

Students viewed project as 'necessary'

Remembrance Day GEORGETOWN & ACTION • Tuesday November 8, 2011

ROLL OF HONOUR OF GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL IN THE GREAT WAR, 1914 - 1918.

GAVE THEIR LIVES

LIEUT. EDWIN T. LESLIE,	SOMME, 1916
FLT-CDT CAVANAGH SOMMERVILLE,	GEORGIA, 1916
JOHN HENRY SCHOALES, PIONEER,	FRANCE, 1917
CAPT. ANDREW ARTHURS, CHAPLAIN,	FRANCE, 1918
FLIGHT LIEUT. CYPIL R. BARBER,	FRANCE, 1918
IVAN T. GREEN, TANK BRIGADE,	ENGLAND, 1918
FLIGHT LIEUT. DOUGLAS MCKENZIE,	ENGLAND, 1918

SERVED

BEATTIE ARNOLD	ROBERT KERR
JAMES BALLANTYNE	PERCY LAIRD
RÉNÉ BARBER	MARSHALL LONG
ROAF BARBER	ERNEST MANNING
HAROLD BELL	JOHN E. MOTHERSILL
PERCY BLACKBURN	OLIVER McCASLIN
WELDON BOTHWELL	JOHN C. MCCULLOUGH
IERNIS BRADLEY	JOHN McGIBBON
THOMAS BRADLEY	KEITH NIXON
JOHN W. BROOKE	FRANKLIN NOXON
ERNEST CALLIGHEN	AROL O'NEILL
ELMA CLARKE	CECIL POLKINGHORNE
H. JAMES CLARKE	FENNELL PRICE
HAROLD COFFEN	FRANK RAMSAY
CHESTER COLE	MALCOLM RAMSAY
CLIFFORD CREELMAN	KATHERINE REID
JAMES FARQUHARSON	PETER REID
ARTHUR FERGUSON	WILLIAM ROE
FRED GILMER	CHARLES RUDDY
DAVID GRAHAM	CRAIG SMEATON
GORDON GRAHAM	HAROLD SMITH
GORDON HANLEY	NORMAN SPEIGHT
VINCENT HARAGAN	REUBEN SQUIRES
JAMES HENDERSON	WALLACE THOMPSON
THOMAS HENDERSON	ROY VANNATTER
CLARENCE HUNTER	CAMERON WARREN
HOWARD JERMYN	CAREY WARREN
SELWYN JUDGE	HARVEY WILLSON
JOHN KENNEDY	ARTHUR WILSON
MERVYN KENNEDY	HERBERT YOUNG

"LEST WE FORGET"

Continued from pg. 1

With the recent renovations at GDHS wrapping up, it was decided the time had come to properly honour those who had died, by displaying the original plaques on a prominent wall, opposite the main office.

GDHS teacher Randall Keast, International Baccalaureate program co-ordinator, enlisted a group of Grade 11 students to help make it happen. They spent months, researching and contacting family members if possible, to produce a biography and photo of each of the 22 who never returned.

It became difficult for some of the students, since locating family members from the Great War—an event that happened more than 90 years ago—can be a challenge.

Students dug into the databases at the National Archives of Canada, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and a number of other references, including local newspaper microfilm files, just to find a way of giving the 22 names the recognition they deserved.

In the process, another local

veteran, who died in the middle of peacekeeping exercises was found and added to the list.

With the perseverance of both the students and Keast, the project is just being finished off, and will be completely finished before Friday's service.

"This was a project which required extensive research and the kids in the IB program were certainly up to the task," said Keast. "They were forced to source other locations beyond where they normally went, and in doing so, had to research like a 'historian', which can be quite a job. They had to go out and talk to people, something they don't as a rule do in other projects. This is a class of 'self-starters' which is exactly what we needed to get it all finished in time for Friday."

Keast also said he was pleasantly surprised that they were able to collect enough information of each name, to have all 23 soldiers represented on the wall.

Not only was Keast pleased, but some of the students were quite proud of their accomplishments, and obviously changed by the exercise.

"It was necessary and needed to be done," said Parisa Khazra. "Because they (the soldiers) fought on a global scale, it was necessary to have them properly recognized. I'm glad it (the project) was completed in time, so all could be on the wall for Remembrance Day."

Haley Veronyak agreed that it was a great experience.

"It was a great education experience," said Veronyak. "By recognizing them, I feel we brought the community together a bit. Due to their efforts (the soldiers) it made me appreciate a bit more what we sometimes take for granted."

"It was an all-round excellent experience," said Meghan de Chastelain. "Although it was difficult to research some of the names, it became an emotional experience, as we were able to put a face to a name. It created a domino effect, with others becoming inspired by the project. Above all, it validates what they (the soldiers) gave up for us."

"I think it gives a lot more meaning to Remembrance Day," said Diana Pesce. "It also

See RESEARCHING, pg. 4

Mountainview Terrace

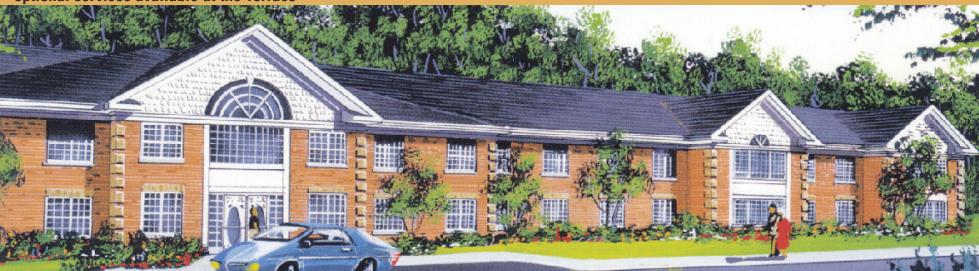
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