

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

### Happy Birthday

Nov. 15 Ken Paterson Nov. 17 Wendy Whitter

### Happy Anniversary

### Upcoming Speakers:

Nov. 11 **NO MEETING ON REMEMBRANCE DAY** Nov. 18 Nov. 25

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

**[Note:** Because our Rotary meeting will be cancelled on Remembrance Day, Tuesday November 11, our regular meeting on November 4, 2025 was held at the Royal Canadian Legion on 224<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Maple Ridge.]

President **Alex Pope** presided.

Guests (apart from our speaker) included:

**Peter Tam**, Assistant Governor of our Area M  
**Terri Peacock**, President of the Haney Rotary Club  
**Warren Dale**, husband of Adrienne  
**Bridgette Felch-Munro**, mother of Barbara Pope  
**Ray Peterson**, soon-to-be our newest member.

**The Travelling Miniature Peace Arch** - District 5050's symbol of inter-club fellowship



Terri and Alex with model of the Peace Arch

**Terri Peacock**, President of the Haney Rotary Club, passed on to our club the Travelling Miniature Peace Arch together with the privilege and expectation of carrying on the tradition that a contingent from our club will pass it along to other Rotary Clubs, and, if possible, to clubs across our southern boarder as a symbol of international friendship.



In this picture, our current **District Governor Isabelle Hayer** (RC Surrey) is shown handing the Travelling Peace Arch to then District Governor **Dave Duskin** (RC Arlington).

As stated online, "The Travelling Peace Arch was conceived by PDG Mel Hollinger in 1989, and when Mel was installed as District Governor in 1990, he implemented the program with the following words:

*This Peace Arch is a symbol of friendship between our two countries. The object is to encourage us to travel back and forth across the border to neighbouring clubs to visit and enjoy Rotary. It must not sit on one side of the border for long periods of time.*

The Traveling Peace Arch has evolved into a vibrant celebration of friendship and Rotary spirit. Now, it's a dynamic way to explore and connect with clubs across borders by sharing stories and experiences. True to Mel Hollinger's vision, it remains a symbol of friendship and encourages regular cross-border visits ... When a club has received a surprise visit from the latest custodian of District 5050's symbol of inter-club fellowship, it is their responsibility to pass it on across the border as quickly as possible."

The current Travelling Peach Arch miniature is a different one from the one used by PDG Mel Hollinger in 1990 because the original miniature arch has actually been lost.



In this picture taken in 2012, **Brock Stiles** (standing on the left) of the Sedro-Woolley Rotary Club presented the original one to **Terry Becker**, who was at that time President of our Rotary Club of Meadow Ridge.

#### Ineke Boekhorst – a brief talk about ShelterBox

ShelterBox began in 2000 as a Rotary Club's millennium project in Cornwall, UK. With the support of Rotary members and clubs around the world, ShelterBox grew to become an internationally recognized, independent disaster relief organization. Since 2012, ShelterBox and Rotary have been official Project Partners in disaster relief, providing **a place of refuge to people facing some of the most difficult and uncertain moments in their lives**. ShelterBox is a **global community with a shared purpose – no one without shelter after disaster**. ShelterBox provides emergency shelter and aid essentials at times of disaster, conflict and climate crisis.

ShelterBox is, right now, responding in the Caribbean after Hurricane Melissa swept across the region leaving a trail of destruction – widespread flooding, landslides, and damage to homes. Hurricane Melissa made landfall as the strongest storm of 2025, the first Category 5 hurricane to ever directly hit Jamaica, and the most powerful hurricane to make landfall anywhere in the world for 90 years. ShelterBox is able to act quickly. And provide Emergency shelter supplies - including tents, tarpaulins,

blankets, water carriers, mosquito nets, solar lights and much more - ShelterBox supplies are pre-positioned in Barbados and Panama, ready to support up to 10,000 people in the region.

**ShelterBox often works in places that others don't, making sure to reach families who need support to take the next step in resuming their livelihoods.** In these uncertain times, your support is more valuable than ever. **Thanks to your incredible support and the help of our partners worldwide, ShelterBox provided shelter to over 270,000 people in 2024.** We won't stop until we see a world where no one is left without shelter after disaster. Will you help us?

**Contact Ineke for more information about making your tax-deductible donation, or e-Transfer your donation directly to Walter.**

#### Program: John Vanderelst – Thoughts about Remembrance Day



**John Vanderelst - Service Officer for the Maple Ridge Legion**

#### John's Bio:

John has been a member of the Royal Canadian Legion since 1988 when he joined the Dominion Command Legion 003 in Germany. He is the Service Officer for the Maple Ridge Legion, and has served in this position for the last 12 years. John's first exposure to the military was 2 years of compulsory cadet service in his early teens in his hometown in Ontario. This program originated in WWI and was terminated in the schools in the mid 1960's.

He later joined the Canadian Armed Forces Infantry in 1971, and after completing basic training in New Brunswick, then served for 15 years based in Calgary. He was Infantry for the first 6 years, then spent the next 26 years in logistics in France. After this, he spent a further 6 years in the Army Reserves working in finance with the Cadets in Vernon BC summer program.

During his long career he spent time with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and spent 6 months in the Middle East. He was stationed at a radar base in Northern Ontario, and then in Germany from 1987-1990. He retired in Vancouver with the rank of Warrant Officer. He likes to dabble in the Stock Market, listen to audio books, and play the card game of Euchre, where he says his teammates are very kind to him and let him 'cheat' due to his failing eyesight.

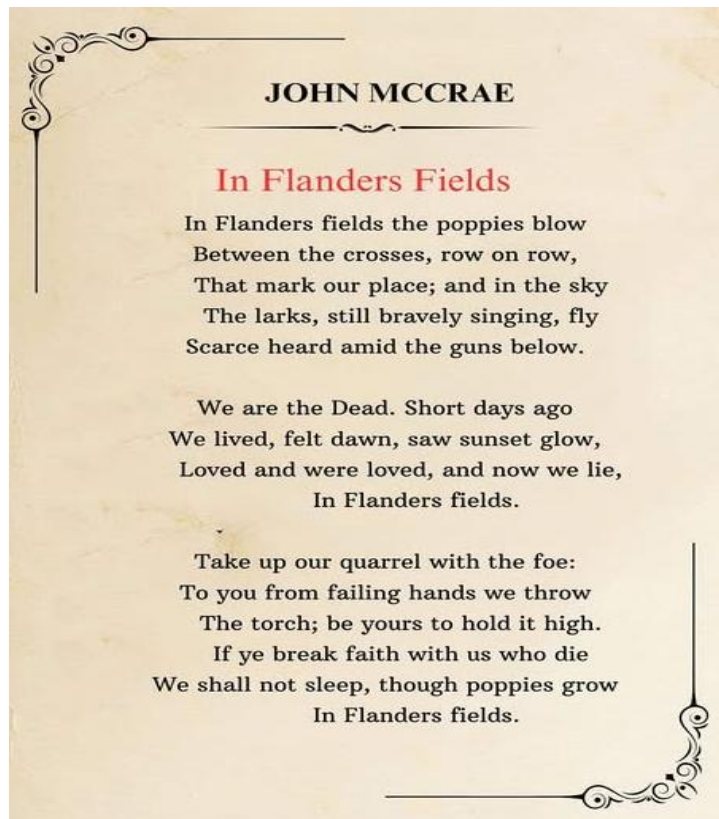


### A (very) brief summary of John's Presentation

In World War I, around 600,000 Canadian men and women participated in the war by enlisting as soldiers, nurses and chaplains. Approximately 66,000 of those persons were killed in battle and about 130,000 were wounded, plus many others suffered from PTSD. [Worldwide, the "Great War" caused approximately 40 million casualties, including 15 to 22 million deaths and around 23 million wounded. Civilian deaths also accounted for a significant portion, with estimates of 6 to 13 million]. Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria were allied against Great Britain, France, the United States, and Italy (the "Big Four").

On November 11, 1918 at 11 AM, hostilities ceased. Remembrance Day began as Armistice Day to commemorate the end of World War I. [An "armistice" is a temporary ceasefire to stop fighting, like the one ending WWI hostilities, while the Treaty of Versailles, signed on June 28, 1919, was a permanent peace treaty that officially ended the war. November 11 was officially changed to Remembrance Day in Canada in 1931 to honor all who have served in the nation's defense. The poppy became a symbol of remembrance after Canadian poet John McCrae wrote "In Flanders Fields".]

John believes that if there had been a proper and fair peace treaty negotiated (instead of the Treaty of Versailles that imposed harsh terms on Germany), World War 2 could have been avoided. He also believes that we should not call November 11 a "holiday", which is not a good word for Remembrance Day. It is his opinion that, in spending money on the military, the government should spend more money on doctors and nurses and medical preparation than on military equipment because, in these modern times - with wars being waged with drones rather than soldiers on the battlefield - the way wars are fought has changed dramatically.



In addition to **John Vanderelst's** presentation, **Eric Mollema** and **Mark Vosper** told us about their "Veteran" experiences - Eric's in South Africa, and Mark's in England and Germany.

Happy & Sad Dollars included:

**Michelle Oleschak** - Happy about the RM Hospital Foundation fundraiser; she assists with this annual event and they raised the MOST EVER - \$465,000 this year!

The **Pope's** son (**Eddy**, not Giovanni Borgia) a progeny of **Barbara and Alex**, is starting his first job at Save-on-Foods in Coquitlam.

**Adrienne** - Happy that today's meeting at the Legion came together so nicely....and thanking **Yvonne** for finding **John Vanderelst**, as our guest speaker; and thanking **Eric & Mark V.** presenting about their "Veteran" experiences....in light of the upcoming Remembrance Day.

**Susan, Debbie** and **Ineke** between them donated \$40 Happy Dollars for the Dahlias provided by **Lynda DeBruyn** to raise funds for our Club.



### President's Closing Quip

Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd broke into a distillery. Bugs looked at all the barrels lined up, turned Elmer, and said "is this whiskey?" Elmer replied, "yes, but it's not as wisky as wobbling a bank".

### Puns for the week



Today I saw a midget climbing down a prison wall and I thought to myself... That's a little condescending!

In democracy it's your  
vote that counts; In  
feudalism it's your  
count that votes.

Mogens Jallberg

A backward poet writes inverse.



**Feudalism**  
**It's your Count that**  
**Votes**

Submitted by Laurie Anderson