

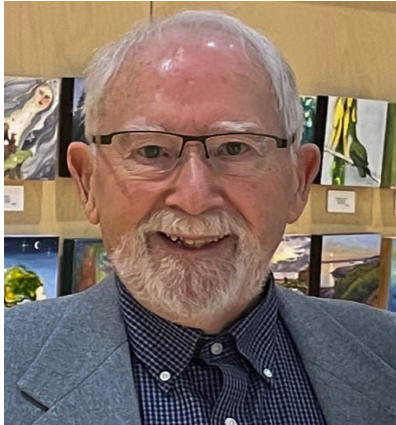


**For our next Activity;  
You are invited to the  
Probos Annual 'Bring Your Own'  
"Picnic in the Park"  
at Maple Ridge Park  
Thursday, July 20th, 2023 at 11:00 am**



# Probus Club of Maple Ridge

## President's Message



Sam Lewindon, President

**An invitation to join us at the  
Probus Annual  
“Picnic in the Park”  
July 20th at 11am!**

Once again it is time to celebrate Summer, and what better way to do that than to join us for a Probus Picnic on Thursday July 20th

Our Annual ‘**Bring Your Own**’ event is to be held at Maple Ridge Park - a fine venue for this outdoor event in celebration of Fellowship! Our Summer Outdoor Events are planned to replace the regular General meetings for the months of July and August. The first of these is always the “Picnic in the Park”, where members are asked to bring their own food, beverages and something to sit on — we will provide the tables and the ambience! Although the start time is scheduled for 11am, early arrivers can help out with the staging of this activity. The Social Committee always appreciates any assistance!

Our Special Interest Groups may also have some changes to their regular meetings during the summer, so please check with the convenor for any changes for July and August. Our **Coffee Morning**, scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month, will continue through the summer months as this is an activity that is eagerly looked forward to. This social gathering provides an opportunity to meet fellow members face-to-face and chat about any number of topics!

SIG Convenors will be on hand as this event to explain the activity of their regular meetings, so come prepared to take notes, as there will be a TEST!

*Welcome July With Positive Vibes Only – Unknown*



## Speaker's Notes:

by Chris Frandsen

Bob introduced Lindsey Willis, Executive Director of Ridge-Meadows Hospice Society.

Bob met Lindsey at a medical meeting and asked her to speak to us about what work they do and their plans for extending the reach to others in the community.

Lindsey has served the RMHS for almost 15 years, starting as a volunteer in 2006, then coordinator of palliative services and now as the Executive Director of a team of staff and volunteers. She has strong passion, enthusiasm, and cares deeply about RMHS, its staff, volunteers, and its history.

Ridge-Meadows Hospice Society is Centre for Grief and Loss where Grief has no timeline. The RMHS is a registered, non-profit, charitable organization, established in 1979 serving both Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. They are not a part of the Hospital Foundation, Ridge Meadows Hospital, or the Fraser Health Authority. This is still a very common misconception in our community.

**Vision:** The Hospice Society is an integral part of the community known for providing supportive, accessible grief and loss programs for people of all ages. They are the primary provider of grief and loss support in the community.

**Mission:** Providing compassion, support and care to individuals and their loved ones in our community experiencing death, dying, grief, and loss. The main goal is to educate and connect with our community that they provide services to all.

Supports programs, counselling, and grief groups are offered at the Resource office, Patient's homes, Hospital, Long Term Care Facilities and McKenney Creek Hospice, a ten- bed facility which is owned and operated by Fraser Health.

The Grief Support Programs offer Adults one-to-one and groups, Traumatic Loss grief group, Phone consultation and support, Children and Youth (new program), Relaxation Circle, and Community Education. They also offer programs for End of Life and Palliative Care for patients, caregivers and anyone that needs support. With enhanced Community education, more and more businesses, schools, and victim services are reaching out to RMHS for support.

As a non-profit, Fund raising is an ongoing project for the Ridge-Meadows Hospice Society. Funding is through donations, grants, and events. Some of those events are the "Hike for Hospice", a national event, "Oktoberfest", this year on October 20, "Time to Remember", community memorial at Christmas, and the Hospice Thrift Store at 3-12011-224 St, across from the Legion. The Thrift store generates one half of the operating budget for the Hospice. Volunteers spend countless hours sorting through your donations getting them ready for sale. A big "Thanks" to them all.

Ridge-Meadows Hospice Programs are available to anyone at no cost, no need for doctor referrals, and your initial visit will determine which support program is appropriate.

Anyone can call 604-463-7722 and request services, or email [info@ridgemeadowshospice.org](mailto:info@ridgemeadowshospice.org) I'm sure many of us had no idea how valuable Ridge-Meadows Hospice Society is to our community.

Kathleen "Thanked" Lindsey for coming to our meeting and presenting us with so much valuable information.

### “I’ll Take That One”!

By Sam Lewindon

In early July 1944, following the successful landings of ‘D-Day’, London was once again subjected to a devastating aerial bombardment, this time by Nazi Germany’s ‘Vengeance Weapons’. During a 2 month period, around 3,000 of these V1 “Buzz Bombs” and V2 ‘Ballistic Rockets’ hit London and a few other cities causing thousands more deaths. This bombardment created another mass evacuation of children under the name “Operation Rivulet”. Of the 180,000 children who were evacuated out of London at this time, I was one of them!

This was my second evacuation, the first being in early 1941, during the ‘Blitz’, when our house was bombed.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> 1944, children were gathered at numerous Assembly Points around the city. Wearing identity tags with our names and a code number attached to our clothing, we were transported by motor coach to Mainline railway stations, and from there were to be dispersed around the countryside. Carrying a small suitcase containing a few changes of clothes, we were off on an adventure we were told!

Women volunteers wearing armbands escorted us on the coaches and then on to the trains - bound for our unknown destinations. Our group arrived at a large London railway station, where I noticed that the sign read “Kings Cross Station” LNER. At the entrance to one platform was a large table piled with small cardboard lunch boxes. About thirty of us were now in one smaller group and we were each given a box then marched out on to the platform and, escorted by an ‘Armband’, led into the first carriage of the train. I noticed that the paper glued to the carriage window had the same code number as my tag. Other groups of children were loaded into other carriages and after a while the whistle blew and the train headed out. I was going north, to Yorkshire. I had a strange feeling this was going to be a long evacuation, in fact, it would be over a year before I returned to London, and not until after the war was over!

Eventually we arrived at Wakefield station, and there we boarded another motor coach bound for Ossett, a small West Riding mill town. Upon arrival the 30 of us were ushered into the Town Hall and led onto the small stage of an auditorium where we were lined up at its edge, facing out towards the hall, where a group of women were gathered. A short time later the women who, one by one, approached the stage and walking down the line of children, and pointing, said, “**I’ll take that one**” - words which were to go down in history!

Once taken, the child was documented by a billeting officer and went off with the ‘host’ family. Girls seemed to be taken first. I was one of the small group of boys left standing there on the stage. I slicked down my hair, pulled up my long woollen socks, polished my shoes on the back of my socks – but still I was not taken. There were now only a few of us left and I felt tears welling up in my eyes. As my head started to drop, I felt a hand touch my shoe. I opened my eyes and there was a woman standing looking up at me. She was smiling at me and asking me if I would like to go home with her and meet her son?

Now I knew **I** had been **TAKEN!**

**Flowers, Trees & Flowering Trees**



Wild Flowers *by Michaela*



A Gnarly Tree Trunk *by Sam*



Flowering Cherry *by Jean*



Wild Flowers *by Michaela*



Elm Trees at Maple Ridge Cemetery

*by Michael*



Willow at Transfer Beach *by Michaela*



Maple's Fall Colours *by Sam*



Dogwood *by Michael*

### Nature is a Never-Ending Wonder

By Josine Eikelenboom

The pond behind our house is a constant source of interest. It is a widening of Coho Creek which flows into the Alouette River. In earlier times it may have been a wetland like other sections of the creek. Somebody may have dug it out, because there is a little island in the middle. It's full of life. Our friends have fished for trout here, our grandchildren were catching tadpoles there and crayfish, or - unfortunately - the invasive bullfrogs.

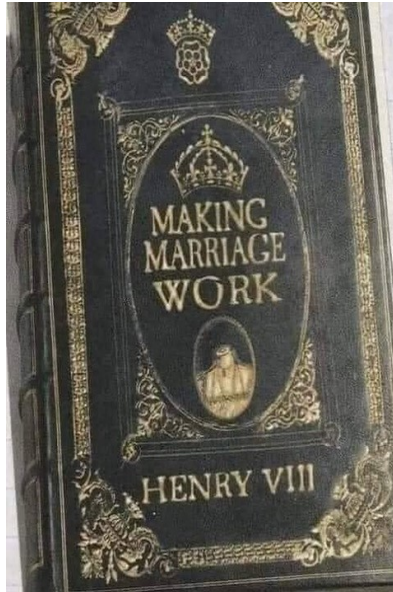
We have spotted grey herons, all kinds of ducks, a kingfisher, blackbirds and many other species. Beavers have dammed the stream and built a lodge twenty years ago and then disappeared again when all the softwood trees had been downed by them. We didn't see any of them back till last year. They built their dam, and their lodge, and attacked the trees around the pond with a vengeance. First the cottonwoods came down, then the plum and the maples, the last were a few young cedars. And what was even worse, they blocked the culvert under the road that leads to the hay shed on the hill behind. In the winter the water found its way over the top of the road which made it hard to drive the tractor up the hill to get the hay bales.

As our watershed is part of the Alouette, we asked ARMS for advice. In the meantime, all remaining trees were now protected by wire, but the culvert remained a problem. And yes, there is a solution for it: a specially built steel fence around the entrance of the culvert. But while the experts were having a thorough look, they detected something interesting; a river otter! I actually hadn't seen any beaver activity since late winter, and that was exactly the reason; beavers don't like otters and move away. So now the otter is master.....till he or she has eaten all the fish the pond is holding, then he will find more fertile ground elsewhere just like the beaver family. In the meantime, the little minnows are waiting their time downstream of the culvert to move in whenever the otter has decided he wants to change home.

Although the many felled trees made for a desolate landscape last year, now grasses and low bushes have returned and form a beautiful lush wetland.

**Nature is a never-ending wonder.**

**Monthly Mirth**



One day you're young...  
the next you're sitting  
on the edge of the bed like this:



**DATING IN 2022:**



Kevin was starting to think that maybe his mom wasn't coming back.



# Messages, Notices and Information

## Wanted:

Stories for:

**Memory Lane:**

Contact Josine at: eikelenboom@telus.net

Photos for: **Through the Lens**

Contact Rick at: micricgoingplaces@gmail.com

## Probus in-person 'Coffee Morning'

**First Wednesday of the month, at 10am**

**Next meeting: July 5th**

## **Maple Ridge Music Society!**

We are excited to announce that our next summer concert will be indoors at WESTACRES, 23575-124 Ave, on Friday, July 7th at 7:00 pm

Featuring:

**BRUCE COUGHLAN**

Guitarist, singer/song writer

Admission by Donation

## **Origin of the Phrase:**

### **Giving someone the cold shoulder**

**Definition:** To treat someone in a hostile or unwelcoming manner

**Origin:** Back in medieval times, whenever someone had a guest over, it was considered impolite to ask the guest outright to leave. Instead, they had a custom: when the host gave the guest a piece of meat from the shoulder of pork, beef, or mutton already cold, it signaled that the dinner was over and the guest should leave.

## Special Interest Groups

**Book Club:** *Convenor, Carla Reed*

*Meets 1:30pm, second Tuesday, monthly*

**Bridge:** *Convenor: Kathleen Spiess*

*Meets, 1:30pm First & third Monday, monthly*

**Camping:** *Convenor: Michaela O'Doherty*

**Computer/Photography:**

*Convenor: Simon Modera:*

*Meets, 10am, fourth Wednesday, monthly.*

**Crafts:** *Convenor, Michaela*

*Meets, 1pm second Wednesday, monthly*

**Dining:** *Convenors: Marie Slessor/Carla Reed*

*Meets 6pm second Thursdays, monthly*

**Dine Away:** *Convenor, Michaela*

*Meets 6pm third Tuesdays, monthly*

**Discussion:** *Convenor, Theo Rathonyi Reusz*

*Meets, 10am first Thursday monthly*

**Lunch:** *Convenor. Aline Drew*

*Meets, noon last Thursday, monthly*

**Table Tennis:** *Convenor; Michael Buckingham*

*Meets, Tuesday and Friday mornings, weekly*

**Walking:** *Convenor, Renate*

*Meets 9am Tuesdays, weekly*

**Wine Club:** *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*

*Meets, 5pm last Friday, monthly*

**Word Weavers:** *Convenor, Tracey Lewindon*

*Meets, 2pm second Monday, monthly*

## **"Groaner" of the Month:**

What happened to the guy who sued over his missing luggage?

He lost his case.