

Former Actonian remembers the horrors of Dieppe battle

Former resident Norman Gibson, now of Sussex, England, sent along to the Free Press the following tribute to Dieppe veterans as well

As to the memory of those who fell in this famous World War II battle. The 40th anniversary of Dieppe is tomorrow (Thursday). He is to give this address at the Dieppe Memorial Service this Sunday at Newhaven, Sussex.

"Distinguished guests, visitors, and comrades of the Canadian Veterans' Association of the United Kingdom. Once again it is our privilege today to honor not only the men of the Royal Canadian Engineers whose names are inscribed on this memorial, but to all those men of the second Canadian Division who gave their lives in the assault on the beaches of Dieppe on August 19, 1942.

Let us also remember the many who subsequently died in captivity during the long months of hardship and privation as prisoners of war. Our memorial service has a special significance for those of us who, 40 years ago, sailed from this port of Newhaven on that warm summer evening in August, and took our places in our respective

landing craft for the assault on Dieppe the following morning.

As we lay alongside the Churchill tanks of the Alberta Regiment, our blankets spread on the steel deck of our ship, we tried to get what sleep we could. However, the situation was one of total unreality as we crept silently towards France in the darkness, surrounded on all sides by other naval craft of every type.

As unarmed stretcher-bearers, we were fully aware of how vulnerable we would be as we hit the beaches with our stretchers and first-aid kits protected only in a technical sense by the Geneva convention.

Soon after dawn, the violence of war was erupting all around us, and a new page in Canadian Military History was being written.

The full account of the Dieppe Raid has been well documented during the post-war period. We know that it is still the subject of controversy and debate by historians and servicemen alike.

Most of the senior figures involved in the Dieppe Raid in the face of murderous enemy fire were the sons and grandsons of the pioneer settlers who had transformed the wilderness of 19th century Canada into a prosperous nation state. Let us therefore pause on this 40th an-

niversary of the Dieppe Raid and remember in our hearts and minds those comrades of ours who, in the spirit of their forefathers, accepted bravely the tasks and challenges of that crucial hour, and paid the ultimate sacrifice—the precious gift of life itself.

Thank you. Norman Gibson, Late 11th Can. Fld. Ambulance R.C.A.M.C.

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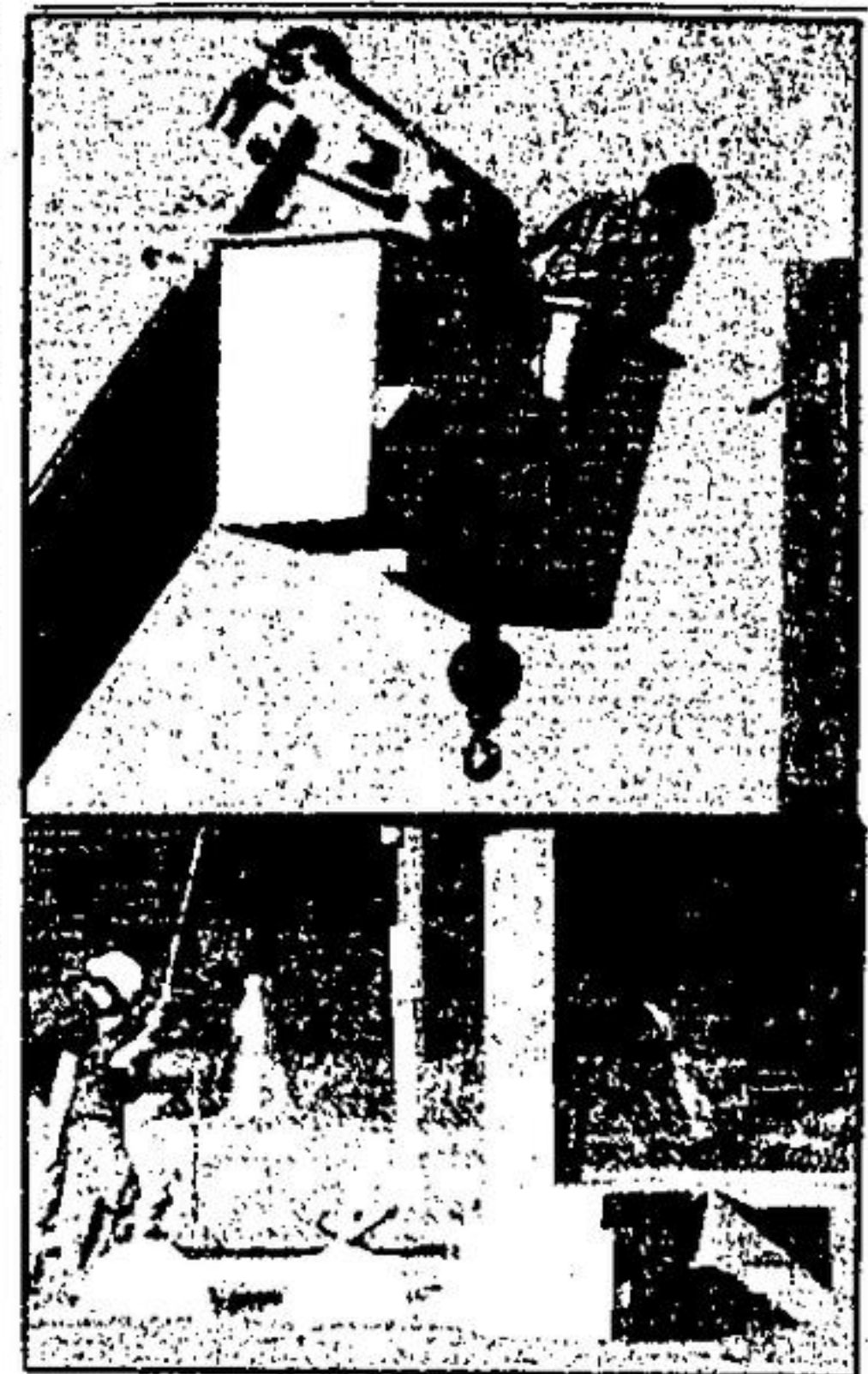
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New lights were installed last Thursday at the ball diamond in Prospect Park.

Obituary

Florence Elliott

Funeral service was held July 26 for Florence Elliott, who died July 23 at Guelph General Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Elliott was born in London, England and came to Canada in 1912. She married Benjamin Steven Elliott in St. Thomas, Anglican Church, Bracebridge, and moved to Acton 60 years ago.

Mrs. Elliott is survived by daughters Irene (Mrs. C. Holmes), Violet (Mrs. Bernard Rupp), Mount Hope, and Ada, (Mrs. Hamilton Peal), London, Ontario; and one sister, Mrs. J. McCauley (Ada) in Toronto. She is also survived by four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband 21 years ago, three brothers, and three sisters, all of London, England, and one grandson.

Rev. Len Ewing officiated at the funeral held at Shoemaker Funeral Home. Great grandson Doug Smith, Guelph, was pallbearer along with grandson Bob Smith, Peter Rupp, Mount Hope, and Ada, (Mrs. Hamilton Peal), London, Ontario; and one sister, Mrs. J. McCauley (Ada) in Toronto. She is also survived by four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband 21 years ago, three brothers, and three sisters, all of London, England, and one grandson.

Witnesses for hearing must attend at 10 a.m.

Anyone wishing to speak at the Acton town hall Conservation Review Board hearing will have to be there at 10 a.m.

Last week the Free Press reported the hearing will be held September 16 at the municipal building on Trafalgar Rd. and a day has been allowed for the proceedings.

Councillor Terry Grubbe said this week there is some confusion about



Stewart Ginn and Lee Gallant played bingo last week at the Acton Public Library. Bingo runs every Thursday afternoon.



Matthew Brian (left) and Christopher Woodstra get some help from Summer Activities leader Kim Heaps in making their costumes for Space Day last week.



Michael Fedchshyn snips away at material for his costume for the Summer Activities Centre Space Day last week.

Correction

The caption under a photo in last week's Free Press on page 11 of three greyhound dogs which said they would be racing this year at the Fall Fair was in error. They will be coming to an area fair, the Georgetown Fall Fair, not the Acton Fall Fair as readers may have thought since the caption didn't mention the name of the fair. The Free Press regrets the error.

But to the relief of all who know Doug, he has no intention of retiring as cook at most of the Legion do's. Doug's culinary talents have delighted even the most hard to please palates for many years. He can make turkey and beef melt in the mouth.

But, around the Acton hydro office, Doug's morning coffee will be greatly missed. Last week, while on a fishing trip to the Yukon and the Arctic Circle, (see Lorne Fletcher's Outdoor's column in sports), Doug's absence was marked. Maybe he will share his secret with other staff members before Friday.

Doug has no immediate plans for his retirement. He wants to just sit around for a month, soak up the sun, and maybe hit the golf links a few times before winter rolls around.

But no matter what he decides to do, he's sure to include wife Lena, son Wayne, daughter Shirley Zehr, of Odessa near Kingstons, and five granddaughters in his plans.

COME OUT WITH YOUR IDEAS.



At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we have to be a lot of things to a lot of people. That's why we want to hear your ideas.

We've compiled draft distinct land use strategies which recommend the many ways Southern Ontario's natural resources ought to be managed. And with forests, fish, wildlife, mineral resources, provincial parks, marshes, recreational areas, waterfronts, and lots of dry land to consider, that can be a pretty wide open area.

So we want you to tell us what you think. To make it easier, we're sponsoring a series of Open Houses, in districts all across Southern Ontario, giving you the chance to come out and tell us how you feel about what we have in mind.

YOUR INPUT IS A VALUABLE RESOURCE. NATURALLY WE WANT TO USE IT.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO CONFIRM DATES, TIMES AND ADDRESSES OF OPEN HOUSES, OR IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN OPEN HOUSE BUT WISH TO COMMENT ON DISTRICT LAND USE STRATEGIES OPEN HOUSES TO BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

COMMUNITY	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Hamilton	Central Branch, Hamilton Public Library	Aug. 19 /82	3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Milton	Milton Public Library	Aug. 24 /82	3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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