



Probus Club of Ottawa-Rideau Valley
A Meeting of Minds

November 2, 2011 (10 a.m.)
Tomkins Hall, St. James Anglican Church
1188 Bridge Street, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A4
Website: www.probusorv.org

Wartime Holland

Speaker: John Kruithof

Heerjansdam is a village on the southern edge of Rotterdam in The Netherlands. John Kruithof was born there two weeks before the outbreak of war. Now retired from Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, he says he has childhood memories of some events during the war, but the main theme of his talk will be the booklet published by the Heerjansdam municipality in 1985. The book, which he recently translated into English, goes into factual details about the hardships endured by residents of this small community during the war. "What makes it particularly poignant for me," he says, "is the mentioning of my dad being lined up for retribution execution by German soldiers when they occupied our village. He was saved in the nick of time through the intervention of the town mayor." While the backdrop is grim, he says, he particularly enjoyed translating examples of Dutch ingenuity in coping with the situation, with its moments of wry humour. "My talk will not be about the grand sweep of history, but how down-to-earth people were affected by it."

Refreshments available from 9.30 a.m. Don't forget your name tags!

Lunch venue following the November meeting: Paesano's, Manotick Mews (under new management)

Coffee volunteers: Willing to serve coffee at a meeting? Call Fanny Afshar at 613-596-6679 or e-mail her at secretary@probusorv.org

December guest speaker: John Aiken, Vintage Wings of Canada.

Striders and Gliders: The monthly outing moves from Wednesday to Friday from now on, with walks taking place on the third Friday of every month. The next walk will be on the Beryl Gaffney trail along the Rideau and Jock Rivers. Meet at 9.15 a.m. at the Manotick Public Library to car-pool, or at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority parking lot at 9.30 a.m. Organizer Brian Sawyer will send an e-mail reminder 2-3 days before the walk. He also canoes most Thursday mornings for about two hours, leaving from his home on South River Drive at 9.30 a.m. If you would like to join him, call 613-692-6300.

Special events: The Events Committee has planned a visit to the newly-renovated Museum of Nature on Friday, November 18, at 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$8 for seniors, and parking is \$2.50 per half-hour to a maximum of \$12. There is metered parking on the streets and private parking lots nearby. It is a good opportunity to arrange with others to car-pool. More details at the November Probus meeting.

Membership renewal: Please note that Probus membership renewals are now due for 2011/2012. A renewal form and instructions are attached for your convenience. Forms for new and renewing members can also be found on the website www.probusorv.org

Changing your mailing or e-mail address? Call Jeff at 613-692-6273 with the details to ensure continued delivery of this newsletter.

Know a Probus member who is ill? Call Kathy Pitcher (613-822-8739). She will send a card.