



Lindsay Men's Probus Club

Chapter #185: Charter Date: February 23rd 2007



On November 4th, we held our monthly meeting, with ~50 members attending. Following a 30-minute social time, Club President, Max Radiff, opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. We then rose for O'Canada; a special Remembrance Day themed version was prepared by Bob Barkwell.

It was Max Radiff's first meeting as President for the year, but the start of his 3rd term in total. We thank Max for his unwavering commitment to the club and look forward to his insightful leadership in the months ahead.

There were no guests or new members at this month's meeting.

Our guest speaker was introduced by Bob Barkwell: Malcolm Kelly, and his talk was based on his book “SPROG” which was published in June 2021.

“They come from different places, and different lives, but they share a dream: to fly. Eager to join the war in the skies over Europe, thousands of young men flock to Canada from all over Britain and the Commonwealth, and the United States -- all hoping to earn their pilots' wings. Before taking to the air, they must endure the challenges of the British Air Commonwealth Training Plan, which quickly turns them from boys into men, and from civilians into soldiers. Sprog takes us from Bomber Command's war, to the retreat from France, and to the peaceful but dangerous skies of Canada where these young men will discover themselves, and their destinies.”

Following question time, Pat O'Reilly thanked Malcolm for his talk, following which he drew the winning 50/50 ticket, and it was won by John Rose.

There were some business announcements:

- The club has purchased a Remembrance Day wreath to be laid at the cenotaph on November 11th.
- Ron Baldwin asked the membership for volunteers to put up and take down the regalia at each meeting while he is away over the winter.
- Places are still available for the Christmas lunch with the cut-off date being November 21st.

Max closed the meeting just before noon with 20+ members going to lunch at St. Dave's Diner.



Canada's involvement in RAF Bomber Command during World War II was substantial and critical to the Allied war effort. Canadians comprised more than a quarter of all Bomber Command aircrew, and their contributions included serving in mixed RAF squadrons and a dedicated Canadian formation, No. 6 (RCAF) Group

Key Aspects of Canadian Involvement...

- **Significant Manpower:** Approximately 40,000 Canadians served in Bomber Command. Many were trained in Canada under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP), a massive program that produced 131,000 aircrew for the Commonwealth air forces.
- **No. 6 Group (RCAF):** Officially formed on January 1, 1943, No. 6 Group was an exclusively Canadian formation within the RAF Bomber Command. It grew to include 15 squadrons operating from 11 air bases in Yorkshire, England, which was nicknamed "Little Canada". The group operated heavy bombers such as the Vickers Wellington, Handley Page Halifax, and Avro Lancaster.
- **Strategic Bombing Campaign:** Canada's largest air force commitment overseas was to the strategic bombing offensive against Germany's industrial and military capabilities. Bomber Command operations were one of the few ways the Allies could directly strike at the German homeland during the early years of the war.
- **Heavy Casualties:** The campaign came at a terrible cost. Bomber Command had one of the highest casualty rates of any Allied service branch, with approximately 45% of aircrew killed in action. Over 10,400 Canadians lost their lives while serving with Bomber Command, representing nearly a quarter of all Canadian war dead and three-quarters of the RCAF's total WWII casualties.
- **Operational Role:** Canadian aircrews participated in major operations, including the "thousand-bomber raids" and specific missions supporting the D-Day landings. Post-war, No. 6 Group also took part in "Operation Exodus," dropping food and supplies to the starving Dutch population.
- **Aircraft Production:** Canada also developed a significant aircraft manufacturing industry during the war, producing more than 16,000 aircraft, including the Canadian-made Lancaster X bombers used by No. 6 Group.
- The Canadian contribution to Bomber Command was a pivotal, though costly, element of the Allied victory in Europe.

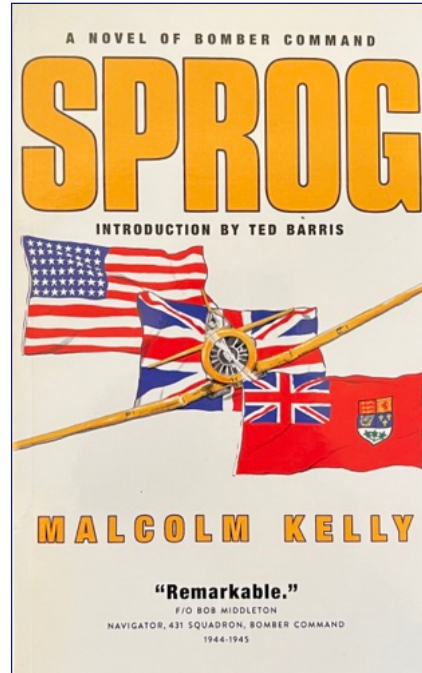




PHOTO'S



Guest Speaker Malcolm Kelly[C] was thanked by Pat O'Reilly with Max Radiff.



Malcolm's Book which was the subject for his talk.

CLUB NOTICES

Next Club Meeting is on Tuesday December 9th and will be the Annual Christmas Lunch at Celebrations.

We need more members...

Be a friend, bring a friend to a PROBUS meeting!

Please consider inviting guests to attend a Club meeting to allow them the opportunity to share the experience and advantages of joining our Club.

Health & Welfare

If you know of any member who is experiencing health issues at this time, please contact Bruce Cameron ~ cam48retired@gmail.com



Christmas Lunch - Tuesday December 9th 2025

Ted Abbot created this information board for this years Christmas Lunch.

There are only 96 spaces available based on the room capacity, members are encouraged to sign up, as soon as possible, to reserve their place. Cut off date is November 21st.

 <p>CHRISTMAS LUNCH - December 9, 2025</p> <p>AT CELEBRATIONS \$50 PER PERSON ONLY 96 TICKETS TO BE SOLD</p> <p>MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT PRIZES, GAMES BAR SERVICE</p> <p>CATERED BY HEAVEN ON SEVEN Pay by e-transfer to mpcoltreasurer@gmail.com Or by cheque Deadline is November 21st (Friday)</p> 	 <p>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</p> <p>AGENDA</p> <p>11:00 Doors and Bar Open Games & Social Hour</p> <p>12:15 Lunch Served Trivia Game During Lunch</p>	<p>Proboscis Club Christmas Lunch December 9, 2025 Celebrations</p> <p>Salads - Honey Mustard Caesar Salad - Mango Coleslaw Salad with Toasted Coconut</p> <p>Main Course - Freshly Smoked Sage Turkey with Fresh Turkey Gravy - Baked Turkey Stuffing - Smoked Cinnamon Ham with a Caramel Drizzle - Penne in a Brown Butter Sauce with Butternut Squash - Buttery Mashed Potatoes - Smoked beets, turnip, carrots, and sweet potato, wrapped in a rosemary, honey, Dijon dressing - Organic Buttery Corn - Fresh, Homemade Cranberry Orange Sauce condiments, pickles, pearl, onions, olives - Freshly Baked Rolls with Butter on the Side</p> <p>Desserts Assorted Pies tea and coffee</p> <p>Catered by "Heaven on Seven"</p>
<p>KEITH KIRKPATRICK IN CONCERT</p>  <p>IN CONCERT AFTER THE LUNCH</p> <p>2 SETS OF 20 MINUTES AFTER THE LUNCH</p> <p>50-50 DRAW DURING INTERMISSION</p> <p>BAR OPEN DURING CONCERT</p> <p><small>Keith is a native of Lindsay Strong reputation as a talented guitarist & vocalist Founding member of Montana Sky (award-winning band) A solo performer focusing on a mature adult audience His focus is on artists of the 1950's, 1960's, 1970's & 1980's</small></p>	<p>1:30 Entertainment 1st Set Keith Kirkpatrick performs</p> <p>1:50 Intermission 50:50+ Draws</p> <p>2:00 Second Set – Bar Closed Keith Kirkpatrick performs</p> <p>2:20 Lunch Ends</p> <p>MERRY CHRISTMAS</p> 	 <p>HEAVEN ON SEVEN BUFFET</p> 



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