

SOMM TIMES

TO PRESERVE, HONOUR, PERPETUATE AND EDUCATE

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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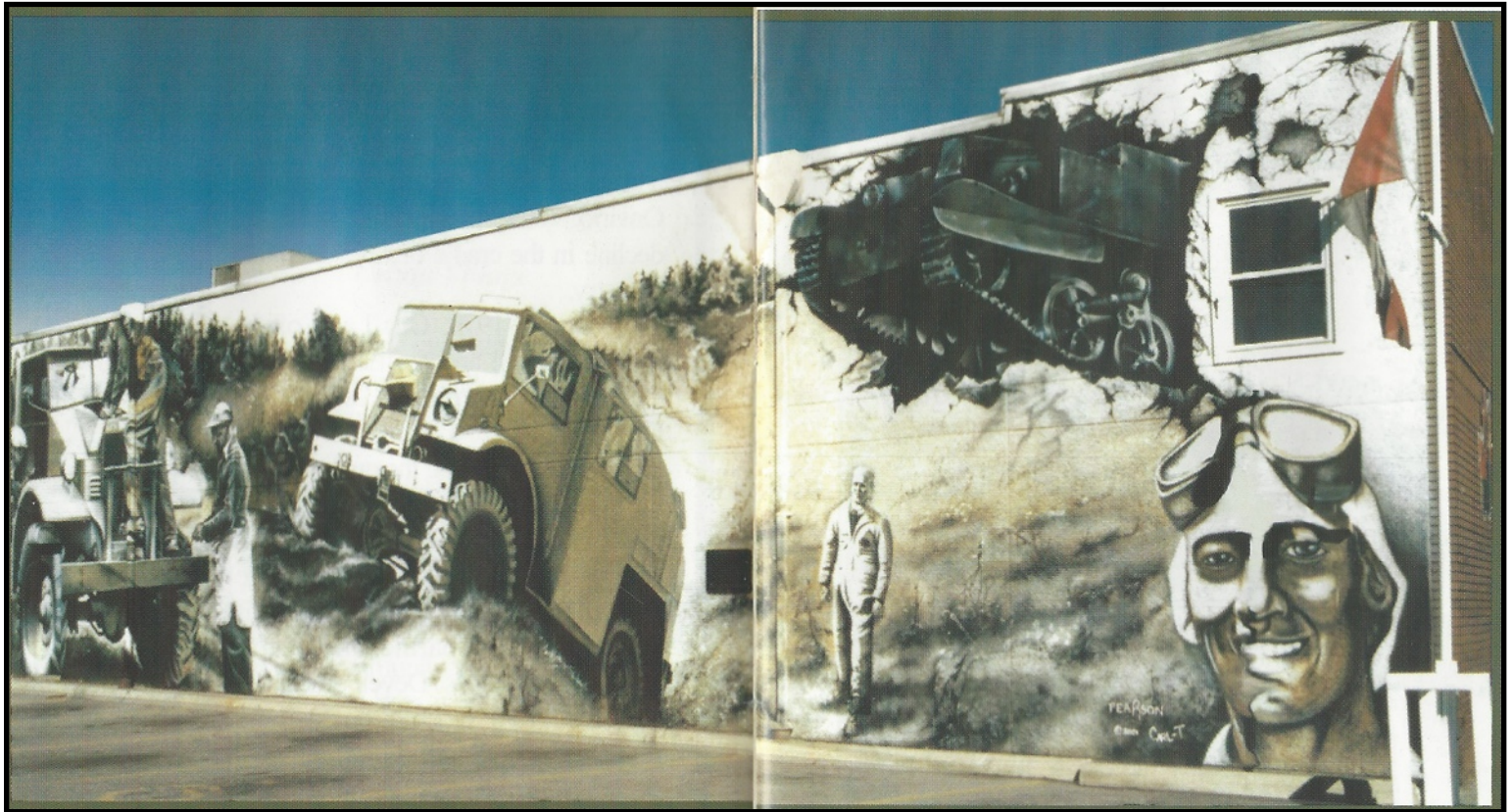
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Remembering Jay Forbes

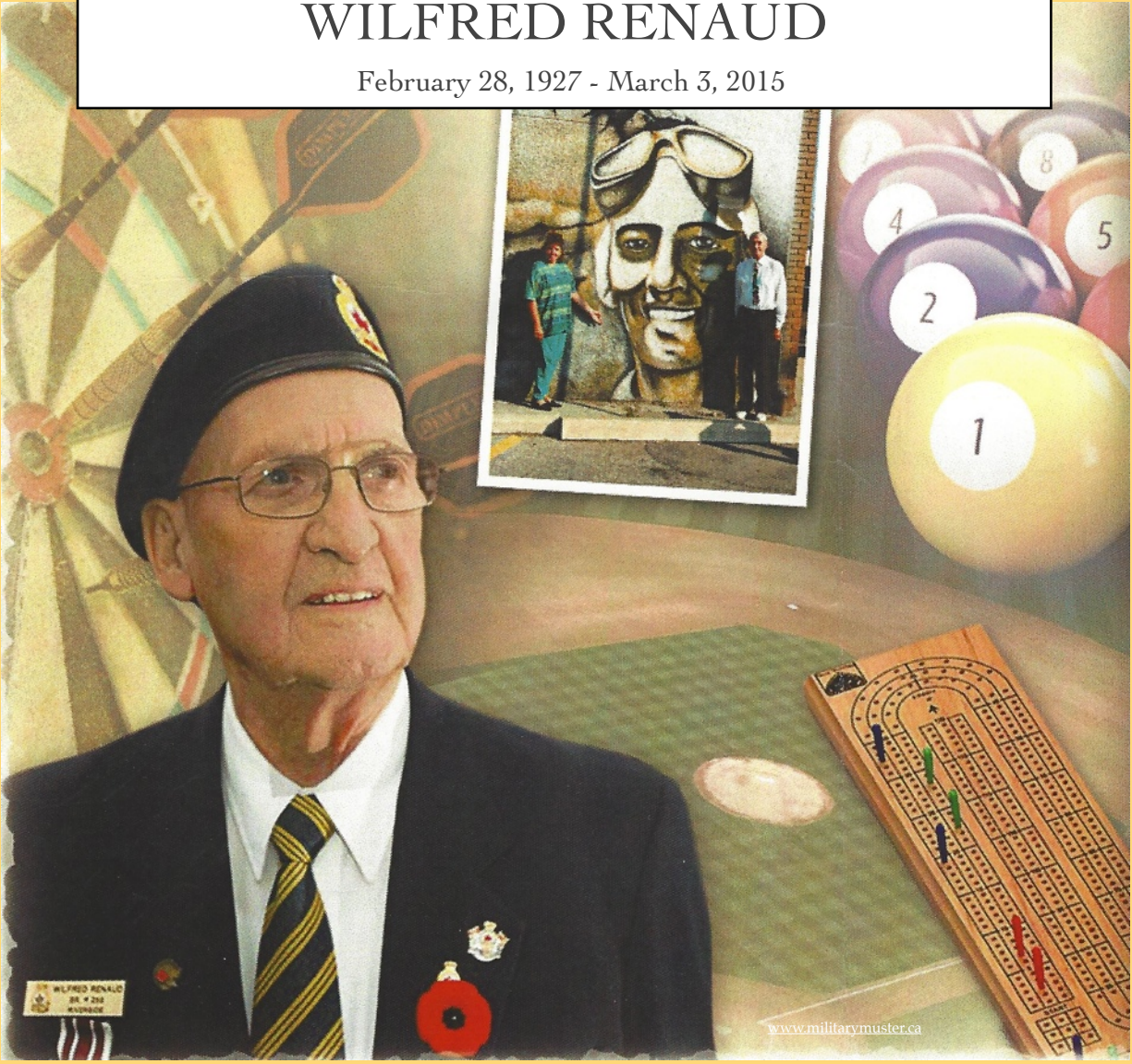


MURAL ENTITLED "VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS", GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

REMEMBERING A LOCAL VETERAN

WILFRED RENAUD

February 28, 1927 - March 3, 2015



We were shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of Wilfred Renaud. A remarkable individual who gave so much of himself to everyone he met.

He served a brief stint in the Canadian Armed Forces and was sent overseas during the Second World War but was quickly sent home when it was discovered that he was just 15 when he enlisted. He spent the rest of the war at home test driving carriers.

Which brings us to the mural called "Vital Contributions" that was painted on the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 578 on Drouillard Road. Wilfred was immortalized on that mural, 3-D Windsor carrier protruding above him, he smiled with goggles firmly planted on his head. Sadly, the legion closed in 2006 and the mural was painted over in April of 2007. In the blink of an eye, the mural was gone and now Wilfred is gone.

We will remember them.



Windsor Canada Day Parade - 2012



FORD CITY MURALS

concealed doorway and downspout



3.4m x 3.4m on Duraply

MILITARY PRODUCTION

In September 1939, Canada entered the Second World War. Recognizing conflict was possible, Ford engineers – in cooperation with the Canadian government – had already begun preparing for military production. By April 1942, civilian production had been discontinued and all Ford's resources were committed to the war effort. As a result, Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited became Britain's largest single source of military land transportation during World War II, supplying nearly 400,000 vehicles.

Artists: Yong Sheng Xuan, Mark Williams & Donna Jean Mayne – 1999

VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

This mural is dedicated to the 16,000 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited employees who engineered, built, inspected and tested military transport for the British Empire in WWII. Military land vehicles – including the *Windsor Carrier*, depicted here – were pushed to their limits in the tangle of brush, muck and sand of what is now Ojibway Park. Test drivers like Wilfred Renaud, far right, who had a brother and sister in the Canadian armed forces, attached a profound sense of responsibility to their jobs. Their contributions were vital to the war effort.

Artists: Ryan Pearson, Carl T. Haskell & Mark Williams – 2001



We found our old copy of the Ford City Mural Guide and thought we would share some information.

There are many beautiful murals and sculptures located on Drouillard Road in Windsor. Known as Ford City it is a neighbourhood which takes pride in its heritage.

The area was a major contributor to the war effort; home of Ford Motor Company of Canada, Dodge and Canadian Lamp Company to mention a few.

Mural Guide Ford City - Greater Drouillard Revitalization 2002 City of Windsor

2015 MILITARY MUSTER - WHAT'S NEW



Time is slipping by too quickly - less than 40 days left!

I must apologize for the delay in getting this out but a lot of things have been happening around us.

We are busy getting this year's show together and there will be many new things to see.

We can always use volunteers and any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Help us get the word out about the show and our new date.

Visit our website and our Facebook page for updates.



Veterans Affairs
Canada

Anciens Combattants
Canada

We are pleased to announce that Veterans Affairs Canada awarded us a grant of \$5,000.00 to assist with eligible expenses for the show from the Community Engagement Partnership Fund.

This grant helps with the costs associated with a portion of the transportation of large military vehicles, the arena rental, field rental, transit and shuttle for the Veterans, and shelter for the Veterans including tents and tables.

The Southern Ontario Military Muster is very grateful for the continued support given to us by Veterans Affairs Canada allowing us to Honour Veterans, display vintage military vehicles, share history and educate the public in our community.

Three major additions to this year's show

1. Veterans Military Anniversary Parade, Saturday, June 13th at 9:15 am.

Beginning at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 201 Essex to the Essex Sports Complex and Arena Grounds.

Veteran Motorcycle Groups, RCL Branch 201 Colour Guard, vintage military vehicles with Veterans celebrating the 70th anniversary of V-E Day.

This is a celebration to Honour ALL Veterans.

Please join us along the parade route or be at the Arena Grounds to greet them as they enter.

The Opening Ceremonies will follow at 10:00 am. - Master of Ceremonies - Mike Akpata.

2. Vintage Fashion Shows

SuperModels America and Maverick Multimedia Inc. present daily fashion shows in the Arena.

Models will be wearing civilian and military fashion from World War I to the modern day.

Lights, music and video clips are planned to make this a spectacular addition to the show.

Check our website for exact show times.

2015 MILITARY MUSTER - WHAT'S NEW

3. PORTRAITS OF HONOUR



We are proud to announce that Dave Sopha and his "Portraits of Honour" will be attending this year's Military Muster show.

The "Portraits of Honour" is an oil painting on canvas that stretches 40ft wide by 10ft high and features the 158 Canadian Soldiers, Sailors and Aircrew who lost their lives in Afghanistan.

A replica of this painting will be displayed in the arena.

It was created to help the families in their time of grieving, to show them that their loved ones will NOT BE FORGOTTEN AND DID NOT DIE IN VAIN.

Join us and come to remember, honour and celebrate our Canadian Forces.

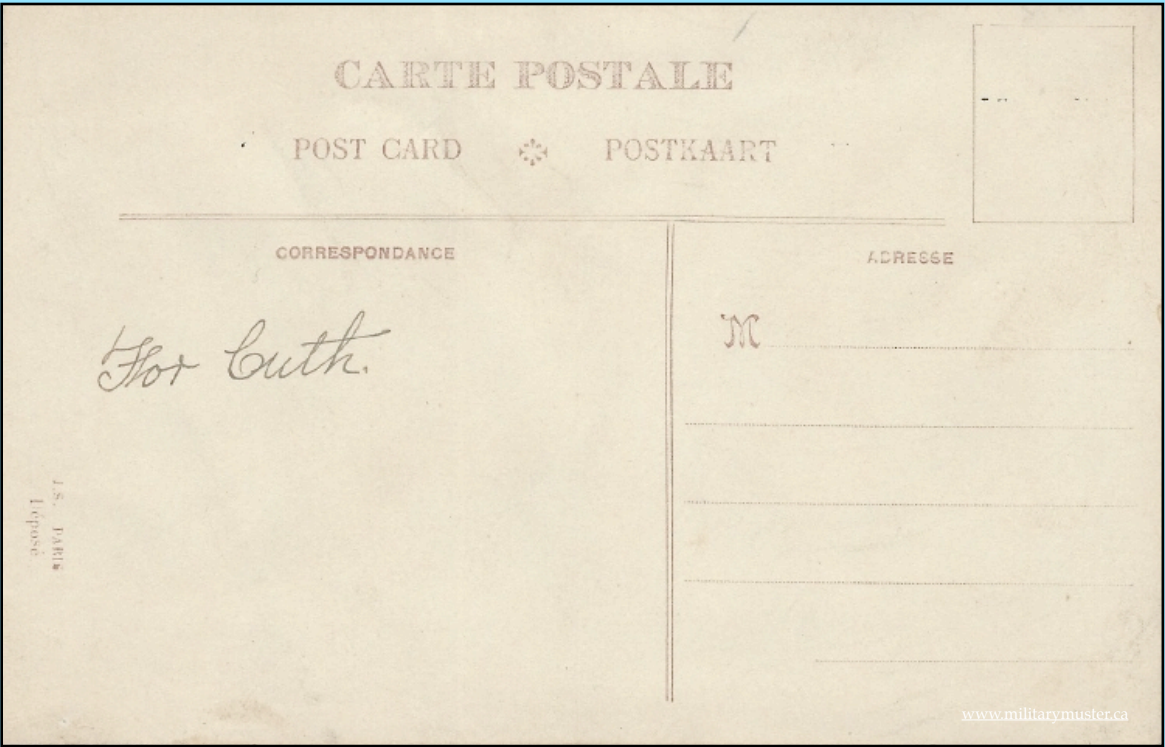
www.portraitsofhonour.ca



RECENT FINDS - POSTCARDS FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR



www.militarymuster.ca



www.militarymuster.ca

We love to look around antique stores for unusual items. I scour through the paper items and sometimes manage to find a few gems.

Always looking for scrapbooks and pictures, I did see a couple at Southforks in Cambridge.

One item that was almost overlooked was the silk postcard pictured here. It was inside a frame sitting on a dresser.

Belgian and French girls would hand embroider these cards to sell to the soldiers.

The souvenir postcard on the right was bought at the Essex Train Show.

RECENT FINDS - POSTCARDS FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR



EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE

JUNE 6	<p>SETUP DAY FOR 2015 MILITARY MUSTER - ESSEX SPORTS COMPLEX & ARENA GROUNDS, ESSEX Preparations for the show begin. Tasks to be done include fencing, digging trench and filling sandbags with woodchips. Volunteers are welcome, come early.</p>
JUNE 7	<p>MEMORIAL SERVICE - CENOTAPH IN CITY HALL SQUARE, WINDSOR The Windsor Veterans Memorial Service Committee (WVMSC) will be having a Memorial Service at 11:00 am to remember the Veterans and Comrades that we have lost in the past year.</p>
JUNE 13 & 14	<p>SOUTHERN ONTARIO MILITARY MUSTER - ESSEX SPORTS COMPLEX & ARENA GROUNDS, ESSEX Starting at 9am each day - Parade and Opening Ceremonies on Saturday.</p>
JUNE 21	<p>NORTHWALL RIDERS ASSOCIATION STEAK BBQ FUND RAISER Great food for a great cause, held at RCL Br. 143 - 1570 Marentette, Windsor. BBQ from 4pm to 7pm- \$20/per person - for tickets contact Legion Bartender or call Dan Hayes 519-256-6797.</p>
JUNE 28	<p>RIDE TO THE NORTH WALL XX - VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL - AMBASSADOR PARK, WINDSOR (foot of Patricia and Riverside Drive) The annual run to the North Wall in honour of the Canadians that served with the U.S. Military during the Vietnam War - 12:00 pm</p>

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

**Still reeling from the untimely passing of a re-enactor and friend,
 The SOMM will remember Jay Forbes - 1985-2015**

