

The Bridgewater Regimental Ball for 2012

By Sgt Trevor Jessome

After months of planning the day finally came for this years Regimental Ball, titled Bridging the Forces. A culmination of tremendous effort from the organizing committee, including Sgt Trevor Jessome 14 CES HQ, MWO Tim Ramsay 14 CEF, MWO Kevin Clayton 14 CES, Sgt Alison Montreuil 14 CES, Cpl Rob Lewis RCMP, Cpl George Wootem RCMP, Donna Kelly RCMP and Sgt Ward Beck Bridgewater Town Police, led to the enormous success of the evening's festivities.

Years ago the Ball was a way of celebrating the uniformed forces in and around the Bridgewater area, and today that holds true, but also includes a way of raising some funds for the Sgt Derek Burkholder Trust Fund. Sgt Burkholder was a RCMP member in Bridgewater who was killed in the line of duty.

This year's ball rose over \$2000 dollars through ticket proceeds as well as a silent auction. The event was held this year at the Bridgewater Best Western Plus and Convention Center on 29 March, and the ball room was nearly filled to capacity. Being one of the only Black Tie events on the South Shore, tickets were a hot commodity as nobody wanted to miss out.

Dinner music was provided by the Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy, entertainment throughout dinner was provided by 14 Wing Pipes and Drums led by Pipe Major Andrew Bruce, and a real highlight was the Highland Dance Troop "Celtic Sole" out of Halifax who normally showcase the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. Guest speaker Mike Power kept everybody laughing and explained many of the traditions that take place during the dinner which were unfamiliar to some.

The night was capped off with local rock band "Time Machine" who kept everyone on the dance floor late into the night. It was an amazing spectacle to see the room filled with uniforms from all the Forces throughout the community and for local veterans that were also in attendance.

The Bridgewater Regimental Ball for 2012 was a complete success and everyone attending were looking forward to 2013. Special thanks for the evening go to the organizing committee, PO2 Bjornson (Stadacona Band), Sgt Andrew Bruce (14 Wing Pipes and Drums), Alexandra Smith (Celtic Sole), and the band Time Machine. A heartfelt thank you to Lorne Caborn from Bridgewater Best Western Plus for the excellent professional service throughout the night, as well as all that attended.



Maj Sarah House, CO 14 CES as she "volunteered" to pipe in the Port