

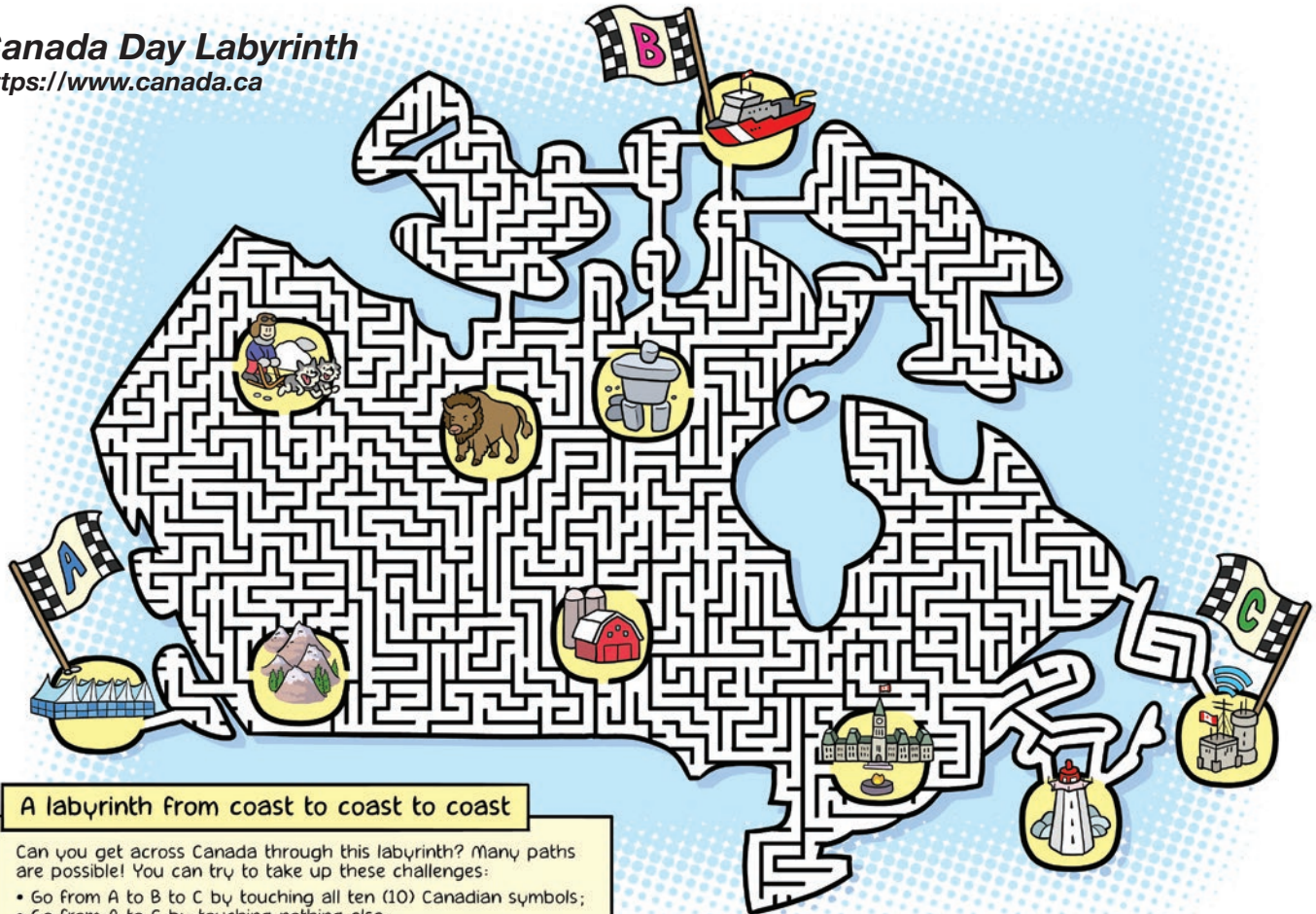
THE LONDON LINK



427 (LONDON) WING — ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
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- Go from A to C in the shortest route possible.



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ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (RCAFA) MISSION STATEMENT

The RCAFA is a national aerospace and community service organization to:

- Commemorate the noble achievements of the men and women who served as members of Canada's Air Forces since its inception;
 - Advocate for a proficient and well equipped Air Force; and,
 - Support the Royal Canadian Air Cadet program.

THE LONDON LINK - PURPOSE AND CONTENT

Six editions each year beginning with the Jul/Aug edition.

Articles of interest to all readers including items about all components of the military both of a historic and more recent nature; articles written by Air Cadets of all Squadrons; regular Board articles; items from all readers as space allows.

To promote the Wing to the wider and diverse population with the aim of attracting new members and/or seeking volunteers who may not wish to join as members.

427 (LONDON) WING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director - Chairperson	Linda Brimson	linda.brimson@yahoo.com
Director	Mike Watts	mwatts427wing@gmail.com
Treasurer	Carolyn Ridley	roseharc@gmail.com
Secretary	Catherine Herdman	optimistcatherine@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Vacant Positions – Food Services, Bar Officer, Entertainment, Sports, Lottery, Marketing – call Wing for info

Web-Site	Simon Lemire		simonlemire@sympatico.ca
Membership Chairperson	Chuck Hardy	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Committee Chair - Facility	Tom Pillon	519 660-8099	v33hor@gmail.com
Wellness/Parkwood Liaison	Hilda Smeltzer, Hazil Malone	519-657-5759	fmsmeltzer@rogers.com
Fundraising	Linda Brimson		linda.brimson@yahoo.com
Kit Shop	Fred Pettit	519 451-0467	arrow105@sympatico.ca
Euchre Club	Don Clarke	519-455-9350	
Air Cadet Liaison	Brent Elgie	519-539-5956	lgairs@gmail.com
Advisor	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
Advisor	Howard Johnston		johnston.hojo@rogers.com

Museum, War Graves, Poppy Fund, David Smith/Terry Rushton with Howard Johnson and Gus Cameron advising
Heritage/ History & Veterans'
Memorial, Tours

CLUB SERVICES

Wing Manager	Flo Douglas	519-455-0430
Bar Steward/Rentals	Flo Douglas	519-455-0430
Padre	Frank Mantz	for more info, ask a member of the Executive
London Link graphic artist	Cathy Wood	cathywood@gmail.com

Over 1,000sq ft for Rent at 427 (London) Wing – This includes two rooms with a bar, kitchen facilities and lots of parking. This clean, attractive setting is great for business meetings, small weddings, family gatherings, holiday events, musical concerts or any type of event you'd like to have. Holds 125.

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BOARD REPORT

by Chuck Hardy

Further to the Board Report in the May/June edition, regarding the grant for the Vertical Lift, a revised quote from Savaria will be forthcoming. The Wing will do some fundraising in support of the Vertical Lift for any costs over and above the grant. The lift will make it possible for mobility-challenged visitors to use the Wings' accessible washrooms.

Upcoming Events

The Air Cadets summer pilot training program will take place with the Wing providing classroom space and providing weekday dinners for seven weeks starting on July 11th.

This means the first lunch will be on September 16th and hopefully a special Friday lunch to honour the Battle of Britain.

The London Airshow is September 9th to the 11th.

The London Amateur Radio Club hosted a Field Day June 25/26th.

As mentioned in the last edition of the Link, we are overdue to hold a General Meeting. We will aim to hold it in October.

The wearing of masks in the Wing is now optional.

The Euchre Club – members and guests have asked when it will start up again. We hope to have good news soon. Normally Euchre is Tuesday afternoons starting at 1:00 p.m.

Other Items

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement from the City of London. Please see in this edition more on this topic.

Member Don Martin has organized a bus trip to Windsor Museum or

Casino on Saturday July 9th leaving the Wing at 9:00 a.m. However, the bus company contacted Don and apologized as they booked a wedding for July 9th. The Board and members thank Don for the organization of the trip. The trip is cancelled for now; and Don intends to reschedule later this summer.

We encourage readers of the London Link to visit the website. Simon Lemire, the website manager continues to update the content to make it dynamic and informative. Please send feedback to the Board on any topic. Also, feedback on the contents of the Link would be very much appreciated.

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Monday to Friday

To all Wing Members:

As you will be notified, the Wing will be closed to members and visitors this coming July and August and the first two weeks of September.

- The Air Cadet summer 7-week Power Flight training program.
- The Wing is also participating with the AirShow London in early September.

The Air Cadet program will have the Wing provide dinner five days each week (Monday to Friday) for the Cadets and staff.

To accomplish this there is the need for volunteers to assist in making this program a success. The daily times for volunteers will be 5:00 to 7:30 at the latest.

A volunteer sign-up will be held at the Wing. During the summer closure please call in and register for the date or dates you are able to register for.

The requirement will be three or four volunteers each day (Monday to Friday)

Dates:

July 11, July 12, July 13, July 14, July 15, July 18, July 19, July 20, July 21, July 22, July 25, July 26, July 27, July 28, July 29, Aug 01, Aug 02, Aug 03, Aug 04, Aug 05, Aug 08, Aug 09, Aug 10, Aug 11, Aug 12, Aug 15, Aug 16, Aug 17, Aug 18, Aug 19, Aug 22, Aug 23, Aug 24, Aug 25, Aug 26

The requirements for AirShow London will be posted near the end of August.

These two events are major fundraising programs that support the Wing.

We look forward to strong support from Wing Members.

Flo will be the lead for this program so call and leave a message and it will be returned.

Wing: 519 455-0430



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Attention all Ontario Wing Chairs!
by Walter B. Peckham, Chair, Ontario Group
RCAF Association

This is to inform all Ontario Group Wing members of the current situation with the composition of the Ontario Group Board of Directors (BOD) effective today. There are 9 positions on the board, more if required, we are down to five.

- ChairWalter Peckham
- V/ChairVacant
- TreasurerJim Scherb
- Central Regional DirectorRene MacKinnon
- Western Regional DirectorBrenda Wilson
- Eastern Regional DirectorVacant
- Quinte Regional DirectorVacant
- Sgt @ ArmsSteve Dieter
- DirectorVacant
- SecretaryVacant

I am currently filling the Eastern & Quinte Region vacancies. As you can see, we are down to five with some very vital positions vacant. Even when we have all positions filled it is a busy committee. Once we get down to 4 directors, we run the possibility of losing our Charter, I don't think anyone wants to see that happen.

As a group we meet twice a year in Trenton (1st Saturday? in March & November, flexible). Accommodations are usually arranged at 8 Wing Trenton at the Yukon Lodge.

If anyone in your wing is interested in filling these positions, please contact me with their names and I will fill them in on their responsibilities. There may even be members of your wing who have filled these positions who they can confide in.

With the NFPA & ONCA this is a vital turning point in the RCAF Association and we need all the assistance we can get.

To all Wing Chairs, please give this widest distribution via email, meetings, newsletters, word of mouth etc. Thank you for your time.

The bottom line is we need these vacancies filled soonest so we can move forward in a positive manner or we could risk the possibility of losing directors due to burn out. Now is the time that the RCAF Association needs you.

Pleased about Trees

Paul Gagnon recently replaced six trees in the Wing's Vimy Garden. The original planting of the Vimy Garden was in 2015 and 102 trees were planted. To have to replace only six is amazing. Thank you, Paul.





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REMINDER

April 1st, 2024 marks the 100th anniversary
of the Royal Canadian Air Force

There are special fundraising initiatives and celebrations from national level being planned.

Follow 427 (London) Wing on Facebook for updates. There is remarkable history to celebrate and many great veterans to remember, along with wonderful aircraft. A century of service and achievement.



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National Indigenous Solidarity Day

by Linda Brimson

June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21st, our summer solstice, is National Indigenous Peoples Day. Events welcomed participants locally and regionally. This observance was an opportunity to learn more about First Nations, Inuit and Metis people across Canada. There is a rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity to discover.

Did you know . . . facts gleaned from Government of Canada Indigenous Veterans website:

During World War I, thousands of Indigenous peoples voluntarily enlisted in the Canadian military. It is estimated well over 4,000 Indigenous peoples served in the Canadian forces during the conflict.

At least 50 Indigenous volunteers were awarded medals for bravery and heroism.

Indigenous women were active on the Homefront through fundraising, as Red Cross volunteers and other means. They organized events and bazaars where traditional crafts, handbaskets and beadwork were sold to raise money for the war effort. Indigenous women's societies raised thousands of dollars.

After returning from service, many Indigenous veterans experienced the same unequal treatment they experienced prior to the war. They were not awarded the same benefits as their non-Indigenous counterparts. Sadly, they were equals on the battlefield, but not at home.



Blood Tribe recruits, 191st Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, Fort Macleod, Alberta. (Credit: Photo and caption: Glenbow Archives, NA-2164-1, National Archives gc.ca)

Francis Pegahmagabow was one of the most highly decorated Indigenous soldiers of the First World War. An Ojibwa from the Perry Island Band in Ontario, he was awarded the Military Medal plus two bars for acts of bravery in Belgium and France. Soldiers who had been awarded the Military Medal and later performed similar heroic acts could receive bars to it, denoting further awards. Pegahmagabow was one of 39 members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who received two bars in addition to the Military Medal. He excelled as a sniper but desired only a peaceful life post war. He became an advocate for Indigenous rights.



Special talents and valuable skills were offered: some were excellent snipers; some excelled at tracking and reconnais-

sance scouting; in WW II some used their unique language as code to report observations and troop movements.

When the Second World War erupted in September 1939, many Indigenous people again answered the call of duty and joined the military. By March 1940, more than 100 of them had volunteered and by the end of the conflict in 1945, over 3,000 First Nations members, as well as an unknown number of Métis, Inuit and other Indigenous recruits, had served in uniform. While some did see action with the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force, most would serve in the Canadian Army.

While Indigenous soldiers again served as snipers and scouts, as they had during the First World War, they also took on interesting new roles during this conflict. One unique example was being a "code talker." Men like Charles Checker Tompkins of Alberta translated sensitive radio messages into Cree so they could not be understood if the enemy intercepted them. Another Cree-speaking "code talker" would then translate the received messages back into English so they could be understood by the intended recipients.

Indigenous service members would receive numerous decorations for bravery during the war. Willard Bolduc, an Ojibwa airman from Ontario, earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for his brave actions as an air gunner during bombing raids over occupied Europe. Huron Brant, a Moha



Left: Edith Anderson Monture, a young woman from the Six Nations Grand River Reserve in Ontario, served in a unique way. In 1917, this nurse who had been working in the United States went overseas to help the sick and wounded in an American military hospital in France.

Right: Indigenous soldiers and Elders from a Saskatchewan First Nations community during WWI. Photo: Library and Archives Canada PA-041366



First Nations recruits from Moraviantown (Delaware, Ontario) join the 33rd Battalion, CEF, 1914.

BIRTHDAY BRATS

JULY HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Pablo Calcaterra, Jean McGinnes, Cathy Newman, Ed Rempel, Jack Schenck, Helen Simpson, Jan Sydorko, and Joe Wyatt.

AUGUST HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Gerard Ancil, Dan Barnes, John Brotzel, Larry Calver, Don Clarke, Geoffrey Corfield, John DeWit, Dhira Ghosh, Chuck Hardy, Laurie Lewis, Irene Mathyssen, and Greg Popelas.

“The older the fiddler, the sweeter the tune.”
~English Proverb



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LONDON LINK SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

January/February: December 18th • March/April: February 15th. May/June: April 17th • July/August: June 17th.
September/October: August 18th • November/December: October 18th.

Please forward any articles that you consider of value to the Wing members and we will do our best to get it to print. Sometimes submissions are of such a size that we then make them a two, or three part series.

Looking forward to hearing from you and sharing your photos, stories etc with our members.

(For good reproduction at reasonable size, photos should be fairly high resolution)

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Charitable giving by Laura Geddes

Thanks to Wing Secretary Catherine Herdman who sought out information on this important subject. The article is written by Laura Geddes, an estate planning lawyer practicing at Siskinds LLP in London. Laura joined the Siskind's team in 2012, specializing in Estate Planning and Estate Management. She completed her university degree at the University of Alberta, graduating with First Class Honours. Laura has graciously provided us with an article about planned giving, and how to include that in your Wills. She is pleased to assist anyone wanting more information. laura.geddes@siskinds.com tel. 519 660-7714

Individuals who have supported charitable organizations during their lifetime may also wish to provide a gift or legacy for their favorite organizations in their estate planning. If there is a charity you wish to support, you can leave a specific cash gift to the charity in your Will, or you can make the charity a beneficiary of a percentage of the residue of your estate. The following considerations may assist in deciding whether and how to benefit a charity in your estate planning:

- It is important to ensure that the charity is properly named in your Will. Some charities may be registered under a different name than the one they commonly use for promotion purposes. Ideally, the Will should also refer to the registration number of the charity if applicable.
- If you are planning to leave a gift designated for use by the charity for a particular purpose, rather than just their general purposes, you should speak with the charity ahead of time to ensure they can accept the gift for that purpose. Additionally, you may consider allowing the charity to re-designate the use of the gift, if necessary, by including an appropriate clause in your Will.
- A Will that contains a charitable gift should also include a clause that allows the executor of the estate to re-designate the gift if the charity has ceased to exist, has changed its name, or has amalgamated with another charity.
- Specific cash gifts are treated differently than a percentage gift from the residue. A beneficiary who receives a specified cash gift is entitled to that gift first after the estate debts and taxes are paid, and before the residue is distributed. For example, a beneficiary receiving a \$10,000 gift will be paid that gift off the top of the estate. If there is only \$10,000 left in the estate after debts and taxes are paid, those funds will go to that beneficiary with nothing left over for the residue. In contrast, if beneficiaries are dividing the residue, they will divide the amount left in the estate after debts and taxes are paid, according to their respective proportions as set out in the Will.
- Leaving a gift to a registered charity in your Will can have beneficial tax consequences for your estate. When certain parameters are met, a donation to a charity by an estate can generate a tax credit that can be used to offset tax payable in the final tax return of the deceased. Publicly traded shares or other securities donated in kind to a charity can also eliminate the capital gains associated with



those assets in the year of death. Tax planning for charitable donations by an estate can be a specialized area and if you are planning a large gift to take advantage of the tax implications it is important to speak with a tax professional.

- Other planning options are also available, such as designating a charitable organization as the beneficiary on a life insurance policy, tax free savings account, or registered retirement savings plan.

If you are planning to benefit a charitable organization in your estate planning, it is best to speak to an estate planning lawyer to ensure your wishes are accurately represented in your Will.

Masks are currently optional at 427 Wing.



Please respect the personal decision of others.



DID YOU KNOW... the Canadian flag was first flown on July 1, 1965? HAPPY CANADA DAY!

JULY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	July & August closed due to an Air Cadet reservation for the cadet 7-week Flying Training program.					15	16
17	This closing will continue thru Sept. 01- Sept 11 due to the Wing's commitment with the AirShow London.					22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	

AUGUST 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

SEPTEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	BATTLE OF BRITAIN LUNCH	17
SEE THE SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER ISSUE FOR BATTLE OF BRITAIN LUNCHEON AND OTHER EVENTS					LUNCH	24
25	26	27	28	29	LUNCH	1



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Chuck Hardy Chairperson

Obituary – John Pedersen

John joined 427 (London) Wing in April 2017. He passed away on May 11, 2022. He is survived by his wife Sandy and son Paul.

After his parents immigrated to Canada from Denmark, with a satchel of self-made black smith tools, they opened “Pedersen Iron Works” near Adelaide and Dundas streets in London. John senior taught John the trade. John’s talents became well known and he worked long hours in order to produce quality products for his many customers.

John was a long-time member of the London Amateur Radio Club (LARC) and he won the more “Best Ham Radio Operators” awards than most LARC members.

A Celebration of Life was held for John at the Wing.

WE WILL REMEMBER HIM

Membership Renewal

Most members have renewed their membership for 2022/2023.

We currently have 122 members. (39 female members and 83 male members.)

We need to increase the number of members. All readers of the London Link; please try to recommend at least one new member. We must be more representative of the wider diverse population of the London region that has grown to close to a half million citizens.

In closing, I am pleased to let you know that the Wing has a new Treasurer. Carolyn Ridley is an accountant with many years of experience. She has started the duties of the Treasurer and will do the reports starting in June. Welcome Carolyn.

MILITARY MOTTOS

SOURCE: <https://www.military-quotes.com/mottos/Canada.htm>

“SECURITAS”

(Latin: “guarantee of safety” or “Securing”)

Canadian Military Police

Canadian Military Police are probably unique in the world as they are classified as Peace Officers in terms of the Canadian Criminal Code, and because this gives them the same powers as civilian police they have the power to arrest civilians and any member of the Canadian Forces, regardless of RANK!

“IN PACE PARATUS”

(“In Peace Prepared”)

The Queens Own Rifles of Canada formed in 1860 Toronto. These designations are assigned to the units depending upon the monarch when the unit is formed. The Queens Own Rifles of Canada were formed when Queen Victoria was on the English throne. The designations can also be bestowed after a Monarch has visited the unit or it has performed outstandingly in battle.



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Benefits Payment Calendar 2022

Below are dates for recurring Government of Canada benefit payments administered by Canada Revenue Agency. If you signed for direct deposit, payments will be made to your bank account.

CPP AND OAS: January 27, February 24, March 29, April 27, May 27, June 28, July 27, August 29, September 27, October 27, November 28, December 21

VETERANS DISABILITY PENSION: January 28, February 25, March 30, April 28, May 30, June 29, July 28, August 30, September 28, October 28, November 29, December 22

GST: January 5, April 5, July 5, October 5

ONTARIO TRILLIUM BENEFIT: January 10, February 10, March 10, April 8, May 10, June 10, July 8, August 10, September 9, October 7, November 10, December 9

Our Queen Then and Now – 70 Years of Service

During WW II, at age 18, Princess Elizabeth joined the women's branch of the British Army, called the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS). Elizabeth joined the transport division, taking a motor mechanics course. Her love of driving never left her. She was the first female member of the Royal Family to become a full-time member of the Armed Services.

She ascended the throne at age 27, after her father, King George V died February 6, 1952.

The Queen is celebrating her 70 years Jubilee in 2022, although her Coronation was June 2, 1953.



100-year-old Royal Air Force veteran Tom Hennessy walks for homeless veterans

With a goal of 100 miles, and pledges from friends and community groups, Tom Hennessy shows us all what 100 years young can look like. Tom logged some of those miles in London's Victoria Park with local elected officials, area Legion members, friends and members of the public. The last walk around Victoria Park on Friday July 1st, Canada Day will finish his ambitious project. Tom is a retired Air Force veteran and World War II Spitfire pilot. He was looking for a cause to mark his 100th birthday in May 2022, and chose to fund raise for homeless veterans. Tom is a daily walker and first chose 100 kilometres as his goal, but that was quickly accomplished and expanded to 100 miles. You can still contribute to this important cause by checking out Tom Hennessy's Walk of Gratitude on [gofundme](https://www.gofundme.com). As of June 23, \$21,605 has been donated. Thank you Tom, and your team of supporters. It's wonderful of you to take action for homeless veterans. Thanks to Diane Lawrence, former Zone A6 Cadet Liaison Officer of the Royal Canadian Legion for the photo. Members of 862 Air Cadet Squadron in Lambeth joined Mr. Hennessy for one of the segments of the walk. Diane reports: "The cadet group and I did 3 laps in Victoria Park with Mr. Hennessy and the whole time the cadets were asking him questions. He stopped a few times to rest and told the cadets a story about the aircraft he flew and strafing. What a remarkable gentleman and service history. So glad our cadets were able to be a part of this."



L-R are FCpl Logan Lawrence, FSgt Sarah Lawrence, FSgt Ryan Mordush and Mr. Hennessy.

Lambeth Airport provides Bank Robbery Getaway Plane! by Gloria Rae

On June 27, 1931, London became the site of the first bank robbery in Canadian history to accomplish a getaway with an airplane. The robbery took place on a Saturday afternoon. The target was Toronto Bank's London branch, and required a lot of planning. The robber had contacted the small, local airport in Lambeth, Ontario, to arrange a plane to fly him to Hamilton to "view the horse races." He then took a taxi to an area near the bank, located on the corner of Richmond and John Streets. The bank was about to close for the day, but he was able to gain access when he claimed to be an official from the Canadian Bankers Association (CBA). Once inside the bank, he drew his firearm and forced two clerks and the bank's acting manager into the safe. He packed \$2,604 (modern equivalent of over \$48,000) in a bag, and locked the employees in the bank's vault; but he did admit a customer to use the bank that was now closed.

After exiting the bank, he made his way down Richmond Street. Cab driver Clifford Bice had been contacted a half an hour earlier by a gentleman who wished to tour the Dunlop Tire Company, located in nearby Lambeth. The robber entered the cab and was dropped off close to the airport. After Bice returned to London, he located several coins discarded in the back of his car. He notified the authorities, giving them the first clue that something had happened. By this time, the robber had already boarded the plane and taken off. The pilot he had hired, Al Brown, was a local flying instructor who wanted to make some extra money. Neither Bice nor Brown were accomplices in the robbery, and had no knowledge of their passenger's plans. The robber notified the pilot that he might have made a mistake, and that it might be too busy to land in Hamilton, so the pilot changed course to the Weston Airport near Toronto.

W.C. van Horn was in charge of the operations at the airport, and was attempting to hail a taxi for the robber, who had suddenly disappeared. A Toronto taxi driver claimed to have picked up a mysterious man and given him a ride to Davenport Road. A later report was heard from the owner of a cigar shop, who claimed that a man entered the store, and bragged about robbing a bank in London and escaping via plane, leading to the newspapers referring to him as the "Winged Bandit". Police were unable to find any evidence as to who was behind the robbery, and to this day it remains unsolved.

The financial institution shut its doors for good on July 31, 1931. Along with what was formerly known as the Merchants Bank, which was robbed in 1920, the banks were closed partially due to the wartime conditions of the Great depression, and also due to the fact that the banks were involved in two of the most notorious robberies in the city's history.

– Wikipedia

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Above: Personnel from 31 Signals Regiment, Forest City Signal Squadron

London Amateur Radio Club Field Day

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day (FD) is the largest amateur radio event in the world. Every June it attracts more than forty thousand participants. It requires amateur radio operators (Hams not CB'ers) to deploy their federally licenced radio stations into "the field": ie out of their homes and "off the grid" for a period of 24 hrs, setting up a working communications system in less than ideal conditions, brave adverse weather and mosquitoes, and make radio contact with as many of the other similarly set up amateur radio operators as possible.

London Amateur Radio Club (LARC) invited what was then 31 Signals Regiment, B Troop to their summer FD.

The event is most assuredly a social event as well, bringing friends together in the shared adventure. Amateurs learn new operating and technical techniques, try out different radios and antennas, and share experiences. Above all, for those interested in the art and technology of radio, it is lots of fun. Those who took part this year can hardly wait for next year.

Dave McCarter, VE3EI - VE3GSO

LARC Treasurer

Mike Watts