



# NEWSLETTER

THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) ASSOCIATION

[www.rhkr.org](http://www.rhkr.org)

July 2018

## Honorary President's Message

What led to the excellent attendance at the annual Foundation Day Dinner in May? One normally asks this question when there has been a poor attendance, but it is also worth asking to ensure that this good attendance is maintained for future events.

This is the only formal dinner in the year for all Association members and when we can all take part in the traditions established by the Regiment over the years. The significant number of guests to the dinner indicates an appreciation of the desire amongst those outside of the Regiment to take part in our own celebrations.

The large group of those from the Hong Kong Adventure Corps indicates a clear path for the future whereby it will be the Adventure Corps who organise and plan the Foundation Day Dinners. They will uphold the traditions of the Regiment from which they were formed thus maintaining the honour of service in the Regiment.

## Chairman's Message

We intend to motivate members to use our Clubhouse more frequently, but as our Clubhouse has limited space, it is not possible to add additional facilities. Recently, an ex-A Squadron Officer, Lieutenant Frank Miu, who returned from United State after having been an immigrant for many years and now stays in Shenzhen, made a donation to the Clubhouse of all his replica weapons, thus establishing a weapons corner. This aims to attract those would like to know more firearm development in the past 150 years. The donated arms are displayed in four groups giving a comprehensive replica display of classic personal firearms over the past 150 years.

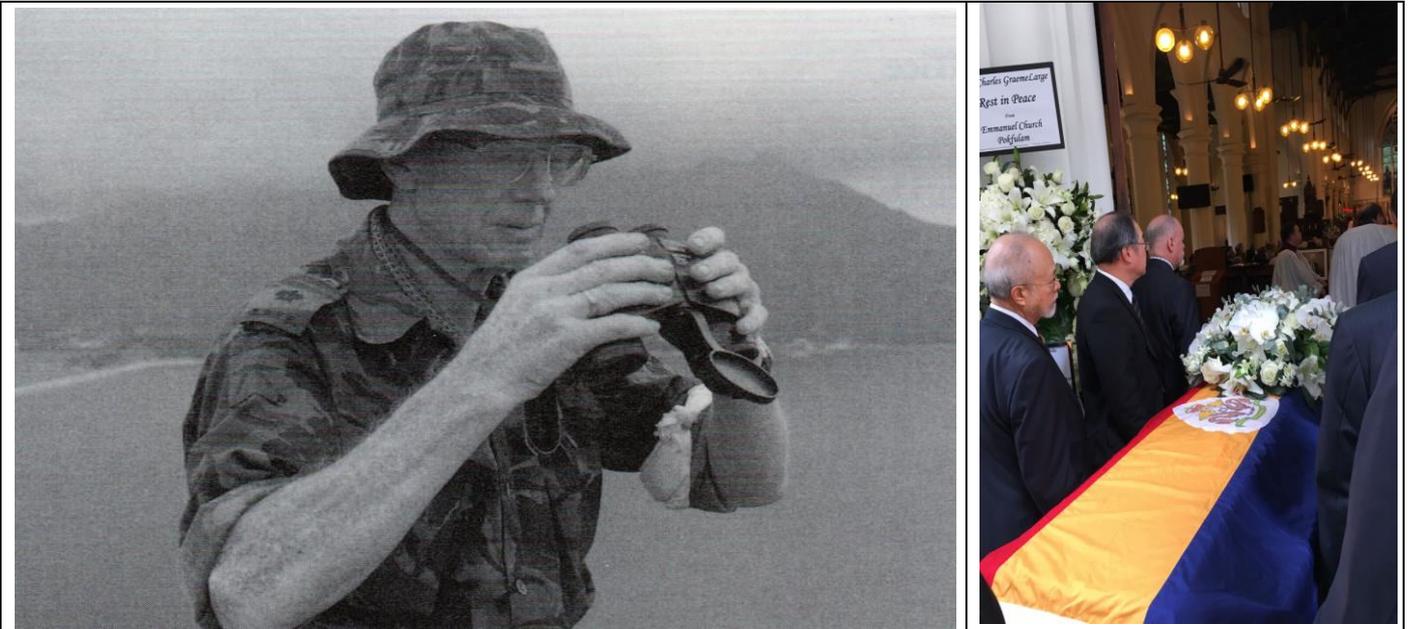
A bilingual written narrative is available to help viewers study the historical development.

To increase activity in the Clubhouse, a movable electronic dart board has been provided and an area reserved for practice by the side of the replica firearm display rack. As the annual dart competition has to be held in the centre of the Clubhouse, this equipment is placed on the window plinth so as not to cause obstruction to the open area. To protect the framed articles behind the dart board stand, a curtain has been made to be hung up to prevent darts from directly hitting the glazed panel. Users can obtain the darts and curtain from Staff Ng and they should exercise care to avoid any damage.

Interesting videos and publications are now provided in the Clubhouse and members are welcome to borrow them without charge.

As the last New Territories tour was so popular with members, the directors have discussed and planned to hold another tour later in the year, hopefully in the Summer. Consideration will be given to our elderly members who may not be able to accept a tedious and physical demanding walk, an itinerary will be carefully planned.

The annual events, which include the Regimental Foundation Day Dinner in May, Ceremonies for Victory Day in August and Remembrance Sunday in November, are open to all Association members irrespective their previous ranks. Information is given in our website and the Clubhouse Manager can be contacted on 2966 7881 to register participation.



**Major Graeme Large MBE ED  
Memorial Late Maj Large**

**On 8 April 2018, Major Graeme Large MBE ED, Honorary Vice-President of the Association, passed away at the age of 89. He is remembered by many Association members and particularly by those from D Squadron, the squadron he commanded in the early 1970s. Although many knew Graeme, there were many aspects of his very active life of which some Association members were not aware.**

**Graeme, Charles Graeme Large to give him his full name, was born in Didsbury, an area of South Manchester in Northern England on 15th March 1929. His father, Charles William Thomas Large, was a Chartered Accountant and it was natural that Graeme became one too. Graeme had a younger brother, David born in 1931, who died in 1992 while his sister, Carol, born in 1933, lives in Florida.**

**After leaving school, Graeme undertook his eighteen months of National Service in the Army, compulsory in those days, before qualifying as a Chartered Accountant with Price Waterhouse in Manchester. Graeme worked first in Ghana and then, in 1955, moved to Singapore where he met and married May Kum Ngan Wong. In 1957, they moved to the UK and then in 1960 they went to Lagos, Nigeria.**

**Major Noshir Pavri, who in March 1964 was commissioned and appointed Troop Leader of A Squadron No 2 Troop, recalls some of Graeme’s time in the squadron. Graeme became his 2i/c and headed one of the four patrols in the troop.**

**The troop found Graeme to be extremely meticulous, in all areas, be it in dress, “O” Groups, bivvy sites, meals, tactics, no lights or noise after dark, and moving his patrol 500 yards before dawn. This entailed getting up, packing up and moving without lights or sound into “all round defence” until first light. After that the normal daily routine started with breakfast. A Sqn, No 2 Troop was the only troop who carried out this drill and this led to an order from the CO for the other Squadrons to follow. Graeme was given the nick-name of “Tai Ma Fan”, which was applied in a very friendly way without any animosity throughout his time in the Regiment.**

**Around this time, the Government introduced a colony wide cleanup campaign with a mascot in the form on a large green bug called “Lap Sap Chung”, which was supposed to gobble up all the litter and keep the city clean. On camps and week-end exercises, the then QM would make a point of visiting sites used by troops**

over the week-end to ensure it was left cleaner than when found. Graeme was very insistent this was observed to the last discarded matchstick or wrapper, and would delay return to base until he was fully satisfied that the QM would have no grounds to lodge any complaint. This earned him the second nickname of “Lap Sap Chung Sir”. This was on a very friendly basis, with no malice or insult intended.

In fact, the Troop got into the swing of things and would jokingly inspect the area where Graeme had spent the night and, at times even planting a wrapper and pulling his leg over it. This bonding between the Troop Leader and his men paid dividends during the subsequent riots where the Troop was regarded as sufficiently efficient to enforce the curfew from Roxy Roundabout to the Shau Kei Wan Fish Market. Graeme’s patrol performed very well indeed.

When Major Noshir Pavri moved to RSO, Graeme moved to D Squadron where with his previous National Service experience, he gained rapid promotion to become 2i/c, before taking over command of D Squadron on 19 April 1972 when Major John Fortune left to take charge of the Civil Aid Services. Graeme, on his relinquishing his command after some three years, became an active member of the Reserve of Officers, attending and contributing to many Regimental events. In June 1995 he was awarded the MBE for his services to the Regiment.

While the Regiment remembers Graeme for his contribution to the Regiment, he also had a very active life outside the Regiment. His handing over command of D Squadron was at the time he was appointed the Hong Kong University’s Finance Officer (the new title for Bursar); a post he held until his retirement. Earlier, on the first day when Graeme had become the Deputy Bursar he had had a spectacular motor bike crash on his way to work which put him in Queen Mary Hospital for about a month with a broken leg. Graeme was not let off lightly, with his work going to him regularly to his hospital bed.

In the 1970’s and 80’s, he was instrumental in organizing many Motorcycle Trials and Scrambles in the New Territories and, using his contacts in the Army, he gained access to British Forces Land and set-up competitions against the British Forces. He was a Founding Member of the “Classic Bike Club of H.K.” and remained an active Member for over 25 years.

Graeme led a full life until he slowed down with the onset of dementia. For the last seven years of his life he was cared for by Jennifer, who many members of the Association came to know as an excellent support for him. He leaves his wife, May, and his son, William.

For many years, wearing his Regimental Blazer and medals, Graeme collected for the Royal British Legion’s annual Poppy Appeal; he would be stationed in a central location in Pacific Place encouraging Saturday shoppers to give generously, which they did. Just one instance of Graeme’s approach to life. Volunteering, giving his time to help others in need.

In the words of the “Ode of Remembrance” - We Will Remember Him.



## Foundation Day Dinner

The 164 Foundation Day Dinner was held on 25 May 2018 at Happy Valley Stand, Happy Valley Racecourse Hong Kong.



## The Volunteers Challenge Cup

The Volunteers Challenge Cup Prize Ceremony was held on 28 March 2018 and was presented by Mr. Gary TO and his wife who is one of the Directors of the VA. On that night, VA members experienced a warm reunion banquet night at Race Course, Happy Valley.



## 1st Dart Competition 飛鏢大賽

Gary TO

The 1st Dart Competition in 2018 was successfully held on 20 April. The participants described the competition, a fresh take on comedy and laugh out loud funny, during game since the score of gamers might experience likes the roller coaster rolling up and down.

All gamers had a joyful and funny night. The final winners are TAM Siu- Kwan, CHAN Man-wai & Lee Chi Sing. The above Prize Ceremony will be held at Association General Meeting and Dinner on 31 August 2018.



## Overseas Branch

### UK Branch

The Foundation Day Lunch and AGM 2018 were held at the Gurkha Museum, Winchester 25th May 2017 which provides a very interesting venue for members and guests. A traditional Gurkha curry is served with all the trimmings and we were delighted to see so many old friends. Hugh Lohan gathered everyone together after lunch for some memorable photos, shown below. The following members sat down to the delicious lunch.



### Forthcoming Events

#### Christmas Lunch, 2018

Cavalry & Guards Club,  
Thursday 6th December 2018

#### Foundation Day & AGM 2019

The Gurkha Museum,  
Peninsula Barracks, Winchester,  
Thursday 31st May 2019

## Ontario Association



### Major Events Forecast Ontario Association 2018

CNE Warrior Day Parade 18 August 2018

Battle of Hong Kong Ceremony 27 October 2018

City of Markham Remembrance Day Ceremony 09 November 2018

MDVA Remembrance Day Ceremony 11 November 2018

HKVCA Battle of Hong Kong Ceremony December 2018



**Lt Col Albert Lai**

I am glad to report that I will take over as the Commanding Officer of 32 Signal Regiment, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, on Saturday, 12th May, 2018; promotion to Lieutenant Colonel will be in July. It is my dear wishes that you would be my personal uests at my Change-of-Command parade. I understand, however, that time and distance is a challenge. I still would like to send this invitation as a token of my thanks and appreciation, for you all have played significant parts in the formative years of my military career. It was the foundation built, with your guidance, mentorship, support and encouragement, during my years with the Volunteers that allowed me to overcome subsequent challenges I have faced at war, on ops and on other testing occasions while serving with the Canadian Army.

My sincere thanks to you all.

**NULLIS SECOUNDUS IN ORIENTE !**

## British Columbia Branch of Canada

第四屆溫哥華分會大camp 曲終人散，留低一個美好回憶，一班兄弟無私付出，分工合作成功完成，其中亮點包括李志行及一班軍嫂入營探望。由第一屆只有8人至今屆有20人除得到溫哥華兄弟參加外，更有香港、美國及加拿大外省兄弟參予、支持；希望有朝一日，溫哥華分會大 camp 可以作為全世界老防兄弟姊妹一個可以共談往事圍爐夜話嘅平台，99。



## Australia Branch Reserve Forces Day Parade

A spectacular parade to acknowledge the wonderful contribution made to Australia's military heritage by the veterans, who, when they returned, helped establish the new Australian Army. The parade will recognize the wonderful contribution of 1.25 Million Reservists of the three services who have served since the part time forces were re-formed in 1948 after WWII.

Some volunteers came from Hong Kong to join the Parade with Australia Branch this year.



## RHKR SHOOTING CLUB



From July to December 2018, our Club has already organized:

- (1) ISSF Centre Fire Inter-Club Match with HK Gun Club
- (2) Shotgun Challenge Plate Club Match
- (3) Full bore Rifle Club Match
- (4) OP Mercury- Full bore Rifle Inter-Club Match with HK Swiss Rifle Association
- (5) Big bore Rifle Inter-Club Match with HK Gun Club
- (6) Pistol III Club Match

## Oxfam Trailwalker



We received Souvenirs at the 2018 OXFAM Trailwalker prize Presentation Ceremony for a being a Supporting Organization.

The Coming Oxfam Trailwalker will be on 16-18 November 2018. All members are welcome for application by Email : [clubmanager@rhkr.org](mailto:clubmanager@rhkr.org)

## Hike The Hospice



## World War II Veterans Association visit 2018

The Association visiting the World War II Veterans Association on 04 Feb 2018



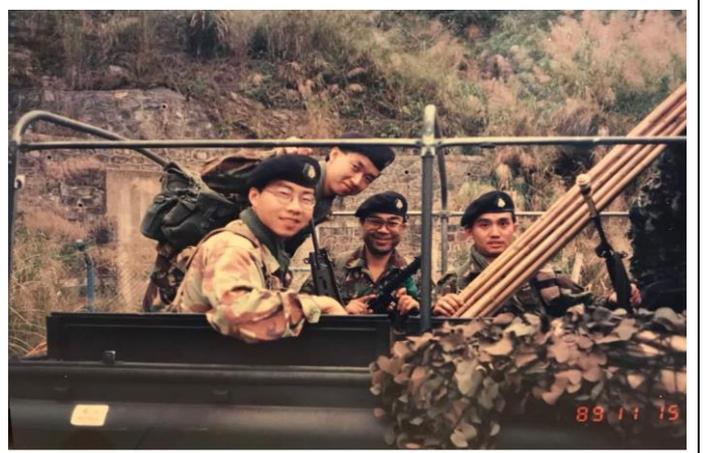
# Family Walk 2018



# Gathering



Old Photo



## Hong Kong Adventure Corps

The Annual Parade of the Hong Kong Adventure Corps was held on Sunday 29 April 2018 at the Police Academy, Wong Chuk Hang. The Inspection Officer at the Parade was Mr Jeff Nankivell, Consul General of Canada to Hong Kong and Macao. And all Directors are invited to participate as Guests.

HKAC had a Flag Day on Hong Kong Island on Saturday 31 March 2018 to raise funds to subsidize its youth development works and camp maintenance expenses. A total amount of about HK\$0.32 million had been raised.

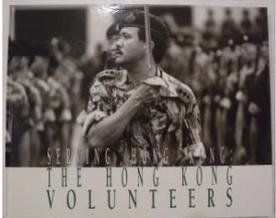


**Mr. Ho Koon Man BEM passed away on 26 February 2018 in Toronto (former SWO of RHKR(V)). Mr. Ho worked for the Hong Kong Military Service Corps before his enlistment in the Regiment in 1957.**

**He was posted to the Junior Leaders Squadron (later renamed as J-Corps) as WOII when it was established in 1969.**

**Mr. Ho launched the silent drill in the J-Corps in mid 70s. His final appointment was Senior SWO.**

PRI

				
<b>M03</b> \$70/pc Umbrella, Long Black with Logo	<b>S03</b> \$260/pc Shield, Wall-mounted	<b>U15</b> \$20/pc Badge Knitted on Suit	<b>U09</b> \$50/pc Tie, the RHKR(V)	<b>U10</b> \$50/pc Tie, the Association
				
<b>M04</b> \$50.00 Umbrella, 3-folded, Black with Logo	<b>A02</b> \$20.00/pc Pin, Blue Logo with Red Crown	<b>U12</b> \$60/pc Tie, Bow	<b>A03</b> \$20.00/pc Pin, Logo Golden	<b>U13</b> \$40/pc Tie, Rayon Cord
				
<b>U08</b> \$100/pc Cap, Blue Gurkha & Regiment Logo,	<b>P02</b> \$100/pc Book-Serving HK the RHKR(V)	<b>A10</b> \$40/pc Belt, Nylon in Green with Buckle	<b>A13</b> \$10/pc Wrist Rubber Band	<b>A06</b> \$20.00/pc Pin, Dragon
				
<b>S02</b> \$65/pc Shield, Polly Casting with Stand	<b>M02</b> \$50/pc Luggage Belt, OG/RHKR(V) Color	<b>S01</b> \$120/pc Shield, Car-mounted	<b>NS01</b> \$10/pc CD RHKR(V) Music	<b>U16</b> \$20/pc Badge Knitted, Embroidery 3-D
				
<b>A05</b> \$20.00/pc Pin, Triangle Logo, RHKR(V) Color	<b>A11</b> \$70/pc Belt, RHKR(V) Color with Buckle	<b>A10</b> \$40/pc Belt, Nylon in Green with Buckle	<b>A01</b> \$20/pc Pin, Guidon	<b>A14</b> \$20/pc Watch Strap RHKR(V) Color

## Obituaries

**We are sad to announce the passing away of the following volunteers:**

Sir David Ford – former Honorary Colonel 1990-1993, passed away on 10 September 2017. A moving memorial service was held in Southwark Cathedral on 20th October which was very well attended and Lord David Wilson, former Governor of Hong Kong, delivered a stirring eulogy. Members of the Association attending the service included Sir Willie Purvis, Andrew Liardet, Simon Lord and Jeremy Hutchins.

Mr Yeung Man, Jimmy, BEM, passed away on 8 January 2018 (ex-Warrant Officer II and Regimental Armourer). Jimmy, formerly the Regimental Armourer, passed away in January 2018, aged 96. He took over the task of managing the Armoury from a series of seconded personnel from the REME. His daughter, Susanna, always told us that her father lived on his happy memories of his Regimental service at Happy Valley. Although confined to his wheelchair for some years, he was always mentally alert and loved talking about the Regiment.

Michael Wright CMG, passed away on 26th January 2018– aged 105, fought in the Battle for Hong Kong. It was very sad, due to the wintry weather conditions and heavy snow, the members who had planned attend Michael's funeral on 1st March were unable to do so.

Mr Ho Koon Man BEM, passed away on 26 February 2018 in Toronto (former SWO of RHKR(V)). Mr Ho worked for the Hong Kong Military Service Corps before his enlistment in the Regiment in 1957. He was posted to the Junior Leaders Squadron (later renamed as J-Corps) as WOII when it was established in 1969. Mr Ho launched the silent drill in the J-Corps in mid 70s. His final appointment was Senior SWO.

## Coming Events

### Ceremonies

Victory Day Ceremony – 12 August 2018

The Victory of the Chinese people's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression–03 September 2018

Chung Yeung Ceremony – 17 October 2018 ( TBC )

Remembrance Day – 11 November 2018 ( TBC )

Canadian Remembrance Day – 03 December 2018 ( TBC )

### Community Events

*Oxfam Trailwalker 16-18 November 2018*

### Major Functions

*Mahjong Competition 麻雀大賽 14 July 2018*

*Association General Meeting and Dinner 31 August 2018*

*2 nd Dart Competition 飛鏢大賽 October 2018 ( TBA )*

*Christmas Party – December 2018 ( TBA )*

*Family Walk – January 2019 ( TBA )*

*Hike for Hospice – February 2019 ( TBA )*

*The Volunteers Challenge Cup – February 2019 ( TBA )*

*Foundation Day Dinner – May 2019 ( TBA )*

Editor Johnny Choi

The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Association  
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