

Soldiers story...

Continued from page 13

you who know my mathematical skills are probably cringing right now!). I looked at him and said that in theory and mathematically we would be okay where we were, but I made him move one of the other Platoons back 150m.

We started the Fire Mission with the first round landing about 350m from my position. The noise of Artillery whistling that close and exploding was almost deafening, the FOO course sure hadn't prepared me for this! My Master Bombardier and I debated the correction for a second round and eventually agreed upon a Drop 200m, mostly because we needed to get rounds on that compound ASAP as we were taking heavy fire. The round came in and landed a bit left of the compound. We lased the impact and found out it was 105m from us. We gave a small correction and went into Fire For Effect with 50% Ground Burst and 50% Air Burst. The rounds came in 85m from us, right on the compound. Truly I did not appreciate the sheer frightening and awe-inspiring nature of air burst rounds. I then had the worst moment of my military career as one of the Sections began shouting "Check fire, check fire!" on the net, followed quickly by their Platoon Commander saying they had casualties and to prepare for an air medical evacuation request. It turned out the two events were unrelated but for a while I thought I had injured or, even worse, killed a Canadian. In actuality, the Section that called Check Fire was actually the furthest of anyone in the Company from the shells and had panicked (which led to a lot of ribbing and jokes from their buddies afterwards who had all been closer). The evacuation request was for an Afghan soldier who had been struck

5 minutes before. However unfortunate, I was definitely relieved to hear all that.

Things look like they will be quieter for us now, and I will be home soon. Sad news from the home front, our little Yorkie, Howitzer, was in an accident the other day and didn't make it. It won't be the same going home without him, he truly was one of the family. We had three great years with him though and my only regret is that I wasn't there to comfort Julianne who has been through so much lately. But she has some great friends there who have looked after her. To those of you who have been with her through this and the events of the last few months, I am forever indebted to you.

There are more stories I could tell of these last two weeks, but this email had become long enough as it is and if I did that I would have no war stories to tell you when I get home. I will end by saying that combat is the ultimate test of an officer and on several occasions I did things I didn't know I was capable of. I am so proud of my crew and the entire Company Group; we soldiered hard and long and showed the enemy that messing with Canadians is a really bad idea. We accomplished something in the last two weeks that Canadian soldiers have not done since Korea. The Afghan Government, elected by the Afghans, requested our assistance and we were able to help. We were the equal, if not superior of our allies in everything we did. I hope that I gave you all an appreciation of what these young brave men and women are doing over here; hopefully you can pass it on. I will see all of you real soon. I hope all is well with all of you, and please keep the emails coming, I read every one and enjoy hearing from you, even if I cannot respond individually.

Take care,
Andrew

What's happening in our town

The Royal Canadian Legion will hold its annual Remembrance Day parade on November 10 at 10:30 a.m. The parade will start at the Hide House and make its way down to the Cenotaph on Mill Street where a service will be held for the veterans. All are welcome to attend.

There will be a Branch service at 12:20 p.m. at the Legion by the Lake. A dinner for all Legion members will be held afterwards at 1:15 p.m.

There will be another service on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Cenotaph.

Remembrance Day November 11, 2005

Lest we forget, those who faught, those who fell, those who fight.

Dr. Stephen A. Hess & staff
ACTON VETERINARY CLINIC



*To all our heros who
have fallen and
those who are
fighting
Thank you.*

10 River Street • 853-1450

ACTON OPTICAL



THANK YOU

519-853-5133
8 Main Street North, Acton, Ontario L7J 1W1
IN THE GIANT TIGER PLAZA

Nancy Wilkes, optician

SFC STRAIGHT FRAME CONSTRUCTION

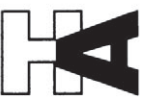
Renovations ~ Additions ~ Custom Framing
Fine Carpentry ~ Windows & Doors

WE REMEMBER

Sean Gardner
519-853-0708
"Call today for a free quote"

HAROLD K. ARNOLD Hearing Aids Limited

#104-77 Westmount Rd., Guelph, Ontario N1H 5J1
Tel. (519) 836-8111



25 MAIN ST. N. ACTON

- Repairs to all makes of hearing aids
- Batteries supplied in office or mailed on request
- Hearing aids selected from your response during a computerized hearing evaluation

Veterans, Thank you.

Call Guelph office to book your appointment
(519) 836-8111 with Pamela Ashton

Home HARDWARE

We Shall Always Remember

362 Queen St. E.
519-853-1730

Mon to Friday 8AM - 7PM Sat. 8am - 6pm
Sun. 10am - 4pm

TOTH MOTORS Est. 1951

Class A Mechanic

12 Guelph St., Acton
519-853-1840

*Serving Acton and Community
motorists since 1951*

*Custom Jewellery Design,
Exquisite Watches, Fine Jewellery,
Jewellery & Watch Repairs,
and Giftware for all occasions*

fire & ICE
JEWELLERY EMPORIUM

310 Guelph St. #5, Georgetown, L7G 4B1 Tel : 905-873-4405

DSD - Dollar Stretcher Daze

TAKE TIME TO REMEMBER

8 Main Street North, Acton, Ontario, L7J 1W1
Tel: 519-853-9615

Royal Jug City
Convenience & Fishing Tackle Store

We shall always remember

294 Queen St. Acton. 519-853-2460

AUTHENTIC STONE BAKED PIZZA

Pizzaville

Lest We Forget

8 Main St. N. (Giant Tiger Plaza)
853-2040

HALTON HILLS
Chamber of Commerce

328 Guelph St.
Halton Hills, ON
(Georgetown)
L7G 4B5
(tel.) 905-877-7119
(fax) 905-877-5117

**Connecting Business
and Community**

Lest we forget

info@haltonhillschamber.on.ca

Milne's PLUMBING
Over 30 years experience
LICENSED PLUMBER

Residential • Commercial • Industrial
Repairs & Renovations – Gas Piping – Well Pumps
Installation & Repairs – Drain Cleaning

519-853-1805
Serving Acton & Georgetown