



Musings

www.malverncollegiate.com

Fall 2011

From the Malvern Red and Black Society c/o Malvern Collegiate Institute,
55 Malvern Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4E 3E4



Malvernites in the Berlin War Cemetery — Vandra Masemann

Squadron Leader Donald Mackenzie Arnot, DFC ((Pilot, RCAF),

Warrant Officer II James Roy Robert Small (Navigator, RCAF).

Flight Lieutenant John (Jack) James Stephen (Pilot, RCAF), and

Flight Sergeant Victor Joseph August Wintzer (Bomb Aimer, RCAF).

I made a trip to Germany last April for a meeting in Hamburg, and the idea occurred to me that my husband and I could take the time to visit the graves of some Malvernites fallen in World War II. David Fuller, a Malvern parent who is researching the history of Malvern's participation in both World Wars, gave me the names of four airmen who were buried in the Berlin War Cemetery along with just under 3500 others from Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

We took the subway out west of Berlin to a stop quite near the Olympic Stadium. It was a dreary wet day, and when we entered the cemetery we saw no sign of anyone or any information about the location of the graves. The only sign was one that contained an apology for the roughed-up state of the grass, on account of an invasion of wild boars! Indeed the grass was gouged and dug up over much of the terrain, but it was being slowly restored. By this point the rain had begun in earnest. As we had thought to bring umbrellas, we decided to visit every one of the graves to locate the four Malvernites buried among the many rows. It was a very interesting visit, seeing all the many young airmen's graves, most of whom had died aged between 19-29 years of age. They were from Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and India. Most had crosses on their graves, but a few were Jewish, with the Star of David instead. I put a small stone on all of these latter gravestones as is customary. Some non-military men were buried here too, such as the war correspondent from the *Sydney Herald* in Australia. There was also a section for the graves of the wives and descendants of these men. The graves were well tended, with plants growing in front of all of them. It was a very worthwhile way to spend the two hours walking up and down every row.

My husband found the graves of the Malvernites, and I put a red rose on each of the four graves. We paid our respects to each of them and then went to lay the rest of the roses on the main altar in the middle of the cemetery in honour of all of those young men and a few women who died.

By now, we were wet up to the knees and chilled. We left by the main gate again, and only then did we notice an alcove in the stone wall with a metal door opening to a book with the names and locations of all the graves. We signed the Visitors' Book on behalf of the Malvern Red and Black Society. As we walked back to the subway station, we saw a welcoming pub and restaurant where we took shelter from the rain and ate a hearty lunch. Our minds were

on all the young people whose lives had been cut short.

It was a most moving visit, and if any MRBS members wish to visit the graves of Malvernites fallen in the World Wars, they may contact David Fuller to see where Malvernites are buried in the cemeteries that might be close to their trip destination in France, Germany, Holland, or Belgium. He may be reached at david_fuller@live.ca. They may also contact the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at www.cwgc.org for details of a specific cemetery or individual.

Message from the President—Vandra Masemann

I hope all of our readers have had a great summer. Now September heralds the beginning of another school year. We are offering another opportunity to order the famous Vintage Malvern Rugby Shirt, and you may obtain an order form by phoning our Hotline at 416 393 8683 or by emailing redandblack@malverncollegiate.com or pressing [this link](#). You may be interested to know that the majority of the orders every fall are from current Malvern students or their parents.

It is also time for the Onward Malvern Foundation Annual Appeal. For those of you who get the hard copy of the *Musings*, the letter and coupon is enclosed. The email version of the OMF Annual Appeal Letter is being sent separately. We cannot emphasize strongly enough how important your support is in providing the extras that the TDSB cannot fund. Students have received support to attend competitions, to defray travel and accommodation expenses for sports events, and to set up new clubs. These extra expenses often occur because Malvernites have won local competitions (e.g., in sports or music) and need to travel to regional and even national finals. Even more important is the increase in school spirit that the existence of the MRBS has brought about, in assuring the current students that earlier Malvernites care about the school and the activities and achievements of the current students. So please consider donating to the

OMF and/or to the MRBS. The MRBS will need funds to support our newsletter, to build proper locked cupboards for the Archives, and to install a security camera and light to protect the restored Malvern Cenotaph. All of these needs can be supported by a cheque made out to the OMF, for which tax receipts will be issued. Please designate clearly what purpose you wish your gift to fulfill. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.canadahelps.org.

This past year has been taken up with two major undertakings. The first was the 40s/50s/60s Reunion at the Balmy Beach Club on 14 May 2011. You can read more about this highly successful event in this *Musings*. Our second year-long task was the fund-raising campaign to restore our Malvern Cenotaph. We are very happy to report that we raised over \$30,000 from alumni and friends, and were granted an additional \$14,000 from Veterans' Affairs Canada. We are enormously grateful to all the generous alumni donors. The restoration of the statue took place over the summer of 2011. This work involved the stabilization of the base by the TDSB, and the restoration of the statue, the repair of the letters of the names, and the re-attachment of the hand and the sword by experienced conservator Susan Maltby, who has worked on several similar projects.

Now for the good news. The Cenotaph will be unveiled on the afternoon of Friday 4 November 2011 in a historic event attended by political notables from every level, school board officials, donors, staff, students, and alumni. The Malvern Band and Choir will be participating, as well as representatives from various military regiments. We will be gathering at 1:00 p.m. in front of the school for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony. The ceremony will not be an Act of Remembrance but the official unveiling of the restored cenotaph. More information will be posted on our website – www.malverncollegiate.com – as we approach that date. Malvern alumni are invited to attend but **please do RSVP by 21 October** at president@malverncollegiate.com as we

need to plan for the allocation of space at the event. This will be a standing room only event. You are most welcome to attend this celebration of the community's efforts to restore Malvern C.I. to its former glory and to celebrate its present achievements. If you have any questions, please feel free to phone the Community Hotline at 416 393-8683 and leave a message or email us at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com.

My last request is for more volunteers to step up to help us with our work on the MRBS. Our Annual Meeting will be on Saturday 5 November at 1:00 p.m. at Malvern. We need volunteers to stand for the positions of Vice-President, Secretary, and Members at Large. Our current group will soon exhaust their term limit of two terms of office, and more Malvernites are needed to carry on. The MRBS can continue only with the active support of its members. To those of you who have supported us over the last seven years, both actively and financially, we send our heartiest thanks.

The MRBS Annual General Meeting will be held in Classroom 110 at Malvern C.I., Malvern Avenue Toronto on Saturday 5 November 2011 at 1:00 p.m. sharp. Please enter from the north parking lot off of Swanwick Avenue and use the north door. Light refreshments will be available.

Call for nominations: The following positions will be vacant – President, Vice-President, Secretary, and two Members at Large who may also be Decade Coordinators (only if they wish to be). Please nominate yourself or send nominations to the Nominations Committee at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com.

This year we really need volunteers to step up to renew the MRBS Executive. Please consider taking a more active role as the original Executive are starting to meet up with our term limits of two successive terms in a row. We need new blood!

All friends of Malvern are invited to the unveiling of our restored Cenotaph on Friday 4 November 2011. We will gather at 1:00 p.m. in front of the school for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony. Please RSVP to redandblack@malverncollegiate.com by 28 October. Standing room only except for those who need accommodation.

Malvern's 2011 40s/50s/60s Reunion— Rod Tennyson

Our Malvern 40s/50s/60s decades' reunion held on 14 May 2011 at the Balmy Beach Club (BBC) was a great success, and I trust those of you who attended had a very enjoyable time meeting old friends and colleagues. We wish to express our thanks to the alumni/ae who came and supported this event and to the many volunteers who committed their time and ideas to this reunion, sponsored by the MRBS.

Our theme this year was "Musically Malvern," featuring the M.C.I. senior dance band, led by Mike Falla (the new music head at Malvern) and as a special treat, an alumni band from those wonderful decades under the direction of George McRae. Among the musicians who contributed their talents was Gord Moore, our Alumni Reunion Band co-ordinator, ably assisted by other band members, and a special guest, Russ Little, a renowned jazz musician and Malvern graduate.

A special commemorative issue of the *Musings*, compiled by our MRBS Editor Adele Ashby, featuring stories and photos related to the music programme at Malvern during these decades, was given to all registered attendees. A copy of this issue can be found on the MRBS web site.

We tried a new way of providing refreshments to the attendees using the BBC caterer who did a good job of providing fresh sandwiches on a per order basis. This was necessitated by a new BBC policy of providing food service only to BBC members, although bar service was available to all.

The turnout was about 300 folks, and their financial support through donations covered

our expenses for rental of the Balmy Beach Club hall, the printing of the special issue of the *Musings*, the table decorations, and a \$500 donation made on behalf of the alumni/ae to the Malvern Music Department. We shall keep you informed of future reunions and hope that you will continue to support your Malvern Red & Black Society. Your Reunion Committee: Rod Tennyson, Robert Watson, Evan Butchers, Donna Halliday, Adele Ashby, Sandra Bodfish, and Gord Moore



**Malvern at *Memphis* night –
Sunday, 18 December 2011 at
7:30 p.m.**

**Toronto Centre for the Arts,
5400 Yonge Street**

Join us for Dancap's *Memphis*, winner of four 2010 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Inspired by actual events, *Memphis* tells the story of a white radio DJ who wants to change the world and a black club singer who is ready for her big break. It a show filled with laughter, explosive dancing, and roof-raising rock'n'roll!

Malvern alumni, students, staff, and friends receive a free seat upgrade. They can get **Dress Circle seats for only \$77 each** (regularly \$135)!

For tickets to this special group event, call [416-778-4018](tel:416-778-4018)

Discount theatre tickets

Save up to 20% (or more!) per ticket on Dancap shows this season. A portion of the proceeds will help support the Malvern Red and Black Society. Go to www.DancapTickets.com or call 416-644-3665 (or toll-free 1-866-950-7469) and be sure to use the promo code, Malvern

Message from the Treasurer – Evan J. Butchers

As your MRBS treasurer, I am pleased to report the following brief summary of our financial position as of our fiscal year end, 30 June 2011. As reported at the 2010 year end, we were in a positive position with a balance of \$2,349.85. I am pleased to report that as of June 30, 2011, we are again in a positive position with a balance of \$4001.84, mainly due to the generosity of a number of Malvernites who donated at our May 2011 40s, 50s & 60s reunion. These funds enable us to carry on the work of the MRBS. A great portion of these funds is used to publish our newsletter, *Musings*, which keeps Malvernites abreast of our activities.

We were able to continue with our annual award of \$100 to a Malvern student, Samantha Bright, at Commencement in November 2010, and we were also privileged to make a donation of \$500 to the Malvern Music Department in recognition of its contribution to the success of our 2011 “Musically Malvern” themed reunion, which honoured Mr. George McRae on the occasion of his 85th birthday and which featured a presentation by an Alumni/ae Band under his direction as well as the current Malvern Dance Band.

Furthermore, we have raised \$30,678.10 specifically earmarked for the Malvern War Memorial Restoration project now underway.

At our annual meeting, I will present a full detailed report to our members, which will be posted on our website.

Books by Malvernites

Carswell, Andrew. *Over the wire: A Canadian pilot's memoir of war and survival as a POW.* Wiley, 2011, 304 p., ISBN 978-1118109694, \$26.95. Available from Amazon.

“...Carswell's story of personal liberation in the dying days of World War II, and his harrowing bailout over Germany, reads like an epic.” Scott Simmie, Toronto Star.

Peaker, John. *The Wayward life and times of a Dipsy Doodle Dandy.* Createspace, 2011, 79 p., ISBN 978-1456367619, \$10.95. Order from johnpeakerbooks.com.

“The book is a hilarious compendium of stories describing the outrageous antics of teenagers during the golden era of rock and roll during the 1950s and 1960s.”

Tennyson, Roderick C. and Peter C. Hughes. *So you want to be a professor?: How to succeed in academia.* Createspace, 2011, 358 p., ISBN 978-1456405328, \$26.16. Available from Amazon.

Professor Dr. R.C. Tennyson and his co-writer offer a primer on academic success.

Watson, Robert. *Remembering Eddie.* 420 p., \$15.00. Order from robert.watson5@sympatico.ca

A delightful romp through the anecdotal memoirs of the late Eddie McLean, edited and embellished by his grandson.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the deaths of the following former Malvernites:

Elizabeth Susan Davey (B.A., B.Ed., M. Ed.) died peacefully in Orangeville on 16 April 2011, aged 67. Susan was a Malvern band member and graduate who went on to teach music at Malvern and other schools and then to serve as a principal for the Toronto District School Board. Like her mother Phyllis before her, she was active in advocating for gender equity in the teaching profession. After her retirement, she was instrumental in setting up intergenerational programs between seniors

and elementary schools. She lived in her later years in Alton, Ontario, where she was Chair of the Alton Village Association. A tree has been planted in her memory at the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area in Orangeville.

Sheldon H. 'Shelly' Lush (1918-2011) was born in Toronto's east end and attended Malvern from 1933 to 1938. He was the eldest child of Harold and Ethel Lush and the first of five siblings to make Malvern their Collegiate home. He won the George C. Powell Memorial Trophy in 1938 for best exemplifying character, leadership, scholarship, and athletics. The trophy was created in memory of George C. Powell who drowned in Gull Lake near Minden on 23 July 1934, after saving the lives of two small children. For many years, the trophy was presented by former friends and classmates of Powell. In his time at M.C.I., "Shelly" Lush was in form 3A Miss Cunningham's 1934-35 class. He moved on to form 4B in 1935-36 under Mr. Taylor where he earned a graduation and upper school credit in trigonometry with 3rd class honours. He was a member of the Upper School baseball champions that year. In 1936-37, he was in Mr. Blakeley's class with David Hayne, another much-remembered former student of Malvern. His brother Jack was in 3B with Miss Muirhead and younger siblings Mildred (1C Mr. Burke) and Donald (1B Mr. Nixon) were commencing their time at MCI. That year Mrs. H. (Ethel) Lush, their mother, wrote to the editor of the *Malvern Muse* on behalf of the Home and School Association. "Shelly" joined Glenn Munro as teammates on the Senior Hockey (Major) team coached by Mr. Jewell. He played rugby for the first time on the school's senior team also led by Mr. Jewell. Shortly after graduation from Malvern "Shelly" was married to Betty, and over the years they brought five children into their world. Those offspring gifted them with fifteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Donald Gordon 'Rick' Ottaway (1933-2011) graduated from University of Toronto in Mechanical Engineering, Class 5T5 and

went on to do his MBA at York University. He started his business career at Massey Ferguson. From there, he rapidly rose to hold numerous senior-level positions including President and Board Directors of Crush International, President and CEO of Maple Leaf Monarch, CEO of ADM Canada, and CEO of Dutch Chemicals. He was also selected to sit on OBAC (Ontario Business Advisory Council), with other CEOs from Ontario's largest corporations, to advise the premier on strategic issues. During his business career, he became known for his ability to turn companies around and boost corporate performance. At 6' 6", Rick was an avid football player and champion basketball player in his youth. Growing up in the Beach, skipping stones into the lake, he developed a throwing arm that later enabled him to throw a football further than anyone he knew. "OK, we need a touchdown, Rick take the ball, everyone else run for the end zone!" became the call. His throw was known as "The Ottaway Pass." After high school Rick was drafted by the Toronto Argonauts but chose to enter engineering instead. In later years his love of sports was reflected in his role as Chairman of the Board of Governors at the Ted Reeve Arena, a position he held for 20 years.

Ross Willam Richards (1925-2011) died suddenly while on a ski vacation at Mont Blanc, Quebec doing what he loved.

Hilary and Bob Rowland died in May and July 2009 respectively. Both attended Malvern Collegiate as did their five children, Michael, Julie, Sara, Susan, and Hugh. Bob started his career at HumberSide C.I. and soon moved to his alma mater where he taught industrial arts for many years. Mr.

Rowland, sir, (as he was known) was a dedicated teacher whose influence at Malvern was not limited to the classroom. He coached several teams including badminton, swimming, hockey and tennis. He finished his teaching career at Don Mills C.I., eventually retiring in 1989. Hilary was an avid volunteer in the Beach community and a pillar of several Home & School Associations in the area. She was a great supporter of many local initiatives that

included delivering the *Beach Metro News* (formerly the *Ward Nine News*) and coordinating the Beach Sesquicentennial Quilt that still hangs in the Main Street library. Bob and Hilary moved to Napanee, Ontario in the late 1990s, but always considered the Beach to be their home.

Malvern's Paula Warder Receives Special Award at the CNE (Text by Donna McGraw, edited)

On Wednesday 24 August at the CNE, Malvern alumna Paula Warder was given a special award for her many years of work in the field of women's baseball. She played ball from elementary school days, and while at Malvern, she served on the Malvern Girl's Athletic Association and played basket- and volleyball. She served on the Public School Girl's Athletic Association for over thirty years while also coaching inter-school sports. She continued to volunteer after she retired. Paula has worked with the CNE baseball tournaments since 2002, announcing and scorekeeping. She has been a player, official, organizer, presenter, announcer, scorekeeper, archivist, and more. In her latter capacity, she has been collecting data for a book on the history of women's baseball. Congratulations, Paula!



Paula Warder (centre) receives her award at the CNE Ball Park.

Malvern Red and Black Day is coming!

If you want to rekindle your Malvern spirit, plan to attend the football games and other activities at Birchmount Park on the afternoon of October 7, 2011. Look for further details on the school's own website at schools.tdsb.on.ca/Malvern. Call us at 416 393-8683 or email us at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com if you want us to put you in touch with the organisers. There is room for alumni to play a part in these activities if they wish. Gather a group of friends and cheer on the Malvernites of this generation!

Try out our new MRBS Website!

We are pleased to announce that we have revamped our MRBS website so that you can communicate more effectively with us and with each other. It is still at www.malverncollegiate.com, and should be up and running in September. We contracted a Malvern graduate, Han Du, who had been our volunteer webmaster for the last two years, to renovate and update our website. Many thanks to Han Du for his volunteer contribution, and for his work this summer on our website.

You will be able to send us messages and to post photos of recent events right onto the MRBS website. These photos can also be directed to Facebook and Twitter if you wish. For those who wish a more static experience, you can still check for news, Minutes and reports on the website.

REMEMBER THESE DATES!

November 4, 2011 at 1.00 pm. Gates open for ceremony to unveil the restored Malvern Cenotaph at 2.00 pm. Please RSVP to 416 393 8683 and leave your name and phone number or email us redandblack@malverncollegiate.com.

November 5, 2011 at 1.00pm. MRBS Annual General Meeting. We need you!

Permission to Post My Name on the MRBS Public Members' List

YES, I _____ (maiden name) _____ Class _____ or teacher/staff /other _____ give my permission for the Malvern Red and Black Society to include my name and class year/teacher status/other status only, on the MRBS website members' list. No other personal information will be divulged, without obtaining my further permission. All personal information will be subject to the MRBS Privacy policy. If I am replying by email, I permit the MRBS to use this email as legal proof of my giving permission.

Member's Signature: _____

Date: _____

No reply means that you DO NOT give us permission to post your name on our Members' List.

Financial Donations

a. If you want a tax receipt, please make out your cheque to the OMF, and put the intended use or beneficiary on the memo line, e.g., Music, Athletics, MRBS, etc. and specify the amounts if there are several uses.

b. If you do not need a tax receipt, then feel free to make out cheques directly to the MRBS with the intended use on the memo line.

c. In all cases, please mail the cheque to the MRBS at 55 Malvern Avenue, Toronto M4E 3E4 so that we can record it as coming from an MRBS member. We will then forward all cheques to the OMF for receipting. We then receive the funds from them on a regular basis.

Please enclose a note with your donation, stating your preference:

Yes, I give my permission for the MRBS to post my name on their website, in acknowledgement of my donation.

No, I wish to keep my donation confidential.

New Members' Registration Form

Please include all information requested and email to redandblack@malverncollegiate.com or mail to the MCI address above. Email is greatly encouraged, to reduce our mailing costs.

First Name:

Last Name:

Maiden Name:

Class Year:

Are/were you a teacher at Malvern? Yes No Other Status (e.g. parent, staff):

Mailing Address (with postal/zip code):

Province /State & Country:

Email Address:

Phone number (with area code):

Notice: Use of any personal information is subject to the MRBS Privacy Policy. You can correct or remove your information by replying to our mailing address or email address above.