

# 26/XII Museum Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 2    Brandon's Military Museum March 2014

**26 FIELD REGIMENT RCA/XII MANITOBA DRAGOONS MUSEUM • BRANDON MB**

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*Fig 1 Fig 8 Art Lyon 1924 - 2014*

*On the February 24, 2014 at the age of 90 Art Lyon passed away at Kelowna General Hospital. A former WWII Veteran of the XII MB Dragoons and a great supporter of the Museum he will be missed.*



*Fig 2 Art Lyon at dedication of Brandon Veterans Memorial in September 2013 Credit 26XII Museum NL.*

# Vimy Night Fundraiser



The Friends of 26 Field Artillery/XII Manitoba Dragoons Military Museum Inc. invite you to attend and support our Thirty-Fourth Annual 26<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment RCA/XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum Vimy Night Celebration and Fundraiser on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2014 in the Brandon Armoury. Doors open at 6:00 pm, supper will be served at 6:30 pm. The format this year is very similar to the last two years. The Vimy Night will consist of a Chinese Food Buffet, and a live auction plus a silent auction. The Chinese Food Buffet tickets are \$15.00 per person. Admission to the auction is free and the entrance to the Armoury is via the 11<sup>th</sup> Street door. There will also be a cash bar for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. We look forward to seeing you at Vimy Night.

Please RSVP to Edd Mc Arthur at [26fdregCurator@wcgwave.ca](mailto:26fdregCurator@wcgwave.ca) or telephone 204-726-3498 by the 31<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

## World War One Part One, Causes of the Great War

### The Balkans Crossroads of Conflict

*A century has passed since the events which lead to The Great War of Civilization better known as the First World War. Most people know that about the assassination in Sarajevo of Archduke Franz Ferdinand the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne. The assassination of the Arch Duke and his wife Sophie by Gavrilo Princip a*



*Bosnian and a group of Serbs conspirators prompted Austria-Hungary to issue an ultimatum to Serbia which in part was rejected. The rejection caused the Austro-Hungarian Empire to declare war on Serbia. The war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia started a chain reaction of alliances which in four years destroyed the Austrian-Hungarian Empire fragmenting into five new countries, and losing territory to two other countries. The Empire was not only destroyed but suffered losses of 90% of the men mobilized for the conflict. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, in what was intended to be brief and limited war quickly escalated when Imperial Russia came to the aid of Serbia. The German Empire mobilized when they saw Russia mobilizing and declared war on Russia. The Republic of France an ally of*

*Fig 3.. Political Cartoon 1914 Russia was then obliged by treaty to assist her against Germany and Austria-Hungary. Germany attacked France through Belgium pulling Britain and her colonies into war. Later in the war Japan, Italy and the United States would enter on the side of the allies. It was a slippery slope greased by jingoism, nationalism, imperialism.*

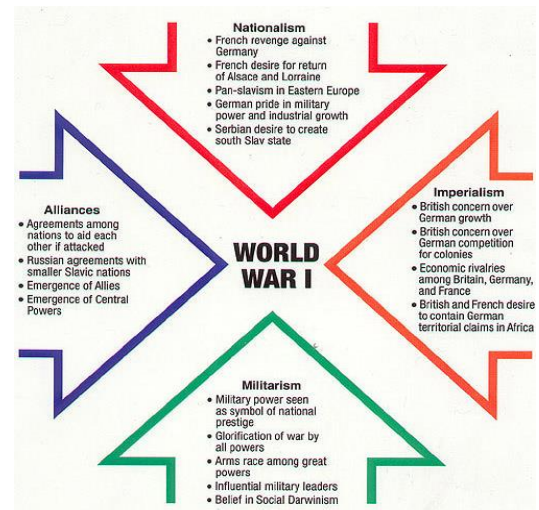


**Fig 4 European boundaries in 1914,**  
Credit [hamptonhighhistory.files.wordpress.com](http://hamptonhighhistory.files.wordpress.com)



**Fig 5 Austro-Hungarian Empire ethnic groups**  
summer 1914, Credit Wikipedia.

There were several wars between the countries of the Europe over this scrap of land or trade rights. Nothing was too big or too small, that the Empires wouldn't intrigue about. Natural allies Britain and Prussia became direct competitors after founding of the German Empire in 1871. Both the British and Germans ploughed much of their countries wealth into a Naval Race, every technological advance was countered by the other. Britain and France had long been enemies, in 1854 France and Britain came to the assistance of the Ottoman Empire which was attacked by the Russian the year before. Most of the fighting was done on the Crimean Peninsula by the armies of Britain, France, Turkey against Russia, who sixty years later would find Britain, France, Russia allies against Turkey. The Balkans was a powder keg, the fuse was lit in Sarajevo but the fuel was provided by the endless power politics of the countries of Europe both big and small, including: 1. the desire of most European countries to have overseas colonies; 2. unification of Germany; 3. the appearance on the world stage by the USA after the Spanish American War; 4. the British and German naval race; 5. the defeat of Russia by Japan in 1905; and 6. global trade competition all add fuel to the fire. The empires of Europe were a patchwork quilt of ethnic groupings. There were over seventy-five languages spoken by the subjects of the six European great powers and of the thirteen lesser ones. The borders cut through the homeland of ethnic groups causing friction amongst the groups and their governing authority and between countries who felt they had a vested interest in protecting these groups cutoff from their countries. The desire of nationalist groups to have their own independent homeland was used by countries to intrigue against other countries or absorb smaller countries. Ethnicity and Imperialism were the black powder into which the match of Sarajevo was thrown. We only have to look at the area today to see that not much has changed. Edd. Mc Arthur



**Fig 6 All roads lead to conflict,** Credit [euro-webonline](http://euro-webonline)

In the next issue of the Newsletter part two of World War I

“Over by Christmas” Liege to Dogger Bank.



## **Badges of the Canadian Army past and present**

On the page of this and following editions of the 26XII Newsletter there will be pictures of the badges of Canadian Army Units past and present. Some examples are below.



**Fig 7 25<sup>th</sup> Brant Dragoons,**  
an Eastern Canadian Militia  
Credit shoulder to shoulder.net



**Fig 8 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian**  
Service Battalion  
Credit Canadian Forces.ca



**Fig 9 222<sup>nd</sup> Battalion**  
CEF  
Credit cefresearch.ca



**Fig 10 Fourth Division**  
Shoulder Patch  
Credit Canadian Forces.ca

## **Identify the Artefact**



**Answer to last Identify the Artefact**  
**Sherman Firefly Tank located**  
**in Minnedosa MB.**



**Identify the Artefact:**  
**For answer see next issue of**  
**The 26XII Newsletter**

## **Volunteers visit RCACC 2025**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March Collection Manager Lorna Ball assisted by Assistant Researcher John Ball gave a presentation to the Shilo Troop of 2520 RCACC Army Cadets on the battle of Vimy Ridge. This was the third such presentation given by Lorna and John to 2520 RCACC Cadets in Brandon and 2528 RCACC in Virden. All the cadets enjoyed the presentation and the opportunity to try on some reproduction WWI era uniforms and kit.



**Fig 11 British 5**  
**Button 1907 Tunic**



**Fig 12 1914-18 Pattern Field Cap**



**Fig 13 Mk 1 Helmet**  
**it replaced the Field Cap**



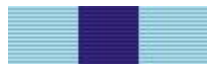
**Fig 14 Cadet Tries on**  
**the 1908 Webbing**

## Name that Ribbon

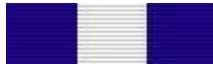
In this section different ribbons will be shown. The names of the ribbon and its associated medal will be published in the next issue of the newsletter. Note these ribbons will be world-wide.



*Ribbon 1*



*Ribbon 2*



*Ribbon 3*



*Ribbon 4*



*Ribbon 5*

### Answers to last issue ribbons



*Ribbon 1*

*Austro-Hungarian  
Empire Order of  
Saint Stephen*



*Ribbon 2*

*Defence Cross for  
Distinguished  
Service Rhodesia*



*Ribbon 3*

*Order of Makarios III  
Cyprus*



*Ribbon 4*

*Order of Polaris  
Yukon Territory*



*Ribbon 5*

*Zimbabwe  
Independence Medal*



**Catch a bus,  
Drive a car,  
Ride your bike or walk.**

The Museum is open every Tuesday from 9:00 to 11:30 am and 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For tours at other times call: Edd. at 204 726-3498.



## Museum Coming Attractions and events

05 April 2014

Vimy Night 2014 see page two above.

09 June 2014

D-Day Tea.

19 & 20 July 2014

Brandon Annual Open Doors

August 2014

Brandon Mini BU

## 26XII Museum Kit Shop



Fig 15 26XII Museum Kit Shop



Fig 16 26XII Museum Hat \$20

### 26<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment RCA/ XII Manitoba Dragoons Museum Kit Shop

#### Items for sale:

##### **Books;**

History of the Regiment	(hard cover \$30.00)
History of the Regiment	(soft cover \$25.00)
Ubique 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	(soft cover \$5.00)
DVD, Life in the Regiment/XII Scrapbooks	(\$25.00)
Dragoon Stamps	(\$1.25 each or \$50.00 a sheet)
Key chains each	(\$3.00)
Stickers each	(\$2.00)
Hats each	(\$20.00)

#### Thanks to our Donors January to March 2014,

##### Monetary Donors

Mrs. G. Stegman.

##### Donations of Artefacts

Mrs. B. Coleman;  
Mr. P. Haaksma;  
Mr. C. Turner;  
MWO D. Wheatland;  
Mr. R. Wylie;  
Canadian Military Engineers Museum; and  
DHH Afghanistan Legacy Program.

##### Donations of Services

Mr. B. Hillman web services and design.

For tax deductible charitable donation please make your cheques payable to:

**Friends of 26 Field Artillery/XII Manitoba  
Dragoons Military Museum Inc.**

**The Museum is located on the  
South West corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
and Victoria Avenue.**

President, Colonel (Ret'd) Don Berry, CD;

Vice President, Hon Col Rick Felstead, CStJ, CD

Curator, Captain (Ret'd) E.L. Mc Arthur. CD

Be sure to check us out on the web at:

[www.26fdregmuseum.com](http://www.26fdregmuseum.com) or

[www.12mbdragoons.com](http://www.12mbdragoons.com)

Webmaster Bill Hillman

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**For Information on the Museum  
and tours, contact Curator.**

This Newsletter is published by SDI under the  
authority of the Commanding Officer of 38 CBG  
ATG and by The Board of 26 Field Regiment  
RCA /XII MB Dragoons Museum. Please forward  
any inquiries to [26fdregCurator@wcgwave.ca](mailto:26fdregCurator@wcgwave.ca).

My thanks to all the Museum Volunteers for their  
valuable assistance in putting the Newsletter  
together.

Editor.

