



# THE BUGLE

APRIL, 2024

VOLUME 39 ISSUE 1





# THE BUGLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE C.L.B.

Honourary Patron  
**The Honourable Joan Marie J. Aylward, O.N.L.**

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***Thanks to all C.L.B. Members & Companies  
who submit stories and photos to make The Bugle  
the fine publication that it is today*** 🇩🇪



WO2 Sandra Cooper accompanied by 19 other recipients of the Governor General's Academic Award, presented at Government House by (former) Lt. Governor Judy Foote.  
*See full story on Page 23*



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# Remembering Major Dave Ralph

COLONEL KEITH ARNS

*SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR*

Major Dave Ralph, # 9136 joined the Brigade in 1964 as a member of the Y.T.C. Section of St. Michael's Company. During his almost 60 years of service he has held the positions of Company Commander, Camp Commandant, Treasurer of the Officers Mess, Program Officer, Chief Training Officer, Adjutant, and Treasurer.

Major Ralph was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002. He served as the C.L.B. Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor from 1997 to 2003. He was awarded the Exemplary Service Medal in 2006. Major Ralph has been involved in all Brigade activities during his years of service. Most notably, Major Ralph has been Treasurer of Brigade Council since 2002, while also serving on the Finance Committee, which was instrumental in helping to lead the Brigade to financial strength over the last two decades. Major Ralph was also an active member of the Old Comrades Association, Lodge # 1 for many years.

At the 131st Anniversary Parade and Church service held on October 15, 2023 Major Ralph was awarded the Fortitude Medal. The Fortitude Medal is awarded in recognition of tenacity and personal courage in adversity. This award must be seen as a demonstration to other Brigade members of devotion to service on behalf of the Brigade. Examples of tenacity and courage may be as a result of some sickness or illness to the candidate. Throughout Dave's illness he continued in his role as Brigade Treasurer. He served as a role model for all Brigade members, both young and old.

Fight the Good Fight is the Motto of the C.L.B. It can truly be said that Major Dave Ralph Fought the Good Fight to the very end. Goodbye my friend, may you rest in peace 🇫🇮



# Remembering Colonel David Edwards

**COLONEL KEVIN KANE**

*SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR*

Late last summer we were all saddened to hear of the unexpected passing of Colonel David Edwards, a member of the CLB for the past 85 years. David Edwards joined “C” Company at Bishop Feild College and was officially enrolled in March 1938. He progressed through the ranks at “C” Company and eventually became Company Commander.

He served as Adjutant of Avalon Battalion from 1964 to 1972, and then advanced to be Battalion Commander for the next eight years. He became Camping Director of the newly formed Brigade Council in 1981 and in 1985 he was appointed the second Governor and Commandant of the Brigade in Newfoundland and Labrador and promoted to the rank of Colonel.

During his term as Battalion Commander, he led the way to forming the CLB/Old Comrades Joint Entertainment Committee.



*The late Colonel David Edwards*

This group was instrumental in maintaining a source of income for the Brigade for the next three decades. He played an active part in the group for all of these years.

In 2012 Col. David Edwards was awarded the Award of Merit, the highest award in the CLB, in recognition of his long-time leadership roles in strengthening the Brigade.

Even after retiring from active service in the Brigade, Colonel Edwards continued to attend annual Anniversary Parades and Anniversary Dinners.

Col. Edwards was predeceased by his wife Ann (Pike) Edwards, who was also an active supporter of the Brigade. He is survived by daughters Elizabeth (Bob) Barnes and Jennifer Edwards as well as four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

We salute you, Colonel David Edwards. Thank you for your dedicated service to the CLB over the many years 🇳🇸

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# From the Governor and Commandant

## COLONEL SHEILA MERCER

### GOVERNOR AND COMMANDANT

I deem it a privilege and an honour to have been elected as your Governor and Commandant. It is my goal to grow our organization and to reach out to our young people in our diocese and surrounding communities to give them the opportunity to become leaders of tomorrow.

I bring to the C.L.B. 20 years' experience working with various levels of the C.L.B. including Company, Regimental, and Brigade Council.



As your Governor and Commandant, working with Brigade Council, Regiment, and Battalions, we want to put forward a brand of excellence to ensure that The C.L.B. remains a dominant youth organization all while we continue to “Be the Good”.

We pride ourselves in that membership is open to all faiths and genders but it's together that we can make this place a better world to live and prosper.

I am looking forward to working with all leaders, officers, and youth. Let's Keep the Flag Flying 🇨🇦



*Former Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Honourable Judy M. Foote, P.C., O.N.L., with members of Brigade Council awaiting the “March Past” at the 131<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Parade on October 15, 2023.*

# Summer Camp Report

**CAPTAIN KAREN DAWE**

*SUMMER CAMP CORRESPONDENT*

*Our CLB Summer Camp took place from June 25 to June 30, 2023*

After what seemed like years of absence, we were able to hold summer camp, but where to hold camp as Lavrock is no longer available. We had officers and campers, and thanks to the efforts of our Camping Director we held a 5 day camp at the SpringWood Outdoor Discovery Camp on the Salmonier Line; directly across the pond from Lavrock. Our JTC's and Senior Corp, as in past years were combined under the leadership of Capt. Wayne Young, with 2IC Lt. Cassandra Hibbs, adjutant Capt. Karen Dawe, along with 7 officers and our CSM Sgt. Jenna Newell. At the end of the day, we had 11 Senior members and 16 JTC members. Our total camp strength of 37 – the perfect amount for this facility. The weather did not cooperate at times, but the CLB is used to that. Our programs included canoeing, archery, air rifle, and axe throwing. We also included in our program a facility ran obstacle course that that consisted of ziplining, rock climbing, and an elevated obstacle course. Kayaking was also available, but weather and time was not on our side. We did, however take advantage of the paddle boats. The classes went very smoothly, however for some reason the campers could not get the canoeing technique down mainly because they all wanted to the lead. By

the end of the week, you would not say it was the same group; they learned how to work together and finally we had success. Major Morgan and myself, praised them on their ability to overcome their differences and work together. Bullseye upon bullseye; daily bull's eyes in archery and air rifles were the norm, however it was the axe throwing that came out on top. The first couple of days not so much. However, when they got the handle on it, it as one after another. This was introduced in 2019 by Major D. Neil and will not be going away any time soon. This was not like our regular camps in past years. We were unable to wear our uniforms to and from camp, have campers in their own huts, or hold regular hut inspections. They did however, have their room clean and their bunks tidy each day, but not to the extent as previous camps. We were just happy to have a facility to hold our camp and were ready and willing to adapt to the new facility. Despite the weather during the first few days, our evening activities went ahead as scheduled. We had a brain teaser quiz, 2 bull hunts and our ever favourite camp fire. Our sports program consisted of soccer, basketball, ultimate frisbee, and horseshoes. I would be amiss if I did not comment on our meals for the week. Jennifer Peddle, along with help from her family did one fantastic job. I overheard one of the campers say... "This is so good, better than my mom's and she is a good cook." Then he looked at me and said "And don't you tell

her." Another asked if she could bottle some soup so he could bring it home. Our desserts were compliments of Jaxson Peddle, who no doubt will be a great chef someday. Unfortunately, our Camp Commandant was injured, so the chain of command went into action. Lt. Hibbs, stepped up and myself to 2IC and adjutant. We could not have had a better group of officers if they were handpicked. Everyone helped in every capacity. It was amazing to see them in action, whether it was teaching their classes or talking to a camper who was homesick, but did not want to go home. At camp you get to see the "real" officers. Col. Dick spent one day at camp and wanted to go out in the paddle boat, so Major Morgan along with two of our campers decided to fulfill her request only to get tangled in the rope. Alas, officers to the rescue (keep in mind the water was not deep). It did make for an eventful afternoon. Before we knew it Friday had arrived and our last day of camp. We had morning classes and the afternoon was consisted of field sweep, presentation of awards, packing up and falling in for dismissal. Lt. Hibbs commended all the campers on their behavior, their participation and how quickly they adjusted to camp. Having a CLB Summer camp is "just what the doctor ordered". I always said summer camp was the icing on the cake for CLB and hope we can have future camps. Until that time comes; Keep the Flag Flying 🇺🇸

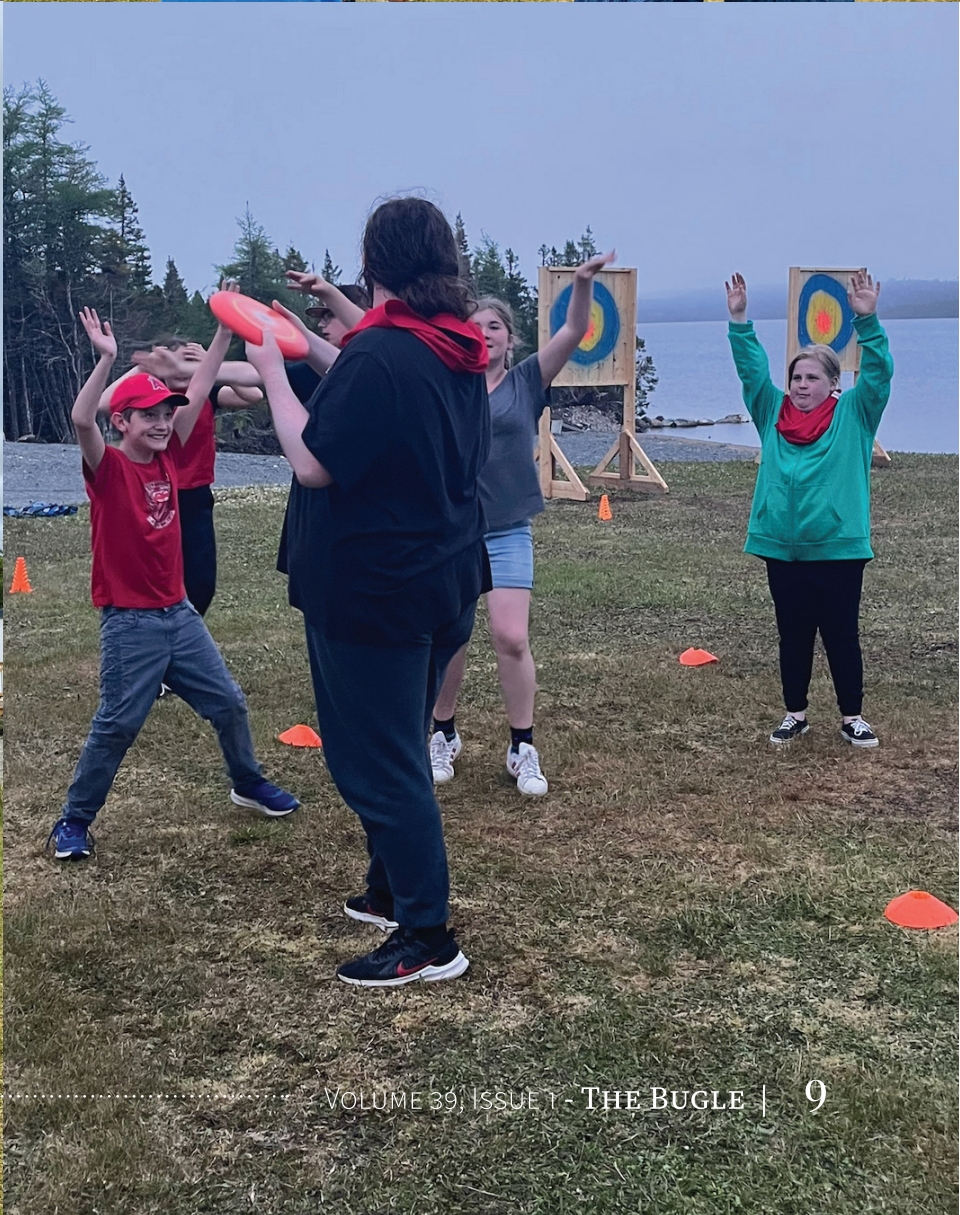


# Summer Camp Photos





# June 25 to June 30, 2023



# A Model Band Member

RUTH LEAKE

CLB REGIMENTAL BAND

A long time CLB member of 45 years, Staff Sgt. John Hammond not only spends much of his free time volunteering as a talented musician in the CLB Regimental Band, but also at home building impressive model cars and planes. John first became interested in model building at a young age by watching his father (also a former CLB member), build many plastic and wooden model boats. While building some from kits, John's father also built many of his models from scratch, including sailboats and even a cabin cruiser. Although John's father preferred boats, John's interest is in classic cars and trucks, and military vehicles, especially WWII planes and tanks. Following in his father's footsteps, John joined the CLB Army Cadets in 1978, and quickly became friends with several other fellow cadets that were also interested in model building. Together John and his cadet friends would spend many hours putting together their model kits. John says that model building is a fun, relaxing, and rewarding hobby and enjoys it just as much now, as when he was a child. John stresses that model building takes a lot of time and patience, but maintains that it is also very educational. By paying close attention to the fine details, John has learned all about the practical applications and purposes of the engineering technology and design that went into many military airplanes, tanks, and other combat vehicles. One model that John is particularly proud of is a WWII "Handley Page Halifax bomber",

*...Continued on Page 11...*





that he gave to a co-worker who had an uncle that actually flew in combat missions in one of these planes as a tail gunner for the RAF Coastal Command. In high school John learned to play the tuba, and in 1981, joined two of his uncles in the CLB Regimental Band. Although John played trumpet in the band for several years, he soon returned to playing the tuba and continues to be a solid and reliable member of the bass section. John often relates modeling to his love of playing music. Similar to the step-by-step instructions included in a model kit, the sheets of written music he uses when playing in the band is basically a set of instructions telling him what musical notes to play, when to play them, and whether to play them long or

short, fast or slow, and even loud or soft. John says “The same way following the instructions in a model kit will help produce a beautiful finished boat, plane, or tank, when each member of the band pays attention to their musical instructions, the result is an overall pleasant listening experience for the audience, whether it be a classic march, a hymn, or a trendy pop classic”. Like any hobby, John is only able to dedicate a few hours of spare time each week to his passion, however, during the COVID-19 pandemic, he was very thankful that he was able to fill his hours with model building, helping to keep him busy during the long periods of time when we were all required to stay home. John has been a member of the International Plastic

Modeller’s Society (St. John’s Chapter), for many years and has won several awards in model competitions, including the third-place finishes in the categories of Best Automotive (1996), and Best Automotive Modified (2017, 2019) and taking the top prize of President’s Choice Award (all categories) in 2018. To date John has completed over 80 models and still has many more waiting for him at home. Some of John’s work can be seen at the museums at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 in St. John’s, and the Crow’s Nest Office’s Club, St. John’s. John encourages anyone that might be interested to try modelling, as it is a fun activity for all ages and abilities, from beginner to expert, everyone can participate 🇨🇦

# Who Was This Former C.L.B. Member?

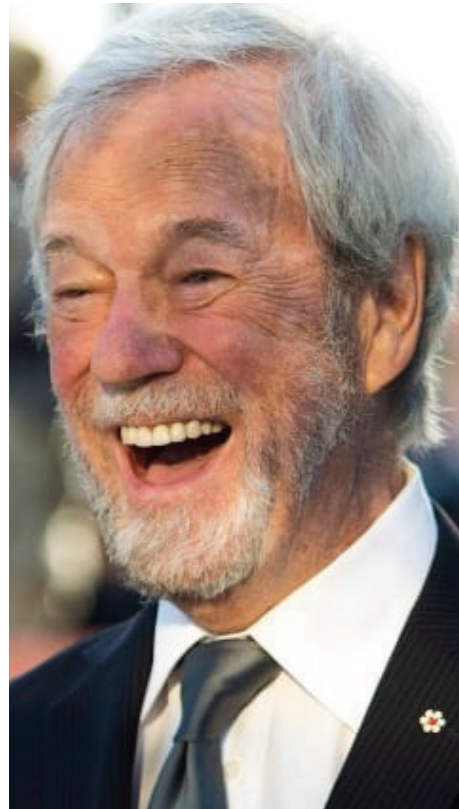
**COLONEL J. A. HEFFERNAN**

*SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR*

This young lad was born on July 12th, 1930, in Grand Falls, Newfoundland which was a country of its own at that time. He was adventurous and lighthearted and harboured a strong desire to be an actor. He was one of six children with a loving mother and father. To preform was always uppermost on his mind as he first wanted to be a bandmaster like the great American bandmaster Harry James 1916 - 83. As a result, he joined the local Grand Falls Company of the Church Lads' Brigade in their bugle band around 1941. While this did not work out as well as he expected, he had to hide beneath the porch of one of his relatives to practice his new and noisy craft, such was his desire to be successful.

Some of this information was captured in his books "By The Way" and "Next". While he always kept his focus on acting, he decided to join the Canadian Army (Royal Canadian Regiment) for four years in the early 50's. It was thought

that, his tenure in the C.L.B (a paramilitary Anglican youth organization) may have influenced his decision to join the army. After his military career his passion for



acting grew even stronger and this led to endless opportunities throughout the years. This evolved into his becoming an actor, writer,

director, painter, singer, and poet. He would win every ever single accolade that could be won in the Canadian Arts Community, thus becoming a Canadian Icon. Included in his awards as well, was being awarded an officer of the Order of Canada in 1979. Of interest is the fact that when he received two of his major arts awards he recalled incidents from his C.L.B. career. One comment that he made was that he received this award, either for a body of work or that someone learned that he had two C.L.B. bugles frozen to his mouth at one time. He had a passionate love for this province of Newfoundland and Labrador and always kept a close eye on her. When asked in an interview what was his most valuable possession was? he answered with much pride, my Newfoundland birth certificate. When posting his death announcement of February 26th, 2023, at 92 years of age, his family stated that he loved Canada, her people, purpose and her culture. This former C.L.B. boy could be none other than, Gordon Edward Pinsent (Grand Falls, C.L.B. Company) 🇨🇦

# Fight the Good Fight.

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# C.L.B. Old Comrades Lodge #1

## MR. DERRICK BARBOUR

### OLD COMRADES LODGE #1

On January 25th, 2024 Lodge #1 of the C.L.B. Old Comrades association held a very successful annual general meeting and election of officers at their clubrooms on Lemarchant Road. The election of officers was conducted, by the newly elected C.L.B. Governor and Commandant Colonel Sheila Mercer. Twenty-one members were present to hear a financial report that revealed the association to be in a sound financial position.

#### Elections results were as follows:

President: Kitch Tizzard  
Vice-President: Charlie Kearsy  
Secretary: Ken Rowsell  
Treasurer: Jim Vokey  
Executive Members: Jim Lundrigan, Dave Strickland, Jeff Strickland, George Bursell, Chris Murphy, and Tom Grace.

After thanking Colonel Mercer, President Tizzard presented the Brigade with a \$1,000.00 donation. Following this generous gift the chairman reminded the meeting of the following: the annual C.L.B. scholarship worth \$1000.00 is available and companies should encourage their eligible members to submit an application form. As well, if anyone is interested in renting the Club Rooms for meetings, showers, parties, or other special occasions, please contact Charlie Kearsy at 709-754-2559.

On February 24, 2024, the annual crib and dart tournament will be hosted at 1:00pm in the Club Rooms. All C.L.B. members are welcome to attend and participate in the events. A reminder to members of Lodge #2 that their general meetings take place at All Saints Parish Hall in Foxtrap at 8:00 pm on the first Sunday of each month.

#### Tidbits from the past:

► In March of 1905, a group of 'old boys', who were over eighteen years of age and brigade members, were affiliated with the brigade as a separate fundraising body and an aid for sports and activities.

► On July 28, 1912, Colonel Matlock Gee, the brigade founder, visited Newfoundland and Labrador. At the C.L.B. parade, Colonel Gee spoke of his wish to create and pioneer a new organization called, The Old Comrades for ex-members. The following day, Mr. Ken Ruby became the first president of the Old Comrades Association. The organization was officially established on July 30, 1912.

Always flourish C.L.B., "Semper Floreat", Keep the Flag Flying 🇳🇫

## Captain Douglas Graham Wells (1947-2023)

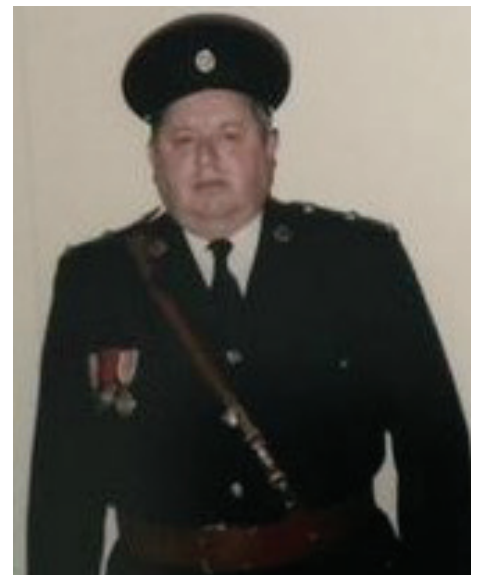
### LT. COL. ERIC WELLS (RET)

#### SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

Captain Wells passed away February 5, 2023 after a lengthy journey with Parkinson's disease. At the time of his death, Capt. Wells was a retired member of the CLB as well as a retired passionate educator with a 30 year career as a teacher, guidance counsellor and education psychologist.

Capt. Wells spent 10 years in St. Michael's CLB Company rising to the rank of Sergeant. After an

absence, he returned to the CLB in 1991 and for the next 6 years he was a member of both the Avalon Battalion staff and a member of the Brigade Council until his retirement in 1997. During this period he was responsible for the Put the Child First program including screening potential officer candidates; Editor of the Bugle; Battalion Camping Director; adjutant and camp commandant for a number of summer and fall camps; and he coordinated the Duke of Edinburgh Awards program into our CLB program 🇳🇫



# Anniversary Parade Photos



**Sunday, October 15, 2023**



# St. Michael's & St. Augustine's Companies

**COLONEL SHEILA MERCER**

*ST. MICHAELS COMPANY*

Well, we are once again back to another busy training year with our two companies meeting together on Monday nights at the C.L.B Armoury. We may be a small company but we have a huge amount of fun each week working on our drill, badges and of course a night is not complete without some physical fitness and games with Major Neil. Not sure who enjoys the games more him or our youth members.

Several of our JTC's and Seniors along with Major Neil attended summer camp this past June. From all reports this years' camp was a huge success especially the zipline! Camp is such an important part of the C.L.B program, a place where many lifelong friendships are formed, and many skills learned.

This fall we took on a project of refinishing 4 wooden kitchen chairs as part of our upcycling badge. Over the course of several weeks' youth sanded, sanded and sanded some more in preparation for painting the chairs. We are proud to say they have been completed and will now be donated to home again furniture bank to help people in need.

We once again had a couple guests, one of which is a former St. Michaels' officer come in and do some archery with our members which continues to be a huge hit with all members. Also that night as part of "Sticks for Linc", a way to show support to a family in a near by community who had recently lost their young son to a tragic accident members wore their favourite team jersey.

Along with all the hard work our youth continue to do, we always make time to have fun as well.

Keep The Flag Flying 



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# Harbour Grace - Carbonear Company 1009

## WO1 CHRISTOPHER LOCKYER

HARBOUR GRACE - CARBONEAR COMPANY

For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic it seems like we are finally getting back into the swing of things. Like all companies, membership dropped when regular meetings came to a halt. Our officers started this year off with a fresh breath of optimism and eagerness to rebuild the company. After putting out the call for registration we ended up bringing in a handful of new members, a potential new officer, as well as parents reaching out looking to register their children within the next week. Thankfully we are getting back to pre-pandemic membership and are excited to be able to offer a greater program to the members we have now and hope to be able to draw some more interest throughout the year.

Our first outing of the year was our annual trip to the Hr. Grace Fire Dept. where former CLB member Zachary Lockyer took the members on a tour of the fire station as well as letting them try out various

firefighter equipment such as thermal cameras, wearing the firefighter suits and getting tours of the trucks. Another thank you to Firefighter Chris Noseworthy for giving the members the highlight of the night - A ride around town in the large Pumper Truck!

Everyone had a blast and we can't wait for next year to do it again.

During halloween our members had their halloween party. Everyone showed up wearing their costumes ready for some fun games and activities. We started the night with our pumpkin carving ... which was messy but everyone made some great looking Jack O Lanterns. After the carving we had some games, with the highlight being the mummy wrap contest. Everyone was split into teams where they had to wrap one of the members of the team to create a mummy and compete with the other teams. This one always brings laughter and excitement. After the games we stopped to have some snacks and cake before heading home for the night.

The last major event we took part in was the Remembrance Day Parade and service in Harbour

Grace. Although the weather wasn't the greatest, we paraded to the memorial. Our members were extremely well behaved during the service and most even got the opportunity to help lay wreaths. We thank the Royal Canadian Legion for inviting us to join them and take part in the parade as well as their continued support to the CLB.

As we move into the holiday season we are also very pleased to be reviving our companies annual Memorial Carol Sing and Tree of Life, Love and Remembrance, where anyone can donate to have a loved one's name printed in our special booklet as well as receive a Christmas bulb and have a carol sang in their memory.

This has traditionally been one of the most important events that our company hosts throughout the year and we are excited to be able to continue with this memorial service.

Although we started late and are still in the rebuilding process we are definitely back on track to having a strong company, and have much in store to make the training year as enjoyable as possible 🇨🇦



# Summer Camp Reports from our Campers

## PTE. CALLUM MUGFORD

BAY ROBERTS COMPANY

I really enjoyed my time at camp. The food was great, the activities were awesome, and I loved being able to hang out with my CLB friends! My favorite activities were the Obstacle Course and Zipline, and I improved my air rifle quite a bit, and I am glad I got to try Archery. We did Canoeing, Archery, Ax Throwing, Air Rifle, and lots of other fun things. Canteen was very cool, although the showers were pretty cold. If I could change one thing, it would be to have more physical activities. things that involve running, walking, jumping, etc. Overall, camp was awesome, and I hope next year is just as great 🇬🇧



## PTE. ETHAN DAWE

BAY ROBERTS COMPANY

My name is Ethan Dawe and I have been a member of the CLB in Bay Roberts since 2015. This summer in June I attended my first CLB camp at Spring Wood Discovery Camp.

The best thing I enjoyed about camp experience is mostly everything that was planned. I really enjoyed meeting other people from the other CLB companies. It also taught us to be respectful. It was a fun week 🇬🇧

## PTE. OLIVER NOSEWORTHY

BAY ROBERTS COMPANY

My camp experience was a little different than most, I arrived at camp late as I had a ball hockey tournament that weekend too. I was greeted by Captain Karen Dawe, shown to my bunk and then it was off to supper and boy oh boy it did not disappoint. Mini Jiggs!!! A boy could get used to this and not want to leave.

Unfortunately I fell ill while at camp and needed the M.O. to see to me. It was decided that I should head home after only 2 days at camp but in those two days I had such an amazing time! I was able to meet new friends, go canoeing, try archery, axe throwing and rifle target, play basket ball and do the obstacle course.

I cannot wait for next year to go back to camp again 🇬🇧

## PTE. CHRIS LANE

BAY ROBERTS COMPANY

On the first day we arrived at camp to see a basketball court, pond, canoes, paddle boats, lantern, mess hall, obstacle course, etc etc. We get our bunks ready as we make friends. After that we learn our surroundings and we pull out sports equipment and play.

On the following day we do many more activities, and fun things and this time we have afternoon activities, orders, and prayers. First, we wake up to the bugle, get ready for inspection, have inspection, wait for orders on where we go, then go to archery, axe throwing, canoeing, obstacle course or pellet guns/rifles. My favorite was canoeing, because it was fun on the water. For evening activities, we played ultimate frisbee, soccer, horseshoe, and basketball. My team was best in frisbee. In normal activities I was best in axe throwing with 9 bulls' eyes in one day.

On the last day I said my goodbyes because we had to leave early for my brother's job. If I had to give the camp a rating out of 10 it would be a 9.5. From the joy and fun, I had to the delicious food they served at the mess hall. I would not wish upon anyone to miss out at CLB summer Camp 🇬🇧

# Bay Roberts Company

**DANIEL FIFIELD**

*BAY ROBERTS COMPANY*

Well, another training year has begun and little did we know when we told our members to bring a friend to CLB next year we would increase our enrolment to what we have today. Our opening night was held on September 21, 2023 and although we did not get any LTC members, our YTC & JTC did increase. We now have the following: YTC - 13; JTC - 6; SC Corp - 4. So far, we have our regular parade nights consisting of uniform fitting, games night,

started our Recruits badge, and Halloween party. Our YTC have been helping the Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 32 with their Poppy Campaign. Because we have such a large group, we helped on three different occasions. One thing for sure, no one got past these groups of CLB members without giving a donation. We were invited to a family bonfire hosted by the Mugford family, (rained but we still had the fire), visited the Bay De Grave Fire Department, and attended Remembrance Day Assemblies at All Hallow's Elementary, North River, Bay Roberts Primary and

Ascension Collegiate, Bay Roberts. We also attend a school gym for our sports night. Our JTC and SC Sections participated in Challenge Camp held in The Trinity East Port Rexton area on Thanksgiving weekend, and along with the YTC attended the Anniversary Parade the following week. The SC, along with RCL, took part in the Remembrance Day Parade. We have a wonderful group of well-behaved members and supportive parents/guardians which makes our role in this wonderful organization worthwhile. Until next time, keep the flag flying 🇨🇦



**CAPTAIN DERECK TUCKER**

*BAY ROBERTS COMPANY*

November 11, 2023, started off cold with a slight drizzle but it being Remembrance Day, we were enroute to the Bay Roberts Legion in anticipation of participating in the War Memorial activities by providing a Firing Party for their commemoration service. Due to the poor weather, the service was moved from the Legion Headquarters to the Salvation

Army Citadel in Bay Roberts. What a turnout was there!!! The Legion President, Comrade Harold Brown, commented that it was probably the largest he had ever seen for a November Service. In excess of two hundred people filled the Citadel with many standing and the rear meeting room doors had to be rolled open to accommodate the crowd. There were members representing many of the organizations within the community from the Legion Veterans, Guides &

Beavers, Cadets, Fire Department, RCMP, Lion's Club and Heritage Committee as well as current relatives of the deceased Veterans - all wishing to remember their service by laying wreaths in their memory. After we fired the three Volleys, Capt. Karen Dawe laid a wreath in memory of our Veterans on behalf of the Brigade. The Members of "H" Company CLB Bay Roberts take pride in helping out our Legion and may We Always Remember Them 🇨🇦

# History of CLB & CLCGB Worldwide!

**CAPTAIN MICHAEL COOPER**

*PROGRAM DIRECTOR*

The Church Lads' Brigade (CLB) is an international organization that traces its roots back to the UK in 1891 and expanded to Newfoundland (NL) in 1892. It has evolved into its own worldwide community across numerous countries. Through virtual communities, members can connect, share ideas, and collaborate on projects, fostering a sense of global connectedness that was previously impossible. Technology has played a crucial role in bringing people closer together by providing access to information and resources.

Each Bugle issue will feature an article highlighting the history of CLB/CLCGB in its host countries, showcasing the organization's global presence. The CLB has reached countries such as Australia, New Zealand, Barbados, Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, Belize, Guyana, the Windward Islands, Antigua, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Helena, West Africa, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, South Africa, Kenya, the UK, and Canada. Let's explore how CLB began in some of these countries with active companies.

## **Barbados**

Barbados, an island country in the Lesser Antilles of the West Indies, boasts a capital and largest city, Bridgetown, and spans 21 miles in length and up to 14 miles in width. The first CLB Company, No. 1709 St. Luke's (St. George's Parish), Barbados, was enrolled on March 15, 1900. Over the years, 32 companies were established,

organized into three battalions, with at least two CLCGB Companies still operational.

## **Bermuda**

Bermuda, a group of islands in the North Atlantic Ocean covering approximately 20.5 square miles, has Hamilton as its capital. The first CLB Company, No. 1465 at Hamilton Cathedral, was enrolled on April 10, 1899, though its existence was brief. The CLB was re-established on August 5, 1948, with Coy No. 4279 at St. George's, Bermuda, eventually expanding to four companies. Although some units folded by the late 1970s/early 1980s, a former Girls' Brigade unit re-registered as a Church Girls' Brigade Company in 1992 and remains active today.

## **St. Helena**

St. Helena, a volcanic tropical island in the South Atlantic Ocean located 2,500 miles east of Rio de Janeiro and 1,210 miles west of the Southwestern coast of Africa, spans about 10 miles by 5 miles. The first CLB Company, No. 678 St. James, was enrolled on December 20, 1895, operating until World War II. The CLB was re-established in the early 1960s and continued until around 2010, with five companies established over the years. Recently, a new unit has been initiated on the island.

## **Canada**

Canada played a significant role in the early expansion of CLB outside the UK, particularly in Winnipeg, Newfoundland (classified as part of Britain before 1949), Halifax, Nova Scotia, Fredericton (New Brunswick Diocese), Vancouver Island (British Columbia Diocese), Toronto, Montreal, Saskatchewan, and the Keewatin Diocese. These

regions saw the establishment of numerous CLB companies and cadet corps, contributing to the organization's growth and presence in Canada.

In Winnipeg, the first company outside England and Wales, Company Number 52, was enrolled for Christ Church, Winnipeg, in the Rupert's Land Diocese, Manitoba, on April 18, 1892. This was opened by Rev Canon Edwyn Pentreath, with Captain J McAlister at the helm. Company Number 100 was enrolled on October 15, 1892, for All Saints Mission District, London, Ontario. The next company outside the UK was Company Number 119, St John the Baptist, St. John's, Newfoundland, enrolled on December 31, 1892, marking the beginning of a remarkable success story for CLB in that region.

In Halifax, Nova Scotia, Company Number 145 was enrolled for St Luke's on May 3, 1893, and Company Number 149 for St. George's on May 28, 1893. Company Number 597 was enrolled for Christ Church Parish, Fredericton (New Brunswick Diocese), on August 24, 1895.

On Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Company Number 333 was enrolled for St Matthew's, Wellington, on June 8, 1894, and Company Number 613 for St Paul's, Nanaimo, on October 2, 1895.

In Toronto, Company Number 2870, Trinity East, Toronto (Toronto Diocese), known as Little Trinity, was enrolled on May 20, 1909. The Eastern Division saw the enrollment of three CLB companies in Montreal in 1913 - St Alban's, Trinity Parish, and St James the Apostle. This led to the



creation of the Montreal Battalion. In Saskatchewan, Company Number 3087 was enrolled for Christ Church, Saskatoon (Diocese of Saskatchewan), on April 29, 1913. Another four CLB Cadet Corps were opened during 1914 and 1915.

For more detailed information on CLB in Canada, THE BRIGADER, CLCGB Historical Group Supplement March 2017, has a great article on the early years of CLB in Canada. To request a copy, contact [michaelcooper@theclb.ca](mailto:michaelcooper@theclb.ca) for an electronic version. Stay tuned for the next article highlighting our organization in more countries worldwide, as we strive to Keep The Flag Flying Worldwide 🇨🇦



# Remembering Robin Bolton

**TERRY HISSEY & DAVID MERCER**

*SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS*

The sudden passing of Robin Bolton came as a shock to all that knew him. While his name may not be quite as well known on this side of the Atlantic as it was in the UK, his work has been foundational to documenting and understanding the history of the Church Lads' Brigade, from its very roots. But it wasn't just in the UK that Robin shared his extensive knowledge. Our members first met him in 2000 when the Upper Gullies Company stayed at the Roxeth & Harrow Company HQ. A year later he came to Newfoundland as part of the return exchange. There are many tales that tell just how much he enjoyed his visit. He enthusiastically showed his musical talents when called upon to play the spoons during a 'screech in'; and it was also during this visit that he had his first experience with a snowmobile.

However, it was during a visit to the W.G. Tilley Museum and Archives that really cemented the bond between Robin Bolton and Newfoundland. After receiving a personal tour from Maj. William Tilley, he was enormously inspired by all that had been achieved since the 1992 Harvey Road fire. He generously donated copies of his many Brigade books to the Archives. On his return to the UK, he wrote in the Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade (CLCGB) Historical Group journal:

*"The CLB there, has adapted to take on board the girls, adapted to local conditions and retained many of the traditional values which seem to be*

*a 'bit thin on the ground' in some parts of the UK. Respect for adults, civil language, pride in uniform, involvement in community and family traditions, all seem to be present in the lives of the hundreds of young people I met in the Province. It will not be surprising to hear then that the quality of the leaders at all levels, their Christian values and dedication are really outstanding. We can learn from them, indeed I feel that we should. They value their heritage in such a way that makes us seem like a bunch of amateurs. They build upon the past; they don't simply sweep it away."*



With this newly restored connection to the UK, Robin continued to assist us in Newfoundland by answering all

sorts of CLB queries for some time. In 1996, he was instrumental in organizing a Historical Conference. Out of that meeting grew the CLCGB Historical Group. He became the first Chairman and held that post until his death.

In 2002, Robin was responsible for helping set up the Brigade Memorial Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum and lovingly maintaining it ever since. When the Newfoundland CLB visited the UK on the 2016 Tour of Honour, he warmly greeted us at the Garden and contributed to the joint remembrance service in Hugglescote, Leicestershire. I recall we sat down to draft out the printed order of service and it took us hours. He was such a perfectionist who had very high standards in all he did. On several occasions Robin visited Newfoundland Park at Beaumont Hamel, and he proudly stood at the memorial in 2016 paying tribute to the CLB, when the CLCGB held a ceremony there as part of their Remembrance Tour.

The contribution Robin made to preserving the history of the CLCGB, and indeed the wider Brigade movement, is immeasurable. Amongst his lasting legacy is the 2020 biography of Walter Gee, the Founder of the CLB. Here a 'reclusive' figure was rescued from the mists of time for future generations to learn from. For as long as the history of the Brigade, on both sides of the Atlantic, is researched and written about, the name of Robin Bolton will always be mentioned.

Truly a great loss to the CLCGB as he led many to Fight the Good Fight 🇬🇧

# Governor General's Academic Medal

**CAPTAIN MICHAEL COOPER**

*PROGRAM DIRECTOR*

For nearly 150 years, the Governor General's Academic Medals have recognized the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada. The award, which was established in 1873, is one of the most respected honours a student can receive in a Canadian educational institution. The recipients have achieved the highest grade point average in their respective classes. Medals are presented on behalf of the Governor General by participating educational institutions, along with personalized certificates signed by the Governor General.

On Oct 27, 2023, Lt. Governor Judy Foote with President/CEO Elizabeth Kidd presented these medals to 20 outstanding students of the College of the North Atlantic (CNA). One of these students was WO2 Sandra Cooper of the Trinity East-Port Rexton Company!

Along with the Governor General's Academic Medal for her Cultural Culinary Arts & Tourism Program, WO2 Cooper also received the President's Medal of Excellence twice, TOPS CNA Bonavista Student of the Year award, CNA Faculty & Staff Achievement Award, CNA High Five Bursary and CNA Bonavista Leadership Award. She was also Valedictorian at her graduation ceremony (who along with her instructor created the graduation feast!). Not only did she received multiple awards during her time at CNA, she also got to work with some amazing chefs at many different events. Congrats WO2/Chef Cooper on a job well done 🇨🇦





131<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Parade, October, 2023

# GIVING BACK TO THE PLACES WE CALL HOME.

**Brian Malone, Environmental Coordinator, St. John's**

Brian and our employees are making powerful connections to the places we call home. Our employees are the faces you'll see lending a helping hand and supporting our community partners at events that tie the people of our province together and make our communities stronger. We believe that by giving back, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

We are proud to support The Church Lads Brigade.

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