Québec-Maritimes report Phil Doddridge has indicated that the plaques installed temporarily during the year-2000 Pilgrimage have not yet been permanently mounted. We have since received word from Canadian consulate staff in Hong Kong that the delays have

been due to internal government processes. While Canadian officials are still awaiting a formal response, it appears that land title transfers necessary for the bunker to be declared an historic site were only recently concluded. This factor, and a large turnover in Hong Kong government staff, are the probable causes of the delay. The Canadian official concludes thus: *Please rest assured that the Consulate is very committed to this and understands how important this recognition is to the veterans and their families. The delays are very unfortunate but we are monitoring the situation very closely and will continue to raise the issue at the highest levels until we get results. I understand that the delay may be upsetting to the veterans...please reassure them that we will work at this until they are in the ground. I personally feel very honoured to have had the opportunity to meet and spend time with them and will continue to work on their behalf.*

##### **Honour and Pride**

Carol Hadley includes the following: "In the last Manitoba newsletter there was an enclosure with information about a CD called "**Honour and Pride**." Cove Records Inc. produced this CD with the assistance of our Padre, the Rev. Gordon Shields, to assist anyone who was organizing a memorial or funeral service for veterans. At our VJ Day Memorial in August, we used excerpts of the CD; it has the correct order of service and music to enhance any event. There are now two distributors for **Honour and Pride**, the Royal Canadian Legion-Dominion Command Kit Shop, 359 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0R7; and McNally Robinson Booksellers at [www.mcnallyrobinson.ca](http://www.mcnallyrobinson.ca). " The cost of the CD is \$25 plus taxes (and shipping and handling where applicable).

##### **Multiple Mailings/Email Circulation**

We have noticed that in a number of cases, multiple members of the HKVA/HKVCA who live in the same household are each receiving newsletters. In the interest of reducing mailing costs, please let us know if you would be willing to receive a single newsletter per household by contacting Derrill Henderson or Ian Doull (see **Contacts** page). Also, please inform us if you would like to receive this newsletter by email.

## RECENT VETERANS' GATHERINGS



Luncheon, Vancouver, B.C., 25 May 2002 (see B.C. Region Report). **Standing (L-R):** Larry Stebbe, WG; Claude Corbett, WG; Bill Doull, RRC; Jan Solecki, HKVDC; Aubrey Flegg, WG; Richard Maze, WG. **Seated (L\_R):** Duncan Benton, WG; Frank Brown, WG; Don MacPherson, WG; Ken Cambon, RRC; Walter Gray, RRC; Lionel Speller, RCCS. *Photo courtesy of Murray Doull*



Kingston, Ontario lunch, 16 August 2002, to commemorate VJ Day anniversary of 15 August 1945. **L-R:** Bruce Cadoret; Ron Claricoates; Lloyd Doull (former National President HKVA), all RRC. *Photo I. Doull*