



Rattler report for November 10, 2017 — contributed by Bruce Ferguson



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.

LEST WE FORGET

It was Charlie's idea to ask the club to share personal stories at our pre-Remembrance Day breakfast, and he was first up with a heartfelt account of his father's experiences during the Second World War, much of which he endured in prison camps. Charlie's dad kept meticulous records as he was constantly moved by his captors, including to Stalag Luft III, site of the famous "Great Escape". He was able to study enough during his captivity to gain entrance to UBC upon his return to Canada! Charlie also showed us a large, patriotic war bond advertisement from a Calgary newspaper that featured his dad in uniform. George and Terry also shared their poignant memories of visiting European battlefields and memorials. Terry underlined that we all need to be diligent in sharing our memories — lest they're forgotten.

• It was noted that Murrayville was about to host its first Remembrance Day ceremony at its recently restored cenotaph.



CHARLES FOX, Charlie's dad

Dates to note:

- Nov. 15, 23, 30:** Starfish packing, ACSS.
- Nov. 16, 7 p.m.:** Re-creations hair show and entertainment by ACSS students.
- Nov. 25:** Pasta Party at St. Dunstan's. (Tickets \$20, very few left, see Howie.)
- Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m.:** Christmas lights ceremony at Dave Lede House (children's hospice), Abbotsford. All invited.
- Dec 3:** Aldergrove Christmas lights go up.
- Dec. 3:** Next Station House meat draw.
- Dec. 8:** Club AGM.
- Dec. 9, 6 p.m:** Aldergrove Christmas Light-Up Parade.
- Dec. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23:** Salvation Army kettles at our Otter Co-op (sign up with Cecelia).
- Dec. 15:** Christmas breakfast at Krause Berry Farms. Sign up with Angie. Bring a wrapped, unlabelled gift costing \$20 for the gift exchange.

Speakers:

- Nov. 17:** Charmaine Hammond, one-time prison officer, now author and motivational speaker.
- Dec. 1:** Chris Fox on wind-energy, its present and its future. Send advance questions to Charlie.

Footnote: A plea from Wes — don't leave meeting-agenda items until the last minute!

GUEST

Making his third appearance . . . Scott Hyde, on whom Howie has apparently worked his membership-application magic. Is Brian's early-1990s' record up for grabs?



Beverly Robinson and Randall Williams.