



# THE 150<sup>th</sup>

Volume 1 Issue 1

Fall 2011

From the Editor:

## Welcome to the first edition of "The 150<sup>th</sup>!"

As you know by now, the RHLI will mark our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012. That's only a few months away! This newsletter will supplement the information found at [www.150th.rhli.ca](http://www.150th.rhli.ca) and provide you with a document you can save or pass on to family, friends, co-workers and especially former Rileys!

Here you'll find the listing of planned events to date. Future editions will elaborate on the events and provide details for tickets (where needed), times, dates, places, activities and so on.

We'll also update you on your Regiment's general activities – training, deployments and even day-to-day life for today's Rileys. You can compare what's happening now to how things were done in your day

**You can see the big weekend will be 9-10 June 2012. That weekend should be circled on everyone's calendar:** old friends, big events and very good times!

## 150<sup>TH</sup> CALENDAR

### 31 December 2011

**Regimental Ball** at the newly-renovated and very elegant Crowne Plaza Hotel. Watch for details as this gala unfolds! What a great way to start our sesquicentennial. It won't be just a New Year's Eve – it will be an RHLI New Year's Eve and that truly means "Gala"!

### 9 – 10 June 2012

**Regimental Reunion Weekend** – detailed planning now underway! If you haven't been to Hamilton in a while, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the changes. It's not all peaches and cream but what we have to offer here now will not disappoint – the waterfront, the RBG,

Canadian Warplane Heritage, HMCS Haida, the Canadian Football Hall of Fame, great restaurants, dozens of waterfalls, and much, much more. It's time to come home and see!

### 9 – 10 June 2012

**Hamilton Military Tattoo**, Copps Coliseum, Hamilton. The RHLI will be specially honoured at this event for our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Check: <http://www.canadianmilitarytattoo.ca/pages/performers.html> - the 2012 information will start to go up well prior to the show!

### 10 June 2012

**Trooping of the Colours**, as part of the Hamilton Military Tattoo and the Reunion Weekend. This traditional and rare precision military event will highlight our soldiers and our history in front of thousands and will be a highlight of the Reunion Weekend.

### 18 – 19 August 2012

**RHLI Association Dinner/Dance and Dieppe 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. Dinner dance with the superb RHLI Dance Band the evening of Saturday 18 August, and then the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid will be commemorated with the annual Dieppe Parade on Sunday 19 August – the exact day of the Raid. For more information as available, visit: [http://www.rhli.ca/hq\\_pages/association.html](http://www.rhli.ca/hq_pages/association.html)

### 12 October 2012

**Canada Post** releases RHLI 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Stamp:



[http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/aboutus/news/pr/2011/2011\\_may\\_stampprogram.jsf](http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/aboutus/news/pr/2011/2011_may_stampprogram.jsf)

Scroll down to "Royalty and Regiments" for the announcement. We'll know more about the launch as the big day gets closer, but look for first-day covers, panes and more. Who knows, it may happen at the John Foote, VC, CD Armouries!

"The 150<sup>th</sup>" is the newsletter of The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. It will be published on an occasional basis to update the Regimental Family on our 150<sup>th</sup> activities and events. It may also be viewed on-line at [www.150th.rhli.ca](http://www.150th.rhli.ca)  
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The RHLI Orderly Room, The HLCol John Weir Foote, VC, CD Armouries, 200 James St North, Hamilton, ON L8R 2L1

## MEMORABILIA

We're planning several items of memorabilia that will be great reminders in the future of your Regiment's Sesquicentennial and your part in it. But the big one is the

### **Commemorative**

**Sword.** You can get full details at:

[http://www.rhli.ca/swords/commemorative\\_sword\\_info.html](http://www.rhli.ca/swords/commemorative_sword_info.html) but suffice it to say this is a Quality item – with a capital “Q”. It is engraved with our major battle honours and much more, and is all in top-quality materials from Crisp and Sons, the UK's premier sword cutler. It is something that will be in your family for generations. To make it an even better value, you will get a tax receipt for a portion of the purchase. This is an ideal purchase by a family for their new soldier, a retirement gift to an old soldier – or just treat yourself!

For something a little less formal, but perhaps more in keeping with today's soldier, (and only \$56.50, taxes in, S&H extra) is a **reproduction** of the standard **Canadian C7 bayonet**. You can use the included basic desk stand or make your own more elaborate affair, perhaps for presentation purposes. Inscribed with “The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry 1862-2012”, and with a brilliant chrome-plated medallion proudly embedded in the handle, it makes a suitable display item for home or office (but do keep it out of children's reach).

Visit the RHLI kit shop for more items: <http://www.rhli.ca/store/index.php> Book mark the page and visit often to see what's new!

## **REGIMENTAL NEWS**

### **AFGHANISTAN**

As our mission in Afghanistan evolves from combat to training the Afghan army and police, we still have one soldier there. Our DCO, Major Gary McQueen, is in the Stability



Division at ISAF HQ, a top NATO posting. He works mostly on border issues but he's also the Stability Operations Officer.

We have sent nearly 60 soldiers, including numerous officers (among them two of our COs) to “the sandbox” as they call it with the usual Riley dark humour. They have seen intense combat action, suffered under fierce environmental conditions, IEDs, the loss of comrades, and more. No Rileys have been injured but many close calls. Our WW2 veterans can undoubtedly relate to their hardships. Remember, you can send a note to any veteran via:

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/Commun/message/index-eng.asp?WT.svl=WTTTRight>

### **RHLI 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion Ceremonial Guard**

You may not yet have heard of the the newest addition to the RHLI family – we say newest, but perhaps we should be saying “oldest”. It is



the **RHLI 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion Ceremonial Guard** – a unique formation composed of serving members of the RHLI who, on top of their private lives and normal RHLI soldier's duties, have volunteered for this special company.

It is the re-establishment of the original 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion in kit, equipment and drill, right down to the Enfield rifled muskets and high-top shakos. Already having filled several high-profile public appearances, including in front of our Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. David Onley (twice!) the RHLI 13<sup>th</sup> CG is already an accomplished formation which just keeps getting better.

You will be seeing a lot of them in our 150<sup>th</sup> year, as they are becoming in demand with the public, over and above their appearances at Regimental functions.

***Watch and shoot for more 150<sup>th</sup> news!***

Visit [www.rhli.ca](http://www.rhli.ca) frequently for updates, regimental news and more! Register at [www.150th.rhli.ca](http://www.150th.rhli.ca) !