

SOMM TIMES

TO PRESERVE, HONOUR, PERPETUATE AND EDUCATE

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED

A Monthly Newsletter - Extra Issue

Issue No. 12-1 - March 2016

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French National Order of the Legion of Honour Presentations

Windsor Military Studies Conference - February 6, 2016

Congratulations to the Legion d'Honneur recipients pictured here with "Otis" (from left to right) Corporal **Stuart Johns** DCM, LoHC, Corporal **Charles Davis**, LoHC, Sergeant **Roy Hare**, LoHC and Private **Ralph Mayville** LoHC

COUNTING
DOWN



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104
DAYS !!!



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BEST WISHES TO LINDA ILER

On February 10, 2016, Linda Iler tendered her resignation as SOMM Secretary and Director to pursue other interests.

Linda has been with us since 2010 and was the driving force in getting the Southern Ontario Military Muster affiliated with The Ontario Historical Society to become a not-for-profit organization in 2012. Her love of Veterans, enthusiasm, network of contacts and prior experience in Essex contributed to the success of the Essex shows.

Through her membership with North Wall Riders Association, Linda will continue to assist us where she can.

We thank you for all you have done and know that we will see that infectious smile at many events we attend in the future. We hope that you finally have a chance to relax and enjoy life - you deserve it.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MARCH 9, 2016 AT THE WINDSOR SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

Thank you to all those who attended our annual general meeting. We sampled various items on the menu at the Sportsmen's Club as the fundraiser was cancelled. It was agreed that the food at the Muster will be very good. We reviewed the past year and look forward to this year's show. Ted Whipp was nominated and accepted the position of Secretary and Director. Welcome Ted!

2016 SOMM Board of Directors

- President - Geoff Bottoms
- Vice President - Doug Hedge
- Treasurer - Gunilla Dittman
- Secretary - Ted Whipp
- Director-At-Large - Michael Appel
- Director - Cheryl Hazard
- Director - Jason Henry

Events for 2016 are starting to come in and the weeks prior to the show are going to be very busy. The event calendar returns in the next issue.

The following pages are highlights of events we attended last summer and of interesting places we visited travelling on the back roads of Ontario.

AUGUST 14, 2015 - WORLD WAR ONE MURAL IN ST. THOMAS, ONTARIO

ELGIN'S FINEST

On Sunday, June 25 1916, a crowd of 20,000 gathered at the Michigan Central Station to see off the 940 men of the Elgin Regiment's 91st Battalion.

Travelling by train from St. Thomas to Halifax, they crossed the Atlantic aboard the Olympic and landed at Liverpool on July 5th.

The 91st saw action in some of the bloodiest battles of World War I, and one in six died fighting for freedom.

Of the family pictured here a father, a son and two stepsons, only two came back home.

For more info, visit the Elgin Military Museum at 30 Talbot St. Mural sponsored by the Elgin Regiment and the Royal Canadian Legion; branch 41. Paint supplied by Pratt & Lambert. Wall prep by Heritage Quality Painting.

A very special thanks to On Track and everybody at White Street Decorating Centre. I personally dedicate this mural to my late grandfather Con Luneman.

R.L.

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On the way to St. Catherines, we stopped in St. Thomas and found this mural entitled "Elgin's Finest" down the street from the Elgin County Train Museum.

Painted in 1996, it depicts the departure of the Elgin Regiment's 91st Battalion on June 25, 1916.

Of the family pictured below a father, a son and two stepsons, only two came back home.



AUGUST 15, 2015 - WINGS AND WHEELS, ST. CATHERINES AIRPORT



Some of Niagara's finest vintage vehicles on display.



TWO MUSEUMS WE FOUND OFF THE MAIN HIGHWAYS, WELL WORTH VISITING AND SUPPORTING

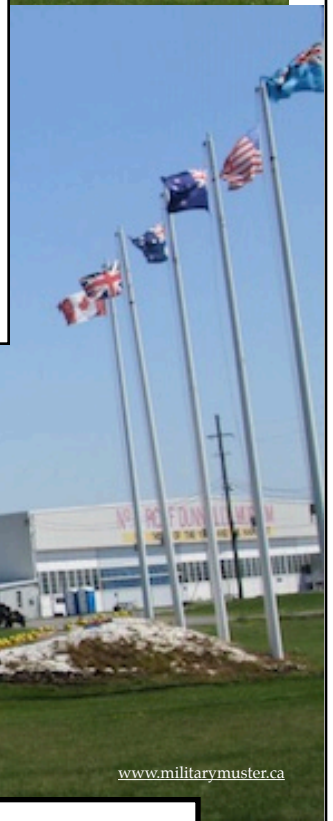


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No. 6 RCAF Dunnville Museum, a fine collection of artifacts and planes in an original hangar. I remember when it was a huge turkey farm in the 1960s; a lot of cleanup to return this hangar back to original. Note the windmills, it is no longer an operating airport. You may recognize the location from TV - Canada's Worst Driver is filmed there. Visit their website www.rcafmuseum.org to see more.



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HMCS OJIBWA, PORT BURWELL, ONTARIO



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Visit <http://projectojibwa.ca/>

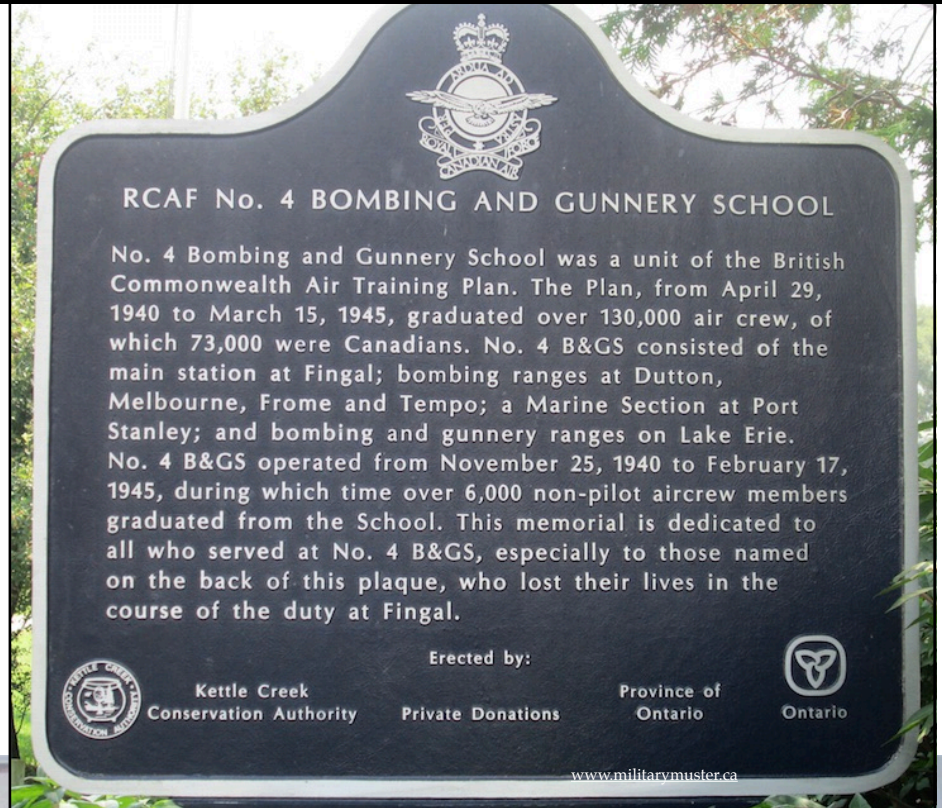
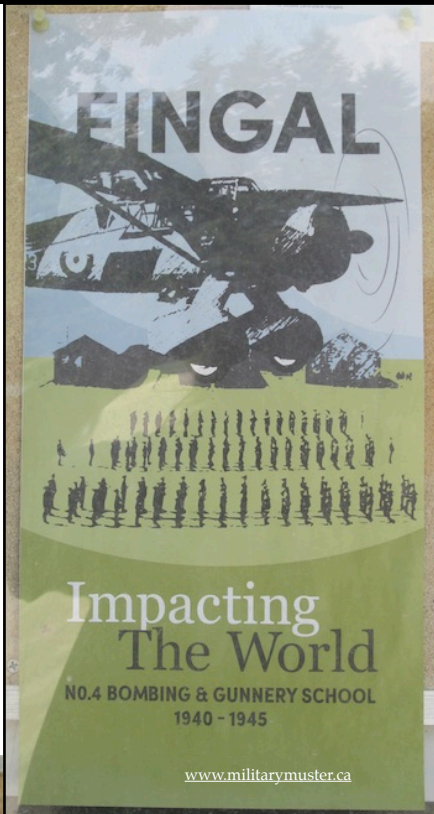


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AUGUST 17, 2015 - NO. 4 BOMBING & GUNNERY SCHOOL, FINGAL, ONTARIO



LEGEND FOR No. 4 B&GS

- No. Description
- 1 Headquarters Building
- 2 Ground Instruction School
- 3 Officers' Quarters
- 4 Officers' Mess
- 5-6 NCO Quarters
- 7 NCO Mess
- 8-13 OR Quarters
- 14 OR Mess Hall
- 15 Hospital
- 16 Large Canteen
- 17 Small Canteen
- 18 OR & WD Quarters
- 19 Airman's Lounge
- 20 Drill Hall
- 21 Recreation Hall
- 22 Spotlight Instruction Building
- 23 Air Ministry Light Teacher
- 24 Turret Instruction Building
- 25 Station Workshop
- 26 Guardhouse and Post Office
- 27 Motor Transport Section
- 28 RCASC Supply Depot
- 29 25 Yard Firing Range
- 30 Watch Office (Control Tower)
- 32 Camera Obscura
- 34 Aviation Fuel Dispenser, ulg Storage
- 35 Hostess House
- 36 Works and Building Maintenance
- 37 Av. Fuel Trucks, Garage
- 38 WD Quarters
- 39 Fire Hall
- 40 Pyrotechnic Stores Type "B"
- 41 Explosives Stores Type "C"
- 42 Detonator Stores, Type "D"
- 43 Practice Bomb Fusing Hut
- 44 Practice Bomb Storage Type "D"
- 45 Incinerators (4)
- 46 Coal Storage Compound
- 47 Pump House and Water Tank
- 48 Fire Hose House (5)
- 49 WD Officers' Quarters
- 50 Oil Paint Stores
- 51 Spotlight Training Building
- 52 Flare Path & Equipment Stores
- 53 Swimming Pool
- 54 NCO / Officers' Quarters
- 55 OR Quarters
- 61 Parade Square
- 62 Flag Mast
- 65 Underground Reservoir
- 66 Sports Field
- H1-H6 Double Land-plane Hangars



① - ⑨ A - H Trail Stops
Refer to text on back for information

Aeroplanes assigned to No. 4 B&G School as of June 1944

AVRO ANSON	Bombing & Navigation	47
BRISTOL BOLINGBROKE	Gunnery & Target Towing	14
WESTLAND LYSANDER	Target Towing	9
NORTH AMERICAN HARVARD	General Purpose	1
		71

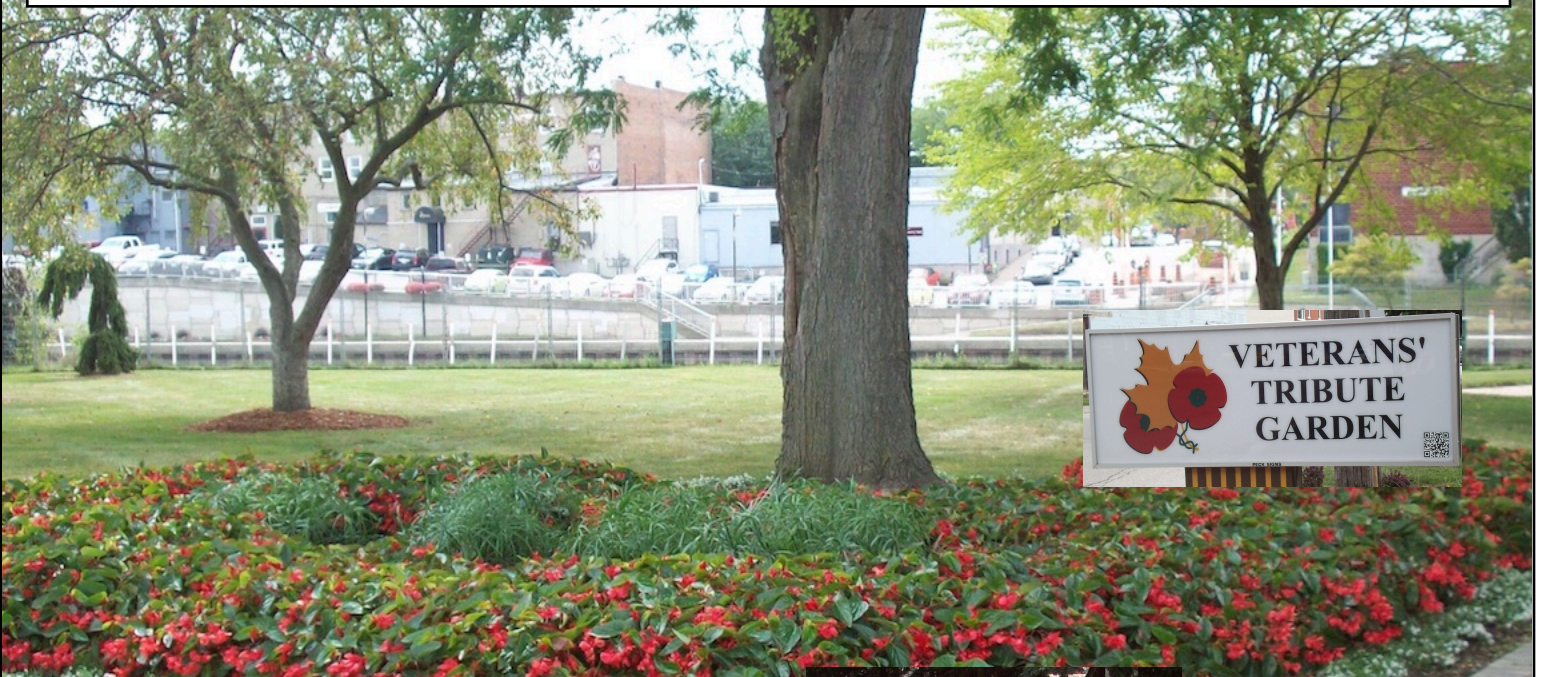
Excerpt from "What Place Was This?"

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Now a conservation area with The War to Roses Walking Trail

AUGUST 28, 2015 - VETERANS' TRIBUTE GARDEN, CHATHAM, ONTARIO

A popular stop for many is Church's Army & Outdoor Military Surplus in Chatham, Ontario. How many of you have ever noticed the Veterans' Tribute Garden beside it? How many have ever taken a walk through it?. We finally did.



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AUGUST 29 - 30, 2015 - FORT GEORGE TIMELINE

One of only a handful left - Original Windsor Carrier



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Fort George Timeline Event - wonderful location, great weather and a chance to see many of those who had attended the Muster in June as well as many old friends from the previous years. Incredible music and light show in the evening.

Definitely on the 2016 events to attend list.

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M29 Weasel Over Snow Vehicle



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1945 M4 A2 Sherman Tank (coming to 2016 Muster)



M3 A1 Scout Car

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WWI Re-enactors



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AUGUST 29 - 30, 2015 - FORT GEORGE TIMELINE



JAY FORBES

A memorial service was held after the show on the 29th to remember a friend and re-enactor who passed away suddenly on April 25, 2015.



WWII Battle Re-enactment



Vietnam Re-enactors - "In Country"



Lincoln Welland Regiment Museum



1812 Battle Re-enactment



AUGUST 31, 2015 - WARBIRDS OVER WINDSOR, CH2A, WINDSOR AIRPORT



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Back from Ft. George with the Jeep still on the trailer, it was off to Canadian Historical Aircraft Association at Windsor Airport to see the Warbirds Over Windsor - proceeds went to 364 Lancaster Air Cadets.



Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum's VRA FM 213 Lancaster Bomber

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Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum's B25 Mitchell Bomber



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