

Malcolm MacCrimmon (*Quarterly*, Winter 1999) which filled in some facts that I had never known in my 25-year association with him, as piper to Mess diners in "K" Division. The photo on p. 22, which shows Malcolm playing the pipes for a Mess dinner, is not a Sergeants' Mess dinner but a Constables' dinner — during which Malcolm traditionally piped in the flaming Christmas pudding. The pudding was carried in by the Sergeant Major. The Sergeant who was the wine steward for the event poured heated brandy over the pudding to maintain the flame, as Senior NCOs acted as waiters for the constables (after 1972).

Prior to the acquisition of the brass watering can, the heated brandy was poured directly from the bottle and we inadvertently risked many an explosion which could have resulted in much more serious burns than those which did occur to the hands and wrists of at least one Sergeant Major. The wine stewards were sometimes over-eager to maintain a conflagration.

Edna Craig
Food Services Officer (retired)

✉ SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION

Dear Editor,
I have been searching for the past three years for any available information regarding the RCMP career of my late uncle and also information on the members of his 1932/33 Troop. Reg. No. 11751, ex-Cpl. Robert Lawrence Crawford joined the Force at Winnipeg, on August 15, 1932, and began his training at "Depot" soon after. The troop was later sent to Minto Barracks, Winnipeg, to complete training. My uncle then returned to Regina for further Equestrian training prior to his acceptance into the Musical Ride. In my search for surviving members of his troop, I have located one member living in Calgary and found 15 obituaries, leaving four members unaccounted for: Reg. No. 11746, J.R. Garland; reg. No. 11763, A.L. Richardson; Reg. No. 11770, F.J. Hudson; Reg. No. 11774, R. MacLeod (who may have returned

to England or Scotland). There are nine members of my uncle's Musical Ride troop unaccounted for: Reg. No. 10201, C.E. Jarvis; Reg. No. 11261, G.E. Smith; Reg. No. 11854, H. Sorbo; Reg. No. 11902, A.R. Mavaunt; Reg. No. 11924, G.T. Wareham; Reg. No. 11966, F. Miles; Reg. No. 11770, F.J. Hudson; Reg. No. 11774, R. MacLeod; Reg. No. 11960, W.J. McKee. I would appreciate hearing from any of your readers who may be aware of any of these individuals still living, or have seen their obituaries.

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✉ RCMP NEEDS TO PRESERVE ITS HISTORY

Dear Editor,
I recently purchased a set of three View-Master reels on the RCMP, dated 1956. In the pictures, I noticed that the Mounted members are carrying lances with blue and white and yellow/gold pennants. I had never seen these before, as we now carry red and white pennants. I asked C/S/M Mercier for his assistance in determining the history of these pennants and my question was referred to Glenn Wright, RCMP Regimental Historian. Other than it was apparently used around 1948, the significance of the blue and white pennon (or pennant) still remains a mystery.

The traditions and history [of the RCMP] have been forming for 126 years. We need to maintain our roots and the lessons of the past. If something simple like the significance of the colour of the pennants is lost, what else are we losing?

Cst. Brad A. Reid
Tantallon Detachment
Nova Scotia

We are hoping that there are some RCMP Veterans out there who will be able to answer this question? — Editor