



Lest we forget

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Remembrance Day 2023

Vol 12 Issue 7

Royal Canadian Legion
South Carleton Branch 314
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Branch hours are Tuesday to Saturday 1-5 pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Another Remembrance Day over. Everyone who helped made this November 11th very successful. We had many positive comments and thank you's. It was very well attended. 60 cadets participated in the campaign and ceremony this year and were very thankful for the 5 trays of subs which, I feel, they enjoyed better than pizza. We had a lot of food in Harmony Hall which Kris Schulz says went well but a couple of veggie half trays. First year all the cake was eaten. Dennis Osmond's explanation of the history of the cake and the sword used was very well received. The Fire department was in taking pictures of the veterans who were present and put their faces on a screen outside the Manotick Fire hall. Thank you to everyone for making this Remembrance Day a success not only here in Manotick but also in Kars and North Gower.

In comradeship, Shirley Spinks, President

Remembrance Day Reflection

By Rev. **Ed Montano**, Branch Chaplain

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918, the great war ended. The "war to end all wars" was finally over. All the death, all the carnage was, finally, in the rear-view mirror. From my own experience, I can tell you that the feeling experienced when armed conflict ends is beyond our ability to express it with human language. It is a transcendent experience that humbles you to the core, and at the same time challenges you in the strongest of ways to determinedly affirm, "Never Again!"

Today is a day "to remember." What do we remember?

Today is a day for reflection. What do we reflect on? Why do we reflect?

Today is also a day of action. We come together every year to make an act of remembering. Specifically, we come together to remember those men and women who gave their lives so that we could have ours the way that we live our lives today. We come together, we march together, we weep together, yes, we also pray together. This is good and proper!

It would appear to many that we might be participating in an act of futility given the current state of affairs that our world is currently experiencing. The two major arm conflicts with global ramifications, Russia's invasion of the Ukraine, and the seemingly unending war in the Middle East are raging and taking their toll. These are, sadly, familiar scenarios to all of us. It can be so frustrating seeing history repeating itself over and over again, as if we were not tired of so many innocent lives being ended for no good reason.

Yet, this is certainly not an exercise in futility. While it is true that we, as human beings, do not seem to fully learn the lessons of history, it is also true that we have it within our power to continue our efforts to offer words and acts of solace and encouragement to those in need. When we do these acts of mercy and human decency, we are actively contributing to true peace and justice. If we are determined to continue in these efforts, we are remembering in a way that has lasting and life-giving, not merely making an act from memory and romanticized respect.

While I am not naïve enough to think that a small bunch of folks can bring about world peace, I am beyond convinced that our commitment to true and honest remembering is, in fact, our work and efforts to make this world a better place, which is the very reason why these sisters and brothers went out to war, and too many did not come back.

I invite you to continue with your good works for peace and justice in our communities. Let us never again forget the very reason why we are



here, why we are members of the Royal Canadian Legion. Let us NEVER AGAIN forget our fallen comrades by working towards a society and world where they would have never had to go away and never come back. When we do this, we can say with all honour and conviction, "we will honour them by never again forgetting the reason they left." In our hearts and minds let us repeat, "Never Again!"

Lest we forget.



Ceremony at the Kars Cenotaph Sunday, November 5

Photos by Greg Newton



Ceremony at the North Gower Cenotaph Sunday, November 5

Photos by Greg Newton



Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

November 11. The parade enroute from the Manotick Legion to the Cenotaph



The Air Cadet Pipe Band leading the parade (Photo by **Tony DeLuca**)



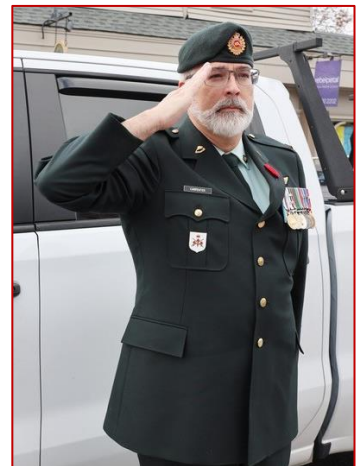
The Veterans' Platoon, led by **Dennis Osmond** (Photo by **Tony DeLuca**)



The Veterans float (Photos by **Greg Newton**)



The RCMP followed by the Army Cadets and then the Fire Service (Photo by **Tony DeLuca**)



Spectator MWO **Rob Carpenter** pays his respects to the Parade (Photo by **Tony DeLuca**)

Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

November 11. The ceremony at Manotick Remembrance Park

Photos by **Greg Newton**



Veterans wait for the ceremony to begin



Chaplain **Ed Montano** delivers the blessing



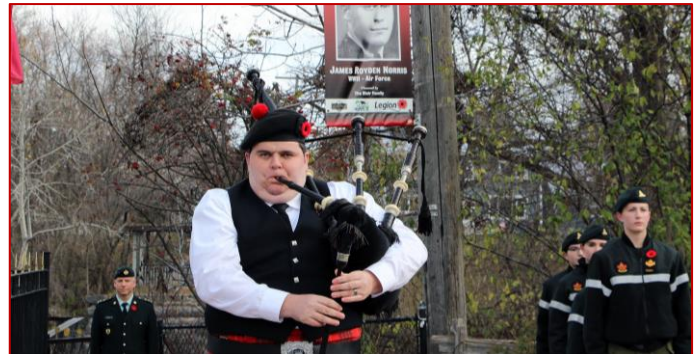
Spectators at the ceremony



Flags at half-mast prior to the wreath-laying



Bugler **Kazimier Samujlo** plays The Last Post



Piper **Scott Cameron** plays The Lament



Branch President **Shirley Spinks** lays a wreath



The announcer of the wreath-laying, **Bryan Mack** (left of the wreaths)

Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

November 11. The ceremony at Manotick Remembrance Park

Photos by **Tony DeLuca**



Wreaths to be laid at the cenotaph



Cadets stand guard around the cenotaph



Chaplain **Ed Montano**, **Peter Delaney**, M.C. **Roy Blair**



The Colour Party, facing Sgt-at-Arms **Roy Blair**



The parade facing the cenotaph



Spectators at the ceremony



Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

November 11. The Parade returns to the Legion



The Veterans float passes in front of the Reviewing Officer upon return to the Legion (Photo by **Greg Newton**)



Reviewing Officer **Allan Haan** takes the salute from the parade during the march past (Photo by **Greg Newton**)

November 11. The reception at the Legion following the ceremony



Simone Bachelor (left) and **Kris Schulz** oversee the presentation of food. Thanks to all the volunteers who provided the food. Kris did an excellent job setting up the food donations, assisted by **Val Tuba**, **Simone Bachelor**, **Nicky Mack**, **Margery Toner** and **May Collins**. Congratulations, Kris. (Photo by **Greg Newton**)



Preparing for the cake-cutting ceremony: (L-R) President **Shirley Spinks**, Piper Scott Cameron, **Kris Schulz**, **Dennis Osmond**, Reviewing Officer **Allan Haan**, Sgt-at-Arms **Roy Blair** (Photo by **Tony DeLuca**)



After the piper had drunk his dram of brandy, **Dennis Osmond** did the ceremonial cutting of the cake. He gave a good explanation of the significance of this ceremony. (Photo by **Greg Newton**)



Terry Hunter shows a picture of his dad who served in the military. (Photo by **Greg Newton**)

Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

Poppy Campaign Volunteers

By **Harv Renaud**, Poppy Coordinator

As Poppy Campaign coordinator, I want to sincerely thank all the volunteers involved in this years Poppy Campaign. Thanks go to every volunteer from those who prepared the poppy boxes; distributed the poppies to venues around our zone; to those who manned tables at grocery stores, the EY Centre, the airport; and finally to those who collected the poppy monies and those who are still counting it. You are all examples of what the Legion is all about: *Remembering and supporting our veterans*. Congratulations on a job well done!



A Sincere Thank You

As a member of the Poppy Committee, I would like to express our thanks all those volunteers who gave of their time to man the poppy tables at McDonough's Independent grocer in Manotick and Brierley's Independent grocer in Riverside South. This also includes a special thank you to cadets from 2958 RCAC Corps. Thanks go to **Dianne Aubin, Peter & Simone Bachelor, Fran Berthiaume, Annette Blaedow, Heather Blair, Garry Burke, Lorna Carr, Lynn Charron, Peter and Susan Cobill, Richard & Deborah Czuba, Peter Delaney, Sue Dufault, Dinah Forrester, Joseph and Pamela Gionet, Helen Green, Allan Haan, Ann Harris, Terry Haines, Marg Hoger, Mike Hughes, Bob Killens, Janet Lemoine, Bryan & Nicky Mack, Len Mattinen, Patty McCallum,**

Phil & Carol Minty, Andy Moore, Jean Nass, Henry Oikle, Harv Renaud, Kris & Mike Schulz, Shirley Spinks, Dan & Cathy Spitzig, Ken Spratt, Nathan Spratt, Louise & Winston Spratt, John Tully, Ross Urquhart, Don Whitehurst, Melanie Wooley.

Cadet Leaders: *Caitlin Morris, 2Lt Sean Reynolds, Capt Stephanie Bowman.*

Cadets: *Gnr Victoria Evans, Cdt Cadence Monette, Bdr Maxine Lemire, Cdt Ethan Kidder, Sgt Aliosama Mugami, MBdr Mila Pereira, MBdr Mykayla Legare, MBdr Scarlett Winterhalt, MBdr Dayls Villeneuve, MBdr Stella Feildmetz, MBdr Sarah Fraser.*

You all show the true meaning of what our Legion mission stands for.
Sincerely **Peter Bachelor**, Poppy Committee



Photo by *Chris Legere*



A MAN CALLED JOHN MCCRAE WROTE A BEAUTIFUL POEM ABOUT THE POPPIES THAT GREW IN FLANDERS FIELDS.

ALSO IN THE FIELDS WERE CROSSES, MARKING THE GRAVES OF SOLDIERS WHO DIED FIGHTING THE WAR.

WHY DO I HAFTA WEAR A POPPY?!

I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHAT A WAR IS!

WHY ARE PEOPLE SELLING POPPIES TODAY, MOM?

THEY'RE A SYMBOL, APRIL SOMETHING TO MAKE US REMEMBER.



AND THAT, I THINK, IS THE BEST REASON OF ALL!

Remembrance Day 2023 Legionnaire Special Issue

Sacred

The Eagle Staff

By **Melanie Woollie**

We were warriors once, some of us still are. No matter where we are or what condition we're in, we'll always be guardians. Standing up to protect those we love or those in need is an honour. So in the spirit of honour let's touch on the Eagle Staff.

The Eagle Staff is an artifact sacred to Indigenous people and it's something you will see at Remembrance Day ceremonies across the country. It represents many things, varying from Nation to Nation. For some its; Honour, Courage, Respect, Humility, Wisdom, Truth & Love (7 Grandfather's Teachings). For others; peace, unity, & strength. There're others of course.

In some ways it's a kin to our Flags or Regimental Colours; reflecting clans, nations & battle honours. Federally most Staffs have something to acknowledge Métis, Inuit & First Nations. It has spiritual significance & can be associated with healing.

The Eagle Staff is made entirely of earthen materials such as; wood, feathers, felt, sinew or antler. Some have beadwork or carving. Eagle Staffs, as the name suggests, hold Eagle feathers. These feathers are sacred, partially because the Eagle is one of the highest flying birds, one of few who can communicate directly with Creator. Nobody should harbour ill intent in the presence of one.

Staffs may have different numbers of feathers. There's no hard & fast rule. Some may have feathers for the clans, specific teachings or geography.

In short, although each Eagle Staff is unique, they are all equally sacred. If you see one at Remembrance Day ceremonies I hope you hold it in your hearts with as much respect as I do. Its presence honours all who've served; the warriors & the guardians, those who've fallen & those who carry on.

Merci / Miigwetch / Nia:wen / Thank You for your service.



Photos taken from the internet

Legionnaire co-editors:

Simone Bachelor & Mark Phillips

If you have anything you would like published in the next newsletter, please e-mail it to nurseladybee@gmail.com

[Editors' note: names in **bold blue** are Legion members (Comrades); other names are in *italic blue*.]

