



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



May 2021, Number 2021-05.

In this edition:

- Victory March short
- From the Board
- May 4 commemorations
- May 5 activities
- Research Alfred Charles Sheepwash
- Upcoming

The main objective of our Branch is to fulfill an active role during commemorations at Canadian and other allied military cemeteries, monuments and ceremonies where fallen soldiers from in particular World War II are remembered.

For photos of previous events visit our website. [Click here to have a look](#)

The background story this month is submitted by comrade Berry Swarthoff.

Especially in April and May of each year, the three Canadian Military Cemeteries in the Netherlands are in the public eye. Every year it is noticeable that the cemeteries are neatly maintained and cared for. For Berry Swarthoff a reason to highlight the employee(s) in the background.

RESPECT FOR
THE WORK AT
THE CANADIAN
MILITARY
CEMETERY.

Click on photo and
read Berry's
column.





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Victory March.

This is how it started for a number of comrades of RCL Branch 005. Meanwhile it is history. The extra-edition we composed, is on our website. Click on the picture below for a slight impression.


The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 Liberation of the Netherlands




Victory March/ La marche de la Victoire

Victory March instead of the Walk of the World



The announcement.

Victory March/ La marche de la Victoire is a new challenge where Canadians can march alongside members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Ruck up and join us for any two days between 1 to 9 May 2021, and experience the military tradition of marches on this virtual event taking place in your town and city!

After a call from the President,
a team was formed by
the Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 005
"Liberation of the Netherlands"

Team Klingon Join team	Peter Hutchison	Thomas Watson, Peter Hutchison, Victoria Sleeman, Julian Braet Show more...	\$4,210.49	Register
The Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment Join team	Jeffrey Leandro	Jeffrey Leandro, Tyler Heffernan, Sean Francis, Dave Kervin Show more...	\$3,346.46	Register
Boomer's Team Join team	Maureen Eykelenboom	Maureen Eykelenboom, Ron Eccles, Nigel King, Pamela Jolin Show more...	\$2,979.88	Register
Conflict and Complaint Management Services Central Region Join team	Penny van den Berg	Penny van den Berg, Danielle Blommesteijn, Carol Zwicker, Charlene Chubbs Show more...	\$1,892.98	Register
Royal Canadian Legion "The Liberation of the Netherlands" Branch 005 Join team	Martin Reelick 	Martin Reelick, André Bogerman, Don Pasma, Armand Reelick Show more...	\$1,759.32	Register
Team M&M Join team	Brad Biggar	Brad Biggar, Peter Vail, Eric Labine, Doug Wagenaar Show more...	\$1,732.36	Register

Redactie/Editors: Herman Sligman - Ruud Janssen
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mail: news@rci005.org

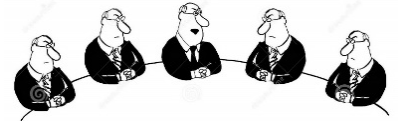


The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



From the board.

New flyer. (in Dutch)



The last flyers of RCL Branch 005 that are still available are outdated and no longer provided with the correct information. Sufficient reason to renew with the prospect that museums and other locations will reopen soon. We think we have succeeded in creating a new flyer that gives a good idea of what RCL "Liberation of The Netherlands" Branch 005 stands for. They can be handed out and put down and thus make visible what we as Branch 005 are doing and this may lead to interest from potential new members.

The flyers are available at our clubhouse: Canadian Restaurant Mondani in Lochem and can be picked up there.

Wie zijn wij?

Wij zijn de bewakers van het herdenken en gedenken.

Nederland en de bevrijding

Nederland werd door de tweede wereldoorlog hard getroffen. Na vijf lange jaren zijn wij bevrijd door voornamelijk Canadese strijdkrachten. Circa 6000 Canadese militairen liggen verspreid in heel Nederland begraven, met name op de drie 'Canadian War Cemeteries', Bergen op Zoom, Groesbeek en Holten, en ook op lokale (Commonwealth) begraafplaatsen. Zij sneuvelden in Nederland en Europa, een werelddeel dat voor velen van hen onbekend gebied was.

The Royal Canadian Legion, 'The Liberation of the Netherlands', branch 005 beschouwt het als haar taak en plicht om, waar mogelijk, aanwezig te zijn bij herdenkingen. Gezamenlijk met de Canadese ambassade in Nederland wordt Canada vertegenwoordigd om de gesneuvelden militairen te eren en de veteranen als comrades te begeleiden. Onze inzet is om de band, die tussen Nederland en Canada is ontstaan na de 2e wereldoorlog, in stand te houden.

Wat doen wij?

Het in stand houden van de band met Canada doen wij met de Nederlandse en Canadese leden van RCL branch 005. De Colour Party, educatie op scholen, de jaarlijkse Poppy Campaigne en de social events helpen ons hierbij.

De 'connectie' met Canada staat voor ons hoog in het vaandel; voelt u zich hier toe aangetrokken?

U wordt van harte uitgenodigd om contact met ons op te nemen als u geïnteresseerd bent. Wij zijn bereikbaar via de hieronder vermelde adressen en wie weet leidt dit tot een lidmaatschap van RCL branch 005.

*Lest We Forget
(Opdat wij nooit vergeten)*

Voor meer informatie of contact: **Legion**

Clubhuis RCL branch 005
Canadees Restaurant Mondani
Graaf Ottoweg 6
7241 DG Lochem
Tel: +31 (0) 573 257595

Mail : info@rcl005.org
Website : www.rcl005.nl
Facebook : facebook.com/rcl005.nl

WELKOM

Royal Canadian Legion

LEST WE FORGET

In remembrance of those who fell

'Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005

Wim Poppenk
2nd Vice-President

At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them

Herdenken en Gedenken

The Royal Canadian Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion is in 1926 als een non-profit organisatie in Canada opgericht ter ondersteuning van terugkerende militairen uit oorlogsgebieden of nabestaanden van hen die stierven in de strijd. Tegenwoordig is de missie van deze organisatie ruimer opgesteld. Het hoofdkwartier is gevestigd in Ottawa en is opgebouwd in niveaus, die lokaal resulteren in branches. In Nederland bestaat één branch: Royal Canadian Legion 'Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005. Deze branch is met name gericht op herdenken en gedenken van, en waar mogelijk informatie verstrekken over, gesneuvelden Canadese soldaten die in Nederland zijn begraven.

Colour Party

De Colour Party (de vlaggen) is veelal aanwezig bij herdenkingen. Deze groep bestaat uit dragers met de:

- o Canadese vlag
- o 'Oude' Canadese vlag (Red Ensign)
- o Britse vlag (Union Jack)
- o Nederlandse vlag
- o NAVO vlag
- o Verenigde Naties vlag
- o Het RCL Branch 005 vaandel

Deze volgorde ligt vast. Afhankelijk van de herdenking kunnen vlaggen en vandelens worden toegevoegd.



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



On Monday, May 3, HRH Princess Margriet visited the photo exhibition "Faces of Groesbeek". She was given a tour on the Canadian Cemetery where more than 1,500 photos had been placed.

Canadian ambassador H.E. Lisa Helfand, Mayor Mark Slinkman and the director of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (Western and Central Europe) Mr. Geert Bekaert also visited the Canadian War Cemetery at Zevenheuvelenweg in Groesbeek on this day.



Fltr: Mr. Akerboom, HRH Princess Margriet, Mrs. Van Bakkum



Fltr: Mayor Slinkman, H.E. Ms Lisa Helfand, Mr. Bekaert, a volunteer of Faces to Graves © Municipality Berg en Dal

For a short video impression, click here:



https://youtu.be/9ua8dQB_BHI





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



The May 4 commemorations.

Unfortunately, again this year in a much-weakened form. Invitations to the Canadian Cemeteries in the Netherlands were received by RCL Branch 005, but limited to four people per ceremony.

You have already been able to see a lot of information and images via social media. So here we limit ourselves in reporting.

Bergen op Zoom.



Registration of the wreath laying at the Canadian War Cemetery in Bergen op Zoom by members of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 005, Liberation of the Netherlands.

Thanks to André and Monique Bogerman (copyright)

<https://youtu.be/15DHg6SKiYU>



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Groesbeek.



A very sober, gloomy commemoration.
Wreath laying, combined with a trip for the Victory March, organized from an idea by comrade Dan Murphy.

This is followed by a special tribute to the grave of Pte. A. Groulx, RHLI.

From the left:
Toon van Bussel, Gerrit Bruggink, Martin Reelick, Dan Murphy.





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Holten.



Despite the detailed regulations, a somewhat larger ceremony. Made possible by a tight organization. Canada's ambassador to the Netherlands, H.E. Ms Lisa Helfand, was present.

RCL Branch 005 was also allowed to be present in Holten with a 4-person delegation. It was gratifying that school children, albeit less massively, were again involved and could participate actively.



Wreath laying by H.E. Ms Lisa Helfand



Wreath laying by Wim Poppenk (r) and Peter Mensink



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Passing on the torch of freedom! We couldn't have portrayed it more beautifully.



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Commemorations elsewhere.

The fallen of our liberators are not only commemorated in the aforementioned places.

A place that we do not immediately think of is, for example: The General Cemetery in Nes on the West Frisian Island Ameland. Checking the website of the CWGC, we get a long list of names on our screen.

Forty-nine graves are registered by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Victims from the Commonwealth countries. Also, from Canada. Six names are stated: "Canadian". Striking detail: five of them are from the Royal Canadian Air Force which is very understandable.

One of them is from the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

The latter name requires further investigation.

Richard Carswell, H/19940, died August 1942, 32 years of age.

When we read the date of his death a bell did ring. Wasn't August 19, 1942 the day of Dieppe Raid?

A quick search in the records confirms our suspicion. We find a copy of a letter from March 1943. His sister was hereby informed that Richard Carswell, after initially being reported "missing in action in Dieppe," is officially considered "KIA". Killed in Northern France, washed ashore and buried on a Dutch West Frisian Island.

You may find this a long run-up to arriving at a commemoration. So be it.

The bottom line: in many places in the Netherlands, a commemoration is held annually on May 4.

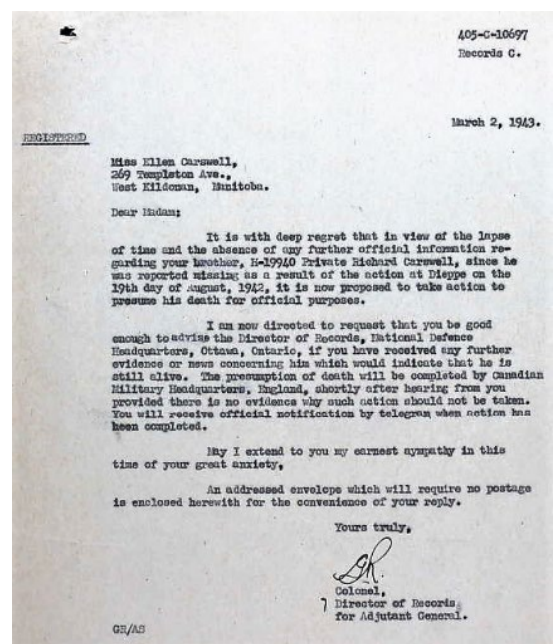
By no means all of them get the attention they actually deserve.



Mayor L.P. Stoel

Below the link to a video registration of the ceremony on Ameland.

<https://youtu.be/47hgL7wFi1A>





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Activities May 5. Liberation Day.

For the second time, the usual big festivals were cancelled. The basic points on the agenda remained. This year hosted by the province of South Holland.

The May 5th lecture.

This time by Mrs. Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor.



The May 5th Children's Lecture.

By Mily Al-Azzazi, daughter of a woman who has fled from Iraq.

The ignition of the liberation fire by the outgoing Prime Minister Mark Rutte.
Normally the starting signal for the Liberation Festivals.

This year, the fourteen Liberation Festivals offered a joint online program, with more than 200 performances and activities.



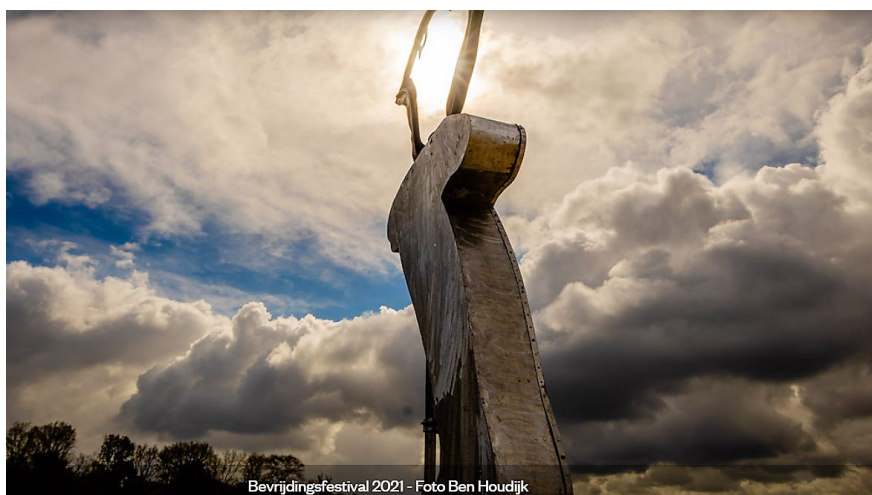
5 mei-lezing 2021 - Foto: Martijn Beekman



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



The Ambassadors of Freedom
Davina Michelle, Tino Martin and
Jonna Fraser connected the
festivals with a live stream from the
airbase in Gilze-Rijen.



Bevrijdingsfestival 2021 - Foto Ben Houdijk



5 mei-concert - Foto Paul Tolenaar

The Liberation Day ended with the May
5th concert from Amsterdam.

Every year since 1998, the final song of
the May 5th concert:

"We'll Meet Again".

This song was made famous by Vera
Lynn.



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



The Freedom meal this year was Liberation Soup. Specially composed by a renowned kitchen princess.

Comrade Gerrit Bruggink sent us photos from the province of Friesland. We do not want to withhold these from you. Without further explanation.





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Research Alfred Charles Sheepwash.

Via the Canadian Embassy a request came in from someone asking for support in a search. He had first seen a photograph of his mother-in-law, now 93 years of age, of a Canadian soldier who had visited her home in 1945. She had not only a photo, but also the address details of the time and a pin with a regimental cap badge.



She did not speak the English language and had always kept it secret. Her son-in-law wondered if relatives might be found. Farhat Ghafoor of the Canadian Embassy had already found the family name „Sheepwash“.

However, it concerned a soldier who was KIA and buried in Italy. Not the man to look for. While investigating further it turned out that the deceased was a brother of THE Alfred Charles Sheepwash.

Frank Rufus Sheepwash had served with the Royal Canadian Engineers and died of wounds received on September 11, 1944.

The cap badge and regimental data for our search matched. It was someone from the 22nd Armoured Regiment known as the Canadian Grenadier Guards. Investigations taught us that Alfred Charles had returned to England and stayed there.

In March 1947 he married Betty L. Jackson in Sittingbourne, Kent, England.

A.Ch. Sheepwash died on August 11, 1986 in Faversham, Kent and his wife on February 3, 2017 also in Faversham, Kent. They had one child, which, given their wedding year, might be still alive. Data from the child turned out to be protected.

We noticed that the Sheepwash family was / is fairly settled in Faversham.

We advised the man who contacted the Embassy to get in touch with the local authorities in Faversham, or as an alternative: try to interest a local newspaper and have them place a call.



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 "Liberation of the Netherlands"



Upcoming.

Received through a comrade. Attention for a virtual D-day commemoration.



THE 1860 CLUB

Supporting The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada

D-Day Virtual Commemoration

Sunday, June 6th, 2021 at 13:00

The 1860 Club will hold a special members event on June 6th, 2021 at 13:00 to mark the 77th anniversary of D-Day invasion.

We invite you to join us for the virtual event, which will feature:

- Welcome Remarks from the Regimental HQ;
- 1860 Club members update;
- A short performance from the Regimental Band and Bugles, and
- A toast to the Fallen.

Date: June 6th, 2021
Time: 13:00—14:00
Link: [Zoom Meeting](#)
Password: 1860

More information can be found at: <https://1860club.ca/dday-2021>

In Pace Paratus

We do not know whether there are other regiments that are paying attention to D-Day Commemoration.

What we do know is:

the agenda for RCL Branch 005 will be awfully empty in the near period of time.