

## Who was C. C. Polkinghorne?

Sunday, like most churches across the country, we held a Remembrance service at Limehouse Presbyterian Church.

And, as in previous years, I read the honour roll, remembering the Limehouse-area veterans who served in both world wars.

My grandfather is listed on the First World War Honour Roll, and others are listed who I recall attending church when I was a kid.

But there are two names on that First World War list that annually catch my eye, firstly because they are so unique, and secondly because I stumble over their pronunciation every year.

Their surname is Polkinghorne. (Try saying that one at the front of a church full of people—for some reason I want to say 'Porkingham'.)

One veteran is Harold Polkinghorne, and the other is identified only by his initials, C. C.

There is one more thing—behind C. C.'s name was a designation that until recently, I never really paid much attention to.

It reads 'C. C. Polkinghorne, DCM'.

The DCM is significant—it's the abbreviation for Distinguished Conduct Medal which is a military decoration second only to the Victoria Cross.

I was a bit annoyed with myself that I hadn't noticed it before. I recall my dad mentioning the Polkinghorne name in passing, but that was all it was—in passing.

Turning to the Internet, I logged into the National Archives, and searched Polkinghorne on the Canadian Expeditionary Force database, the CEF as most historians call it, which was the official name for the forces that Canada sent to fight in France between 1914 and 1918.

I wasn't surprised that I only had two hits—both for the name Polkinghorne.

One was Arthur Polkinghorne, the other was Cecil Carl Polkinghorne, or C. C. For some reason, Harold Polkinghorne wasn't listed.

I pulled up their attestation papers on-line, and learned that Arthur was born in England,

A  
TED  
BIT



Ted Brown

but Cecil Carl was born in Elmvale, near Barrie.

In 1916 when he signed up, his occupation was a clerk and his address was in Toronto.

Toronto? I asked myself—why was he on Limehouse Presbyterian Church's Honour Roll?

Further reading stated his next-of-kin was Lena Bela Polkinghorne, and her address (you guessed it) was Limehouse, Ontario.

A further search of Cecil Carl Polkinghorne gave me 1901 census records from Flos Township, Simcoe County, (which includes Elmvale) where he was listed as five years old—the same date of birth as his attestation papers.

But that was the end of the trail—so far.

I know I can contact the National Archives, and pay to have copies of his military record sent out—and I just might do that.

But something troubles me. It's the DCM.

So far I haven't found any source that can tell me when he was awarded it, and more importantly, what act of bravery he received it for.

It seems such a waste that this man obviously risked his life and was duly recognized for it. But other than a bit of brown ink on a church honour roll hanging in the sanctuary, and the reading of his name every year, no one knows.

But when I find out, I will tell his story.

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them....*

# Timeless Treasures

welcomes you to our  
**Christmas to Remember**

Friday, Nov. 19th  
10 am - 9 pm



*Celebrate with us the  
wonderful spirit  
of the holidays...*

*Unique and affordable gifts,  
home decor and  
festive decorations.*

European treats courtesy of  
**LaVita Bakery.**

NEW LOCATION:

2 Mountainview Rd. S.

Georgetown

905-873-4736



## Guide to the Outdoors

Julie Pomeroy

When I think of the toque, I think of the French-Canadian Voyageurs paddling the Canadian waterways with a warm knit toque upon their heads. The Voyageurs borrowed the term, toque, from a fashionable sixteenth century velvet hat worn in France. Kombi's Equator toque (\$14.95) is not just a knit acrylic hat, but has warm fleece lining and ear flaps. High school and university students find these toques warm and fashionable. The Kombi's Equator toque and other selected hats, mitts and gloves will be on sale for 25% OFF at Canoe Country's Tea Party, Sat. Nov. 27 & Sun. Nov. 28.

Written by: Kevin Moore.



Winston Churchill Blvd. 1 blk. N. of #7 in Norval

905-846-5000

www.canoe-country.com

## LATE DEATH NOTICE

**Hutt, Jude** - On Wednesday November 10th, 2004 at the Sunnybrook Health Centre, Toronto. Jude (nee Smallbone), in her 61st year, loving mother of Shawn and his girlfriend Stanislav, Brent and Kendryn and her husband Dean Brown. Survived by her brother Bobby and his wife Cara, father Robert Smallbone, nieces Carly and Jenna, nephew Luke, brother in law Greg Hutt and his wife Sandy and their daughter Tatiana, and mother in law Frances Hutt. A special thank-you to Dr. Gayle, Dr. Gerber and the wonderful staff at Sunnybrook Hospital. Friends will be received to celebrate Jude's life at the J.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home, 11582 Trafalgar Road, north of Maple Ave., Georgetown (905)877-3631 on Monday November 15th from 3-5 pm. Cremation has taken place. In lieu of flowers donations to the Sunnybrook and Women's College Hospital - Oncology Dept. would be appreciated.

## Drinking and Driving Starts Trouble.



If you're drinking, give someone else the keys to your car or you could be introduced to another set of keys — the keys to a cell at the local jail. Imprisonment, license suspension, hefty fines, injury or even death are some of the obstacles you face when you drink and drive. Always drive sober and steer clear of trouble.