



## Fort Fraser Despatches, March 2017

### Important to Attend the A.G.M. 25 March:

Notice has been given that the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Fort Fraser Garrison entities will be held at the Bessborough Armoury, 2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC, on

SATURDAY, 25 MARCH, 2017 at 1200hrs (noon).

Members will assemble to receive the report of the Directors and review the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December, 2016.

Our by-laws require that incumbent directors resign their positions in order that members may elect a 2017 slate of Directors of the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders Assoc. of Vancouver.

There may be eight directors elected, including president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Nominations are now open, so please write or email the nominating committee at the address in the formal notice of AGM with your choices for candidates for the director positions.

Current directors are:

President: Jim Barrett CD      Vice President: Chris Hoskin  
Secretary: John Hooker      Treasurer (appointed): Svend Raun CD  
Murray Wood,      John Buis,      Mike Redmond,      David Scandrett CD.

***In advance of the meeting is the perfect time for members to present their suggestions for changes and improvements.***

Please submit your suggestions, in the form of a motion, in writing/email before 22 March to The Secretary, c/o 1703 – 121 10<sup>th</sup> St., New Westminster, V3M 3X7.

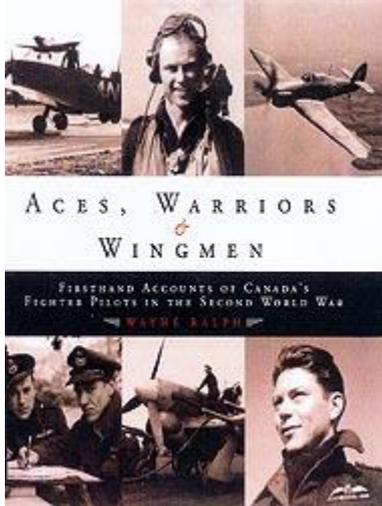
***“Always seek better, you can only coast downhill”***

# “Canada’s Fighter Pilots in the Second World War”

## **Aces, Warriors & Wingmen**

by Wayne Ralph

John Wiley & Sons, 2005. 272 pages



The author, Wayne Ralph, is certainly a dedicated researcher and historian. On the occasions that we have dined together I always learned many new facts about RCAF flyers.

*“I commend Aces, Warriors & Wingmen to all veterans who, like my father, will find in its pages memories, perhaps long locked away, of the daily experiences and trials and tribulations of that time. I also recommend this book to the ‘baby boomer’ generation who would like to experience or learn*

*what their parents, relatives and family friends went through behind the hype of the headlines. Finally I commend this book to the younger generation, who will find in its stories, not only our heritage, but the life lesson that a sense of duty, honour and a willingness to extend oneself to follow a dream are not confined to extraordinary people.*

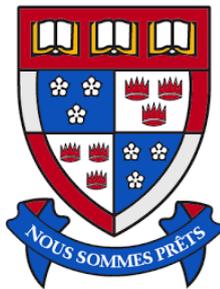
*For, in sum, this book is, or should be, about the “Aces, Warriors and Wingmen” in all of us.”*

Reviewed by Paul Hussey

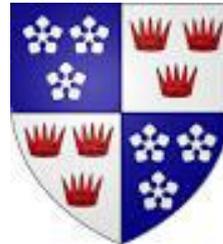


## Did you know?

- Our Colonel-in-Chief, Brigadier the Lord Lovat attended and took part in the opening of Simon Fraser University. The emblems on the Lovat coat of arms appear with permission on the arms of the university.



SFU



Fraser of Lovat

- The same Lord Lovat dined with the garrison and inspected the guard in 1981.
- The current Lord Lovat (“Simon Lovat” as he is known) inspected the Montreal Squad and the assembled officers, resplendent in Scarlets and bearing arms, in Beaulieu in conjunction with the 1997 Fraser Clan Gathering. He had just turned 21 years of age and acquired the titles of Baron and Chief of Clan Fraser of Lovat.
- Based in Montreal, the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser’s Drill Squad has demonstrated its piping, drilling and battle formation skills in numerous Canadian and US. cities and historical sites.

The squad has also distinguished itself by acting as Guard of Honour to H.M. Queen Elizabeth II on three occasions.

The squad is composed entirely of students, mainly from the Montreal area, although some young men have come from outposts as far away as Calgary and Atlanta. These young men already play bagpipes or drums, and are required to learn Highland dancing and the 18th century manual of drill with the Brown Bess musket. The aim is to provide healthy and stimulating summer employment which stresses military tradition and discipline. Their training includes a strong introduction to 18th century history and military life.

## 1763 – After Disbandment of the Regiment:

excerpted from 78thFrasers.org

Since a number of the men spoke French (due to their Jacobite connection) and were Catholic, they were well respected by the French Canadians in the area. Many decided to stay on land grants and married into French Canadian families.

During their short stay in Quebec, members of the Regiment:

- established the first Presbyterian church in Canada;
- established the first Masonic Lodge; and
- very likely introduced curling on the frozen rivers and lakes.

About 90 of the men settled in the Fraserville or Riviere-du-Loup area.

Many of the men and their descendants became fur trade merchants and explorers of the Canadian and American West.

During the American Revolution, veterans of the 78th re-enlisted in the 84th Regiment, Royal Highland Emigrants, and some received land grants on Prince Edward Island.

Others returned to Canada independently to establish business concerns, notably in the fur trade, where they or their descendants explored and opened the continent naming such rivers as the MacKenzie and the Fraser.

The influence of the original 1,500 men of this Regiment on Canadian and North American history is still evolving. New historical discoveries are still being made which further indicate that this Regiment deserves a special place in our military tradition.

“pride in the heritage”



## New Lanark – business plan and social experiment:



Chris McCall, The Scotsman, February 21, 2017

New Lanark started life in 1786 as a humble cotton mill – one of hundreds opened across Scotland and the north of England in the late 18th century – but now enjoys a reputation as one of the world’s best known industrial heritage sites.

The village, a short distance from the historic county town of Lanark, was both a successful business and an epitome of utopian socialism.

Eighteenth-century Scotland was an age of cruel mill bosses. New Lanark, however, offered fair wages, affordable food, free health care and education for all villagers. Corporal punishment and child labour were ruled out. New Lanark was a planned community. Workers lived in purpose-built tenements yards from the mill itself, the location of which was chosen to take advantage of the Falls of Clyde. The mill machinery was powered by the immense waterfall which has long been feted by landscape painters such as JMW Turner. The concept of water-powered mills has been around for millennia. But the cotton-spinning machinery installed at New Lanark was a relatively new invention. The first ‘Spinning Jenny’ appeared in the 1760s and the machine was greatly advanced by Richard Arkwright. His new invention, known as a water-frame, helped kick-start the Industrial Revolution by transforming cotton production. Arkwright had already built several mills in his native Lancashire when he teamed up with a self-made Scots businessman, David Dale, to open New Lanark.

Dale was born in Stewarton, Ayrshire, in 1739 and earned his first money in business by selling imported linen yarns from France and Holland in Glasgow. By 1777 he was a wealthy merchant and married the daughter of the chief executive of the Royal Bank of Scotland. He soon branched into other areas of business and helped launch the city’s first branch of the Royal Bank as well as founding the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

A pivotal moment in Dale's life came in 1784 when the Scot was introduced to Arkwright, who had been invited to Scotland with a view to opening another cotton mill in Lanarkshire. Dale shared a concern for Highlanders forced to leave their homes to find work in the central belt, and was keen to attract new employers to the area. The meeting was arranged by Perthshire MP George Dempster and the trio walked down the steep valley from Lanark to view a potential site for the new mills. They quickly agreed on its suitability and the plan for New Lanark was born. Work began immediately and the mill buildings were based on Arkwright's own mills in Cromford in Lancashire. Local men were sent south for training, and New Lanark began spinning in early 1786, at which point both Dempster and Arkwright left the partnership, leaving Dale as the sole owner.

By the 1790s there were nearly 1,400 people living and working in the purpose-built industrial community and thousands of interested parties from across the country and further afield travelled to tour this unique business success story, including such notables as William Wordsworth and Samuel Coleridge. While they were impressed with New Lanark's efficiency, what made the village truly notable was its combination of business and philanthropy. Living standards in the village were far superior to other industrial communities of the time and a priority was placed on training the workforce and educating children. Dale was convinced that a healthy, well-educated workforce would not only lead to greater productivity but was a moral obligation. *"It gives me great pleasure to say, that by proper management and attention, much good instead of evil may be done at cotton mills,"* he wrote at the time. Robert Owen, a Welsh industrialist, was a frequent visitor to New Lanark and in 1799 he married Dale's daughter Caroline. The following year he and his business partners bought New Lanark for £60,000, payable over 20 years, and Owen was installed mill manager. Owen would become famous for the innovative social programmes he launched at New Lanark, such as the opening of the world's first infant school in 1817. But the village's founding and its later association with improving the living conditions of workers owe a huge debt to David Dale.

**Read more at: <http://www.scotsman.com/200voices/philanthropists/david-dale-founder-new-lanark/>**

[www.fortfrasergarrison.com](http://www.fortfrasergarrison.com):

Members are encouraged to visit the garrison website; there to find historical info, organizational info, mess event photos and links to other garrisons – including RHQ Montreal.

*Of special interest is the “members only” section, reached via a secret portal (click on the Regimental logo on home page) and requiring a username and password to access – available to all members – please enquire via email to the editor.*

The site costs about \$60 a year and is monitored and updated by V/Sgt. Paul Keenleyside.

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Not to be missed:

- 03 March - 78th & 15FD Whisky Event in the Mess
- 18 March - Fort Fraser at Surrey Museum Celtic Fest
- **25 March - Annual General Meeting**
- 09 Apr - Vimy Day in Canada – LEST WE FORGET
- 15 Apr - Battle of Ste. Foy Remembrance Dinner

*Be kind to one another, trouble's a'brewing!*

