

Branch Line

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Inside this issue you will find what is happening this month with Committee Reports, general information and a wee bit of humor too. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues. Thanks to those who have submitted in the past. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line please submit your articles to Branch340newsletter@gmail.com.

Please support our Christmas Basket Raffle as proceeds will be earmarked for youth programs in the community. The Draw date is Saturday, December 17th. Tickets are available in the Club Room.

The Iota Phi Sorority have delivered the toy box to the Branch and we ask when shopping for your family and loved ones please purchase an extra toy for our Toy Box and help make Christmas a little happier for someone in our community. The last day to drop off a toy is December 9th.

Christmas holiday hours will be in effect, see inside for more information.

I am pleased to announce that the Branch will be hosting a Levee on January 1st, 2023. The hours are from 1:00-7:00 pm and entertainment from 2:00-5:00 pm by Al Crawford. What a way to usher in the New Year with family and friends!

On behalf of my husband Bob and our family may your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter and goodwill and may the year ahead be full of contentment and joy. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at branch340newsletter@gmail.com
Accessible formats are available upon request






2022 – 2023 Branch 340 Executive

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
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| Immediate Past President | Dan Kelly | dankelly@bmts.com | 519-389-2352 |
| 1st Vice President | Alex Taylor | alex.taylor@bmts.com | 519-389-2616 |
| 2nd Vice President | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Secretary / Treasurer | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-832-2903 |
| Chaplain | Rev. Chuck Beaton | cjbeaton5@gmail.com | 519-797-5586 |
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| Executive | Monica Carere | mony_c26@hotmail.com | 519-835-9741 |
| | Trish Frizzell | legion340@trishfrizzell.com | 519-706-0374 |
| | Bernice Ribey | 1bernie@bmts.com | 519-832-8783 |
| | Craig Bell | bellcr@bmts.com | 519-386-7771 |
| | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| | Gord Kelly | gordonakelly1973@gmail.com | 519-389-6057 |
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| Bar Chairman | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-832-2903 |
| | | | |
| Bursary | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| By-laws | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-389-2876 |
| Charity | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Hall Rental | Bernice Ribey | 1bernie@bmts.com | 519-832-8783 |
| Honours & Awards | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| Leadership Development | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Membership | Craig Bell | bellcr@bmts.com | 519-386-7771 |
| Poppy | Alex Taylor | alex.taylor@bmts.com | 519-389-2616 |
| Property | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Public Relations | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Seniors | Trish Frizzell | legion340@trishfrizzell.com | 519-706-0374 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Mike Hobson | hobson@bmts.com | 519-386-6078 |
| Service Officer | Trish Frizzell | legion340@trishfrizzell.com | 519-706-0374 |
| Sports | Gord Kelly | gordonakelly1973@gmail.com | 519-389-6057 |
| Veteran Services | Trish Frizzell | legion340@trishfrizzell.com | 519-706-0374 |
| Ways & Means | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| Youth Education | Monica Carere | mony_c26@hotmail.com | 519-835-9741 |
| Air Cadets Liaison | Alex Taylor | alex.taylor@bmts.com | 519-389-2616 |
| Nevada | Andrew Reinhart | andyreinhart@hotmail.com | 519-708-0553 |
| Track & Field | Bernice Ribey | 1bernie@bmts.com | 519-832-8783 |



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|  | 2022 – 2023 Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary Executive | |
| President | Diana Tripp | |
| 1st Vice President | Anne Marie Kinsman | |
| 2nd Vice President | Sharen Maas | |
| Treasurer | Diana Tripp | |
| Secretary | Vicky Taylor | |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Anne Marie Kinsman | |
| Sports Officer | Linda Virgo | |
| | Sharen Maas | |
| Executive | Meryl Cramp | |
| | Elaine Esplen | |
| | Marilyn Noble | |
| | Linda Virgo | |



President's Report



Did we luck-out on the weather or what? That was the best Remembrance Day weather I have seen in over 10 years.

On November 6th we had our annual Remembrance Church Service at the Tolmie Presbyterian Church. We welcomed their new Pastor Deborah Stanbury. The service was well attended and featured some very moving real-life stories from guest speaker Cde Gregg Briggs (PPCI).

On Friday, November 11th, the Cenotaph Service was very well attended and went off without a hitch. The service led by Rev. Chuck Beaton was live-streamed to our community and those individuals that could not make it to the cenotaph were able to view in the Club Room. Cde Norma Dudgeon did another spectacular job in coordinating this event and we applaud all her efforts.

We retired back to the Branch and had a great lunch served by our Ladies Auxiliary, thank you. It was great to see a large group of Veterans who were well received by Branch members and guests.

The Royal Canadian Legion Media Award was presented to Sandy Lindsay, Saugeen Times, for all she has done in support of the Legion through her work and social media. Cde Dan Kelly and Craig Bell announced names of Years of Service Pins and presented to those who were in attendance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the businesses and sponsors who supported our Poppy Campaign this year by allowing a poppy box displayed in the various stores and to those who sponsored a wreath. We offer a huge thank you to our community who supported the Legion by donating to the poppy boxes and the TipTapPay machines. Also, to the volunteers that were involved in any small way and helped with the various projects to make our campaign the success that it was from the Ad Mail envelopes, canvassing, volunteer registrations, money counting, set-up and take-down of displays, etc.

We were able to have a parade this year so we also thank the Town PW Department and Police for the participation with the barriers and traffic control.



But most importantly we all need to thank our Veterans for without their service we would not have the great country we live in today. Our Remembrance Day service allows our community to remember how important these veterans are and that they mean so much to everyone.

On behalf of Rhonda and our family we send the warmest holiday wishes to you and yours during this beautiful season. Wishing you all that is merry and bright for the New Year ahead!

Hope to see you out and about.

President Robert Harrison
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



Bursary Report



We are right in the middle of the school year and a great time to apply for a school bursary of \$1,000. To apply the student must be:

- 1) a child or grandchild of a Veteran
- 2) a child or grandchild of an Ordinary, Life member or LA Member; or
- 3) a child of an Associate member

Our program has a lot money to help students in need. So if you know of a student that could benefit from this program please contact me or go on-line to www.on.legion.ca/remembrance/youth-programs/bursaries for more details; or, feel free to call me on how to apply.

Cde Robert Harrison
Bursary Chair
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



Hall Rental



We look forward to you booking our facility for your future social events. Special consideration is given to the fee schedule when renting to non-profit organizations.

Please contact me for more information when considering a venue for your event.

Cde Bernice Ribey
Hall Rental Chair
1bernie@bmts.com





Honours & Awards Report



Recognizing valued members for their contributions at our Legion is an important part of the Honours & Awards Chair.

When you nominate volunteer members, based on their efforts of ensuring our Branch functions continue, we build strong and continuous relationships, and we build a stronger Branch.

If you know anyone whom you feel should be shown appreciation, please contact me with this members particulars and confidentially the H&A Committee will evaluate the nomination.



Sandy Lindsay, of the Saugeen Times, an independently owned and operated division of Canadian Community News is presented with the Royal Canadian Legion Media Award on November 11, 2022.

L-R President Bob Harrison, Sandy Lindsay, Cde Norma Dudgeon and Cde Dan Kelly

Ms. Lindsay has been a strong advocate for the Port Elgin Legion and supporting the Branch with her on-going promotion of the various activities and events which our Legion partakes in.

She also supports the many surrounding Branches outside our community publicizing their numerous events and giving The Royal Canadian Legion much exposure in their respective communities.

She willingly accepts invitations to attend presentations, ceremonies and other events as they occur and her photographs and captions are readily available on her website. Each month the Legion newsletter is also included on the Saugeen Times website reaching an even wider audience and again promoting what is happening at the Legion and upcoming events which is an excellent format to convey our message that we care for our veterans and community.

Congratulations Sandy and the award is well deserved and your support to the Legion is very much appreciated. We thank you for all you do in our community.

Christmas knock knock jokes

- **Knock knock. Who's there? Anna. Anna who? Anna partridge in a pear tree!**
- **Knock knock. Who's there? Holly. Holly who? Holly-days are here again.**
- **Knock knock. Who's there? Harold. Harold who? Hark the Harold Angels Sing!**
- **Knock knock. Who's there? Olive. Olive who? Olive the other reindeer.**



On Remembrance Day, Years of Service Pins were announced.
Please contact Tom Jacques, H & A Chair if you are a recipient for a service pin.
Pins are awarded in 5 year increments.

SERVICE PINS - 2022

| ORDINARY | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| <u>5 Years</u> | <u>10 Years</u> | <u>15 Years</u> | <u>20 Years</u> | <u>25 Years</u> |
| Ken Gruberbauer | Gary Baker | Laurie Laur | | |
| | Louis Schafer | Steve Pellow | | |
| | | | | |
| <u>30 Years</u> | <u>35 Years</u> | <u>40 Years</u> | <u>45 Years</u> | <u>50 Years</u> |
| Tony Atkinson | | James Cassidy | Hal Schweyer | |
| William Waytowich | | Don Roppel | | |
| | | | <u>55 Years</u> | <u>60 Years</u> |
| | | | Wayne Eagles | |
| | | | | |
| ASSOCIATE | | | | |
| <u>5 Years</u> | <u>10 Years</u> | <u>15 Years</u> | <u>20 Years</u> | |
| Melinda Myette | Darryl Mullen | Shirley Alpaugh | Jonathan Carr | |
| | | Craig Bell | Marcia Davidson | |
| | | Eileen Gruberbauer | Scott Davidson | |
| | | Patty Kelly | Sytra Hestera | |
| | | Sean Kelly (Dan) | Dave Munshaw | |
| | | Lorne Lazenby | Brian Potts | |
| | | | | |
| <u>25 Years</u> | <u>25 Years con't</u> | <u>30 Years</u> | <u>40 Years</u> | <u>45 Years</u> |
| Larry Beange | Kerri Shrider | Mary Galliher | Bruce Little | James Straus |
| Edith Claeren | Bob Small | Fernand Gareau | Ken Martin | |
| Marshall Dolbeck | David Smith | Ernie Hatt | James Shrider | |
| Anne Eby | Charles Vallieres | Joanne Hatt | Rinka Smallwood | |
| Tom Fesiuk | Chris Vallieres | Wayne Rourke | Norma Dudgeon | |
| James Gateman | Jean Vallieres | | | <u>50 Years</u> |
| William Howe | John Chapman | | | Gary Exell |
| Charles Kelly | | | | Gerry Higgins |
| Cliff Leggett | | <u>35 Years</u> | | Doug Jackman |
| Vern Legge | | Doug Bresee | | David Kilpatrick |
| Jim Mahon | | Steve Goodman | | Phil McCaw |
| | | Maureen Higgins | | Tom McIntee |
| | | Nancy Ingram | | Larry Nuttal |
| | | Elizabeth Uhrig | | Don Thorne |
| | | John Vallieres | | |
| | | | | |
| AFFILIATE-VOTING | | | | |
| <u>5 Years</u> | <u>10 Years</u> | <u>15 Years</u> | <u>20 Years</u> | <u>25 Years</u> |
| Dave Myette | Terry Turcotte | James Brohman | Nancy Barr | Nelson Bailey |
| Cathy Swift | Curt Virtue | Paul Dennison | Scott Barr | Ron Bruce |
| | | | Don McCulloch | Bob George |
| | | | Gerry Melcher | Murray Maas |
| | | | | Murray McArthur |
| | | | | Larry McIntosh |
| | | | | Linda Ribey |
| | | | | Charlie Roopnaraine |
| | | | | Gary Tupling |

Cde Tom Jacques
Honours & Awards Chair
thjacques@bmts.com





Membership Report



Early Bird prices are upon us, please use one of the options below and get your 2023 membership dues taken care of. Dues are now \$55.00 as of December 1st.

If you have not renewed your 2022 membership please consider doing that. You can make your payment:

1. On-line by going to **legion.ca** on the computer
2. Come into the branch when we are open (3 – 8 pm Monday to Saturday)
3. Contact me at bellcr@bmts.com to make other arrangements.

We will remember them.

Cde Craig Bell
Membership Chair
bellcr@bmts.com



If you are a Snow Bird..... Why not an Early Bird?

Before you fly south for a winter's relaxation, become an Early Bird by paying next year's dues between September 1st and November 30th. Then you can preen in the sun, knowing you've ensured there'll be no loss of Legion service or membership privileges. Remember, if you wait it may be your feathers that are ruffled later.



MEMBERSHIP



**December 1st Renewal fees are now
\$55.00**

**Pay today to remain in good standing and
receive the many membership perks**

Craig Bell, Membership Chair

Renew today!





Last Post



Associate

Alf Galivan

**THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD,
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN,
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.**



Poppy Report



RCL Branch #340's 2022 Poppy Campaign has successfully raised just over \$36,000 but short of our 2021 and 2020 fundraising levels. I believe a couple of factors played a part in our not exceeding our previous 2 years fundraising levels.

While our Wreath Sponsorships exceed 2021 and our Poppy and Canvassing Funds raised were virtually the same this year and last, at just over \$17,000. In 2022, there was a significant drop in our AD Mail donations. Through our Ad Mail Campaign, Port Elgin households and businesses this year donated close to \$7,000 vs. over \$11,400 in 2021. I feel that the increase level of inflation and the squeeze on family budgets may have been a key factor in this drop in our donations for 2022.

Needless to say, a campaign this large could not come off without the support of our dedicated Branch member volunteers who stuffed Ad Mail Envelopes and canvassed in the campaign at stores with heavy foot traffic. Over 113 Port Elgin businesses displayed Poppy Boxes collecting



funds for this year's Poppy Campaign. Our businesses and organizations sponsored 109 wreaths raising over \$8,200, another key to the success of this year's Poppy Campaign.

Thank you to all of you who sponsored wreaths. A number made donations as well. Our Veterans rely on us to raise the Poppy Funds used to assist them in their time of need.

The call for canvassing volunteers was again answered by a number of our dedicated members and a few non-members who currently have family members serving in our military. The significant funds raised by our Canvassers distributing poppies in stores as well as the generous contributions by our residents to in-store Poppy Boxes contributed greatly to the success, we had this year.

Again, heartfelt thanks go out to those Branch Members who volunteered over 298 hours of their valuable time this year to stuff Ad Mail Envelopes and/or Canvass:

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Carolyn Russell | Mike Howe | Mary Galliher | Peter Harrington | Scott Davidson |
| Dan Griffin | Kathryn Eastwood | Glenna Snider | Janice Pepe | Wayne Bruce |
| Thelma Kennedy | Vicky Taylor | Mickey Kinsman | Rhonda Harrison | Bob Harrison |
| Shirley Jacklin | Jeff Griffin | Grant Virgo | George Jacklin | Shirley Alpaugh |
| Trish Frizzell | | | | Fran Myers |

Thanks, as well, goes out to Air Cadet canvassers Kardin Penner, Ibrahim Shad, Kaedra Trayner, Moiken Penner, William Toby, Rhys Catalan, Ibrahim Shad, Ethan Ronholm, Teagan Penner, Curtis Metcalf, Logan Lootsma, Logan Moulton, Justin Harris, Tyler Little, William Shular and Captain Rob Herborth

Thanks also to Shelley Hewson who helped distribute and pick up Poppy Boxes, count money and Thelma Kennedy for helping sign out canvassers and count money along with the other money counter: Randy Shultz, Jim Connan, Vicky Taylor, Glenna Snider, Larry Dudgeon, Dan Kelly, Rhonda and Bob Harrison

Norma's support and advice is invaluable year in and year out to the Poppy Campaign and greatly appreciated! Most important is her dedication to R.C.L Branch #340 and this year's Remembrance Day Ceremony!

A sincere **THANK YOU** to all those who volunteered their time this year!

LEST WE FORGET!

Cde Alex Taylor
Poppy Chair





Ways & Means



Join us at the weekly Wednesday Bingo and you could be the lucky one to yell "Bingo". Doors open at 6:00 pm and games start at 7:00 pm in the upstairs hall.

Christmas Meat Draws have been scheduled. Please note the time change for the Friday, December 2nd which will start at 8:00 pm. The other 3 Saturday dates will be starting at 4:00 pm.

We thank everyone for their continued support and look forward to seeing you at the Branch

Cde Tom Jacques
Ways & Means Chair
thjacques@bmts.com

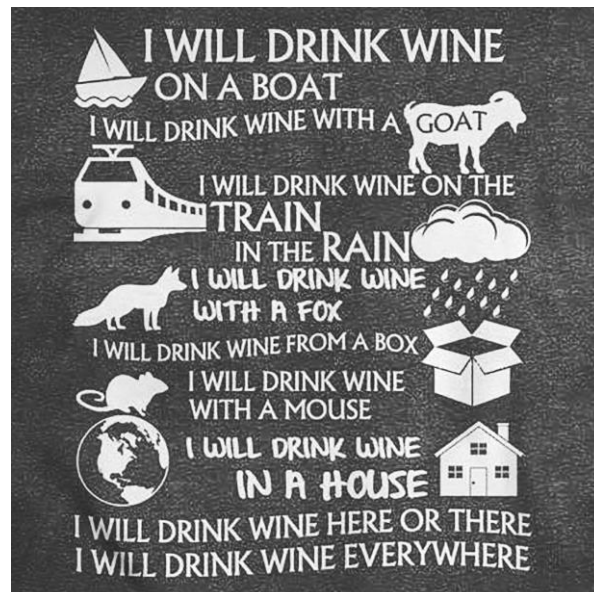




Br. 340 Clubroom Hours

The Club Room will be open
Sundays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Effective December 4th





Remembrance Sunday 2022



Branch 340 participated in Remembrance Sunday on November 6, 2022 at the Tolmie Presbyterian Church. Rev. Deborah Stanbury led the service.

Cde Greg Briggs was the guest speaker on Remembrance Sunday. His presentation has been included for your reading pleasure.

A Modern Vets Take Gregg Briggs, (PPCI)

- Good morning
- Welcome all and thank you for taking some time to share with me
- A quick personal history:
 - 22.5 years of service
 - 8 years with the 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
 - 14.5 years with the Toronto Scottish (5.5 years before the Regular Force and 8 afterwards)
 - Operational tour was Bosnia 1997
 - Continued service with 18 years Bruce Power's Emergency and Protective Services (NRT)
 - Married to one of our local Police Sgts with three young children



- The Modern Vet – What are we talking about?
 - Truth is, a vet is a vet
 - We all dedicate our lives
 - We are all willing to sacrifice for the greater good of our country
 - Equipment is different, technology is advanced **BUT** at the heart of every military are individuals who have answered a calling regardless of the era
 - We are different in a few ways but similar in many:
 - Different:
 - We signed up and served a career (full or reserve) and then went on tour as opposed to signing up and going directly into conflict
 - We have seen more peace time than conflict
 - Our time in conflict was rotational
 - Similar:
 - We had to leave loved ones
 - We suffered
 - We watched our brothers and some sisters go home under a flag
 - We are committed and will always stand when it's appropriate
 - Tell your Port Elgin Legion swearing in story to tie together the story of vets
 - Thank every vet before me and those after me
 - Enforce the importance of sharing our history both past and present so that we can keep the memory alive for the future





Cdes Dan Kelly and Mike Hobson recite the names of our fallen veterans from the Book of Remembrance
 Cdes Blair Eby with son Brock perform the Presentation of Poppies



Remembrance Day 2022



This year turned out to be a beautiful day to honour our Veterans and Fallen Comrades and judging by the crowd of people, they took advantage of it – it was nice to see the many people and school students join us.

We were very lucky this year to have Pastor David Baker and Andrew Baker of the SouthPort Pentecostal Church to live-stream our service so that our Veterans and Seniors could watch at home and we can't thank them enough for all their efforts.

As President Bob called me the conductor of the orchestra, I would be remiss if I didn't thank all the volunteers who physically helped me behind the scenes as there lies all the work; hopefully, I haven't missed anyone.

Sound System:

Pastor David Baker & Andrew Baker

Wreaths:

Cenotaph Setup & Dismantle / Pickup and Put Away

Dan Kelly, Curt Virtue, Gord Kelly, Brad Davies, Mike Hobson, Haileigh Duplantis Hopkin, Josh Hopkin, Bob Harrison, Les Virtue, Craig Bell, Don Dudgeon, Brock / Blair / Elizabeth Eby, Sugar Conan, Jim Allen, Tanya Thede

Wreath tags:

Anne Eby who has helped me for many years as it's quite a consuming job

Yard Detail:

Greg Briggs & Bob Harrison who checked for dog poo at the cenotaph

Crosses:

Ken Martin, Ev Martin, Craig Bell, Dave Kilpatrick, Bob Harrison

Bugler:

Jonathan Birinyi

Singing of Anthems:

Jim Kline

Flag at half-mast:

Bella Hobson

Media:

Rhonda Harrison



This is only the tip of the iceberg of the preparation but it all comes together for ½ hour on the 11th day of November. A few key people that help make our special day a success are:

Poppy Chairman: Alex Taylor

Alex spends countless hours on the poppy campaign and in the end, when we confer on the wreaths that need to be laid and pre-laid, it all comes together – thank you

Parade Marshal: Mike Hobson / Colour Sgt: Robert Harrison

Mike and Bob had everyone in precision step and we were lucky to have a Pipe Band this year which makes it a lot easier; seeing our Colour Party with the flags blowing in the wind makes us all so very proud to be a Canadian

Cenotaph Sgt at Arms: Andrew Reinhart

Andrew is usually my Cenotaph Sgt at Arms and my right hand and this year he had the significant job of escorting the wreath bearers; I am so lucky to have Andrew look after the crowd control, order of wreaths and any little thing that may pop up – after all these years, he can read my mind and we're on the same page – thank you Andrew for making everything go smoothly and stepping in where needed

The trailer to haul and store the wreaths was once again donated by Curt Virtue – not sure where we would put 117 wreaths and get them to the cenotaph without the trailer – Thanks Curt!

A special thank you to Brian Henderson who cooked the roast beef for our lunch and Linda Virgo, Sharen Maas and Sue Hamer who helped with the lunch and serving – thank you all!

Thank you Rev Chuck Beaton for your compassion and thoughtfulness to our branch and our veterans; we are so lucky to have you as part of our Legion family.

Until we meet again on November 11th, thank you all!

Norma Dudgeon – Remembrance Day Chair

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|  |  |
|  | <p>The Branch Colour Party was invited to attend the Winterhawks game on November 11th. Pictured is Cde Mike Hobson, Private, 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment who is dropping the first puck of the game.</p> |



Remembering: A flag takes a remarkable journey and in full circle comes home



The journey began several years ago in 2017 when Elizabeth and husband, Blair Eby, former Poppy Fund Chairs with the Port Elgin Legion, learned that a local girl, Jennifer Murray (nee Lindhorst) was serving in a medical MASH unit as part of Operation Impact (OP IMPACT) in Iraq. After contacting Murray, the Eby(s) set out to arrange a 'care package' that would bring memories of home to Murray and her colleagues.

Port Elgin Legion Branch began to collect large packages of the troops' favourites – Tim Hortons coffee and popcorn and included artwork and letters from local school students. To top it off, they included a huge regulation-sized Canadian flag that was signed by members of the Legion and many residents throughout the community.

In his letter of September, 2022, Captain Oberman added that, "I can now complete my self-assigned task of returning this fantastic piece of history to your Legion ... I am pleased that it has now made its way back to you as a memento of your patriotic support to our troops stationed in Camp Ercell during OP IMPACT."

"Reading Captain Oberman's letter and speaking on the phone with him gave me pause for deep reflection on how important our Port Elgin Legion and Community project really was," adds Comrade Elizabeth Eby. "Remembering our brave men and women in our Canadian Forces serving at home and across the world is not just important, it's everything, to them and their families. It's been an honour for Blair and I to be part of this piece of history."

After several years of travel, the Canadian flag of Royal Canadian Legion Branch #340 and the community of Port Elgin is home.

Excerpts courtesy of [Sandy Lindsay](#) November 11, 2022



Do these look like they're laughing
or have I gone crazy?

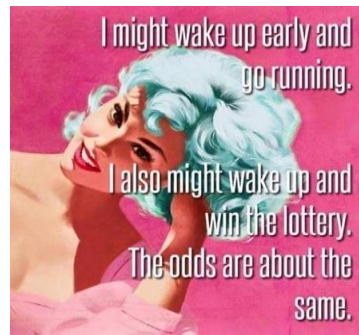


Love is caring for each other
even when you're angry ...



I might wake up early and
go running.

I also might wake up and
win the lottery.
The odds are about the
same.





Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary



Merry Christmas to all. Enjoy with family and friends.

We're here to help you celebrate whatever occasion you may want to have.

We continue to provide sandwich lunches for Celebrations of Life at a cost of \$9.00 per person. We are also available to provide soup and sandwich lunches for personal or business functions. We can customize what you want with cheese trays, fruit trays.

Please keep in mind that we also rent out our kitchen so plan your party, bring in your own already prepared food and use the kitchen to warm or keep cool until ready to serve. Kitchen rental cost is \$150.00 with a refund of \$50 if kitchen is completely cleaned after use.

Interested in becoming a member, join us at our monthly meeting. We are in desperate need of new members. Our monthly meetings are every 2nd Tuesday of the month in the upstairs hall at 7:30 pm. Thank you.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 13th at 7:30 pm.


Thank you everyone for your help and support and stay healthy.

Vicky Taylor
vicky.taylor@bmts.com



Notable Dates for December 2022

The following are national commemorative and notable days of relevance to The Royal Canadian Legion that raise awareness of an issue, commemorate a group or event, or celebrate something.

| | |
|---|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities • December 5 International Volunteer Day • December 6 Halifax explosion (1917) • December 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women • December 10 Nobel Prize for Peace awarded to peacekeepers (1988) • December 25 Christmas (Legion supports Operation Santa Claus) • December 25 Fall of Hong Kong (1941) • Membership renewal reminders |
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Commanders' Corner



Season's Greetings to all of the Comrades at Branch 340. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas Season with your families and comrades. Stay safe.

Rob Butchart
Zone C-4 Commander
r.butchart@hotmail.ca



A Different Christmas Poem

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light, I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest, my daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white, transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep, secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem, so slumbered perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near, but I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know, then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear, and I crept to the door just to see who was near.
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night, a lone figure stood his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old, perhaps a Trooper, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled, standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear, "Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve, you should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts.
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light then he sighed and he said
"It's really all right, I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night."

"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line that separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me, I'm proud to stand here like my father before me.

My Gramps died in Europe on a day in December," then he sighed,
"That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."
I've not seen my own son in more than a while, but my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag, the red and the white ... A Canadian flag.
I can live through the cold and the being alone, away from my family, my house and my home.

I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet; I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another, or lay down my life with my sister and brother.

Who stand at the front against any and all, to ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."
"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright, your family is waiting and I'll be all right."

"But isn't there something I can do, at the least, "Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done, for being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret, "Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone, to stand your own watch, no matter how long.

For when we come home, either standing or dead, to know you remember we fought and we bled.
It's payment enough, and with that we will trust, that we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

Author Unknown





Upcoming Branch Events

Please support the Legion wherever you are



Branch 340 General Meeting

Tuesday, December 6th at 7:30 pm
in the Main Hall

As members, your presence is appreciated
for approval of Branch business

Please support your Branch


Port Elgin Legion Br. 340
630 Green Street
519-389-9917


Christmas Toy Drive



Be one of Santa's Helpers and make a child's Christmas morning a little brighter by leaving a new unwrapped gift (to age 14) in our Christmas Toy Box and under our Christmas Tree

The Toy Drive will run to December 9th

Or, leave a donation in the Toy Drive Jar and items which are needed will be purchased

We are pleased to be in partnership with the Iota Phi Sorority, Meridian Credit Union and the Salvation Army

Thank you for your generosity





Port Elgin Legion 340

Christmas Holiday Hours

Sat. Dec. 24: Open 3:00 – 6:30 pm

Sun. Dec. 25: **CLOSED**

Mon. Dec. 26: **CLOSED**

Sat. Dec. 31: Open 3:00 – 6:30 pm

Sun. Jan. 1: Levee 1:00 – 7:00

Port Elgin Legion Branch 340



"By Golly Be Jolly"

Christmas Raffle

Wine Themed Basket (\$200.)

Draw Date on
Saturday, December
17th at 6:00 pm –
Legion Clubroom



Tickets: \$2.00 each or
3 for \$5.00

Lobby Entrance
#1045030

Proceeds for Community & Youth Programs
Must be over 19 years of age to purchase ticket

Tickets can be purchased in the Legion Club Room

Thank you for your continued support





Come Play With Us!

Port Elgin Legion Br. 340
630 Green Street

BINGO

Wednesdays

Doors open at 6:00 pm
Bingo starts at 7:00 pm
Must be over 18 years of age to play

\$700.00 Jack Pot to
be Won

Branch 340
Christmas
Meat Draws

JOIN US FOR AN
AFTERNOON OF FUN

FRIDAY, DEC. 2 AT 8:00 PM

SATURDAY, DEC. 3, 10, 17 AT 4:00 PM







Port Elgin Legion Branch 340
630 Green Street
519-389-9917

New Year's Day Levee

1:00 to 7:00 pm

Entertainment by
Al Crawford
2:00 to 5:00 pm


Join us as we welcome in the New Year
with Family & Friends



Senior Services in our Community

Winter Staycation

Book now as space is limited



*All of the pampering and
none of the Bruce County shoveling!*

Our Winter Stay Residents enjoy the same services and amenities as our full-time residents. Enjoy home cooked meals, entertainment, our indoor heated pool, exercise classes and much, much more!

Live life your way

Kingsway Arms at Elgin Lodge • 551 Mary St., Port Elgin
Contact Carole Lee Foster at: 519.389.5457 ext. 105
www.kingswayarms.com • KingswayArmsElginLodge



National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women December 6, 2022

Dec. 6 National Day of Remembrance
and
Action on Violence Against Women

**STOP
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN**



We especially remember the 14 Women Murdered at
Ecole Polytechnique
and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

Coulter Parkette, Green & Goderich St.,
Port Elgin, 12 Noon.
DONATE HERE
to support 3 local women's shelters.



Sponsored by Canadian Federation of University Women Southport

On December 6th, 1989, a shooter killed fourteen (14) women in an act of femicide at Ecole Polytechnique Montreal. This tragic act of violence against these women shocked our nation. We mourned with the families and the friends. Candlelight Vigils originally started with people gathering in communities on street corners and in places of worship. Vigils on this day continue throughout Canada.

The CFUW Southport has held very respectful and honouring December 6th Vigils. I encourage you to attend the Vigil if it is happening this year. Some women's groups will light the fifteenth candle. It is important to know that this candle is a symbol of remembrance for all the other women that have died by an act of femicide.

If you are not able to attend a Vigil, take a moment to **Remember** by repeating aloud these women's names

- Geneviève Bergeron
- Hélène Colgan
- Nathalie Croteau
- Barbara Daigneaultc
- Anne-Marie Edward
- Maud Haviernick
- Maryse Laganière
- Maryse Leclair
- Anne-Marie Lemay
- Sonia Pelletier
- Michèle Richard
- Annie St-Arneault
- Annie Turcotte
- Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz

You can go online to watch the news reel from this tragic day with the ambulances and the first responders at the scene of the massacre. Personally, I choose to go online to watch an honouring video with the volume turned up while I listen to the song Montreal by the Tragically Hip.

What will be your commitment to **Action** on the Violence Against Women?

A country free of gender-based violence requires for us to educate ourselves, our families, and our community on the realities of gender-based violence, to actively listen to the voices of experience and to speak up against harmful behaviours.

Reference cited www.women-gender-equality-Canada.ca

For more information contact cfuwsp@gmail.com.

Human Rights December 10, 2022 2022 Theme: *Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All*

Human Rights Day is observed and celebrated every year around the world on 10 December — the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**. The UDHR is a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Information cited from www.un.org





We Will Remember Them

WWII Deaths of men in uniform from Port Elgin and area.



During the 6 years of the war, ten men from Port Elgin and area died while in uniform. Their story will be featured in the following months for each of them for their time spent in the war.

Two of the men died in Canada and are buried in the Port Elgin Sanctuary Park Cemetery.

John Amer Howe – He was born in Port Elgin in 1896 and in 1916 he enlisted with the 160th Bruce Battalion and went overseas to England in October of that year. It was not until February of 1918 that he arrived at the wars front. He served in both France and Belgium until the war ended and then remained as part of the occupying force until May of 1919. He returned home to Port Elgin and built a family life around his business with a Shell Service Station and a Ford Car dealership.

In 1940 he attended the Royal Military College in Kingston and received his officer's designation in the Canadian Army as a Company Commander. As its Major he was called to organize recruits for the Bruce County 98th Anti-Tank Battery. The group of approximately 150 soldiers trained at Camp Petawawa as part of the 4th Canadian Division and arrived in England in early August of 1941. It was December 19, of 1941 that he was admitted to the camp hospital feeling tired, with low energy and generally not well. He was sent to the Westminster Hospital and was diagnosed with issues related to his heart. He returned home to Port Elgin in February 1942 and his health continued to deteriorate and he died on September 13, 1942, at age 46, He is buried in Sanctuary Park here in Port Elgin.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Researched and written by: G. William Streeter



| | |
|--|--|
| | PROBUS Tuesday, November 1, 2022 |
| | <p>Southampton's Bill Streeter was the guest speaker at the November PROBUS meeting. He presented "WWI, the 160th Bruce Battalion and the Soldiers from our four Communities". This covered all the men from Southampton, Saugeen First Nations, Saugeen Township and Port Elgin that enlisted in the 160th Bruce Battalion and served overseas.</p> <p>Bill is a regular contributor to the: Branch Line" and we appreciate his research on our local soldiers. We will be featuring his articles in future editions of the bulletin.</p> |



Vodka & Red Bull Christmas Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup of brown sugar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- Lemon Juice
- 4 large eggs
- Nuts
- 1 bottle of Vodka
- 1 can of Red Bull
- 2 cups dried fruit

Method:

1. Sample the vodka to check the quality.
2. Take a large bowl, check the vodka again.
3. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and mix with a little red bull and drink.
4. Repeat.
5. Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.
6. Add one teaspoon of sugar. Beat again.
7. At this point its is best to make sure the vodka is still ok.
8. Flavour with red bull to taste.
9. Try another cup - just in case turn off the mixerer.
10. Break two leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit.
11. Pick fruit off floor
12. Mix on the turner.
13. If the dried fruit gets stuck in the beaterers, pry it loose with a drowscriver.
14. Shample the vodka to check for tonsisticity, flavour with a little Bed Rull.
15. Next ssiffft two cups of salt. Or something ... Who giveshz a shi**
16. Throw a pinch of Bed Rull over your shoulder
17. Pick up the can, mop the floor
18. Check the vodka
19. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.
20. Add one table.
21. Add a shpoon of shugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.
22. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over..
23. Don't forget to beat off the turner
24. Finally, throw the bowl through the window, finish the vodka and kick the dog.
25. Fall into bed.

CHERRY MISTMAS



Merry
Christmas

