

Newsletter December 2023

Edition 2023-12

Objective Nr 1: Encourage and Support of Commemorations and Remembrance

In this edition:

- From the editor (personal message from Herman Sligman)
- Several activities
- Candle evening
- Miscellaneous

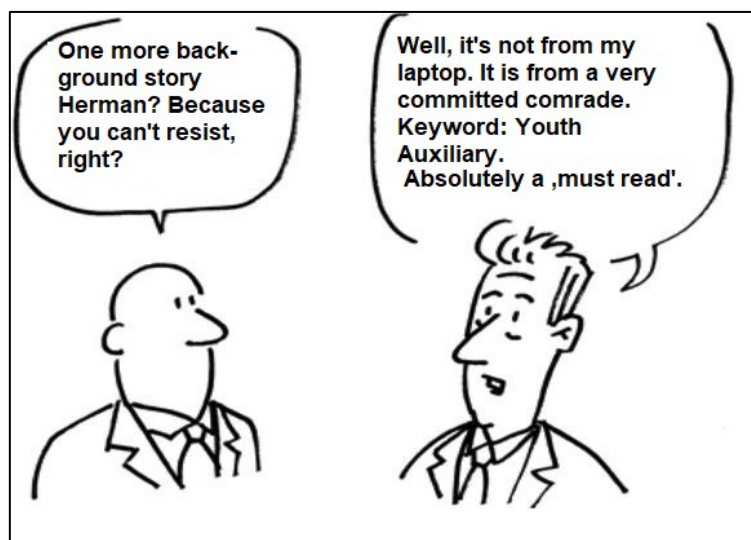


A memorable year is behind us.

A year with activities that made us feel good.
But also a year with moments that we would rather not have experienced.

We hope to have many more ceremonies in 2024 where good feelings prevail and hope that we will be spared the other moments.

The board and editorial staffs wish you and your loved ones a prosperous and healthy New Year.



'Project Carry their Torch'

In this edition of the newsletter we would like to draw your attention to a new initiative within our Branch: **'Project Carry their Torch'**.

Explanation of: what is this project - what are its goals - what are its components?

But above all: what can you do and what will your contribution be?

Here's the link to this month's background story: <http://tinyurl.com/tf7xu2um>

From the editors.

Personal message from Herman Sligman.

Dear readers,

"The end of the line."

That means: for the monthly background story that came out of my laptop.

As of edition 2024-01, it is not self-evident that there will be a background story to the Newsletter every month.

I mean that I will not look for a suitable item in all possible and almost impossible places every month anymore.

Every topic I have covered has been thoroughly thought through and researched to create a conclusive story.

After 5 years I will stop making the extra attachments to the newsletter.

The number of hours I had to spend on this became very high.

In addition, my 'commanding-officer' @ home thought that it was not just too many hours, but by far too many. ☺

This, combined with the layout of the regular Newsletter in two languages, took up so much time that it almost looked like "work".

To be honest: I enjoyed doing it and that, partly, I brought it upon myself.

Maybe, someday, I'll find and develop an interesting theme to post.

But that will be the well-known exception that confirms the rule.

I sincerely hope that there are readers who dare to take up the challenge and take over or help out.

No obligation to do this monthly, it can also be done in the form of:

"I pass the pen to...."

Perhaps that is a nice idea to achieve a varied interpretation of background themes. Multiple authors and different perspectives.

If you embrace this idea and would like to participate in the Newsletter, please let me know.

You can mail your contribution and I'll gladly have a look at it and If you wish, I would also like to help you with that a little.

So you can already develop a theme for "various" months of 2024, 2025,

And, keep it simple: just plain text in Word; If you have photos, please send them separate.

In order not to receive my private messages and Branch 005 mail in the same "Inbox", I have taken a separate email address: gewoonherman@outlook.com

Please surprise me with your reactions.



Herman Sligman



Oosterbeek/Lochem, November 14, 2023.Contribution by Gerrit Bruggink- 1st Vice-President**AFTERBURNER**

Was it a sort of remembrance ceremony or just a little education?
It was an interesting mix of both.

The reason was a mail we received from Mrs. Jordana Helm of [AG Authority](#),
(dealer for various agricultural machines and accessories) in Kinistino, Saskatchewan.
She was in charge of an excursion with a group of customers to Europe.
The main goal was to visit a fair in Hannover (D).

The arrival would be at Schiphol and therefore visits to some Canadian cemeteries in the Netherlands were also planned. Some of the participants have relatives who are buried here.
Jordana Helm asked whether we could provide support with information. I answered this positively.

So:

On November 14, 2023, I had the pleasure of welcoming a group of agriculturally oriented Canadians at the CWGC Arnhem Oosterbeek War Cemetery.
This group of interested parties was quite surprised when I told them that the Royal Canadian Legion has an official Branch in the Netherlands for already twenty years. Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands'.
Given the place where we were, some explanation was given about Operation Market-Garden.
Once again, it turned out that knowledge about Canadian involvement was minimal, if not zero.
All existing knowledge was 'wrapped' in historiography from a British perspective.

Completely unknown was the crucial role that the Royal Canadian Engineers played in the evacuation of the paratroopers after the failed attempt to secure the bridge at Arnhem.
I drew their attention to the Engineers Monument on the Drielse Dijk.

I was able to underline the Canadian participation in Market-Garden by pointing out that there are 32 Canadian victims in the cemetery in Oosterbeek, including six CANLOAN officers.

After the meeting I was surprised with a themed quilt by Wayne and Carol Bacon.

Carol Bacon, who had already made many quilts, had created a beautiful specimen.
Especially made to offer to an organization that was (is) concerned with keeping the memories alive of WW2 and the Canadian role in it.

Carol Bacon indeed deserves compliments for a beautiful piece of craftsmanship.

Meanwhile, it has been given a nice place in our clubhouse, restaurant Mondani, in Lochem.

*Gerrit Bruggink*



Handover by Carol and Wayne Bacon



Posing with Wayne



Posing with Jordana



Offer at Mondani to
Yvonne Swarthoff



Handover



Presentation

LIGHTS ON WAR GRAVES. December 24, 2023.

It has been a tradition for years in many places in the Netherlands and abroad.

In our opinion, extensive text is unnecessary.
The photos speak for themselves.

When you activate this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/my4kkvhb>

you will see the interactive map on the screen and you
can see where the lights were turned on.
Status: December 24, 12.00 am.

Many places have been registered via Facebook.



Holten ©Ronald Hissink



Holten ©Ronald Hissink



Schoonebeek © 4 mei comité



Gendringen © Evie Kolenbrander



Markelo © Arjan Morsman



Roosendaal © Andrea di Roma



Oosterbegraafplaats Enschede © Harold Pot



Groesbeek 1



Ouddorp © Janette Kleinpier-Grinwis



Groesbeek 2 © Lex Schulte nr. 1 en 2



Foto links en boven: Stichting Histoarysk Wurkferbân Gaasterlân



Adegem (B) Bron: FB-account Yeomanry



Varsseveld



Oosterbeek © Remco Menkhorst



Branch 68 Penetanguishene Ontario



Branch 68
Penetanguishene



Bergen op Zoom © Dick Vermaas



All photos on this page were taken in Bergen op Zoom, where Comrade Don Paauwe was the guard of honour.

Thanks to Dick Vermaas for the photos.





Wichmond



Vorden



Zelhem



Hummelo



Ruurlo



Rha



Babberich



Hengelo Gelderland



Halle



Dollemaansstraat Baak



Steenderen

Photos on page 9 and 10 were brought together by comrade Gerrit Bruggink

Miscellaneous.

Source: mail from Canada to our 1st Vice-President,
by: Adwin "OJ" Gallant, PMCD 1, B Eng, CD , MSc
FB-account WAC

December 10, 2023.

The "Wreaths Across Canada" placed over 5000 wreaths at the National War Cemetery Beechwood, (Ottawa), with Volunteers.

WREATHS ACROSS CANADA is a non-profit organization dedicated to honouring and remembering all the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces for their service to preserving freedom and democracy in Canada and worldwide.

Beechwood is the final resting place for over 85,000 people, with the majority being everyday Canadians. In addition, Beechwood is proud to be the final resting place for many members of the Canadian Forces, Veterans, War Dead, RCMP and Ottawa Police, plus Governors-General, Prime Ministers and Canadian Victoria Cross recipients.



Music for Veterans Project.

Source: <https://www.emilyarmourmusic.com/bio>

Veterans.gc.ca

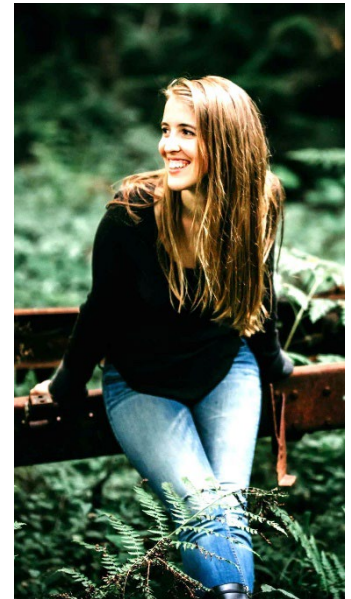
Every composition is unique.

The Music for Veterans Project (MVP) was founded in 2021 by piano teacher and veteran spouse Emily Armour.

Established in 2021, the Music for Veterans Project aims to honour past & present members of the Armed Forces through empathic creative work.

The project encourages students, between 5 and 18 years of age, to compose music inspired by and dedicated to an individual veteran. The veteran receives the personalized sheet music, along with a link to a video of the original work in time for Remembrance Day.

MVP seeks to connect generations and educate young composers on contributions made by members of the Armed Forces, including reservists. Immediate family of veterans no longer with us can also receive a commemorative piece.



Emily Armour

In 2019 Emily's original composition Stories from Yugoslavia: Reflections on Canadian Peacekeeping was featured as a segment on CBC radio during Remembrance Day week.

The suite for solo piano was inspired by interviews of Canadian peacekeeping veterans who served overseas during the Balkans War.

One of the veterans of who was interviewed about her time at the Balkan was Wendy Jocko.

In 1979, at age 19, Jocko joined the Canadian Armed Forces, where she served for 23 years.

She served two tours in Bosnia and Croatia in 1993 and 1998, where she worked as a United Nations peacekeeper.



Wendy at the time in Croatia



We had the honour to meet Wendy Jocko in the Netherlands in September 2023 following the Indigenous Legacy Project.

The piano sole "Ankidokwe" by Keira, was composed in honour of Wendy Jocko. The photo below shows Keira, presenting veteran Wendy Jocko a copy of her commemorative piece "Ankidokwe" after her performance at Parliament on November 7th, 2023, Ottawa ON



Indeed, a very special project.

Herman
Sligman

Appingedam, December 13, 2023.

Source: eemskrant.nl

On Wednesday afternoon, December 13, the monument 'Crossroad Vector' was unveiled in the Wijkstraat in Appingedam by King's Commissioner René Paas; together with Mayor Ben Visser and Jurriaan de Mol of the Liberation Route Europe Foundation and Mr Voetman who witnessed the liberation of Appingedam as a 17-year-old boy.

In the run-up to '80 Years of Freedom' in 2025, a long-distance walking route was launched and a monument was unveiled.



The monument is a marker on the 'Canadian Trail' Groningen, a walking route through the province in the footsteps of the Canadian liberators. It is 'the liberation story' of the province of Groningen.

From now on, the municipality of Eemsdelta and the province of Groningen are part of the Liberation Route Europe, an international walking network that follows the advance of the Western Allies in 1944 and 1945.

Once fully completed, more than 10,000 kilometers of walking routes past museums, monuments, final resting places and other special places throughout Europe will be a reminder of the final phase of the Second World War.



For the hikers among you:

the route planner on www.liberationroute.com and the Liberation Route Europe app show all routes.

<http://www.liberationroute.com/>

Along the way you will be informed about historical places in text, images, on the map and occasionally with an audio story.

The route planner can also be used to map out your own walking routes.

Retrospect Rucphen, June 22, 2023.

Comrade Dré van Roomen drew our attention to the following:

*'Dear comrades,
Via Ad van Uffelen from Rucphen, the initiator of the monuments there, I received a link to an online photo book of the unveiling on June 22 this year.*

*Many of you attended this ceremony.
Ad has also included an 'In Memoriam' from our president Martin Reelick.'*



<https://www.albelli.nl/onlinefotoboek-bekijk?widgetId=5771ee9a-d550-45e0-b446-f9d2a56d8362>

Thank you for the permission to publish this Mr. van Uffelen. Definitely worth watching these album. -hs-



Bergen op Zoom.

Source:

Facebook-account Foundation Visitors Center for Military Fields of Honour Brabantse Wal

Comrade Dré van Roomen drew our attention to the following:
'plans for a visitor center are taking shape'

**CONSTRUCTION-TEAM AGREEMENT SIGNED**

After submitting the environmental permit, a construction-team agreement was signed on Tuesday, December 19, by board members of the Foundation and the management of one of the construction team partners: de Kok Construction Group.

The plan for the visitor center at the CWGC cemeteries on the Ruytershoveweg in Bergen op Zoom is currently being developed with the construction team members.

With a balanced budget and a final zoning plan, the intention is to start construction in 2024.



Model of the Plan

Photo: © Marcel Otterspeer Pix4Profs



Impression of the entrance © Grasso den Ridder Architects

Commendation for 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group.

Source: The 1860 Club december 2023.



More about 3CRPG: <http://tinyurl.com/yeyujshe>



3CRPG - 3GPRC

22 december om 06:27 · 🌐

One of our many great achievements this year was receiving our second Canadian Forces Unit Commendation in 5 years; for our performance in remote communities in Northern Ontario during the pandemic.

The commendation was presented in November in Ottawa by the Commander of the Canadian Army Lieutenant-General Jocelyn Paul and Sergeant Major Chief Warrant Officer James Smith.

The commendation comes with a 3-inch gold coloured coin, a special commemorative flag and a scroll signed by the Chief of the Defence Staff. The flag may be flown for one year, thereafter, it is kept as an historical artefact.

The Canadian Forces Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit or sub-unit, composite formation, or other military group of the CF, or to any similar organization of a foreign armed force working with or in conjunction with the CF, that has performed a deed or activity considered beyond the demand of normal duty.

Learn more here:

<https://www.canada.ca/.../canadian-forces-unit...>

UPCOMING.

Check the agenda to see the planned activities on:

<http://tinyurl.com/4yzn9jus>

Follow us on Facebook:

<http://tinyurl.com/38cmrdct>

For the Youth Auxiliary RCL Branch 005:

<http://tinyurl.com/cwbx7vzy>

TO HONOUR CANADA'S VETERANS:

Donations are always welcome.

Our organization has an ANBI status.

All donations and gifts have a Tax Advantage.

Even a small donation is welcome.



Ending with a smile.

