

# A Family's History in Scarlet



**S/M Frederick Camm (L), and his son S/M Robert Camm, both dog handlers at one point in their respective careers.**

*Courtesy of Camm family*

Laughter, and smiles of remembrance wafted through the Ottawa NCOs' Mess, one evening not long ago, as former civilian member Sharon (aka Sam) Scott, nee Camm, unveiled her treasured collection of memorabilia, accumulated during the RCMP service of her grandfather (now deceased) Reg. No. 6193, ex-S/M Frederick Camm, and her father, Reg. No. 15278, ex-S/M Robert Camm. Stories of "Good Old Freddie" and of "Buddy Bob" were shared as photographs, newspaper clippings, and artifacts were proudly shared with other retirees. The irony of the similarities between the lives of these two personable former RCMP members was discussed at length.

A civilian member (C/M) herself from 1971 until 1975 — at which time Sam met and married her own "Mountie", now Reg. No. O.1530, Supt. Rick Scott of Ottawa —

**S/M Frederick Camm (in background, top, left) supervising workers building the new HQ building at "N" Division, Rockcliffe.**

*Courtesy of Camm family*

and temporary civilian member (TCE) from 1995 until recently, Sam Scott has carried on the proud tradition that her grandfather began when he joined the Royal North West Mounted Police on September 10, in 1914 at Wetaskiwin, Alberta. When Sam Scott talks about these three wonderful men, her grandfather, her father and her husband, all of whom she sincerely admires, her voice is full of excitement.

Paging through the family albums of the Scott family is like wandering through a house of mirrors. Reflections of the past appear at every corner, revealing themselves in new and unexpected ways. The third generation of a family touched by the RCMP, Sam pauses at a black and white photograph of her grandfather, Frederick. "I see so much of my own father in him," she says. "Although I was unable to pursue a full career in the Force, I am very proud of having had the opportunity to serve as a civilian member and living within the RCMP for another generation." With two of Sam's three children now pursuing their applications with the RCMP, this could very well become a fourth-generation RCMP family. Youngest son Christopher related "I'm interested in joining the Force because it's played such a big role in my family's life... I was exposed to a lot of the old stories when I was growing up. I'd like to carry on the tradition that my great-grandfather began."

