

# THE LONDON LINK



427 (LONDON) WING — ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION  
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## 427 Wing Supports London Air Show

Letter from Holly Doty,  
London Air Show, to 427 Wing

Dear Rene,

With your support the London Airshow's SkyDrive came to an unprecedented success. This year, with your support we overcame many obstacles and was able to deliver the ONLY Drive in Airshow in Canada. On behalf of the Board of Directors of Airshow London I would like to extend my gratitude for your participation!

Airshow London 2020 has set a new high in every aspect, attended by over 2200 vehicles and over 600 additional volunteers, guests plus additional support vendors and emergency support we forecast attendance of approximately 10,000 per day. Quite an extraordinary participation due to the safe concept for air show fans this year: Canada's first socially responsible and physically distant air show.

The growth of the brand and the event success is attributed to your support and commitment to this year's event. We couldn't have done it without your partnership.

Thank you for your participation in Airshow London and I look forward to meeting you again at the Airshow London 2021 event scheduled for August 27, 28 & 29, 2021. We will share partnership opportunities by November 2020.



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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.

## 427 (LONDON) WING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director - Acting Chairperson	Gus Cameron	519-457-3575	anc@bell.net
Director - Secretary			
Director	Mike Watts		
Director	Chuck Hardy		chuck.hardy@sympatico.ca
Treasurer			

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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

Web-Site	www.427wing.com		
Membership Chairperson	Chuck Hardy	519-452-1379	chuck.hardy@sympatio.ca
Housing	Tom Pillon	519 660-8099	v33hor@gmail.com
Public Relations and Museum			
Wellness/Parkwood Liaison	Hilda Smeltzer, Hazil Malone	519-657-5759	fhsmeltzer@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	
Museum			
Air Cadet Liaison	Brent Elgie	519-539-5956	lgairs@gmail.com
Lottery			
Advisor	Rene McKinnon	519-471-8003	renemck@sympatico.ca
War Graves, Poppy Fund, Heritage/ History & Veterans' Memorial	David Smith/Terry Rushton David Smith		
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	cathyrwood@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.

- Call for rental rates • Catering IS an option! Call Flo at 519-455-0430 for more information.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

## 1. ELECTION OF NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ballots were mailed in early October to all members in good standing listing the names of nominees for the next Board of Directors. To be a valid vote, members were required to mail or drop off their ballot by the October 24th deadline. The election committee would count the ballots, record the results and post them on the website and Facebook page. The new Board would be sworn in and then meet to decide among themselves who would fill the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board is authorized, per the Wing By-Laws to fill other Board positions by appointment if necessary.

## 2. REOPENING

A detailed and safe reopening plan has been developed. At this writing, with COVID-19 cases raising in a number of regions of the province, the Wing will remain closed until the end of November.

## 3. SUPPORTING THE WING

Since early March when we had to close because of the virus, the loss of revenue from the Friday lunches and rentals has put the Wing in a position of asking members and other generous people to please help us survive by making a donation. There are several ways that this can be done that are outlined on the Wing website.

## 4. HAVE YOUR SAY

Please contact any Board member and express your thoughts and ideas that can be used to serve you better.

***Chuck Hardy Board Member  
for all members of the Board***



**SANTA CLAUS PARADE**  
to be held at London International Airport! Read more at <https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/santa-claus-parade-cleared-for-london-airport-landing>

## Hello from the Election committee

We are pleased to report the results of the 2020/2021 427 (London) Wing Board election.

The number of ballots received  
75

The number of votes to acclaim  
75

The number of votes to not acclaim  
ZERO

The number of spoiled ballots  
ZERO



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**James O. Poag**  
WATCHMAKER – JEWELLER

**James G. Poag**  
GRADUATE GEMOLOGIST  
GOLDSMITH – APPRAISER

**Jeffrey R. Poag**  
GOLDSMITH – DIAMOND SETTER

**Jenny Dortmans**  
GRADUATE GEMOLOGIST

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**Department Supervisors**

Debbie Pierce – Jewellery and Repairs  
Denise Poag – China and Gifts

**Sales Associates**

Bonnie Brittany	Erin Judy Nancy	Shannon B. Shannon C.
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## Member Highlights – Dr. Carolyn Dalgity remembers her Dad, Ed Dalgity *by Linda Brimson*

It's a great thing when dedication to 427 (London) Wing extends through generations. Such is the case in the Dalgity family. RCAF member Ed, was an active Wing member from 1992 until his passing on August 8, 2018. Ed's wife, Freda, would accompany him on Wing bus tours and events. Their adult daughter, Doctor Carolyn Dalgity, joined the Wing last year, in part to carry on the legacy of her father.

Carolyn has personally made several donations to the Wing and continues promoting the Wing in her chiropractic office with Wing pamphlets and a cash jar for her patients to donate to the Wing. She advises when the donations reach a certain level and donations are picked up for deposit.

Her father served in Bomber Command during WWII, and later, was a City of London firefighter and longtime member of the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association (CHAA). He supported the Wing in many ways including donating 50/50 winnings back to the Wing and serving in Board positions. Ed attended the Friday lunches regularly and enjoyed seeing other Wing members and lunch attendees.

Carolyn writes: A bit about Dad that others might not know. He went to H. B. Beal Technical High School in London and at age 17, tried to enlist in the RCAF. As he was underage to be enlisted, Dad hung out at #3 Elementary Flying Training School, (at Crumlin Base), getting a job at #3 and learning to fly under Helen Harrison's tutelage in a Piper Cub. He took pilot training at #6 Service Flying Training School in Dunnville. Just thirty minutes of aerobatics put an end to his dreams of becoming a pilot. He was in RAF Ferry Command, #9 Air Observer School, #1 Initial Training School, #14 SFTS and in 1942 went overseas, joining 426 Thunderbird Squadron in Linton-On-Ouse, England as a leading Aircraftman 1st Class (LAC). He served as ground crew, working most on plane engines. He did manage to go on an "op" (without permission) to bomb a German strong point, and lucky for him the crew returned to base, otherwise Dad would have been AWOL. He left 426 Squadron in January 1945 to join the Tactical Air Force in Europe, ending the war with the 410 Rescue and Salvage Unit. One of Dad's biggest thrills, at age 18, was getting Air Marshall Billy Bishop's autograph. Another was being the second pilot, while flying with Charley Fox at Diest, Belgium in March 1945.

Dad's love of flying was rekindled by flying in Harvards with friend and fellow Wing member, Bruce Tapp. Bruce was a pilot instructor and pilot at CHAA; as well Bruce remains active in both groups.

To be at the Wing was Dad's time to enjoy the friendships he made over the years with fellow aviation enthusiasts. He was happy among his Air Force friends and Wing members. Ed's Remembrance Day tradition was to watch the ceremony from Ottawa in the comfort of his living room while turning the pages of the book *They Shall Grow Not*

Old, remembering those he knew who did not return home from the war.

Dad didn't talk much about the war but I am sure it never left his mind and helped shape him as the man he became – for me, in front of me as a mentor, beside me as a friend and behind me as a support. Dad could name every aircraft, and would often accompany it with a funny story about the plane or pilot at some point in time. Dad believed in hard work. He believed in doing the right thing, and standing by his friends and family, no matter what. He had a profound faith and loved singing hymns from when he was a soloist at Lobo Baptist Church.

Dad went on to become a firefighter and inspector, ending his career with the City of London as the Chief Fire Prevention Officer and true to his form, would recall stories, which would be quite traumatic to some, with humor and good intent. I have heard his firefighting friends recall some of his more daring stunts while working as a firefighter (ask Bruce!). I am sure his time in the war prepared him well for a career in emergency services.

Ed lived a rich and full life in retirement, enjoying his family, grandkids and great-grandchildren. He loved making maple syrup, teaching his grandkids to drive a lawn tractor, watching his offspring play sports. I joined the Wing to keep my Dad close to me and support the Wing as he did.

**About Carolyn:** I graduated from Chiropractic College in 1983. I was inspired by a friend who was seeing a chiropractor for injuries. She loved the treatments she received. I applied and was told that I might not be accepted on my first application. My response was "I know I belong here. I've never felt more right about anything!" I was accepted on my first application! I have been in practice since 1983, and with the help of my Dad opened my own practice in 1990. I moved into my current location at 90 Riverside Drive, London in 1990.

The architecturally interesting house that is my office, was relocated here from Upper Queens Street in 1989. It was built in 1941 as a wedding present for Mr. & Mrs. Humphries by Mrs. Humphries' father.

My love for horses began as a kid. I didn't get my own horse until I was 35. Mom said "Do most people your age take up horseback riding?"

I keep the memories of my dad close to my heart, and work to continue to support the causes he did, in his memory. Recently, I arranged a flight in a CHAA Harvard at Tillsonburg Airport. Knowing this was a highlight of my dad's later years, I was happy to experience the joy that he did while in flight. I even wore his flight suit.

The pandemic and forced office shutdown have taught me a lot, mostly how much I miss the support of my father during difficult times. I had to grow alone in many ways, but still looked to my dad's memories for guidance and courage. I can imagine him saying "Carolyn, you can get through this, there are worse things that could happen." Dad would always advise "chin up" and move forward.



*Ed Dalgity*      *Helen Harrison*      *Ralph Milani*  
CF-BOB  
Lambeth Airfield 1941 - 1942



Left: Ed and Freda Dalgity on WWII veterans trip in England  
Above: Ed Dalgity, Stan Jones and George Howard.



Carolyn Dalgity and parents, Freda and Ed.

# Proud to support the 427 Wing



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## Canada's gift of liberty

Strathroy artist Gerard (Gerry) Triesman had been born in the Dutch city of Rotterdam on April 8, 1941, almost a year after the German bombardment of the port city had destroyed his parents' house.

His father was subsequently transferred to Roermond, the family settling in the quaint village of Maasniel, on the east bank of the Maas River less than a kilometre from the German border.

To alleviate severe food shortages, civilian authorities had set up soup kitchens. Gerry recalls that to reach the soup kitchen, he and his mother trekked through backwoods and fields, a difficult task due to German defence measures. "One day, as we plodded along, explosions and shrapnel suddenly filled the air around us. My mother pushed me to the ground and threw herself on top of me. Holding her head down and shaking like a leaf, she stayed there, sheltering me, until the barrage stopped."

The liberating Americans had reached the west bank of the Maas around the time the First Canadian Army freed the Scheldt Estuary in 1944. On the other side of the river and still in German hands, Roermond came under relentless fire.

Seeing the presence of the Dutch population as an obstacle to defending their position from the Allies, the Germans began to evacuate civilians in mid-January 1945. Gerry's family joined other evacuees on a cold and difficult walk, then a dangerous train voyage, arriving in the village of Parrega in the province of Friesland. The health of Gerry's baby sister Paula had deteriorated on the trip and she tragically succumbed to her illness that February.

"On April 8, my birthday, the long-awaited announcement from England "De fles is leeg" (The bottle is empty) was heard over the radio," said Gerry. "This coded message conveyed to the Dutch that the war would be over very soon and that the Resistance should set its planned sabotage of German operations in motion. The first Canadian armoured vehicles rolled into Friesland from the regions that had already been liberated. The Dutch people cheered the Canadian troops as one town after another was freed. By April 18, the whole province was released from the Germans and exuberant celebrations erupted everywhere".

"Freedom and peace had been regained at a heavy price. Fierce fighting and a heavy loss of life by the Allied Forces, in particular the Canadian military, brought the suffering of the Dutch people to an end. More than 7,600 courageous Canadian soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice during the liberation of the Netherlands. To this day, the Dutch have the highest gratitude and respect for their Canadian liberators. It is no surprise that strong bonds of friendship have developed between the two countries," says Gerry.

After the war, Gerry's family returned to Maasniel in American army trucks and by ferry across the Maas River. During their almost five-month absence, their home had been thoroughly ransacked. "My parents had to start their home anew. But with a strong will and a lot of determination, beginning their new life gave them hope for the future. My father resumed his work as an accountant at the Roermond office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and my mother was happy to be a homemaker again. The summer of



Gerry Triesman, his parents and his younger brother in 1947



An X marks the spot where the Triesman's house stood before the bombardment of Rotterdam by the German Luftwaffe.

1945 was wonderful. Mom was cheerful and often singing while she moved around the house and she never tired of the many bouquets of wildflowers that I picked for her."

Gerry moved to Canada in 1968. He joined *The Art Group*, was a founding member of the *Strathroy & District Writers Association (SDWA)*, and is a member of the local Ukulele Club.

Read Gerry's story "Canada's Gift of Liberty" at: <https://legionmagazine.com/en/2015/05/canadas-gift-of-liberty/> or purchase his book at: <https://www.amazon.ca/Covert-Operations-Task-Force-102-ebook/dp/B07H1P5PHL>



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# The Uncle I Never Knew *by Linda Brimson* **Corporal Joseph Patrick Boland – Jan. 11, 1920 - July 29, 1944**

The Uncle I Never Knew was my Dad's oldest brother. There were five Boland brothers and two sisters, living on the family farm north of Parkhill, Ontario, with their parents, John and Mary.



*The Boland boys of West McGillivray Township: L-Rt. Leonard, Jerry, Lawrence, Jack, Joseph. Taken during Joe's last home visit leave in 1942.*

My Dad's parents were terribly upset, when their oldest son Joseph, came home from a trip to London, Ontario with the news, he had volunteered and enlisted in the Canadian Army. They knew the terrible cost of "the lost generation" of The Great War. During World War I (1914-1918), from a Canadian population of just under 8 million, approximately 7 per cent of the total population was in uniform, with hundreds of thousands more working on the home front in support of the war. More than 44,000 lost their lives and 54,000 were wounded. There was no "active deployment" conscription in WW II; Joe and his friend signed up that day, under no obligations to enlist nor to further volunteer for overseas service.



On March 20, 1940, Joe went in training at Chatham in Essex County, later to Camp Borden, Niagara-on-the-Lake, London, and the last two years of his training in Vancouver, before going overseas as a Canadian Fusilier in 1943.

While overseas he was transferred to the Essex Scottish Regiment. Early in July, 1944, he went to France, where he was

killed in action the 29th of the same month. My Uncle Jack has gleaned information on his brother's short time in France during the month following the D-Day landings of June 6, 1944.

Joe's last letter home was dated March 10, 1944 and he wrote, "I think it will soon be over as far as Germany is concerned." Four months later, after a sleepless night spent crawling on his belly through a French wheat field near Caen, Joe was struck by machine gun fire and killed as his regiment tried to take control of a German-occupied road. Joe was 24 years old. [1]

On the same day that Joseph was killed, a neighbor and good friend from McGillivray Township, Harvey Lewis, went missing. Lewis was a pilot officer. Uncle Jack managed to find the tombstone of Joe's best friend, Matt Brash of London, Ontario, who was killed in the same battle, within a few days of Joe. [2]

At that time, there was no repatriation of bodies. There were temporary graves, and later, a grateful France worked with Canada to set up the War Graves Commission. Joseph Patrick Boland is buried with 2,792 other Canadian soldiers. There are 91 unknown soldiers in graves, with the marker "Known Unto God." Also buried there are 79 members of the RCAF.

In 1987, Uncle Jack toured the Caen, France area, with his son, a Canadian Forces member. In post-war years, before jet travel was common and affordable, surviving family members didn't visit overseas graves. Jack was the only immediate family member to visit his brother's grave at Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery. Jack shared that he found the experience very emotional. "To think they're far away and have died with no relatives. It was so quiet, so lonely – walking up and down the graveyard, looking at the headstones, I couldn't believe how young they were." Jack explained that the sight of so many graves gave him a sense of Canada's monumental sacrifice in the First and Second World Wars. [3]

I've visited Caen and Canadian war cemeteries in the area, twice. I took my son when he was young because I wanted him to have a sense of history and know this family veteran. Corporal Joseph Patrick Boland lives on, because we remember him and his sacrifice. He has two nephews that have served proudly with the Canadian Forces. I stand very honored and humbled, on November 11th, when his name is called out at the Parkhill Legion Remembrance Day Service, and later at the nearby Lieury cenotaph. That hamlet where the Bolands attended a one-room schoolhouse, has a monument with names of fallen sons.

For the Boland family, Joseph's parents and siblings, the war was lost when they received the dreaded telegram – "Killed In Action", informing them of Joe's death. Like thousands of other Canadian service families, a terrible gaping hole was ripped in the family, and the grief that lasts a lifetime, began.

Joe left behind a fiancée in Vancouver, a grieving family and an unfinished life. Three further generations live today with the proud knowledge that his sacrifice and service made a difference. Our freedom enjoyed today, came at a tremendous price. "We will remember."



*Photos from family albums and the Bretteville-Sur-Laize Cemetery website.) Above: Jack Boland places flowers on his brother Joseph's grave, in 1987. (Bretteville-Sur-Laize Cemetery). Left: War Memorial at hamlet of Lieury, Ontario.*

[1] [2] [3] Mark Bisset wrote about Joseph Boland, in an article for the Exeter Times-Advocate newspaper, Nov. 11, 1987. Bretteville-Sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery. It is located beside the road to Falaise, 14 kilometres from Caen, France.

**The Story Continues** *Reprinted from the Wortley Villager*  
by **Connie Weir**, SCAA Executive Editor/Writer,  
*Knowing No Defeat*

It's now more than three years since the SCAA (South Collegiate Alumni Association) published *Knowing No Defeat*, a memorial tribute to the 57 alumni who lost their lives in military service during World War II. From the time she became aware of it, Cathy Wood, Managing Editor of the *Wortley Villager*, has been incredibly supportive, promoting the book on several occasions and including one of these alumni profiles in the November issue for the past three years. Of the 300 copies printed, only a handful remain to be sold. As gratifying as this sales success is, the most rewarding result of our efforts has been in terms of the human responses, which we are still continuing to receive.

On August 28th, Cathy sent me an email after seeing a post on the Facebook Group "*If You Grew Up In London, Ontario, You Will Remember When...*". This post, written by a young man in the Netherlands, Jesse Verkruijssen, began with "Hi Canadians! I have a question for you." Having heard stories from his grandparents about how bad the war was, Jesse said he had "always wanted to somehow thank the men who fought for our freedom", so decided to "adopt" two WW II war graves. One of the graves that Jesse assumed the care of belonged to Leonard Albert Stock, a 19-year-old Canadian soldier from London, who died in 1941 and was buried in Eindhoven Cemetery, near Woensel. Although he had access to Leonard's war records, he had little information about his family and wanted to learn more. Hence his question to Canadians reading his post, hoping that someone might be able to help him track down any of Leonard's relatives, so he could tell them that "there is a Dutch fellow still taking care of his grave".

Cathy's hunch that Leonard might have been one of South's 57 war dead was correct and I immediately replied to Jesse's post and arranged to send him a copy of Leonard's profile from our book. I wasn't sure I could help him locate any family members, but I clearly underestimated the popularity and power of Facebook groups, because Jesse's post garnered more than 300 responses in the space of just a few days, most of them simply wanting to thank Jesse for what he was doing. As most Canadians probably know, the Dutch have never forgotten the role played by Canadian soldiers in liberating their country in the months following D-Day, and their appreciation has taken many forms, including the meticulous care of war graves in Dutch cemeteries.

Other responses were more personal in nature, including one from a woman whose 96-year-old mother had lived down the street from the Stock family when they lived on Front Street before the 1937 flood. Even more amazing, responses came from four different family members, whose grandmother, Fanny Ellen (Stock) Hazeltine was Leonard's aunt, his father's sister. Fanny and her husband, Thomas Hazeltine, also lived on Front Street with their three children, Horace, Thomas & Margaret (Peggy).

While all three of Fanny's children have passed away, five of her grandchildren are still alive and four of these second cousins shared information with Jesse. Mary Jane Venus 8 | NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



Leonard Albert Stock (1922 –1941)

remembers going with her father (Thomas) to visit Leonard's father, who had a greenhouse in his back yard. The photo shows her at her great uncle Albert's, circa 1960.

Her cousin, Janet Jesson, mentioned that her mother (Margaret) had known that the Dutch were looking after Leonard's grave after the war and that it was wonderful that this care was still continuing.

Janet's sister, Carol Deschenes, scanned a couple of old family photos for Jesse, one of which I have included here.

Jackie (Hazeltine) Van Wiechen ('82), a South grad and the youngest of Horace's three daughters, admitted that she hadn't even been aware that her grandmother had a brother living in London and was pleased to receive a copy of Leonard's profile and learn more about him.



Following his communications with these four cousins, Jesse posted an update with the new information he had learned. Leonard's only sibling, Sybil, was born in 1916, in Rushden, Northamptonshire, England, during WW I. Sometime after the war, Leonard's parents, Albert James Stock and Emily Elizabeth (Thorneycroft) emigrated to Canada and

were living at 101 Front Street, east of Wellington, when Leonard was born January 5, 1922. After the 1937 flood washed away all the homes on this section of Front Street, the Stock family relocated to a home at 59 Raymond Avenue and the Hazeltine family moved to a home on Wellington Road. Both families continued to attend Christ Church Anglican on Wellington.

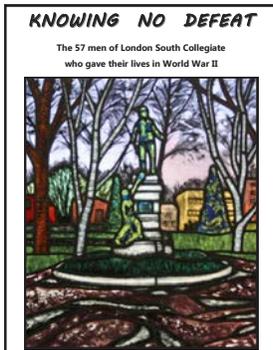
Jesse was also excited to learn that Leonard's sister Sybil had married a man named Louis Henry Snyder and they had had two children, Mary Elizabeth and Paul Snyder. Unfortunately, no contact information was available, but Jesse indicated that he is still hoping to find a way to contact Leonard's niece and nephew, his two closest family members.



Mary Jane Venus

As noted in our two-page profile, which can be read in full on the alumni website [www.southalumni.ca](http://www.southalumni.ca), Leonard attended Tecumseh PS and then South Collegiate. After graduating in 1940, he joined the RCAF and trained as an Observer. In the spring of 1941, he arrived in England and was assigned to 102 Squadron of the RAF. Unfortunately, just a little more than three months later, on September 7, 1941, his plane was shot down over the Dutch-German border, killing Leonard and all his crewmates.

To conclude, I want to thank Cathy Wood again for her support, as well as Jesse Verkruyssen and Leonard's four second cousins, Mary Jane, Janet, Carol and Jackie. It has been wonderful to communicate with Jesse and to see the response that his Facebook post elicited. It has also been wonderful to add to our knowledge of this young South alumni to whom we paid tribute in our book.



Knowing No Defeat was published by the South Collegiate Alumni Association, a non-profit organization created in 1999 and involved in a variety of school oriented projects and activities.

The book profiles the 57 men of London South Collegiate school who gave their lives in World War II, a compelling and important historic account.

They are available at Tuckeys Home Hardware or by emailing South Collegiate Alumni Association at [contact@southalumni.ca](mailto:contact@southalumni.ca) while quantities last.

## London Streets of Honour

*Reprinted from the Wortley Villager*

London's Streets of Honour Policy encourages naming new streets after London residents who served in the Armed Forces or London Police or Fire Departments or Emergency Measures Services or City of London Employees, Council and Committee members who have served the City for a period of 25 years or more, and are retired and/or deceased; and recipients of the Mayor's Honour List.

By selecting 'Streets of Honour' on the city's interactive map at <https://london.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2923998cf6594ebaa22e56c1e5b38923>, you can see all of London's designated Streets of Honour. By clicking the red line on the street, you can learn more about the person that the street was named for. Here are three examples:



Southcott Court is named for Pilot Officer **Ward Rex Southcott** of the Royal Canadian Air Force (50 RAF Squadron) who died on February 21, 1945 and is buried in the Netherlands Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.

Ward was born in London on the 15th of May 1915 and went to Tecumseh Avenue Public School and H. B. Beal Technical School. He was a member of Wellington Street United Church.

A Sergeant in the Postal Corps, Ward was transferred to the Royal Canadian Air Force in February 1943 and was promoted in England to the rank of Flying Officer on the 20th of February 1945. He was killed in action at age 29, while on air operations against Gravenhorst, Germany in Lancaster aircraft # LL 741 which crashed near Helenaveen, Holland, February 21st 1945. We will remember him.



Dowell Drive was named for **George Edward Dowell**. Born October 11, 1911, he was the son of George and Martha Christina Dowell and husband of Mary Gwendolyn Dowell of 54 Euclid Avenue. George attended Victoria Public School. He served in the Canadian Fusiliers from 1935 to 1940 when he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was 28 years old when killed instantly during an air raid at Aldershot, England when a German bomb fell on the battalion's bivouac area near the village of Charlwood on the 25th of August 1940. We will remember him.

Drummond Place is named for **Stuart Drummond** who died on February 19, 1945. He was born in London on October 7th 1921, the son of John and Joan Drummond of 51 Edward Street.

While on active service Stuart was killed in action at age 23 near Bedburgh, Germany, on the 19th of February 1945 and was buried at Nuzmegen, Holland. We will remember him.



# Membership Report

## **DON HATCH – MAY 20, 1930 – SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**

On a bright and warm day, Don slipped the surly bonds of earth as his kind and gentle heart stopped beating, in his 91st year.

Born in Guelph, he graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1953 and worked for 37 years in various capacities in the chemical industry. Don travelled Canada, the USA and England and retired in London in 1990.

He joined the Wing in 1998 and served as treasurer and as a Spooner Committee member. He earned his private pilot's licence. Everything about aircraft brought him joy. Don was a past President of the Humanist Association of London and area. He was a member of the Recreational Aircraft Association that meets regularly at the Wing.

Don was pre-deceased by his wife Winnagene of 60 blessed years of marriage. He is survived by his sister Margaret, brother George and nieces Melodie Ellis, Angela Hermary and Michelle Serena. He is deeply missed by his children Allison Cunningham of London and Graham of Port Moody, BC.

WE WILL REMEMBER HIM

## **KEVIN ACS – JULY 19, 1957 – OCTOBER 11, 2020**

Kevin passed away suddenly at the age of 63. He is survived by his wife Tracey.

Kevin joined 427 (London) Wing in March 2006. He served with 614 Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force Cadets.

He was an instructor and was a member of a number of service and community organizations in Lucan and in London.

WE WILL REMEMBER HIM

If you move, change your phone number or e-mail address, please let the Wing know of the change(s) so that the records can be updated.

Most members, as of early October have renewed their membership dues. With little income, because of COVID-19, membership dues and fundraising efforts are the main source of income.

Elsewhere in this edition of the Link, you will see information on important issues.

I wish everyone good health and best wishes.

The next edition is January/February 2021 – early seasonal greetings to all readers.

*Chuck Hardy, Membership Chairperson*



On Tuesday, October 27th, Directors Chuck Hardy (centre) and Gus Cameron (right), placed a wreath at 427 (London) Wing, Spooner Memorial Garden. Tom Pillon, Howard Johnston, Flo Douglas and new Director Linda Brimson attended the 2020 Remembrance Ceremony, on behalf of Wing members. At right is Rene McKinnon who officiated at swearing in ceremony of Chuck, Gus, and new Director, Linda.

## Cameron's Corner

We find ourselves in a constant "On hold" in our society these days! This has been our situation since COVID-19 came upon us in March 2020. Indications are it will be among us for a long time and will be until a proven vaccine is developed, hopefully early next year.

What can be done in the meantime? Certainly keeping Wing members and all readers as informed as we can as we also change to a new Board of Directors in late October. You will see in other articles in this edition that the Wing will be closed until at least November 30th.

As Chairperson of the current Board, I am so proud of the continued support of our members and friends that keep contributing in many ways. It gives me great pleasure and comfort to see continued kindness, monetary support, donations of home made masks. Thank you so much.

We monitor the progress and press releases from all levels of government. We are impressed with the hard work of scientists, health professionals and front line health employees who work many long hours to help keep Canadians safe.

We all look forward to the end of this world wide virus.

With your patience and help in this stressful environment, the epidemic will be wrestled to the ground.

Stay safe, visit the Wing website and at any time, please contact me or other Board members with your thoughts. May your festive activities be bright and cheerful. God bless you all.

*Gus Cameron*



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*From Flo and Directors at the Wing*

*Dear Members and Friends:  
We miss you all and often think of you.  
We wish each of you, peace and happiness.*

*Reach out, and keep in touch.*

*Please keep our dear 427 Wing family  
in your thoughts and prayers.*



1913



2013

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic 427 Wings most events are cancelled until further notice. For more information on the Wing please call 519 455-0430 and leave a message and we will get back to you.**

The poppy is the recognized symbol of remembrance for war dead. The flower owes its significance to the poem In Flanders Fields, written by Major (later Lieutenant-Colonel) John McCrae, a field surgeon in the Canadian artillery, in the midst of the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium, in May 1915.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep,  
though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields.



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### Benefits Payment Calendar 2020

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.

**November 26, 2020 • December 29, 2020**

CPP payments include the CPP retirement pension, CPP disability, children's benefits and survivor's benefits. OAS benefits are made out on the same dates and include the OAS pension, Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Allowance and Allowance for the Survivor.

# BIRTHDAY BRATS



## NOVEMBER HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Al Horton, Brad Keeler, Mike Meade, Jack Pettit, Al Szawara,  
Marilyn Turner and Lindsay Mathysen.

## DECEMBER HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Joanne Banyard, Linda Brimson, Len Fallowfield, John Funston,  
Howard Johnston, Rob Leroy, Ken Lilley, Keith Mathysen, John Pederson,  
Ann Smith, Pam Storey, Mike Watts, and Bill Weir



*“The older the fiddler,  
the sweeter the tune.”*

*-English Proverb*



## 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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# November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMING SOON!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SILENT AUCTION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Spring 2021</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>97th Anniversary</b>  <b>of the founding of the</b>  <b>Royal Canadian Air Force</b>  <b>Friday, April 02, 2021.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Watch for details at  <a href="http://www.427wing.com">http://www.427wing.com</a>,                      your London Link newsletter and                      the 427 Wing's Facebook page                      for updates</p>		26	27	28
29	30			29	30	

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic 427 Wings most events are cancelled until further notice. For more information on the Wing please call 519 455-0430 and leave a message and we will get back to you.**

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					3	4
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		

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic 427 Wings most events are cancelled until further notice. For more information on the Wing please call 519 455-0430 and leave a message and we will get back to you.**

**Please call 519-455-0430 or visit the  
427 (London) Wing Facebook page for updates.**