



# The Probian

May 2022

## Probus Club of Perth



The "Merry Month" of May saw the blooming of beautiful wildflowers. These Buttercups are native to our area. However, that sudden windstorm was nasty!

May is a busy month for members with cottages and also for those who are passionate about their gardens.



Photo courtesy of Rob Rainer

May is also resplendent with the gentle fragrance of lilacs and the lush beauty of Mulberry trees. How lovely it is to see gardens with delightful tulips in full bloom displaying their brilliant multi-colours. Oh, yes, must not forget about the 'thousands-upon-thousands' of 'dandelions!'



Photo courtesy a friend visiting family in London, England, April 2022



'Joyous June' is upon us! It's 'wildlife' birthing time'. June is also considered the 'favoured month' for weddings. This is not intended to imply other months are not equally favourable. There appears to be some 'mystique' about being a 'June Bride'!



*There's an old adage that: 'Birds of the feather stick together' ...*



## JUNE MEETING:

Our upcoming ZOOM meeting on June 1st begins at 9:40 a.m.  
with a social time.

The Presentation begins at 10:00 a.m.

## JUNE SPEAKER:



Canada.

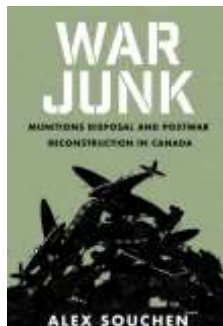
Dr. Alex Souchen is the author of *War Junk: Munitions Disposal and Postwar Reconstruction in Canada* (UBC Press, 2020). His research mainly focuses on the Second World War, Canadian society, munitions production and disposal, and the history of waste and pollution. He received his PhD from the University of Western Ontario in 2016 and is currently a Humanities Instructor at Northern Lakes College and a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Royal Military College of

**Topic: "How Canadians Reduced, Reused, and Recycled War Junk after the Second World War."**

During the Second World War, Canadian factories produced an astonishing array of munitions and supplies. However, after the war ended, a major disposal crisis emerged when much of this materiel became surplus to requirements. These assets — which ranged from thousands of ships, aircraft, and vehicles, to millions of uniforms, firearms, and bullets — had all been acquired with public funds, which forced the government to enact a disposal strategy for divesting its surpluses to the best advantage of the Canadian state.

So, what happened to Canada's leftover arsenals? Dr. Alex Souchen's presentation explores how the Canadian government and military disposed of the remnants of war and the ways in which military technologies were diffused into peaceful purposes. With shortages of new goods running rampant in 1945 and 1946, the assets accumulated to fight were often the only things available for reconstruction and rehabilitation. Therefore, Canadians had little choice but to get thrifty. This talk (and the book it's based on) will explain how Canadians reduced, reused, and recycled war junk to improve their postwar lives.

**Links for the book 'War Junk': [UBC Press](#) and [Amazon](#)**



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

We have 205 members! Should anyone wish to join the Probus Club of Perth from this point on, he/she will be placed on a Waiting List. When a vacancy presents itself, the first person on the Waiting List will be advised.



*May New Members:*

**Jane Conley  
Ross McNaughtan  
Lois & David Perreault  
Marg Stephenson**

Aline McRory • Membership Committee

  
**Be Happy!**



— SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT —

• Social Events for May & June •

**Probus Perth's First Outing of 2022!**

On April 28<sup>th</sup> an enthusiastic group of 12 Perth Probians had a lovely dinner at The Vault followed by the comedy "Halfway There", presented by Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. All were pleased to make a social connection with Probian friends once again!



**—Social Events in May—**

Restrictions are continuing to lift but situations are difficult to predict. Studio Theatre will be at half capacity and require masks when moving through the building in May. Personal masking decisions are in place when seated. It is expected that all group members are vaccinated, symptom-free and abide by social distancing wherever possible. We will keep our basket of masks, sanitizers, wipes, and gloves with us to support healthy choices.



## An Evening of Dinner & Theatre!

Thursday, May 26th. Dinner at Michael's Table at 5:00 P.M. This event is currently booking for 16. Reserve your place with Gail at [social-gail@probusperth.ca](mailto:social-gail@probusperth.ca)



"**This Year, Next Year**" by Norah Harding is presented by Studio Theatre. 16 tickets have been reserved at \$19. This will ensure block seating. Please pay Gail at this event with cash, cheque or in advance by eTransfer.

## —Social Events in June—



### The Lockmaster's Taphouse & Patio

Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. Location: 32 Beckwith St. S., Smiths Falls

Weather permitting; We will enjoy the rooftop patio overlooking the beautiful falls! Online menu at <https://lockmastertaphouse.com/menu/> Sign up with Gail at [social-gail@probusperth.ca](mailto:social-gail@probusperth.ca) .



### Lunch and Theatre in Gananoque

Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> Lunch at **Muskie Jake's Tap & Grill**, 12 noon at 550 Stone Road.

— ••• —

'**The Perfect Wedding**' by Robin Hawdon is presented by **Thousand Island Playhouse**.

50 tickets have been reserved at \$37. Six tickets are handicapped. Please reserve lunch and theatre with Mary at [social-mary@probusperth.ca](mailto:social-mary@probusperth.ca). Please pay by e-Transfer to Probus Club of Perth or send a cheque to Probus Club of Perth, Box 20131 Shoppers Drug Mart, Perth, On K7H 3M6. For e-Transfers go to Probus Club of Perth for Policy Instructions.



## Community Update: Events that may be of interest to you!

### May 28th:

**Spring Perth Night Market** (Note that the Farmer's Market opened May 7th.)

### *June Harmony Concerts presented by Studio Theatre:*

- ✚ June 11th — Gatherin Sparks
- ✚ June 17th — Garnet Rogers
- ✚ June 18th — Durham County Poets
- ✚ June 25th — North Eston

**June 17 to 19th — 9:00 to 5:00 P.M.**

**Kiwi Gardens** presents "**Art in the Garden**" where you can wander their 10 gorgeous acres and find delightful art for enhancing your home garden.

**Tickets are available at:**

<https://artinthegarden.ticketsplease.ca/product/art-in-the-garden/>

— •• —

**June 25th:**

**The Royal Theatre**, Gananoque, presents **Al Lerman**

— •• —

**July 15-17th:**

**Stewart Park Festival** will be in-person this year!

— •• —

**July 28th — August 7th:**

**Studio Theatre** presents "**The Lone Rider — A number of Ways to Die in the West**"

Social Committee Conveners • Mary Kilgour & Gail Read



**Photos of Don's  
Birthday Celebration  
are on the next page  
with special thanks to  
Gary Waterfield ,,,**

**On Monday, May 16th, 25 Probians honoured Don Sherwin on his 91st birthday with a lunch at the Gather. It is a Probus tradition to take our new nonagenarians to lunch. Don has belonged to Probus since 2006. He was a valuable member of the Management Team when Don was Treasurer for 9 years. After lunch, Mary Kilgour said some kind words about Don and wished him a Happy Birthday. President Lois-Anne Brebner presented Don with his 90-year-old certificate. Don thrilled all of us by telling us about his life of recreation and volunteering in his retirement. It was on a hike that he met his wife Christine McGuire. Rob Newby lead us in singing Happy Birthday.**

Submitted by: Mary Kilgour

# What a Life!



## Editor's Note:

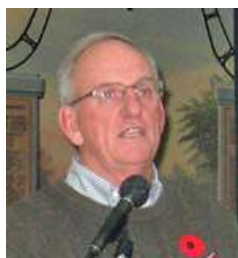
Don has a long history of being very actively and passionately involved with the Rideau Trail in Perth. For the benefit of new members, I take liberty including a couple of photos of this well-loved hiking trail.



Painting Courtesy of Artist Jordan Hicks



— MAY PRESENTATION —



Retired General Clive Addy made an impassioned presentation on the situation in Afghanistan and the dilemma faced by former Afghan allies with the ‘return-to-rule’ of the Taliban. With a wealth of knowledge and direct hands-on experience, Clive brings a unique perspective to the situation where Honour and Politics clash.

Additional information provided by Clive Addy for anyone wishing to follow-up on his excellent presentation are listed below:

- ~ [Update on Evacuation of Afghan Interpreters from the Veterans Transition Network](#)
- ~ [Government Response to Veteran's Petition](#)



— OUR APRIL PANELIST’S BOOK LAUNCH —



**Noted author and Probus member, Gary Smith, with our President, Lois-Anne Brebner along with Liam Maguire, hockey historian, at the book signing for his latest: “ice War Diplomat”, held recently at the Book Nook in Perth.**

Submitted by: Lois-Anne Brebner



# Closing thoughts ...

*“Today, silence has become an endangered species. Quiet used to be as common as clean air and pure water. It was part of the everyday environment of our ancestors, and today it’s extremely rare.”*

Gordon Hampton



Algonquin Park • Photo Source Unknown



*“The best government is that what teaches us to govern ourselves.”*

Joam Wolfgang Goethe



Photo Courtesy • Kevin Tulett

### Editor’s Note:

I have graciously been given permission, as a courtesy by the artists, to include their photos and paintings in this and future issues of The Probian. They are copyrighted, thereby, cannot be duplicated without permission. Each artist has their own website.

Other photos or graphics placed in past, current and future newsletters are ‘Royalty free’ from the Internet.

Gayda Errett \* Newsletter Editor

**In normal times the Perth Probus Club meets at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith Street, Perth, on the first Wednesday of the month,  
September through June.**

**President: Lois-Anne Brebner [president@probusperth.ca](mailto:president@probusperth.ca)**

**— ••• —**

**Further information on the club and contact details for the other members of the Management Team can be found at:**

**[www.probusperth.ca/board.htm](http://www.probusperth.ca/board.htm)**