

# Branch Line

PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0 519-389-9917  
Branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca



Inside this issue you will find what is happening this month with Committee Reports, general information and a wee bit of humour 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.

Wishing all our mother figures a very Happy Mother's Day. And to all our readers a very Happy Victoria Day to you as well.

Included in this issue are the Executive Committee Annual Reports. They have worked hard for our Branch so please take the time to read their article.

Installation of the new 2025-2026 Executive Officers will take place on Friday, May 2, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the main hall. Zone C-4 Commander Rob Butchart and Zone C-4 Deputy Commander Steve Rice will be conducting the proceedings and all Branch members are invited to attend.

At this time I would like to announce that I will be retiring as Public Relations Officer and other Branch Executive positions and committees effective May 31<sup>st</sup>. This will be my final bulletin and I hope you enjoy the read. I sincerely thank you for the support and to our contributors for the various articles over the years.

All the events happening at the Branch are open to the public so please bring your friends and join in the comradeship.

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



# Notice to Branch Membership

The next General Meeting will be Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We look forward to seeing you and thank you for supporting your Branch.

Reminder, that without a quorum at the General Meetings the Executive is unable to ratify any of the Motions that need approval.

There will be no General Meetings for July and August.

**Executive Committee**



## President's Report



As this will be my last President's Report I would like to thank all of the members who have supported me over the years.

It has been my honour to serve but it is time for me to retire.

I would like to wish the new Executive all the best for the coming term.

President Robert Harrison  
[bnrshow@eastlink.ca](mailto:bnrshow@eastlink.ca)



- The older I get, the more I understand why roosters just scream to start their day.
- We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages ..... Metamucil and Ensure.
- You know you are getting old when friends with benefits mean having someone who can drive at night.
- Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.
- Some of my friends exercise every day. Meanwhile I am watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.
- For those of you that don't want Alexa or Siri listening in on your conversation, they are making a male version. It doesn't listen to anything.





## Hall Rental

Hall rental information and bookings can be directed to Shelley Hewson [shelleyh266@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyh266@gmail.com) or call 1-519-209-3144



## Honours & Awards



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 the Honours & Awards Committee will evaluate the nomination.

Cde Tom Jacques  
Honours & Awards Chair  
[thjacques@bmts.com](mailto:thjacques@bmts.com)



## Membership Report



Please use one of the options below and get your 2025 membership dues taken care of:

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](mailto:bellcr@bmts.com) to make other arrangements.

Cde Craig Bell  
Membership Chair  
[bellcr@bmts.com](mailto:bellcr@bmts.com)



**CHRIS KEMP**  
**KOREAN VETERAN – PORT ELGIN LEGION**



Peacefully, with family by his side on Monday, March 31, 2025 at Brightshores Health System, Southampton in his 93rd year.

Chris, loving husband of Alice. Beloved father of Derek, the late Deborah Leonard, the late Roger, and Sarah. Proud Grandad of seven grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

A Celebration of Chris's life will be held on Friday, May 16, 2025 from 1pm – 4pm with Words of Remembrance at 2pm at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 340, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin.

Memorial donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Br 340 would be appreciated by the family.



## **Sergeant-at-Arms**



Cde Mike Hobson  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
[hobson@bmts.com](mailto:hobson@bmts.com)

Our Branch Colour Party on parade is one of the most visible things that we do. We could use a few new flag bearers. It is not difficult to learn and I would be more than glad to train new volunteers.

You would be needed for Remembrance Day, the Santa Claus parade and General Meetings if possible. We support other Branches for special events when requested. We have even been invited to the Saugeen Shores Winterhawks game for the dropping of the puck on the Friday closest to November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Please consider joining our Flag Family Team. You can meet some new friends and have some fun doing it. If you are interested please contact me.





## Zone C-4 Sports



Cde Gord Kelly  
Sports Chair  
[gordonakelly1973@gmail.com](mailto:gordonakelly1973@gmail.com)

**Eligibility: All verified paid Members.  
Membership Card is required to be shown at Registration  
\*\*\* Sign-up Sheets are located on the Games Board in the Club Room \*\*\***

	<p><b><u>Zone C-4 Sports</u></b> <b><u>WASHER TOSS</u></b> <b><u>June 22, 2025</u></b></p> <p>Host Branch: Tara Branch 383 Location: Tara Branch 383 <b>Entry Deadline Date: June 6, 2025 No Late Entries Accepted</b> Registration Time: 10:00 To 10:30 am Game Time: A.S.A.P. After Registration Entry Fee: \$5.00 Per Person Only 10 Teams Per Zone</p>
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**This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.**

**There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.**

**Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.**

**Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.**

**Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.**

**It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.**





## Veterans Services



As always, if any member is aware of any veteran, whether a Legion member or not, who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me and I can contact the veteran directly to assess any support that may be required. I can be contacted via the Branch at 519-389-9917.

Cde Janice Pepe  
Veterans Services Officer  
[Branch340@eastlink.ca](mailto:Branch340@eastlink.ca)



## Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

### **GOLF 'Fun Day with Veterans'**

*Sunday, June 22 – South Port Golf Course (Rain Date July 6)*

*Start Time: 10am*

**GOLF PACKAGE INCLUDES: 9-HOLES OF GOLF IN GROUPS OF 4  
+ CART + LUNCH**

#### **RAFFLES & PRIZES**

REGISTRATION WITH PAYMENT (CASH ONLY)  
AT LEGION BRANCH 340 PORT ELGIN CLUBROOM (BARTENDER)  
TUES-SAT 3-6PM

#### **REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1st**

VETERAN & CAREGIVER starts MAY 1st

LEGION MEMBERS & NON-VETERAN  
Registration JUNE 1-15th

REGISTRATION CLOSES: JUNE 15th  
NUMBERS (MIN-MAX) 36-72

#### **COST (ALL IN)**

VETERAN & CAREGIVER: \$40PP

LEGION MEMBERS &  
NON-VETERAN \$55PP

LUNCH ONLY: \$15PP

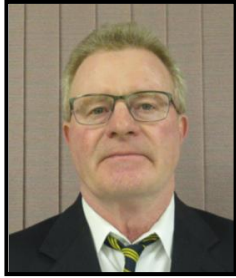
VETERANS DO NOT NEED TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A LEGION  
LEGION POPPY FUND REGULATIONS PERMIT FOR MEALS ONLY  
TO BE COVERED FOR VETERANS & THEIR CAREGIVER

CONTACT: JANICE PEPE, VSO [BRANCH340@EASTLINK.CA](mailto:BRANCH340@EASTLINK.CA) 519-832-2903





## Ways & Means



The next Meat Draws are Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and start at 4:00 pm.

We are in need of bags for the meat raffles if you have extra at home we would appreciate any donations. Or, bring your own to take home your winnings.

Join us for our weekly Wednesday Bingo. Doors open at 6:00 pm and games start at 7:00 pm in the upstairs hall.

Everyone is welcome to all events and we appreciate your support

Cde Tom Jacques  
Ways & Means Chair  
[thjacques@bmts.com](mailto:thjacques@bmts.com)



## Branch 340 Executive Annual Report of Standing Committees and Optional Committee Annual Reports April 1, 2025



### PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT – Robert Harrison

We had a very successful year and our finances are in good shape. I was honoured to represent our Branch at all the conventions that were held so far during this term.

I would like to thank this year's Executive for a job well done and I wish them all the best for the next term. Last but not least I would like to thank all the volunteers who come out to help at the Branch events throughout the year.

### POPPY – Rhonda Harrison

I certainly appreciate the members and non-members who volunteered their time to support the campaign and helped make it the success that it was. They helped with the Ad-Mail Campaign, delivery and pick-up of poppy boxes, canvassing, the money count and the Pay Tribute Boxes. It was my pleasure to work with all of them and I humbly thank them for their support and kindness. Thanks are extended to the Air Cadet Squadron volunteers for their time on the 3 Saturday's of the campaign.

Once again, our community has shown great support throughout the campaign which enabled us to the raise the funds we did.

All donations raised will assist our veterans and support our community youth programs.

Special thanks to Norma who has taken care of the financial portion of the campaign. Her knowledge and support is so appreciated. Thank you, Norma.

The Poppy Trust Fund Branch Status Report as at January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024:

Bank Balance January 1, 2024:	\$ 38,050.67
Campaign Income:	\$ 37,474.55
Campaign Expenses & Donations:	\$ 25,473.52
Closing Bank Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 50,051.70
Investment:	\$ 21,730.54



The Poppy Seminar was attended last August.  
It was my pleasure to serve as your Poppy Chair for this term.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS** – Rhonda Harrison

The Colour Party attended several events as called upon. Remembrance Day activities were also attended

The Branch hosted the annual Christmas Raffle and Toy Drive

We thank the volunteers for organizing our New Year's Levee

At the time of writing this report Branch elections will be held on April 1st and congratulations to the newly elected Executive members. Thanks to those who let their name stand for election and out-going Executive, thank you for your service.

A huge thank you to Mini Jacques who has volunteered her time to take care of our social media; and to Sandy Lindsay for the coverage as seen on the Saugeen Times.

It was my pleasure to serve as your PRO for this term.

### **VETERANS SERVICES** – Janice Pepe

#### **Council & Conventions & Seminars**

- 2024 - Due to weather, did not attend (Sunday, December 1) - RCL ON District 'C' Fall Service Officer and Poppy Chair Seminar held at Listowel Branch.
- 2025 - Attended (Sunday, March 23) - ON Command Zone C-4 Spring Council Meeting & Convention held at Paisley Branch 295. Presented, on behalf of Br 340 Port Elgin President, the Branch President's Report, as Branch President Robert Harrison, was acting in another role within Zone C-4. This was a great networking opportunity and to learn of various activities of other Branches.

#### **Service Officer Report**

To date (March 31, 2025), no submissions were received for Military Service Recognition Book (MSRB) Vol 12 (2025) program with deadline of May 15. Submissions (no charge) are accepted year-round. Post-deadline submissions move to Vol 13 (2026) publishing.

2025 – Branch 340 Vets Wellness Check-in (Saturday, February 8) – 55 Branch 340 Veterans were contacted by phone, with assistance of Seniors Chair, Don Lindhorst. Some Vets indicated they would enjoy some 'fun' events at Branch 340, such as Trivia nights and a Fun Golf Day.

Our Branch 340 is hosting a Trivia night (May 29) and a Vets 'Fun' Golf Day & Luncheon (Jun 22) with Poppy Funds to cover Vets & Caregiver luncheon. ALL Vets & Caregivers and Legion members are welcome.

### **YOUTH EDUCATION** – Rhonda Harrison

#### **POSTER & LITERARY COMPETITION**

Branch 340 held a successful Literary & Poster competition with a total of 337 entries for the 5 different grade Levels (Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, Intermediate and Senior). The 9 - 1st place winning entries were forwarded to Zone C-4 Youth Education Chair Kate Wilson for the zone judging.

The Branch entries have been returned to the schools. A total of \$1,655 was awarded to the respective 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place winners. Congratulations to all the award winners.

A huge thank-you is extended to Kathy Eastwood who assisted me with the various aspects of the competition.

Our judges had a difficult task in selecting the prize winners as all entries were very well done. I thank Linda & Grant Virgo, Catherine Wareham, Pat Smith, Betty Dunbar and Janice Pepe for taking the time on a Saturday morning in support of the program.

9 First Place Branch Level entries going forward to the Zone Level Competition





Poster: Black & White

Primary:	Remington M.	Northport Elementary	Grade 3
Junior:	Emma D.	Northport Elementary	Grade 6
Intermediate:	Ammar A.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 7

Poster: Colour

Primary:	Maya M.	Northport Elementary	Grade 2
Junior:	Harper L.	St. Joseph's Catholic School	Grade 6
Intermediate:	Ella C.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 7

Essay:

Senior:	Hamna H.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 11
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Poem:

Junior:	Violet W.	Northport Elementary	Grade 6
Intermediate:	Josephine T.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 7

ZONE LEVEL JUDGING: One 1st Place and Three 3rd Place winners

Poster: Black & White

3rd Place Junior:	Emma D.	Northport Elementary	Grade 6
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Essay:

3rd Place Senior:	Hamna H.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 11
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Poem:

3rd Place Junior:	Violet W.	Northport Elementary	Grade 6
1st Place Intermediate:	Josephine T.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 7

District Level Judging: One 2nd Place winner

Poem:

2nd Place Intermediate:	Josephine T.	Saugeen District Senior School	Grade 7
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BRANCH PUBLIC SPEAKING

Branch 340 held a successful Public Speaking competition on Sunday, March 9, 2025. We had a total of 18 speakers: Primary: 2; Junior: 10 and Intermediate: 6. The 3 - 1st place contestants competed at Zone Level on March 22, 2025.

A huge thank-you is extended to Kathy Eastwood again who assisted with the various aspects of the competition. She also filled in the position as Time Keeper and did the award presentations.

Our judges had a difficult task in selecting the winners as all speakers spoke very well. I thank Linda & Grant Virgo, Sandra Hutchinson and Rachel Stack for taking on the task. Thanks to Mike Hobson, Pat Smith, Terry Govier and Stella Hestera for taking the time on a Sunday to support our program.

Branch Level Judging:

Primary:	Aarya K.	Northport Elementary	Grade 3
Junior:	Vyoma P.	Northport Elementary	Grade 5
Intermediate:	Paul W.	St. Joseph's	Grade 8

Zone Level Judging: 2 – 1st Place Winners

Primary:	Aarya K.	Northport Elementary	Grade 3
Intermediate:	Paul W.	St. Joseph's	Grade 8

Our Zone Level winners will be competing at District Level in Brussels on April 5, 2025. We wish them well as they move forward in the competition.

I also attended the Youth Education seminar in September.

It was my pleasure to serve as your Youth Education Chair for this term.



## **OPTIONAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS**

### **BAR** – Norma Dudgeon

Our bar continues to run smoothly and we welcome Diane Brown to our bartender team who will fill in for hall rentals when needed.

Our bartenders, Al Ellis, Don Dudgeon, Garry Winnitoy and Shelley Hewson do a great job and I thank them for making the bar operation run efficiently and for all they do behind the scenes. I tend to say this every year but it's continuous of how great our bartender family is!

With the ongoing tariff threats and removal of American whiskey from the shelves, we will need to adjust some of our brands.

Throughout the year, our bar costs have increased and we have absorbed this cost but there will come a time that we will have to consider a raise in the price of beer and spirits.

### **BURSARY** – Robert Harrison

Bursary was very slow this year. We had no requests at all. I hope we can do better next year.

### **CONSTITUTION & LAWS** – Norma Dudgeon

This year, our branch regulations were re-certified with some minor changes and we will be looking at having our clubroom rules in compliance also.

### **CHARITY** – Rhonda Harrison

The Charity Committee met to review the budget and annual donations for the next fiscal year. The budget is \$22,210 and includes annual donations of \$7,200. A budget of \$1,000 is set aside for miscellaneous charitable items.

At the time of writing this report Special Use Forms were forwarded to Ontario Command and with their approval, our 2 local hospitals will both be receiving \$5,000. Funds from the Branch and Poppy Trust Fund.

We also held our annual Christmas Raffle gift basket. Tickets were sold by Legion members and friends. Branch 340 sponsors the Saugeen Shores U13 B Rep Hockey Team and we were able to donate \$900 to help offset their expenses.

We work towards gaining a healthier bank balance and donation amounts will increase to support the local organizations in our community.

It was my pleasure to serve as your Charity Chair for this term.

### **HALL RENTALS** – Bernice Ribey

It's been a very successful and busy year with Hall rentals and I appreciate all the help and support of the volunteers.

### **PROPERTY** – Robert Harrison

Busy year for property:

- Front entrance and main hall was dry walled and painted
- New storm sewer and sanitary sewers were replaced
- New entrance door at back of building
- The condenser coil was replaced in the main heating unit as it had developed a crack
- Dance floor in the main hall was resurfaced
- A new projector screen was installed



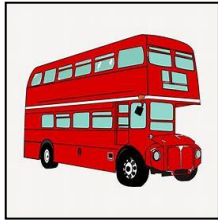


# Analogy of a Bus

Kathryn Eastwood



Working together as a team the Branch Executive and its members get the Branch moving.



The Branch is like a double-decker bus, there has to be an engine and wheels to allow it progress in a forward direction. Some members are the engine parts constantly moving, exerting energy and quietly working in partnership with the other parts to keep things running smoothly. They normally don't receive much attention unless something goes wrong, or parts start squeaking. A little oil and attention, in the form of a thank you or kind words can sometimes be enough to restore their working order. Some members are the wheels, they don't necessarily want to be the main components, but they are happy to share some of the load. Some members just like being passengers; they are only along for the ride and to have fun. Sometimes they like to just sit and enjoy the comfort of the ride and sometimes they like to be vocal and tell the driver of the bus where they should go. Whichever type of member you want to be remember you're all Legion members equal in standing, and volunteers doing the best that you can for the Branch.

Now the fuel needed to get the engine working is the funds provided by the membership fees, fundraising, bar sales and extra generation of income through various Ways & Means events. So we have a bus with an engine, wheels, passengers and fuel but we need a driver. Someone to start the engine, drive the bus and steer it with the help of the Executive and members in the right direction; to watch the road ahead for roadblocks, to care for the engine, to keep the wheels turning and look after the passengers. That person is the CEO and Senior Officer of the Branch, the President, and the most deserving of respect. Without them the bus is ready to go, idling, but going nowhere. All different types of members make up the Legion and each need to decide what kind they want to be. Whichever type chosen, respect and courtesy for others must be demonstrated and a willingness to be a member of a team committed to. You are all in this together. Your Branch can be a success and reach its destination or not. It's up to you.



## Upcoming Legion Events



**BINGO**  
Come Play With Us!

Port Elgin Legion Br. 340  
**Wednesdays**

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

**\$700.00 Jackpot to be Won**



**Legion**  
Meat Draw - 4:00 pm  
**Sat. May 3 & 17**

Please join us

Everyone Welcome



**PORT ELGIN LEGION**  
630 GREEN STREET

**Legion**  
Branch 340  
Port Elgin

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

**THURSDAY** | **CASH PRIZES** | **7:00-9:00 PM**  
**MAY 29TH** | \$ 60/PER TEAM OF 4

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY EMAILING  
HELLO@KWIZKNOWTRIVIA.COM

[www.kwizknowtrivia.com](http://www.kwizknowtrivia.com)



### Notable Dates for May 2025

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"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday <a href="#">Battle of the Atlantic</a> (1945) – 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 13-19 <a href="#">CMHA Mental Health Week</a></li> <li>• 3 John McCrae wrote ‘<a href="#">In Flanders Fields</a>’ poem</li> <li>• 4 <a href="#">Royal Canadian Navy</a> founded (1910) – 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 5 <a href="#">Liberation of Netherlands</a> (1945) – 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 8 VE Day (1945) – 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 11 Mother’s Day</li> <li>• 15 <a href="#">International Day of Families</a></li> <li>• 18 International Museum Day</li> <li>• 19 Victoria Day</li> <li>• 19 <a href="#">Canadian Army</a> founded (1855) – 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 21 <a href="#">National War Memorial</a> unveiled (1939)</li> <li>• 22 – 1 June Memorial Cup – Rimouski QC</li> <li>• 23 <a href="#">RCMP</a> (1873)</li> <li>• 25 <a href="#">Ypres</a> (1915) – 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 28 <a href="#">Tomb of Unknown Soldier</a> (2000) – 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary</li> <li>• 29 <a href="#">International Day of UN Peacekeepers</a> (1948)</li> <li>• 31 <a href="#">End of South African (Boer) War</a> (1902)</li> <li>• 26 US <a href="#">Memorial Day</a></li> </ul>
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## No Stone Left Alone



**No Stone Left Alone** provides students with an authentic leadership experience centered around a uniquely moving, hands-on act of remembrance - laying a poppy at the headstones of veterans.

This personal act signals respect and gratitude for our fallen military veterans, while honouring living veterans, serving members and their families.

Please put this date in your calendar to join us for this special occasion



### **No Stone Left Alone**

Placing of the Poppy Rocks on  
Veteran's Graves

**Wednesday, May 28, 2025**

**10:00 am**

Sanctuary Park Cemetery

736 Eastwood Drive, Port Elgin,

Ontario

**"We Will Remember Them"**



*invite poppy placement*





## District C Track & Field Meet



The Royal Canadian Legion Crystal Taylor District C Track & Field Meet is being held at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge on Saturday, June 14, 2025.

The website for athlete registration is [www.trackie.com/event/DistrictC2025](http://www.trackie.com/event/DistrictC2025)

We are going to need a lot more help this year, since we are not sure everyone from C-4 will travel to C-2 to volunteer. There is much more set up this year, so we need at least 50 volunteers to be at the track by 7:30 a.m. There is quite a bit of slugging to do, so we do need help from younger members or any high school students that need volunteer hours, would be very helpful. The official opening is 9:45 am.

We have added Pole Vault this year so we need help from someone who can officiate at it, since I personally know nothing about Pole Vault. I am hoping we may have some coaches and athletes that can help set up and break down since they will know what is needed.

This year we have a new Program through Athletics Ontario called "2025 Finding Ontario's Fastest Kids (FOFK)! They have asked us to have a U12 80m Race during the lunch break for the track. We will be inviting an Olympian or Paralympian athlete at the meet to hand out medals and sign autographs as well as be the starter for the U12 race. This Olympian or Paralympian will also receive \$500.00 for the day. Athletics Ontario is supplying medals and ribbons as well as giving us a \$1,000 hosting grant. Also for the winner of both the boys and girls, will be invited to attend the Provincial Track Meet at York University on the 12th of July! I have added further information on this on the trackie website.

	<p align="center"><b>Annual 2025 Track &amp; Field Meet</b>  <b>June 14, 2025</b></p> <p align="center">Jacob Hespeler Secondary School  355 Holiday Inn Drive, Cambridge, Ontario N3C 1Z2</p>	
<p align="center"><b>100 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b></p> <p align="center"><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ENCOURAGED – THESE ARE YOUR ATHLETES</b></p> <p align="center">Adults of all ages from the surrounding community and Officials from track teams, and parents  All high school students can earn their hours needed to graduate</p> <p align="center"><b>CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL</b></p> <p align="center"><b>BRENDA FUNSTON</b>  Track &amp; Field Coordinator for the Royal Canadian Legion District C  brendafunston1946@gmail.com  519-270-8565</p>		





## **We Will Remember Them**

**The Port Elgin Times**  
**PORT ELGIN, ONTARIO, Wednesday, May 7, 1919**  
**Reception to Soldiers - A Splendid Affair**

The first reception to returned soldiers to be given by Port Elgin Council on behalf of the Corporation was a huge success.

The Town Hall was packed to the doors while many persons stood in the stairways and waited in the lobby until the first part of the program was over, when the pressure of the crowd was relieved with the families of the returned soldiers and their families going to the banquet in the Council Chamber.

The organization of the Reeve, and Council, and the Board of Trade Committee aimed particularly at giving the returned soldier and his family a good time, and from the many expressions heard at the banquet table and during the evening from the guests, the committee succeeded admirably.

At 8:15, Reeve Pattison took his place on the platform, followed by Councillors Cottrill, Brown, Sparrow, and Bowen, Messrs. W. F. Bald, H. H. Stephens, R. J. Reany, F. R. Barber, and E. R. Sayles. The gathering then rose and sang the National Anthem, after which the Reeve provided the official welcome on behalf of the Corporation of the Port Elgin, speaking as follows:

*"As Chairman, on behalf of the Council and Committee of the Board of Trade, I thank you the citizens of Port Elgin, for attending in such goodly numbers, and for thus aiding the Council and Committee in their attempt to some outward and fitting testimonial, and show their admiration of the special deeds and military achievements of our brave boys of the 160th Battalion and other divisions, who fought so valiantly in the great war that has been recently brought to a victorious ending.*

*We are proud to have with us tonight, the defenders of the world's freedom, fresh from the field of battle, where they have won undying fame. We congratulate them on their courage and heroism and feel they have won, for Port Elgin, a conspicuous honour.*

*With parents, brothers, and sisters of those fallen in battle, the Council condoles and hopes that the pride which is theirs to feel will compensate them in some measure for their irreparable loss."*

A program speech and song was then presented by the Chairman, being taken part in by the following: Selections by Rayner's Orchestra; address by W. F. Bald; solos by Miss Webb; R. E. O. Smith; Donald McArthur; Ed. Smith; Ed Fisher; Annie McArthur. Address E. R. Sayles; reading Miss Eidt; instrumental, Miss Ebert and Miss Martin; Miss Raynor and Miss F. George; comic selection, Arthur Harrison and four young lads.

After the program, the Chairman gave an invitation to returned soldiers and their families to go downstairs to the banquet room where tables were in readiness. Here the girls of the Soldiers Friend Club had excelled themselves in laying out, in a very attractive way, covers for 55 persons. It was soon filled up and many of the returned soldiers' families were asked to wait for the second sitting which they graciously did. In the meantime, Raynor's Orchestra was most liberal with their music, and everyone, young and old, enjoyed a social time. After the committee had seen that every man's family had been at the banquet tables all were invited to join in a program of dancing. Of course, this was thought to be mainly for the young people but it was a while before the older ladies and gentlemen realized that they had been young once and went home.

At the banquet, a full-course meal was provided, it was splendidly served by the girls, and too much credit cannot be tendered to them for the willing and capable manner in which they carried out their part of the welcome to the boys.



While the Times is not able to give an accurate list of all the returned men and their families who were present at the banquet, the crowd was too great but those noticed were:

- Pte. Atkinson (Listowel), Mr. & Mrs. G. Atkinson
- Mr. & Mrs. A. Osbourne
- Pte. W. Hendry, Corp. E, Hendry, Mrs. Hendry
- Corp. James Johnstone, and Family.
- Mr. & Mrs. Godfrey Lamont, and Family.
- Pte. Arthur Miller and Mrs. John Miller.
- Mrs. Moulton.
- David Geddes, Esq., the Missus Geddes.
- Signaler Overton, Mr. Overton and family.
- Pte. Andy Shields.
- Mrs. Zant.
- Mrs. Sharp.
- Pte. Don. Robertson, Mrs. Robertson, Pte. Wm. Robertson.
- Pte. Wm. Goar, Wm. Goar Sr. and family.
- Pte. Fred Vogt, Mrs. Vogt and family.
- Mr. & Mrs. Benson.
- Gunner Martin Welsh, the Missus Welsh.
- Pte. James Barrett, and wife.
- Master Saleman.
- Master Robinson, the Missus Robinson,
- Pte. L. Bolender.
- Pte. Gourlay Black.
- Pte. Jim McCollough, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. McCollough and family.
- Mrs. McCaw.
- Pte. Harry Starling, wife and family.
- Pte. Lloyd Darling, Mrs. Darling. Miss Darling.
- Mrs. Shular.
- Mrs. R. Munroe.
- Mrs. Christian, Mr. & Mrs. Lance Christian.
- Pte. Kelleher, and wife.
- Robert Bustrey.
- Miss Gray, Mrs. MacQuarrie, Mrs. McIntyre.
- Pte. Floyd Wismer, Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Wismer.
- Pte. Ewart Geddes, Mrs. Wm. Geddes.
- Pte. George Weishuhm, the Missus Weishuhm.
- Pte. Fred Dresch.
- Pte. Dan Roppell

Quite a number of Port Elgin soldiers who returned some time ago, and have taken up positions in distant places, were unable to be present. Some acknowledged their invitations, and sent their regrets, that they would be unable to come back to the old hometown for the festive occasion. It is the intention of course, of the Council, to welcome those who do return from now on, at some future occasion. The Reeve and his Councillors gave freely of their time, and the preparation for and replacing things after such a large affair was no light work. They have the satisfaction of knowing, however, that the reception was one of the best events that Port Elgin has had in many a long year.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Transcribed: G. William Streeter February 6, 2025







## “My Shining Hour with Vivien Kershaw” Stevie Vallance

**PRESS RELEASE Issued April 8, 2025**

From: Stevie Vallance

Contact info: [toonedinwithstevievallance@gmail.com](mailto:toonedinwithstevievallance@gmail.com)

Phone: (416) 712 -7887

Event: “MY SHINING HOUR with Vivien Kershaw”

Date of Event: May 8, 2025

Time of Event: 6 - 9 PM

Location: The ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, BRANCH 155

13 Grosvenor St. N., in Southampton

Tickets available: Southampton’s Legion’s Bar (3 PM weekdays),

Dizzy Bird coffee (Southampton), Rabbit Dash coffee (Port Elgin)

Ticket Price: \$20 in advance, \$25 on the night of performance (only 100 seats available)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: In celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE-Day, Stevie Vallance is premiering ***MY SHINING HOUR with Vivien Kershaw*** on May 8, at the Southampton Legion.

Portraying her aunt, Stevie will capture the period of 1938 to 1945 through the singing of love songs of WW2 while photos of veterans, that include scenes of Saugeen Shores supplied by war-researcher Bill Streeter, will be projected in the background. “The story will be told from the perspective of my aunt as a young woman who has just married her soldier-love on a weekend leave,” she says. “We will follow Viv through the war: through the loving and the leaving, the letters and the worrying, the waiting and the wondering.” When the war ended in 1945 the military awarded Vivien (who spelled her name in the masculine sense) with a scholarship to study Art in Montreal, where one of her teachers was Arthur Lismer who compared her style to Emily Carr’s.

You may remember Vallance who also wrote, directed and starred in ***The Night Guy Came to Town***, a musical about Guy Lombardo’s performance at the Southampton Dance Pavilion, during the Great Depression. The musical-play was staged at the Southampton Town Hall in 2023, in front of a full house. The audience came dressed in period garb and a group of Southampton residents offered their talent to play their ancestors who attended Guy’s actual Dance in 1935.

### FUTURE:

SAVE THE DATE: ***MY SHINING HOUR with Vivien Kershaw*** will be officially opening at Southampton’s Bruce County Playhouse next November 8 thru 11, honouring Remembrance Day 2025. The show will be modified to incorporate songs from WW1. Performance details to be announced closer to the date.

Stevie L Vallance

[toonedinwithstevievallance@gmail.com](mailto:toonedinwithstevievallance@gmail.com)

416 - 712 - 7887



**LOVE SONGS OF WW2**


THE ROYAL  
CANADIAN LEGION  
BRANCH 155  
13 GROSVENOR ST. N.  
SOUTHAMPTON

TICKETS \$20  
IN ADVANCE  
\$25 AT  
PERFORMANCE  
AVAILABLE:

**STEVIE  
VALLANCE  
&  
JOHN  
MCLELLAND**

**Southampton  
Legion Bar  
Dizzy Bird  
Coffee  
Rabbit Dash  
Coffee**

*PROCEEDS GO  
TO HELPING  
ANIMALS*



**MY  
SHINING  
HOUR**  
with  
**VIVIEN KERSHAW**

**MAY 8** **6 - 9 PM**

[WWW.STEVIEVALLANCE.COM](http://WWW.STEVIEVALLANCE.COM)



One thing they never tell you about child raising is that for the rest of your life, at the drop of a hat, you are expected to know your child's name and how old he or she is.

Someday, when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a mother, I'll tell them: I loved you enough to bug you about where you were going, with whom and what time you would get home. ... I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover your friend was a creep. I loved you enough to make you return a Milky Way with a bite out of it to a drugstore and confess, 'I stole this.' ... But most of all I loved you enough to say no when you hated me for it. That was the hardest part of all.

A child needs your love most when he deserves it least

Grandparenthood is one of life's rewards for surviving your own children.

A grandmother pretends she doesn't know who you are on Halloween.

A grandparent is the only baby-sitter who doesn't charge more after midnight - or anything before midnight.

A grandparent will help you with your buttons, your zippers, and your shoelaces and not be in any hurry for you to grow up.





# Port Elgin Dance Club News



Events are held in the main hall of the Port Elgin Legion.

Hi everyone, here is the dancing schedule for the next few weeks.

## May 2 Regular Dance Program 7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple

(Please note that the Legion is having their Investiture of Officers until 7:30 in the Upstairs Hall. Please wait until they are finished before entering. You can always have a drink in the Pub downstairs, and are allowed to bring those drinks up to the Hall when we open the doors.)

## May 9th, WALTZ LESSON 6:30-7:30 \$10 per person

Followed by Regular Dance program 7:30 - 9:30 for \$5 per couple, practice what you learned

## May 16 Regular Dance Program 7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple

Come out and practice what you are learning

## May 23 RHUMBA LESSON 6:30-7:30 \$10 per person

Regular Dance Program 7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple practice what you learned

Jackie & Don

"The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing"

519-368-7377



The Port Elgin Dance Club is offering  
BEGINNER DANCE LESSONS



Port Elgin Legion Upper Hall, 630 Green St.

\$10 per person per night (Please wear indoor shoes)

Friday Nights 6:30-7:30 p.m.

May 9 Waltz, May 23 Rhumba, June 13 Tango, June 30 Salsa

New Dancers Always Welcome

*(Private lessons or Wedding dance routines are available through our instructor  
Carmen.coburn@icloud.com)*

Mixed Dance Program following 7:30-9 Admission \$5.00 per couple

For Info Contact Don or Jackie Rosart 519-368-7377 jackierosart@gmail.com



**PORT ELGIN LEGION – BRANCH 340**  
**2025 - MONTHLY EVENTS**  
(Event Dates subject to change)

Statutory Holidays  Meat Draws  Bingo

JANUARY 2025							FEBRUARY 2025							MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30	31					

APRIL 2025							MAY 2025							JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

JULY 2025							AUGUST 2025							SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025							DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	1		
							30													

2025 Monthly Events

