

After Milady Stevenson said the Selkirk Grace, we all sat down and enjoyed a delicious meal in the spacious and warmly decorated hall.



The Address to the Haggis was done by Capt-Lt. Cartmel with all his usual enthusiasm and passion. HLCol Okill Stuart made a toast to The Queen, Major Paul Goodman to The Regiment and LCol Peter Ferst to Fallen Comrades.



We had the pleasure of hearing Captain Padre Glenn Chestnutt's comments as our guest speaker and are so happy to welcome him and Milady Chestnutt into our Regiment.

The raffle was a great success and, the grand prize, the Captain Philip Butler Dirk, was awarded to Milady Janice Laws for one year.



Another successful and enjoyable Fraser dinner !



Despatches



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Despatches

of The Fort St. Helen Garrison of the 78th Fraser Highlanders

Major Paul Goodman, Officer Commanding

December 2016

OC's Report



Officers and Miladies of the garrison:

Greetings to all of the King's "trusty & well beloved..." from your newly appointed Officer Commanding. First I would like to extend my sincere thanks and best wishes to my predecessor, Major Claude Larocque, for his leadership and dedication over the last three years, particularly in light of his overseas responsibilities, and the support and guidance afforded to his 2IC throughout.

It is my honour and pleasure to have assumed command in October of 2016, in this the fiftieth anniversary of the existence of our highland squad, plus the now integrated "Troupes Anciennes de Montreal."

Our main objective remains the maintenance and financial support of the young pipers, drummers, and practitioners of the 1757 arms drill whose skills and dedication do us so proud. In addition, of course, we carry on the traditions and memory of our historic regiment and the contributions of its members and descendants over the years to the development of Quebec and the rest of Canada.

Moreover, our events celebrate the Scottish and highland culture in all its rich aspects. So I thank you for your involvement, generous contributions, and support over the years. It is my duty to do my best to assure the vibrancy of our garrison, to make certain all feel involved and welcome, and to carry on our traditions because to forget one's history is to lose sight of one's identity. We are a unique regimental family with high standards and we are open to all of like mind who wish to join us in our memories and celebrations.

Best wishes for the holidays and the New Year. I look forward to greeting all of you during our 2017 events.

Slainte

Major R. Paul Goodman

Despatches from the Eastern Front:

Hello everyone,

I trust that you are keeping well and are almost ready for Christmas and all other winter celebrations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the command group again for putting on a marvellous regimental dinner. I heard from many sources it was great and was sorry I couldn't be there.

I would also like to take this occasion to thank Major Paul Goodman for doing an outstanding job as my second in command. Paul, I am sure that the members join me in thanking you for taking over while I was here in Ukraine. The Frasers had an opportunity to see you as their CO and witnessed the fine job you did. I am delighted that you will bring continuity to the command group for another three years.

It has been my honour to be your commanding officer for a year and half. I expected to be with you for the full term but life and circumstances always change and I had the call to serve elsewhere.

I look forward to seeing you in the new year, maybe at an upcoming Fraser activity. Until then I would like to wish everyone a most satisfying Christmas and the happiest possible New Year.

In Memory of Dumitru Zaharescu 1921-2016



Ensign Zaharescu died peacefully at the age of 95 in Montreal. He will be mourned by his wife Barbara (nee Brunner), his children Desiree (Brent McNicoll) and Remus (Tanya Bryan),

and grandchildren Meghan, Wrease and Mika. He will be fondly remembered by friends and family. As his son, Remus, said in his eulogy, we all remember Dim as the well-dressed gentleman with a firm handshake who enjoyed the company of others, music, a good scotch and of course his family.

Born in Lasi, the former capital of Romania, Dim was the last survivor of 12 children. He attended military academy in Romania and then in Berlin, Germany. Dim was captured at the battle of St-Lo and then held in a British POW camp before returning to Germany after the war, where he was housed in a Displaced Person (DP) Camp. He then lived in the UK for 5

years, where he was a haberdasher, got married in 1951 and moved to Montreal in 1953. He was an active member of several societies: The German Benevolent Society, The Canadian Grenadier guards Association and the 78th Fraser Highlanders. Anybody who ever got into a car would agree – he sure drove like a Montrealer. He knew the city like the back of his hand and saw the best in it. One could ask – did he find Montreal or did Montreal find him?

Dim was a constant and dedicated member of the Fort St-Helen Garrison, attending almost all our events. In his honour, Pipe-Major Josh Lord played the pipes at Dim's memorial service.

MOVIE NIGHT- 78th Style 2016

by Brevet-Major Psul Goodman

What do Shirley Temple, the Northwest Frontier of the Raj, pipes & kilts, butter chicken, lamb patiala & vegetable samossas have in common? Of course the obvious answer is another highly entertaining movie night featuring an Indian/Highland theme.



On Friday, 13 May at approximately 6:15 around thirty members of the 78th and some friends assembled at the Canadian Forces Sailing Club on the Dorval waterfront to socialize, have a drink or two, indulge in a fine, varied, Indian buffet, and watch a 1937 Hollywood epic of a Kipling story in smashing black & white.

The movie selected by the Education Officer was "Wee Willie Winke" (1937) starring Shirley Temple as the granddaughter of the Colonel of a highland regiment posted to the Indian frontier in 1897 and about to be confronted with a Pathan (Pushtun) uprising. Shirley, arriving with her American mother, wants to be a highland soldier and is taken

under the wing of the tough-but-soft-inside Scottish Sergeant McDuff, played by that famous Celtic character actor Victor McClagan. He trains the diminutive recruit in drill with a wooden rifle and has her outfitted in regimental, if mini, kilt.

Named after the famous Scots nursery rhyme character, Private Winkee, naive politically of course, befriends the local enemy tribal leader--- played in 1930s style by none other than Victor Romero. Obviously local Afghan talent was scarce in Hollywood in '37 as a Chinese actor played the part of a local spy in the British camp. In the end, Shirley's charm and trusting nature helps her father and the rebel chief to resolve their differences peacefully. Too bad Obama has no such personal facility in Syria today. Hard to believe this movie was made just outside Hollywood in 1937, only ten years before the end of the Raj.

To top it all off, there was even a special speaker to discourse on the movie and lead a post-showing discussion, none other than our own Commander of the Eastern Region, Lt Col. Peter Ferst. Who knew he actually has a post doctorate specializing in Kipling studies from the German Institute for Higher Studies on British Imperial Culture? Herr Doctor gave a fascinating talk on Kipling, deviating much from the movie.

He noted with some distain that the movie version we had just watched deviated in unorthodox fashion from the written story. He also informed us of a lawsuit connected with the movie and, of course, other politically incorrect cultural representations. In truth, Peter is very knowledgeable regarding Kipling; as a result, the 78th attendees were wrapped up in the subject and there was much comment and discussion.

So a special thanks to LtCol Ferst for his research and to CaptLt Rick Cartmel who made the arrangements for our use of the cozy facility and doubled as unofficial bar guy. So passed another enjoyable, entertaining, delicious, and educational Fraser event.



The 78th Fraser Highlanders Regimental Dinner

by Captain Charles V. Bierbrier, 2IC & PMC

This year's Regimental Dining-In was held at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul on October 29th, 2016 as the usual setting for our fall dinner, the Officers' Mess of The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada, was under renovation at the time.



The evening began with a tour of the church sanctuary for any early arrivals who wished to visit this beautiful building. Then, in typical 78th Fraser fashion, inductions began promptly after cocktails when the sound of bagpipes filled the air announcing it was time for our official Regimental Dinner to get under way.



Promotions and inductions were the first order of business. Inducted into our Regiment were Captain Padre Glenn Chestnutt, Milady Hannah Chestnutt, Milady Christine Johnson, and Milady Janice Laws. Officers being promoted were Major R. Paul Goodman, Captain-Lieutenant Ewen Booth, and Captain-Lieutenant Malcolm McLeod.

LCol Bolton then proceeded to make the presentations to the squad. This year, best piper was



Private Matthew Astudillo; best animator, Private Ulrik Jetté; best recruits, Private Nolan Cunningham, Private Matthew Astudillo, and Private Ulrik Jetté. Best soldier was awarded to Corporal Patrick Leduc and most



outstanding soldier to Private Loup Pagliuzza. The Harper's Hero award was presented to Capt-Lt. Ewen Booth. We congratulate all those inducted, promoted and especially those who won awards this year.

One youngster seen kicking a skull around like a soccer ball, one brandishing a bone “with flesh attached to it,” while several others broke into a family mausoleum. In response to this invasion, the Right Reverend Allen Goodings, then Anglican bishop of Quebec, said: “The upkeep of a cemetery costs a lot of money. We didn’t have it and we couldn’t get help.” Goodings added, “The English have put a lot into Quebec. This old cemetery is one reminder of it. It is worth preserving, and a lot of people are starting to realize that.”

In 1758, Captain Alexander Cameron, a former Jacobite officer (he served as an ensign in his father’s regiment, Cameron of Lochiel’s), was selected to command one of three newly-authorized “additional companies” that joined the 78th Foot while in Connecticut winter quarters. He was chosen by Colonel Simon Fraser to command a 100-man light infantry company in Halifax for the 1758 Louisbourg expedition, his command drawn from the best and most fit men of the three additional companies left at Halifax. His “elite” company was kept together for the march across Massachusetts later that year and Cameron was one of four field officers initially assigned to the garrison of Fort Stanwix during the winter of 1758-59.

Dungallon died from a fever on 3 September 1759, ten days before the battle on the Plains of Abraham, one of his officers, Lieutenant Malcolm Fraser, writing in his journal: “This day died my worthy captain,

Alexander Cameron of Dungallon, universally regretted by all those who knew him as a fine gentleman and a good soldier.” *Dungallon* was interred at the British Pointe Lévy camp (today’s Ville de Lévis) “in front of our Colours, with the usual solemnities.” Many years later, his remains were removed from Point Lévy and re-interred in the St. John Street graveyard. At this time, a new monument was erected by two brother officers, John Nairne and Malcolm Fraser, who had served with him in the 78th Foot’s light infantry company. *Dungallon*’s tombstone inscription reads as follows:



Ci-gît le corps d’
ALEXANDRE CAMERON
Officier, de Diengallon en
Ecosse: qui mourut de la
Fièvre en cet endroit, au
mois d’Août 1759, servant
alors Son Roi, et sa Patrie.
Les Lieutenants Colonels
Nairn, et Malcolm Fraser
ont élevé ce monument à la
Mémoire de leur Ami, et de leur
frère.

This Stone is put here by
Lieu^t Colonel Nairn and Lieu^t
Colonel Malcolm Fraser. In memo-
ry of their dear friend and much re-
spected Brother Officer, Alex^tCa-
meron Esq^r of Diengallon in Sco-
tland, who died of a fever on
this spot in August 1759 when in
the Service of his King and
country and is here interred.

Based on the above inscription,
Nairne and Fraser used part of the
original inscription (i.e. “who died
of a fever *on this spot* in August
1759”) along with rank amend-
ments (in 1759, Nairne and Fraser
were both lieutenants – later as sei-
gneurs, they would have held the
local militia rank of colonel). As
the replacement tombstone records
their ranks as “colonels,” this shows
that the tombstone was erected
sometime between May 1794 (when
Malcolm Fraser was appointed co-
lonel in the Karmouraska battalion
of militia) and July 1802 (the death
of John Nairne).

Author/historian James MacPherson
Le Moine was puzzled as to why
Cameron’s epitaph included French.
In fact, he thought it was
“inexplicable.” When asked to pro-
vide some sort of rationalization,
historian Ian Macpherson McCul-
loch offered: “All I can think of was
that French was the most spoken
language in the colony and they
wanted the stone to be respected
and not defaced. Also, French was
then literally the *lingua franca* as
well as a sign of education and
good breeding. Don’t try to unders-
tand it through a 21st century cultu-
ral lens or current day bilingual
prejudices.”

OC’ s Report Update

by Major Claude Larocque

I know that most of you think that the role of an observer is only to observe. Well we in the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) do that and, in a conflict area such as here in the eastern part of Ukraine, we see things that one cannot normally imagine, and all manner of hardship and misery.



At one of our tasking areas is a major checkpoint crossing where people caught between the lines of conflict have to show papers and submit to customary verification and searches. These people have to pass through no man’s land, all very reminiscent of Berlin’s Cold War Era Checkpoint Charlie. People do this to conduct business or to meet loved ones and other relatives on the other side of the line.

Our main task here is to monitor this process, assure that it is conducted in a proper manner and to meet the parameters of the signed agreements.

My teammates and I noticed a German Shepherd type dog limping around the checkpoint. Our language assistant asked the soldiers what was wrong with the dog.



Apparently she had been injured in one of the artillery barrages or mortar fire this checkpoint sustains on occasion. The soldier said that they had fed her, but could not do anything to treat her wounds. So Kevin Adams, our paramedic from California, and I took it upon ourselves to help.

Tempted with some beef jerky, she came to us immediately. Kevin and I calmed her down and checked her injuries. Kevin disinfected the wounds to her back legs, applied some medication to the area and wrapped her legs up while I kept her clam and provided the occasional food treat. She seemed happy to have some human contact and did not misbehave during our examination.

We gave the soldiers at the checkpoint some medication to keep infection away and we knew we would see her every day for the next week. Since our rotation at the forward base is near to this place we could assess her condition and progress.

The soldiers who gave her the medication adopted her as their own, named her Lada, and provided good conditions for her recovery. They even found a blanket to keep her warm though the rainy fall weather. I can happily report that her health has greatly improved although she still limps.

I am reminded that we should always be kind to fellow creatures and that this dog brought out the goodness in people even though they are living in a war zone.

Claude

Please welcome
the new Members of the
Fort St. Helen’s Garrison
inducted at the
Fraser Fling 2016
and at the
Annual Regimental
Dining-In 2016

Ensigns

Ensign James Forbes
Ensign Sean Smith
Capt Padre Glenn Chestnutt

Miladigs

Milady Hannah Chestnutt
Honorary Milady Ethel Enkel
Milady Christine Johnson
Milady Janice Law
Milady Louise Lord
Milady Carole Poirier

Promotions

Lt Alain Boissonneault
Lt Richard Seal
Capt-Lt Bryan Carroll
Capt-Lt Ewen Booth
Capt-Lt John Bennett
Capt-Lt Malcolm Melrod
Capt. Stratten Stevens
Major R. Paul Goodman

78th FRASERS GO TO SCOTLAND

by LCol Bruce Bolton and Lt Cecil McPhee

Some of the young members of the 78th Squad along with some older officers and regimental ladies experienced a visit of a lifetime to Scotland in August. As members of the Black Watch Association Pipe Band, they joined others to compete in the World Pipe Band Championship and then visit and perform at some key sites on a 1300 km. adventure.

From the squad were Olivier Rommelaere, Loup Pugliuzza, Mathew Astudillo, and Nolan Cunningham. Members of the 78th included LCol Bruce Bolton with Milady Roberta Bolton, Ensign Brian MacKenzie and Milady Julie Perron, Ensign Sean Smith with Milady Louise Lord and Lieutenant Cecil McPhee, who provided some excellent tour guidance.

The group visited the Falkirk Wheel, Stirling Castle, Bannockburn, Holyrood Castle (before a parade through downtown Glasgow in pouring rain), Edinburgh Castle (to perform and to see the famous Tattoo), Culross, Balhousie Castle (home of the Black Watch in Perth), the Aberfeldy Cairn, Blair Castle, the Highland Folk Museum, Culloden, Cawdor Castle, Fort George (where we were welcomed by the Commanding Officer of the serving Black Watch), Fortrose, Tain, the Glenmorangie Distillery, Dunrobin Castle, Navar House, Castle Urquhart on Loch Ness, the Locharron Weavers Shop, Eilean Donan Castle, the Commando Monument near Spean Bridge, Old Inverlochy Castle, the Glenfinnan Monument, Fort William and Glencoe before arriving in Glasgow for a day of touring! If you have been exhausted by reading this list of sites, please imagine the exhaustion – the good kind–felt by all the travelers and this directly commensurate with age. Oh to be young again.

Of particular interest to the members of the 78th was the short stop in Beaulieu – home of the Frasers of Lovat. We then stopped at Kirk Hill and the Wardlaw Cemetery and Chapel, the final resting place of the infamous Lord Lovat (the Fox) and his son, Simon Fraser, the Colonel of the 78th Frasers during the Seven Years War. By chance a tour guide was present and we were able to descend into the crypt and actually touch both lead coffins.



Many have speculated over the years whether this was in fact the final resting place of Lord Lovat, but according to the well informed tour guide, mounting evidence, including a large skeleton sans head found in one of the lead coffins, strongly suggests that he was indeed buried there. His head, severed from his body by an executioner at the Tower of London in 1747, remains unaccounted for.

Brossard Santa Claus Parade

by Capt-Lt Ewen Booth



The Dix-30 Shopping Plaza needed a pipe band brave enough to play outdoors after November the eleventh. Very few will even consider this.

Enter the Frasers!

Because of the warm weather, the command group had absolutely no trouble in quickly throwing together a pipe band of summer staff, old boys, and supernumeraries to take on this adventure. The parade was a success although it rained and snowed throughout, soaking the squad.



Future such endeavours are expected with the Montreal 375th and Canada 150th anniversary celebrations. If anybody would like to participate in such events as a piper, drummer, or dancer, please contact Captain-Lt Ewen Booth at northernpiper@outlook.co

“Here lies the body of Captain Alexander Cameron...”

by Earl John Chapman

One of the oldest surviving tombstones in Canada is erected over the grave of Alexander Cameron, 4th of Dungallon, a captain in the 78th Regiment of Foot (Fraser’s Highlanders). Covered with moss and stained by pigeons, Cameron’s tombstone is located in the old Protestant burial ground on St. John Street (rue Saint-Jean). Land for the cemetery had been purchased from the nuns of the Hôtel-Dieu in 1771, with the first burial taking place the following summer. When Saint Matthew’s Church was built in 1822, the old cemetery became associated with the church (le cimetière Saint-Mathieu), although it was always known to the English as the St. John Street Cemetery. When the cemetery closed in 1860 (it is now a park in Old Quebec), many families elected to have the remains of their loved ones relocated to other cemeteries, such as Mount Herman in nearby Sillery. Designated as a historic monument in 1976, Saint Matthew’s Church was opened as a library in 1980 (Bibliothèque Saint-Jean-Baptiste), the pews removed and replaced by book-laden shelves. In spite of the fact that an estimated 7,000 burials took place, the current Register lists only 315 tombstones. Unfortunately, the old graveyard, now one of the rare green spaces in the city centre, has become “a haven for derelicts and a playground for youngsters.” On 5 August 1983, the *Montreal Gazette* recorded a macabre incident where twenty teenagers invaded the cemetery,



Maxville Highland Games

by Capt-Lt Ewen Booth



The squad was again asked to attend the Maxville Highland Games on Friday, July 29th 2016 to perform a number of musket drills. They were accompanied by several "old boys", and members of the St.Helen's as well as the Glengarry Garrisons.



The oldest Fraser on parade was our own LCol Bruce Bolton who charmed us with the pipes. The narrator for the event was Milady Christine Johnson.



Another old boy, Robbie MacLellan, a piper in the Quigley Highlanders Pipes and Drums, was part of the band which led the squad to the parade grounds prior to each show, so the event is an annual reunion in many ways.

A request is already being made for any old boys or members of other garrisons who wish to parade for next year's event, our section of which will be held during the day of Friday August 4th 2017.

Montreal Highland Games

by Capt-Lt Ewen Booth



The Fraser display at the Montreal Highland Games was well received.



Members of the squad were on hand to fire the cannon, the traditional start of the games and to show a 78th Fraser Highlanders' presence. Volunteers from the St. Helen's Garrison were on hand to watch over the booth, to sell books and answer questions about the unit.



Volunteers are also being sought to man the Fraser table at next year's Montreal Highland Games. Sunday, August 6th, 2017.



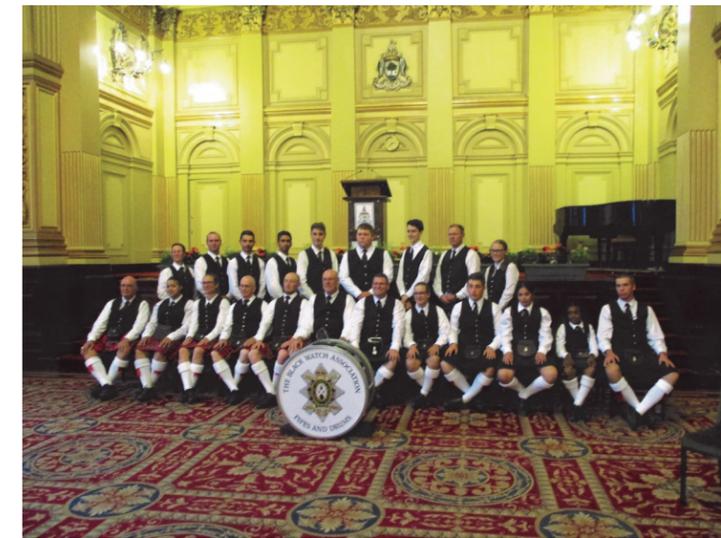
Olivier and Loup tried to play a tune wherever we went to add a Canadian touch to the site. Here they are at Eilean Donan Castle.



The Black Watch Association Pipe Band at the Fort George with members of the Scottish Black Watch Pipe Band interspersed.



Photo at Balhousie Castle - Home of the Black Watch



In City Hall - Glasgow



At Holyrood Castle

The Fraser Fling 18 June 2016

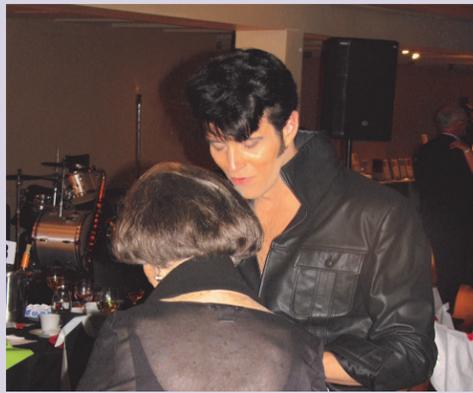
by Brevet-Major Paul Goodman



The elegant ground floor reception room of Bonsecours Market in Old Montreal suitably decorated with Fraser colours and memorabilia, the clan gathered once again to celebrate.



What a night! It blended an improbable mixture of 60s pop with the more traditional culture of our regimental family. Throughout the evening, Johnny Maloney's band supplied the music.



In the spirit of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the 78th Fraser Highlanders' squad, the featured theme of our June 2016 *Fraser Fling* was, of course, the 1960s. Period publicity posters, LP covers, records, both 45 and 33rpm, and other memorabilia helped to create the atmosphere, as did the music and entertainment of our surprise Elvis impersonator. A true crooner, he provided nostalgic music that brought back memories for regimental members and guests.

Upon arrival, guests enjoyed a glass of bubbly and the opportunity to chat with old friends before being seated for welcoming remarks conveyed by our PMC, Captain Bierbrier. As always, attendees were entertained by the squad's pipers and drummers and by highland dancers. People applauded the induction of three new members, the promotion of five older members, and welcomed most warmly our special guest Stuart Anderson, the new Colonel Commandant of the 78th Fraser Highlanders.



The early business of the evening completed, Milady Susan Stevenson said the Selkirk Grace.

Supper was now fully displayed - tempting standing ribs of roast beef, hot or cold lobster, salmon in hollandaise, all with sides and vegetables fit to satiate any dedicated vegetarian - and the tables were called. This is the point when the PMC must maintain his composure and sense of fair play as the tables not called at first will soon send a representative to administer pressure and suitable bribery. No fear however, as there was ample for all, and for seconds.



Later, the dessert table was assaulted in fine and vigorous eighteenth century siege-warfare style by the very appreciative Frasers, with special honours to Major Chapman. No wonder these highlanders came to Canada- they had eaten and drunk the glens dry. Our new caterer did a fine job with first class fare.



After dinner, our 2016 squad, admirably organized by Captain-Lieutenant Booth, performed a medley of pipe tunes and marches. We are so proud of these lads, their work and dedication and enjoyed the great performance.



Always a boost to our highland spirit, it was also a fitting tribute to the hundreds of old boys and the few girls who came before. In fact, the squad was bolstered by a few former Frasers.



Throughout the evening as people ate, drank and danced, the silent auction quietly did its work. Interested and curious members approached and examined the items and treasures on offer, many of which represented fascinating connections to highland culture and history. Bidding continued through the evening and competition for many items became intense. This auction is one of the major money raisers to help support the squad. Again it proved a very successful event as shown by the long winding line in front of the paymaster to settle up post auction. Special thanks go out to all those who contributed the fine lots on offer, and to those who most generously bid and bought.



The evening began to wind down but those with the will and the energy continued to dance the night out. A brief report on a non-official tradition, a trick one can use to accurately judge the time. Those in the know can almost set a clock by checking the state of LCol Bruce Bolton's uniform or lack thereof.



Finally and most especially, heartfelt thanks to the organization and painstaking work provided by the tireless Fling committee and the leadership of Miladies Stevenson and Rankin-Hambleton.

