



Every year, during **Veterans' Week**, November 5 to 11, Canadians remember and honour our Veterans - the men and women who have served, and continue to serve our country during times of war, conflict and peace. Official ceremonies are held on **Remembrance Day**, 11 November at 11 a.m. That day marks the end of the First World War when hostilities formally ended "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month"

During the Second World War, (1939-45), the Battle of Normandy resulted in the Allied liberation of Western Europe. Codenamed Operation Overlord, the battle began on Tuesday, 6 June 1944, also known as D-Day, the Longest Day, when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region. The Canadian beach, where 21,400 landed, was codename Juno. The Royal Winnipeg Rifles assaulted near the town of Courseulles-sur-Mer where the Juno Beach Centre is now located.



This is how one infantry battalion of over 800 men, mostly in their 20's spent the weekend and the first days of their work week. We will follow one of six Companies, "B" Coy, on their journey. Pause during Veterans' Week and visualize this:

Most of the battalion where from Winnipeg and Manitoba so they all had something in common. Cliff Chadderton (War Amps icon) stated "Many of the Winnipeg's were what we called 'originals' who had joined the battalion back in 1940. Still, this was their first battle experience. They saw friends with whom they had lived in the barracks for years cut to pieces by vicious enemy gun fire. Still they found the strength to carry on."

On Friday and Saturday 2/3 June, along with tens of thousands of others, the battalion left their marshalling camp and were transported to Southampton old docks. On board ships the men where now told that after years of rehearsal and training they would be in the first waves of the assault and were



given tasks and objectives. At noon on Sunday the landings were postponed due to weather which increased the feeling of apprehension. Monday, was final battle preparation including receiving the actual maps of where in France they would be assaulting.

Tuesday, 6 June 1944, the first-wave Company's (Coy) clambered into the Landing Craft Assault (LCA)s and were lowered away shortly after 0500, ten miles from the coast. Seas were rough and the flat-bottomed landing craft pitched like wild horses with burrs under their saddles. The men were faced with a long run through heaving seas toward a hostile shore and an alert enemy.



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### Sonoma Pines Website and Sonoma Sun Newsletter

[www.sonomapines.info](http://www.sonomapines.info)

You can check here for most recent articles on the community, back issues of the newsletter, or copies of Council minutes and financial statements. Some pages are password protected so use sonomapines and you should be fine. If there is something that you would like to see on the site or in the Newsletter please email us at [sonomapinesnews@gmail.com](mailto:sonomapinesnews@gmail.com).





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The riflemen huddled on the benches in the LCAs could do little other than to hold on and wallow in the depths of their misery and seasickness.

As the first wave neared the beach, it became obvious that the defenders were alive and shooting. The 150 man "B" Coy, commanded by Capt Phil Gower, task was to assault three strong points and twelve MG emplacements. The Coy in their LCAs had come under heavy machine gun (MG), artillery and mortar fire 700 yards from shore, and many men were hit while still in the water or even before they left their LCA's. Closer to shore, enemy fire from snipers and MGs began to rip into the LCAs. When a LCA halted, the men jumped off the ramp



into chest-high water and began to wade ashore on an open beach at low tide under heavy fire. It was now 0749 in the morning.

By the time Gower and his men finally fought their way through the deadly maze of bunkers, trenches and barbed wire, B Coy mustered only the Coy Comd and 26 men fit for duty: 80 per cent of the Coy, 125 men, had become casualties within a few hours. Their day was just beginning as the Coy fought it's way inland.

World War One, World War Two, and the Korean War showed that Canadians can always be counted on to fight for the peace and freedom of nations around the world. Since the end of the Korean War we have become used to the notion of Canadian soldiers serving around the world as peacekeepers.

Peacekeeping is based on the idea that having a force of impartial troops present in a regional conflict can help reduce tensions and improve the chance of peaceful settlement to a violent conflict. There must be peace to keep, otherwise it is peace making. The possibility of witnessing extreme violence and cruelty, of having to use force or have force used against you, and the realization that you could be killed or wounded while carrying out your duties are some of the experiences that many Canadian Armed Forces Veterans know well.

More than 125,000 Canadian Armed Forces members have served in dozens of international peace missions to more than 35 countries over the past six decades. Approximately 130 Canadians have died in these efforts and many more have suffered physical and mental injury. Since 1989, more than 3,500 police officers from across Canada have served on peace operations in nearly 30

Canadian police officers have died serving on peace operations missions overseas: two active and one retired RCMP members died in the January 2010 Haiti earthquake.

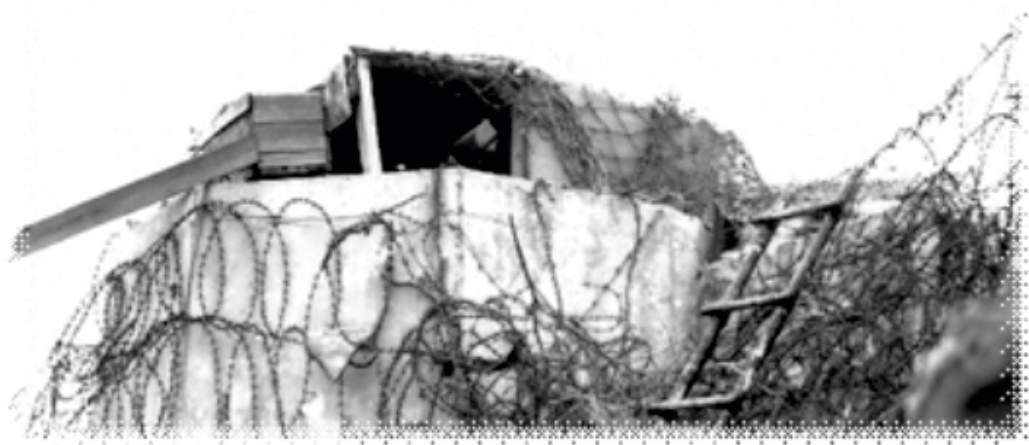
After 9/11 Canadians served in Afghanistan where 158 Canadian Armed Forces members died in the cause of peace and freedom.

A US military Padre said:  
"It is the soldier, not the reporter who has given us the freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us the freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who gives us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag".

Less We Forget.

Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd) J. Brian Batter, MMM. CD is a Army Veteran of 45 years. He is the Editor, The Devils' Blast: the Annual Chronical of The Royal Winnipeg Rifles

<http://www.royalwinnipeg Rifles.com/Regional-association/the-devils-blast/>



countries around the world. Three



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## FINAL LANDSCAPING FOR THE YEAR



As we moved into Fall, we adopted a biweekly trimming/ mowing schedule with a follow up partial mowing in the first week of November.

We will attend to pruning and weeding on or about Oct 25th, as weather allows.

Refuse pick up is unaffected. The last pick up is Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.

A reminder that we only pick up clear plastic bags – not black or white.

We have to see what's in them as the bags are not emptied immediately like a bin. We often find garbage in an opaque bag and this is not acceptable.

Recently we have had people find us and drop off their refused opaque bag(s) directly into one of our trucks unbeknownst to us and this will not do please.

Thanks, Kevin

## How are your body language skills??



We are now playing Hand, Foot and Toe Canasta on Friday mornings at 10 AM.

Join us at the clubhouse and test your skills against the best in Sonoma Pines!!!

Anyone interested in playing should contact:

Jo Luchka @ [joaluch@telus.net](mailto:joaluch@telus.net)



## Volunteer Appreciation Night A Resounding Success – thanks to Volunteers!!

Volunteers are the heart and soul of any community and Sonoma Pines is blessed with the “best volunteers on the planet”.

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Night was a resounding success only because the volunteers also sacrificed more of their time to prepare and serve the dinner to their fellow volunteers – and it was fabulous!!!!

Thank you, from all attendees, for a fine meal and a fine evening of dancing and socializing.

As the Chair of the Volunteer Committee, Jo-Anne Luchka, so aptly put it:

“I do not think that I properly thanked you all for your time and effort in making this event the success that it was. Numerous home owners approached me and

personally thanked us for putting on this event. I am well aware of all the work it took to put this together and want to thank you all for your work. This team fully recognizes that there is no "I" in Team and worked together to make this event happen. So thanks again for all your work.”

The Board of Sonoma Pines Homeowners Management Ltd. joins Jo-Anne in extending a thank you to all community volunteers, and, especially a deep heart felt thank you to the volunteers who went beyond expectations by preparing and serving the fine dinner at the Volunteer Appreciation Night.

## Sonoma Pines Quilting Group

If quilting is your passion or you just simply want to learn, we welcome you to join the Sonoma Pines Quilting group.

We meet every Tuesday in the lower meeting room of the clubhouse from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Presently, we consist of 12 ladies which makes it nice if any of the quilters are unable to attend, there will always be someone in attendance to enjoy the morning.

Some of our ladies are beginners and doing very well and then we have the advanced who are always willing to assist those in need.

If you require more information, please contact Gaye Hunter at 250 768-0996.





## Sonoma Pines Calendar Of Events

Calendar click here: <http://www.sonomapines.info/calendar/>

### Facebook

Our "Sonoma Pines Community Page" is humming right along with 158 Homes represented - one third of our Development - 26 homes with both Homeowners in the Group!

We have posted and located lost pets; had real time attempted thefts shared; chased solicitors out (no one is ever allowed to solicit door to door to protect our Homeowners both at home and away).

Events both in Sonoma Pines and Kelowna have been posted, new restaurants shared and reviewed, and lots of questions asked and answered on a variety of topics.

There has been some lively discussion as well. This is such a worthwhile Group with real-time information as proven.

I encourage you to please send in a "request to join" (Homeowners only are approved)

If you are already a member, please check back frequently.

Should you have any questions or require any assistance please don't hesitate to ask me or Charlie.

The more the merrier!

Terri



Have some news that you'd like to share with your neighbours?

The Sonoma Pines Facebook group is growing and you can join by [clicking here.](#)

### Letters



Please send your comments and letters to [sonomapinesnews@gmail.com](mailto:sonomapinesnews@gmail.com)



### Happy Hour

Our next Happy Hour will be **Friday November 4th<sup>th</sup>** from 4pm -7pm. Please bring an appetizer to share, but if you are unable to the cost will be \$5.00 per person. We do try to encourage people to bring a dish to ensure we have enough for everyone. We will supply the dessert. Please bring your own refreshments. See you there!

### Happy Hour – Trivia Night

**November 18<sup>th</sup>**, will be our first Trivia Happy Hour Night from 4pm to 7pm and **Dinners on Us!!** No need to bring any food, just bring your appetites your own refreshments and join in the fun. **This event will be limited to the first 60 people.** To save a spot, please contact either Jean Scheidl [scheidls@telus.net](mailto:scheidls@telus.net) (778-754-1884) or Wendy Delaney [wendyloudelaney@gmail.com](mailto:wendyloudelaney@gmail.com) (250-768-6676) no later than Tuesday November 15th.

Happy Hour –  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Christmas Happy Hour /  
Gift Exchange –  
December 16<sup>th</sup>  
more details to follow.



If you are interested in past copies of the Newsletter or more information on

The Sonoma Pines Community please check out the website at: [sonomapines.info](http://sonomapines.info)

Sonoma Pines

## Ladies Night

**Join us** for an afternoon of Christmas shopping while sipping on some wine and sharing appy's!

Location:  
3999 Sonoma Pines Drive

Thursday  
November 3rd  
3pm to 8pm

Enjoy shopping from over 20 local vendors!

Your Toonie donation at the door gets you a glass of wine and donation to the Food Bank.



### 4th Annual Grey Cup Potluck



Not sure who will be playing yet, but we would like you to mark your calendars and join us along with your neighbours on **Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup>** at the clubhouse for a **Potluck dinner.** Bring your favourite dish and your appetites. Pre-game time is **2pm**, game time is **3pm**. Dinner will be served at half time. We will also have a football pool. This is always a lot of fun. No matter who you are cheering for it will be a good game. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Scheidl (778-754-1884) [scheidls@telus.net](mailto:scheidls@telus.net) or Wendy Delaney (250-768-6676) [wendyloudelaney@gmail.com](mailto:wendyloudelaney@gmail.com)

### Sonoma Pines Activities & Contacts

**Quilting**  
Gaye Hunter at  
250 768-0996

**Painting Club**  
Glen Heming  
[250-768-0991](tel:250-768-0991)  
[glenheming@telus.net](mailto:glenheming@telus.net)

To place notices, on the Bulletin Board, please contact:  
**John Cole 778-754-7265**

### Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in reserving the Sonoma Pines Clubhouse and require any information please call Tom McEwen at 250-768-3439 or Jean Scheidl at 778-754-1884  
Rental Forms and Insurance Information are now on line at [www.sonomapines.info](http://www.sonomapines.info) under the Clubhouse tab.