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Contact:
Danielle Grimbergen
Administrator
902-542-9184
likenootherpress@gmail.com

‘THE PEGASUS BRIDGE SHOW’: A Dramatic Account of the famous glider raid before dawn on D-Day 1944

(WOLFVILLE) -- 3 DECEMBER, 2021. Like No Other Press today announced the publication of another book by Michael Bawtree, and of a wholly new kind. **‘THE PEGASUS BRIDGE SHOW’** brings together for the first time the complete text of the one-man show which he wrote and performed to commemorate the 65th anniversary of D-Day, and which is still available on YouTube.

Bawtree has been an active player and pioneer in Canada’s cultural life for more than fifty years. But in this book he reaches far back into his past, when he served as an officer in the British regiment which provided the manpower for the famous storming of Pegasus Bridge. Though too young to have participated, he knew several of the men who led the raid, and has carried the epic tale with him all his life.

The story is prefaced by a rapid illustrated survey of all the many military crossings of the English Channel between Great Britain and the continent of Europe, from 1066 onwards. Along the way it quotes from writers who have composed poems about war and battles, from Shakespeare to Tennyson to Wilfred Owen, and it finishes with the exciting run-up to D-Day in June 1944, when the largest armada in the history of the world was poised to cross Shakespeare’s ‘perilous, narrow ocean’ and invade Normandy.

Then comes the story of the famous Pegasus Bridge and Horsa Bridge raid in the early hours of D-Day - the very first operation carried out by a body of Allied troops on that momentous day. As befits a mythic story, it is told in what the author describes as ‘free-cantering verse’, and in a loosely Homeric style. It is followed by an account of the aftermath of the raid, and then a brief verse epilogue in which a British and a German officer visit the cemetery where many of the raid’s participants on both sides lie buried.

‘It merits an honoured place in epic literature at the highest level. T.S.Eliot would have been proud’, observes one classical scholar.

All profits from the book will go to the renovation fund of the Legion at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, helping to provide new facilities and resources for Veterans. The book retails at \$15.00 and can be ordered from our online shop at www.likenootherpress.ca, or from your local bookseller.

