



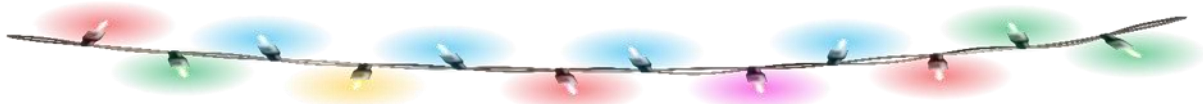
Women's Probus Club of Cambridge

General Meeting

December 13, 2024, 9:30 am

Portuguese Club, 870 Townline Rd. Cambridge

**Merry
Christmas**



OUR ENTERTAINER FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVENT

JEFF POOLTON - Singer/Songwriter/Entertainer

www.jeffpoolton.com

jeff_poolton@hotmail.com 5195030992

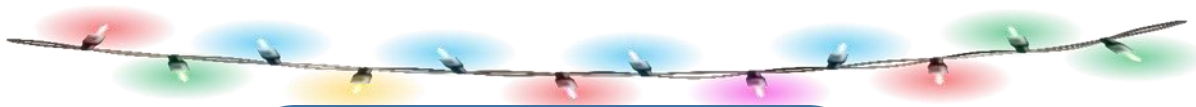
Jeff Poolton has been singing all his life, and now makes his living as an entertainer, with much of his focus on performing for local retirement homes and charitable organizations. From his early beginnings, singing himself to sleep in his crib, to his experiment as a 'parking lot entertainer' during the early days of Covid 19, Jeff has never stopped looking for new ways to bring his music to the world around him.

Jeff's first public performance was in a school gymnasium at age 7, singing a duet with one of his young classmates. Since then, Jeff has gone on to perform in several competitions, including the Kiwanis Music Festival in Elmira, Ontario, where, at the age of 16, he was named Senior Vocalist of the Year. Shortly thereafter, Jeff performed a supporting role in an opera at the Guelph Spring Festival.

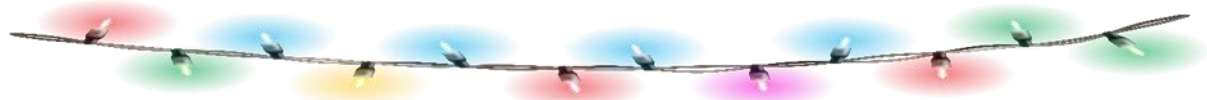
In the midst of this, Jeff obtained his Grade 10 Vocal certificate through the Royal Conservatory of Music and also began to discover a passion for song writing. His gifts as a songwriter, combined with his post-secondary education in music production, would eventually lead to the completion of 4 albums of original material and a Christmas album.

The first of Jeff's 5 albums, "Welcome to my World", is a collection of 13 songs, arranged chronologically, to tell the story of his life growing up with Cerebral Palsy, while paying tribute to those who inspired him on his journey. His other albums, "Light Up the Night", and "Echoes in the Distance", explore family life, while also tackling social issues such as bullying, anxiety and other challenges we all face in today's world. His hope is that through his music and sharing his life experiences, people will see the world a little differently, be inspired, and lifted through the power of song.

All 5 of Jeff's albums can be found online, and can also be purchased at live events.



Greeters for December 13
Barbara Armstrong
Louise Bartolloni



New Members receiving their Pins!

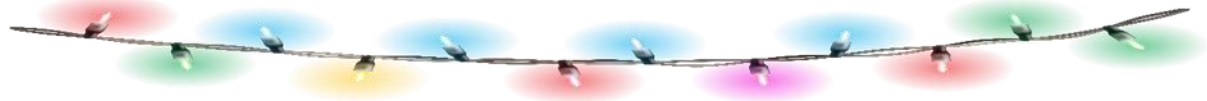


from left to right
Linda Rodrigues, Marg Benian
Valerie Neal, Marilyn & Linda
Welcome Ladies!

LADIES LUNCHEON, November 22, 2024



Fiddle and Firkin, in Preston



FUN TRAVEL REPORTS BY OUR MEMBERS:

Barbara Armstrong and Louise Bartolloni and their Husbands in Egypt.

On Oct 22 Louise Bartolloni & I departed with our husbands, on a trip of a lifetime to Egypt. We saw so much, learned so much, experienced so much!!

The Pyramids were awe-inspiring, as were the many temples we visited over the 3 weeks. To see the vibrant colours on the walls & ceilings, you'd think they were touched up recently not done thousands of years ago.

Our cruise on the Nile was fun, it's an extremely busy waterway, but the river is terribly polluted. We stopped each day for day excursions.

The city streets are noisy, dusty, teeming with traffic-camels, cars, horses, trucks, buses, & people weaving in & out with no regard for lanes or stop signs!!

The camel ride...let's just say we did it & won't be repeating it any time soon!! Quite a thrill!! The hot air balloon ride over the Valley of the Kings was a highlight for me.

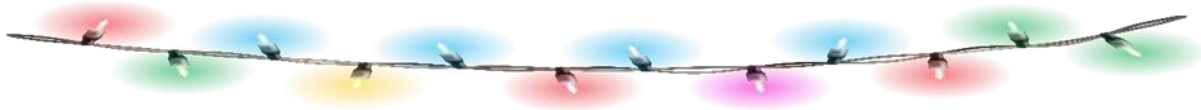
Our final 3 days were spent at a luxury resort on the Red Sea, a welcome relaxing time after a very hectic pace. All in all a terrific holiday.

Barb (& Louise)





NOTE: another fun travel report is inserted at the end of the newsletter, keep scrolling! Cathy Button and her husband just got back from a European Christmas Market Cruise.



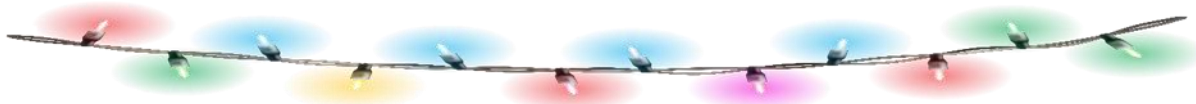
INTEREST GROUPS:

Euchre: 1st Wednesday each month. Call Gaenor Williams, 905 802-0494 if interested.

ART Group, NEW NAME, Culture Club: Call Carol Harvey, 519 619-9512 if you wish to attend any of their outings.

Book Club: Dec. 8, 2023 - Join us at 10:30 at the Galt Country Club for Book Share and Lunch (if desired) get recommendations for must-read books in the chilly days ahead. If you require more info please call Marilyn Parkinson-Crump at 519 653-9743. Looking ahead we will meet January 10, 2025.

Luncheon Ladies: Our next lunch will be at Four Fathers, December 22, at 1:00. If interested please contact Paulette Bissonnette 519 651-1772 or pauletteplb2020@gmail.co



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members who will be celebrating their day during the month of **December**:

Deborah Bannerman

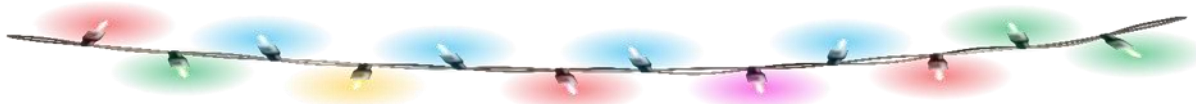
Jeanette Chippindale

Susan Garlick

Gayle Houle

Sheila Johnston

Jennifer Taylor



Make Note: if you are aware of a fellow Probian who is in need of a card for illness, sympathy or 'thinking of you', please contact:

Kay Mattear
519 623-3241

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I am sitting here writing this message, I can only sum up this past year as "where did it go?" I remember my Mother saying to me "as you get older Honey, time goes by so fast", boy was she right! As we pass into 2025 we should all slow down and "smell the roses", I know I am going to try.

My wish for all of you is to have a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

A Big Thank you to all who will be able to bring a toy for the Salvation Army's "Toy Mountain" again this year, as you have heard from the media there are many more families that are in need.

Linda

See below for Cathy Button's Travelogue.

BE A FRIEND, BRING A FRIEND

My European Christmas Market Cruise by Cathy Button

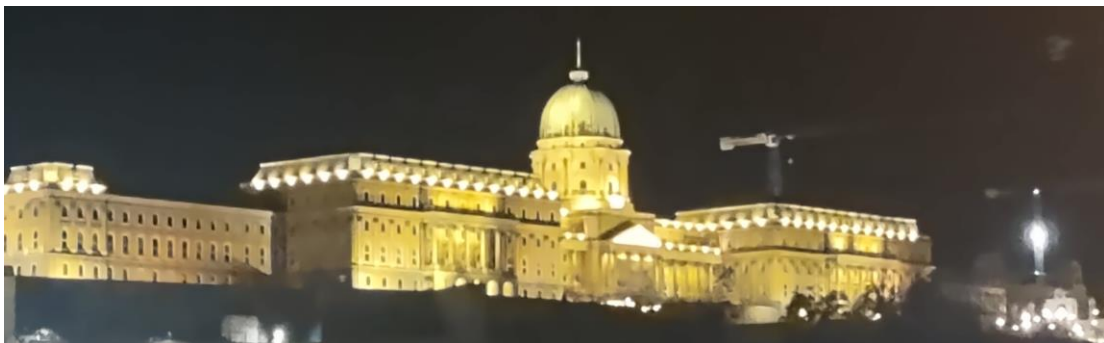
My husband and I have just returned from an 18 day trip to Europe that included a river cruise along the Danube, Main and Rhine rivers from Budapest to Amsterdam. Along the way we visited local Christmas Markets and other a number of other points of interest, including lovely medieval towns, well maintained and paved in cobblestones.

We had a fabulous time, and were royally spoiled on the ship for the entire time. Each day, we had a new destination and new sights to be seen. Many of the stops included local Christmas Markets, where there were all sorts of Christmas decorations and lights, really giving it ambiance and a magical feeling.

A highlight at each market was the local gluhwein (a hot spiced red wine) served in unique mugs for each market. You paid a deposit on the mug, and then you could either keep it, or return the mug for a refund. It certainly helped warm you from the inside on a cold day!

We also had the opportunity to visit local sights, such as:

- Budapest lit up at night



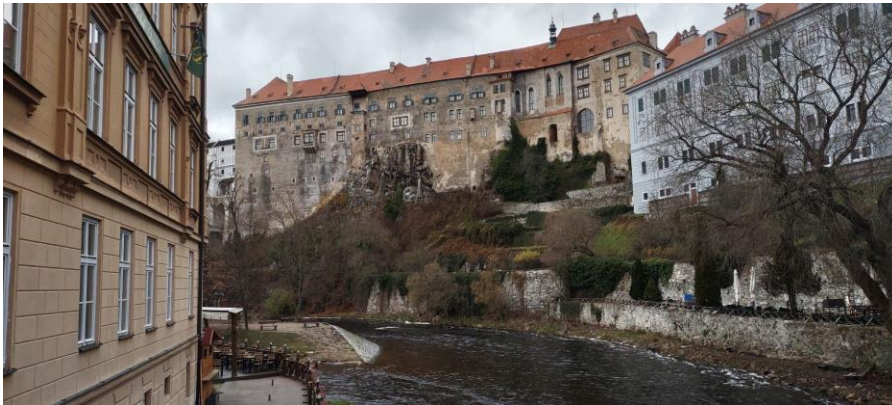
- an evening concert at the Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna



- enjoying apricot products in the lovely hillside town of Durnstein, Austria in the morning mist



- a side trip to the city of Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic,



- a gingerbread making class at a cooking school in Nuremberg (would you believe that there is no flour or ginger in this classic cookie?)



- a visit to a schnapps cellar in Miltenberg



- viewing the cathedral in Cologne amongst the markets



- visiting windmills, and a lovely village in the Netherlands



It was a busy time, and we enjoyed every minute!

Merry Christmas to all!!