



Sabretache

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Places to see on your trip to England. One of the must see places is Chartwell house and garden, the country estate of Churchill. To get there, however, you will pass the village of Westerham, Kent. Here you must first stop and visit Quebec House. This is the childhood home of General Wolfe. Now owned by the National Trust, it contains exhibits of the Wolfe family life and his victory and death in the Quebec Campaign. On entering the town you will first see, at one end of a park, the statue paying tribute to the General. The brick home is located in a residential neighbourhood surrounded



by historic homes. The house was built in the 16th century but was extensively rebuilt in the 18th century. Wolfe lived there from his birth in 1727 till 1738. Originally called Spiers, the house was renamed after his victory at the Battle of Quebec. The coach house features an exhibition on the battle and the house contains memorabilia and paintings connected to his life.

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CMHS Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on

**Tuesday,
October 20th,
2015**

7:00 pm

At the
Petty Officers' Mess
HCMS Tecumseh



James Wolfe's travelling canteen

At the other end of the same park that has the statue of Wolfe, sits another statue. Winston Churchill's statue remembers his death 50 years ago. The statue is close to his Family home Chartwell also owned by the National Trust .

Two miles south of Westerham is Chartwell house, principal residence of Winston Churchill



The next CMHS meeting will be held on
Tuesday, March 20th, 2015, 19:00 (7:00 pm)

At the Petty Officers' Mess, HMCS Tecumseh.

Members are reminded that an offering of foodstuffs for the Legion Food Bank is considered your unofficial entrance fee to our regular scheduled meetings.

The President, Kevin R. would like to invite everyone to remain after the meeting for an informal time of fellowship.

Churchill and his wife Clementine bought the property, located two miles south of Westerham, Kent, in 1922. Extensive renovations simplifying and modernising the home were undertaken directly, completely transforming it when complete. When it became clear to the Churchill's in 1946 that they could not afford to run the property, a consortium of wealthy businessmen purchased the estate. The arrangement was that for payment of nominal rent both Sir Winston and Lady Churchill would have the right to live there until they both died, at which point the property would be presented to the National Trust. When Sir Winston died in 1965, Clementine decided to present Chartwell to the National Trust immediately. The house has been preserved as it would have looked when Churchill owned it. Rooms are carefully decorated with memorabilia and gifts, the original furniture and books, as well as honours and medals he received.



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Part of the many brick walls that Churchill built. The stone walls around Lady Churchill's rose garden were built by German POW's in 1946. Royal Canadian Engineers camped at the estate in 1940 and camouflaged the ponds and lakes so that German bombers would not hit it.



Brookwood Military Cemetery. The Cemetery is about 30 miles from London in Surrey. Apart from the regular cemetery, the BCWG Commission has a large area. It has a Canadian Section which is meticulously kept. One section has many of the soldiers wounded at Dieppe and

later died in England.



The gravestone (left) of Malcom Calder, a Banff boy who was killed riding a Signals motorcycle. The gravestones of 2 Calgary Highlanders killed in England. Private Browne also a dispatch rider was the first Calgary Highlander to die in WW2. My father attended the funeral of Sargeant Griffen in October of 1940.

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the **Calgary Military Historical Society**

Meeting held on September 15th, 2015 at the Petty Officer's Mess, HMCS Tecumseh

Meeting called to order by President Kevin R. at 7:08 PM 22members in attendance. No Guests present.

Minutes of previous meeting. Discussed and call for approval by Bob McP. Seconded by Floyd S..

Newsletter. Discussion of story

Membership. Report by the noble Brian H. Membership totals 45 members.

Treasures Report. Provided by our esteemed treasurer Mr. Brian H. Lists of monies collected from book auctions, donations etc. Listing of expenditures. Treasure Brian H. moves that his report be accepted as reported. Seconded by Member Barry E.. Unanimous

Old Business

Pres. Kevin brings up recent Gun Show.. Discussion among members.

New Business-

Mike C. Discusses his Mother's recent death and her life. Worked at Canada House in England. during the war., Ernest Shackleton's Medal up for sale.

Kevin. Mentions that Treasure Brian H is to step down at next months election. Society needs a replacement and Brian will show what needs to be done.

Kevin. Mentions that his new website is up and running. www.thecanadiansoldier.com

Break then Show and Tell.

Stuart E. Thanks all

Gary—discusses how commissions were not purchased in the British Navy. Documents from Navy and relatives. Parchments from Admiralty, 1799 to his relatives.

Darrel K.-Discusses trip to BC. Photo's of machine gun, RCMP Holster, 103 Calgary Rifles Badges by Black. 8th Recce badges, Helmet.

Mike C. Hugh de Bernt, British Officer medals in Boer War. P^ compass from Spitfire.

Bob McP. Discusses ribbons and ribbon bars, Binder containing "famous Chests"

Dave L. Mirror from Princess Mary gift box., Chaplains badge 51 Battalion, discusses and gives history of "unofficial" chaplains badges. WW1 Chaplains uniform, helmet, tunic from 85th Battalion.

Don S. Discusses news item on battle of Waterloo.

Alan Mck. Irish 1916 Rebellion stories. Of ladies group named Cumann Na Mban. Who helped out Irish volunteers.

Indro.— WW1 and University cap badges. Questions "Mason's" changing badge. Member Bob McP. Gives history and story on subject.

Alan— Nazi and Axis badges. Youth and organizations related to them.

Barry E. —Uniform WW1 tunic, nursing cap, cape, belt, headdress of nursing sister.

Floyd S.—mentions 75th anniversary of "Battle of Britain"

Al D.— discusses old uniforms and old navy customs

David G.—jacket from "Flying Tigers" and story related.

Kevin R. -Original WW1 attestation paper of soldier filled out in Calgary in 1917. Discussion by members on this issue.

Motion to adjourn. By Mike C and seconded by Barry E.

Canadian War Memorial ,
Green Park, London





Imperial War Museum

The original Imperial War Museum opened in 1920 much to the dismay of many people and politicians. Some felt that the museum would perpetuate an undesirable war spirit and Commander Joseph Kenworthy MP said that he would 'refuse to vote a penny of public money to commemorate such suicidal madness of civilisation as that which was shown in the late War'. On the August Bank Holiday 1920, the first public holiday since the museum's opening, 94,179 visitors were received, and by November 1921, 2,290,719 had visited the museum.

In 1936, after years of inadequate and cramped accommodation the current site of the museum was opened. The building itself was a former hospital "Bethlam Royal Hospital". It was bombed during WW2 and has been rebuilt and refurbished many times since. In 1967 the museum acquired a pair of 15 inch naval guns. One had been mounted on the Royal Navy's HMS Ramillies and the other on the HMS Resolu-

tion and HMS Roberts. Both had been fired in action during the Second World War. The museum contains floor after floor of military memorabilia, not only from the UK but also the Commonwealths and its adversaries.

The museum's exhibits collection includes a wide range of objects, organised into numerous smaller collections such as uniforms, badges, insignia and flags (including a Canadian Red Ensign (5th Western Cavalry) carried at Vimy Ridge in 1917, and personal mementoes, souvenirs and miscellanea such as trench art, firearms and ammunition, ordnance, edged weapons, and vehicles, aircraft and ships.

On the top floor you will find the Ashcroft Collection. The VC collection of businessman and politician Lord Ashcroft, amassed since 1986, contains 162 medals, over one-tenth of all VCs awarded. It is the largest collection of such decorations. In 2008 it was announced that Ashcroft was to donate £5 million for a permanent gallery at the Imperial War Museum where the 50 VCs held by the museum will be put on display alongside his collection. The Lord Ashcroft Gallery opened in November 2010 containing a total of 210 VCs and 31 GCs. It is now the largest collection of VCs on public display.

Statues. All over London you will find statues commemorating the military.



6th Dragoons, The Carabiners opposite Chelsea Bridge.



The Women of WW2 monument on Whitehall



The VC collection of businessman and politician Lord Ashcroft,



Tribute to Animals in War near Hyde Park