



**Royal Canadian Legion
Liberation of the Netherlands
Branch 005**



AUGUST 2023, Edition 2023-08



**Holiday Season
=
Gooseberry Season?**



Not in the editors office!



This years august issue brings you:

**A LOOK BACK ON 20 YEARS OF RCL BRANCH 005
A NEWSLETTER FROM 2006
WREATH LAID IN HAMILTON-ONTARIO BY CANADIAN COMRADE
A BACKGROUND STORY OF AN INVASION IN SOUTHERN EUROPE
AND
SURPRISING NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN OUR BRANCH.**

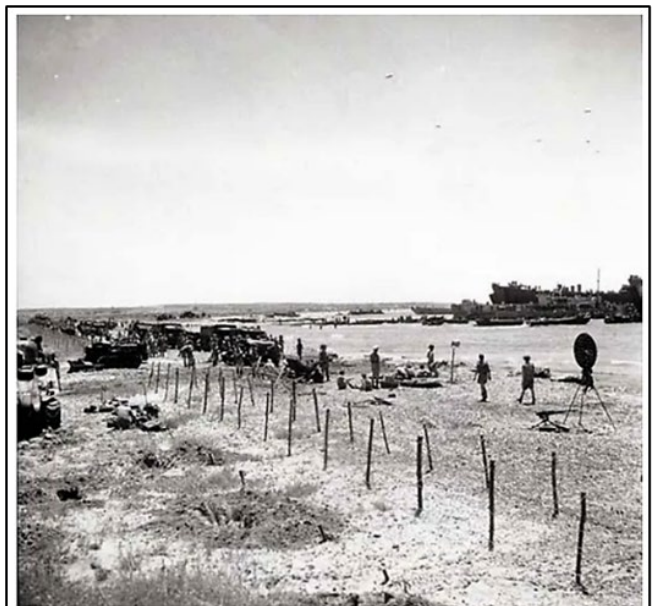
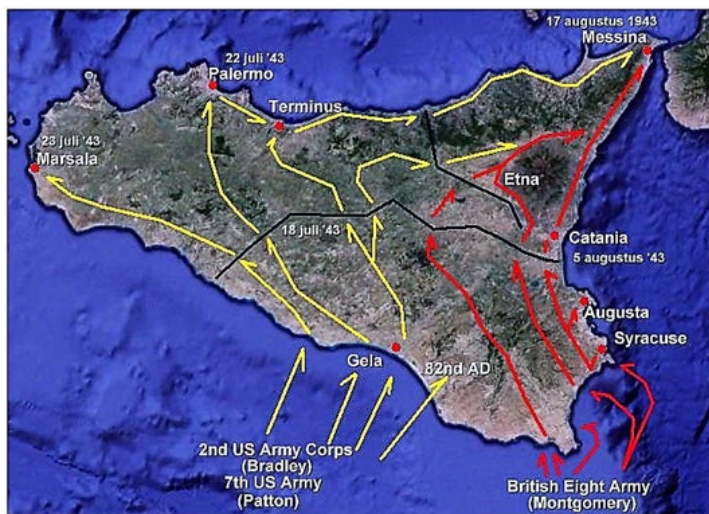
BACKGROUND STORY

After the successful deceptive 'Operation Mincemeat'
now the logical next step.

Operation Husky The invasion of Sicily

D-Day gets all the attention but don't underestimate the importance of the invasion
of Sicily.

Don't underestimate Canada's part in this either.



The landing in Pachino, Sicily, July 10th, 1943

Photo by Frank Royal. Department of National Defence / National Archives of Canada, PA-166751.



A Canadian Sherman tank moves through Regalbuto during the Sicily campaign, 1943. (Library and Archives Canada)

For a little history:

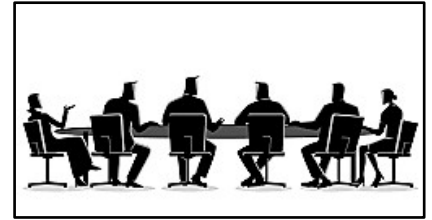
click on the pictures for the story.

Herman Sligman

FROM THE BOARD.

September has only just begun, but the commemorations are being announced in full as usual.

Invitations for commemorations in Veenendaal, Drielse Dijk, Oosterbeek, Holten and Groesbeek have been received.



The Canadian Ministry of Veterans Affairs will come to the Netherlands and Germany with a large delegation as part of the commemorations surrounding the Indigenous Legacy Project. This project was created to honour the Canadian soldiers with Indian roots.

These soldiers also referred to as "First Nation Soldiers", "served with thousands in the Canadian Army, Navy, and Air Force". In connection with this project, a study was started much earlier to identify which soldiers with this background are buried in the Netherlands or are mentioned on the memorial walls.

With regard to the Indigenous commemorations, our Branch will of course play a role.

The August 30, board meeting was a good time to reset the watches and make sure everyone is ready for active duty, including the members of the Colour Party.

The founding of the Youth Auxiliary Department continues to occupy us.

It will be important how many young people will be part of this and which members of our Branch will be responsible for coordination and guidance. It is the intention that the Canadian Remembrance Torch will only be worn by these young people in front of the remembrance service.

We note that there is increasing interest in Canada in the activities of our Branch. We also regularly receive requests from Canada to join our Branch.

The positions for Second Vice President and Treasurer are still open. Members may contact the Secretary for information in this regard.

In the context of our twentieth anniversary the members of the editorial team, Herman Sligman and Ruud Janssen, included a newsletter from our Branch from 2006 in this newsletter.

Time stands still for a moment, but the news is still very informative.

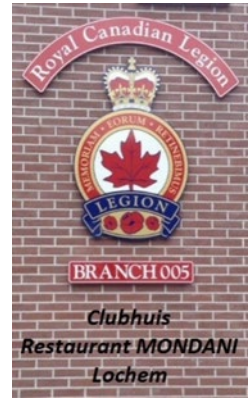


Mr. Jan C.K. van Loo LL.M., Secretary and Legal Officer

2003 – 2023 Twenty years of RCL Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands'

If you are at a party in the Clubhouse of RCL Branch 005, Restaurant Mondani in Lochem, for the 20th anniversary of the Branch, then you realize how quickly those 20 years have passed and what has happened in the meantime.

Yvonne and Berry Swarthoff have been taking care of the inner man from the very beginning on every occasion that there was an event within RCL Branch 005. Whether it was for a New Year's reception, a board meeting, the Annual General Assembly, Canada Day or a lunch/dinner after a memorial. They always made space.



They also acted as 'custodians' of all materials of RCL005 and occasionally as a bed and breakfast for members or Canadians for a night, if they were in the area. We, at the Branch, are of course very grateful to them for this and hope that it will last for a long time.

The transfer of knowledge to the youth was also coordinated from the Clubhouse. Schools were visited with a number of RCL members and it was explained what had happened during the war, but above all, why we should never forget that.



In addition, there were many commemorations to which the Branch was invited. Remembering and commemorating is and will be one of the important objectives of our Branch.

Often up to 40 events per year where a wreath was laid or the Colour Party was deployed (in a jubilee year up to more than a 100 times).

In addition, many RCL members voluntarily came to the commemoration to show their respect for the deceased liberators, who rest in the various cemeteries. Many new monuments have been erected. Recently three in Rucphen.

Some places (but there were many more) where these commemorations have been organised and often still are for many years:

Apeldoorn, Bergen op Zoom, Vlissingen, Sloedam, Etten, Driel, Hoeksche Waard, Holten, Markelo, Posterenk, Kapelsche Veer, Veenendaal, Wilnis, Westduin, of course the various commemorations at Groesbeek, but also small ones in Diever and Borssele.



Some were initiated by RCL Zone Europe, such as in Beaumont-Hamel, Vimy (every year, but also the 100th anniversary in 2017) and at the Menin Gate in Ypres and of course the liberation parade in Wageningen on May 5th every year.



We should not forget the candle evenings on Christmas Eve at the many (major) cemeteries in the Netherlands. This is becoming increasingly meaningful.

At all commemorations, RCL Branch 005 has always tried to be a worthy representative of both the Netherlands and Canada to honour the deceased liberators at their final resting place.

In the article by comrade Jan van Loo, 'de Oude Nieuwskrant' you can read how it functioned in the beginning. Many former comrades have passed away and there are also those who have left our association for reasons of their own. But we have always worked with greater or lesser success to maintain our slogan: Lest we forget.

Thanks to all who contributed to this, not in the least the RCL005 board members, but also the volunteers around them.



At the commemorations we have worked together with many music bands or Pipes & Drums Band, such as the City of Apeldoorn, the 48th Highlanders of the Netherlands, but certainly also the Pipes, Drums & Dancers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Black Watch Pipes & Drums.

The last two bands came from abroad to the Netherlands to commemorate their deceased compatriots and to celebrate the liberation. Many thanks to all. It would never have been this impressive without you.



Where possible, this was supported by the RCL005 Promotion Tent.

The staffing was not always optimal, because not everyone had time for it, but if the tent was somewhere, it was really there.

Thanks to the volunteers who made it happen!



The fact that the work of RCL Branch 005 has not gone unnoticed was proven by the fact that a number of RCL members have been awarded the Canadian Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.



**Martin Reelick receives the Medal.
Pinned on by H.E. Sabine Nölke, ambassador to Canada
in the Netherlands at the time.**

An important award given by the Governor General of Canada to those who have performed exceptional volunteer service to the Canadian community.

This award is rarely given to non-Canadians living abroad.
Of course, we are proud of our comrades!

Also, we should not forget that besides Canadian liberators, soldiers from other countries also gave their lives for our freedom, such as Poles, British, New Zealanders, Australians, French, South Africans, Americans and many others. We will remember them!

Fortunately, we as a Branch, have the support of a number of enthusiastic members, who put their shoulders to the wheel when necessary. RCL005 is also supported in its activities by the Canadian government.

The Canadian embassy in The Hague, with its employees and certainly the ambassador him/herself, plays a major role in this. Also, in our financial support. Before COVID, a charity evening was organized every year at the Ambassador's residence.

An important part of the proceeds was then donated to RCL005 and that was much needed to be able to continue to do all our activities.

We hope that this "Red Maple Soiree" as it was called, can be started again.

This is how I came into contact with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 in 2012.

I attended the Soiree to promote Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products' smoked wild Canadian salmon, which I was importing at the time from my Indigenous friends in Canada.

After that I became a member of RCL005 and was also a board member. I am still a member of RCL005 and very involved in their objectives.

However, there is still a lot to do to ensure that we can continue to make progress with the limited number of members of the association (currently about 90, of which about 25 are really active).

Time will tell.

Important topics for the future are: communication (in- and external), attendance at commemorations, knowledge transfer to youth (the RCL005 Youth Auxiliary was founded in 2023 for a reason!), starting up new projects such as the Indigenous Legacy Project, looking for sponsors (many small ones are better than one big one) and new members of course!

Anyone over the age of 18 can join the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005, 'Liberation of the Netherlands' to ensure we never forget them (our liberators).

You don't have to have been in military service to join! And also, you do not need to be an inhabitant of the Netherlands.

If you're just a little bit Canadian at heart.

After all, I am also a member of RCL.....



Are you interested?

Send an email to: **info@rcl005.org** and we will contact you as soon as possible.

Or do you know young people (under 18 years old) who like to participate in how we should commemorate in the future?

Send an email to: **youth@rcl005.org**

Do you just want to support us financially because you are committed to our goals?

For more information:

send an email to **info@rcl005.org** or go directly to our website and **[donate:](#)**



You can also scan the QR code

Our chief editor Herman Sligman will continue to bombard you with the RCL005 Newsletter on a regular basis, provided we have sufficient copy and/or receive it on time.

I try to help him with that. Do you provide copy??

PLEASE!! Mailto: **redactie@rcl005.org**



Ruud Janssen

20 years Royal Canadian Legion, 'Liberation of the Netherlands', Branch 005

On August 24, 2003, it was 20 years ago that Branch 005 was founded in the Netherlands as the sole representative of the Royal Canadian Legion organization in Canada.

Member and co-founder from the very beginning was our current secretary, Jan van Loo.

In those 20 years he has experienced a lot at the 'club' and retrieved an RCL005 newspaper from October 2006 from his archives.

To show you something of that "old box" we have included it in this edition. (in Dutch).

Unfortunately, a number of members passed away or left our association, but also a number are still involved in RCL Branch 005.

For privacy reasons, we removed phone numbers and email addresses.

Obviously RCL Branch 005 has changed a lot in 20 years.

A youth section (Youth Auxiliary) has even been established, which is allowed to carry the Canadian Remembrance Torch during commemorations.

The deployment of the Colour Party at commemorations is still there and the education of the young people in schools is still done.

After all, youth are the future!

But maybe this one is still recognizable???

Anyway, a look back.

*Ruud Jannsen
Herman Sligman*





ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Liberation of the Netherlands

Branch 005

Oktober 2006

Jaargang 1, nummer 3



Voorwoord

van de redactie

Deze derde Branch 005 krant geeft weer heel veel informatie over de activiteiten van onze Branch. Voor uw redacteur was een hoogtepunt de berging in Hank van in de Tweede Wereldoorlog omgekomen vliegers en de begrafenis met militaire eer op de militaire begraafplaats Jonkerbos te Nijmegen op 27 september jl.; een gebeurtenis waarvoor wijlen ZKH Prins Bernhard mijn collega Jan Rouwenhorst en mij op het spoor zette, toen de prins een brief stuurde met daarin de vraag om de expertise, die is opgedaan bij de berging van de drie Canadese vliegers in Wilnis in 2002, aan te willen wenden voor de voorbereiding van een berging in Hank.

Het RCL heeft weer een indrukwekkend aantal ceremoniën bijgewoond dit jaar en iedere keer blijkt maar weer hoe belangrijk het is dat de gesneuvelde militairen herdacht worden. De leden van de Colourparty o.l.v. Sgt at Arms Hendrik Kuiper moeten soms onder moeilijke omstandigheden hun werk doen, maar kwijten zich altijd weer vol overgave van hun taak.

Het is helaas nog niet gelukt om een interview te doen met Zijne Hoogheid Prins Floris van Oranje-Nassau van Vollenhoven. Ik hoop echter dat daar nu binnenkort tijd voor kan worden gevonden.

Op 12 november hoop ik u allen te zien bij de herdenkingsplechtigheid in Apeldoorn.

Mr. Jan C.K. van Loo.



Samen met de Royal British Legion Branch Arnhem-Nijmegen werd 8 oktober een herdenking bijgewoond op de begraafplaats, kerkhof Heidehof te Ugchelen (bij Apeldoorn). Een grote Colourparty vond plaats. De plechtigheid in de kerk begon om 14.00 uur. Daarna volgde de tocht naar het kerkhof. De plechtigheid is genaamd 'De 55 graven van Heidehof'. Er liggen daar geallieerde

Een woord van de President.

In de derde uitgave van onze Branch 005 nieuwsbrief, kunnen we alleen maar zeggen dat we in deze maanden onze plicht weer hebben gedaan. Als we de agenda bekijken
vervolg pag. 2

vliegers begraven. De bijeenkomst werd georganiseerd in samenwerking met 'Wij herdenken' Beekbergen, Ugchels Belang/Dorpsraad en de gemeente Apeldoorn.

Vervolg van pag. 1

ken dan hebben we 6 activiteiten gehad waarbij wij aan de ons gestelde opdrachten hebben voldaan. De bekende herdenkingsdagen begin mei en de 1^e juli in Frankrijk waarbij we onze vlaggen mochten meevoeren ter nagedachtenis aan de gesneuvelden van het Royal Newfoundland Regiment 1 Juli 1916. Samen met onze comrades van de Zone hebben we de 90ste

herdenking van dit gebeuren in de 1^e Wereld Oorlog in Beaumont-Hamel in Noord Frankrijk mogen meemaken. Leden hebben een invulling aan Canada Day gegeven, b.v. bij het bezoek aan de Canadese ambassadeur in Wassenaar. 20 Juli was het weer de beurt aan de Branch 005 Colour Party om samen met een contingent van de Canadian Forces op de derde dag van de Nijmeegse vierdaagse in Groesbeek de gevallen te eren.

Jammer was dat we de aangekondigde Normandië Tour niet konden verwezenlijken, wegens gebrek aan (grote) belangstelling, teleurstellend voor diegenen die hard bezig zijn geweest een en ander voor te bereiden.

Vreugdevol was het dat op 4 mei j.l. Berry Swarthoff de eed werd afgenomen en hij in de familie van Branch 005 is opgenomen. In een prachtige plechtigheid in Lochem in front van de Branch 005 leden legde hij de eed af, die werd afgenomen door de Zone Commander Reg Bonnar. (Zie foto onder)

22 Juli heeft weer een delegatie de RCL Zone Europa vergadering in Geilenkirchen meegemaakt.

Leden van de Branch 005 weten steeds beter de bestuursleden te vinden met vragen aangaande de Branch 005 en de RCL, dat is verheugend. Veel vragen komen binnen via onze website, vooral uit Canada waaruit maar eens

blijkt dat deze zeer goed bekeken wordt.

Zoals altijd is het bestuur benieuwd of er ideeën zijn die de leden graag aan ons kwijt zouden willen, dan denk ik met name aan het sociale gedeelte, Comrade Vice Presd. Marga Timmerman, ziet ze graag komen. Grote inspanningen heeft Vice Presd. Marga Timmerman getroost, om na de goed verlopen RCL Zone Europe vergadering in Lochem, een BBQ op te zetten. In de sfeervolle omgeving van, zoals iemand het noemde, "de Hunting Lodge van Yvonne en Berry Restaurant Mondani" gingen de verschillende vleessoorten en hapjes, en niet te vergeten de drankjes er vrolijk in. En soms onder de klanken van de City of Apeldoorn, Pipes en Drum en Branch 005 members.

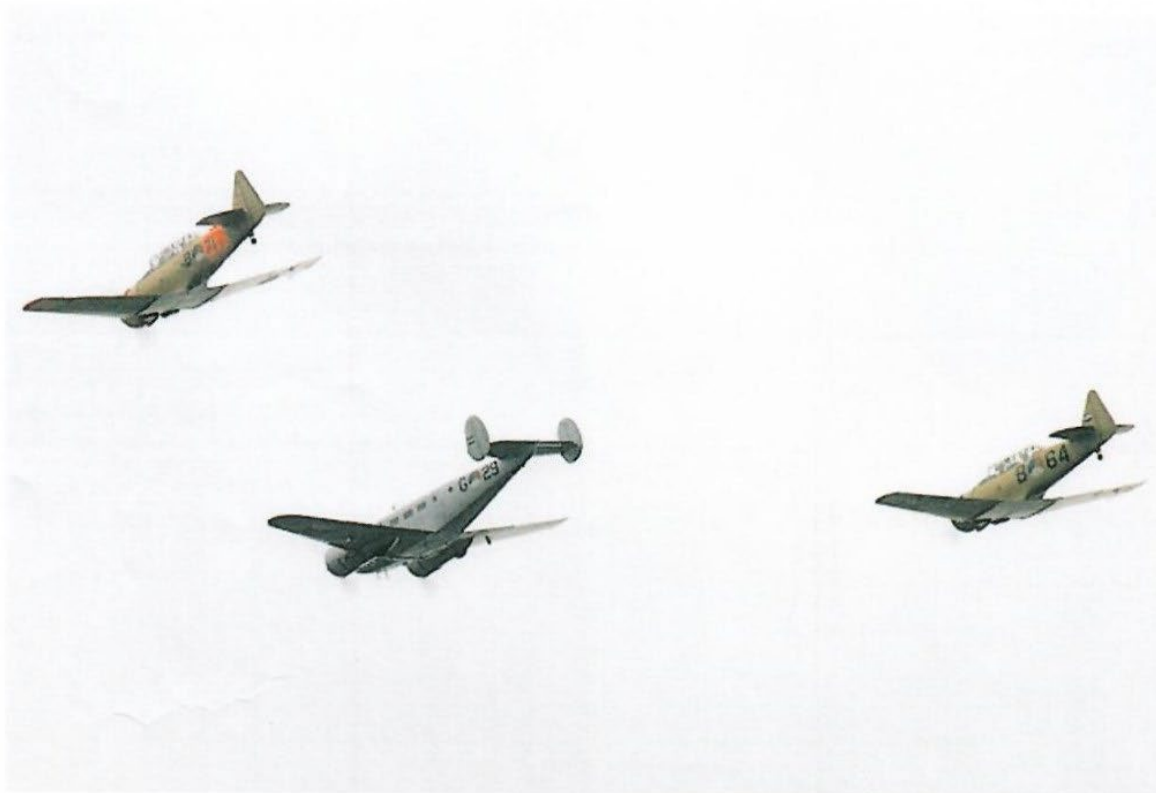
8 Oktober jl. waren de leden van Branch 005 en Zone RCL leden paraat tijdens de imposante Herdenking op de begraafplaats Heidhof in Ugchelen voor 55 leden van de



Oplezen van de 55 namen door Alma Buitenhuis en Ben Zonnenberg

Royal Air Force, vliegers van Canada, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, Czech Republic, en Nederland. Zij verloren het leven tussen 1942 en 1945. Aandacht zal





Voor de gesneuvelde vliegers van de RAF werd op 8 oktober j.l. een Fly Past gehouden over de begraafplaats Heidehof. Twee Havards en een Beech 18 brachten het saluut.

er zijn voor de Poppy Campaign, wat een grote klus zal worden, waar Membership Chairman Piet Polderdijk ideeën voor aan het ontwikkelen is.

Comrade Celine Garbay, RCL lid, en werkzaam in het Juno Beach Centre in Normandië, heeft van een Canadees voor 10 Poppies 50 Euro gekregen, met de boodschap deze over te maken aan de Branch 005, waarvan Celine zich heeft gekwet. **Last but not least: nieuwe leden te verkrijgen schijnt toch moeilijk te zijn**, terwijl we een organisatie zijn, die een hoger doel nastreeft en die voor de toekomst een garantie kan en moet waarborgen voor Herdenkingen zoals op 4 en 5 nov. a.s. waarbij leden van Branch 005 van de Royal Vimy naar Frankrijk gaan, om samen met de RCL Zone members de herdenkingen bij te wonen. Eind oktober, begin november a.s. starten ook weer de Poppy (klaprozen) Campagnes in b.v. Zandvoort, Apeldoorn en waarschijnlijk voor het eerst in Groningen.

Inlichtingen bij Comrade Piet Polderdijk 12 november a.s. zal in Apeldoorn om 11.00 uur Remembrance Day Ceremonie plaatsvinden. De Colour Party zal daar aanwezig zijn en, naar wij hopen, ook een aantal leden. Het gebeuren vindt plaats bij de "Man met de twee hoeden" aan de Loolaan.

Weet u een gemotiveerd iemand die lid wil worden, neem a.u.b. even contact op met Piet Polderdijk.

Voor de activiteiten blijft de agenda in deze nieuwsbrief en op de website van belang. De nieuwsbrief en de website blijven het lezen waard want dan blijven we van alles op de hoogte. Ik wens nu alle leden al Prettige Feestdagen en een goede gezondheid.

Ben J. Zonnenberg

Herdenking 4 mei 2006



Op 4 mei 2006 legden RCL Zone Commander Reg Bonnar en Branch 005 voorzitter Ben Zonnenberg een krans bij het Cross of Sacrifice op de Canadese begraafplaats te Holten. Ook vertegenwoordigers van Branches uit Duitsland waren aanwezig. Onze Colourparty onder leiding van Sgt. at Arms Hendrik Kuiper stond fier en waardig bij de herdenkingsplek, die druk bezocht werd. Schoolkinderen legden bij elk graf bloemen.

Canada Day 1 juli Noord-Frankrijk



Op Canada Day, 1 juli, namen Ben Zonnenberg, Hendrik Kuiper en Piet Polderdijk met de Zone RCL Europe deel aan de Herdenkingen in Noord Frankrijk te Beaumont-Hamel van het Royal Newfoundland Regiment dat daar in de Eerste Wereldoorlog streed. Van dit Regiment sneuvelden in 1916 in één uur tijd 1000 man nabij Beaumont-Hamel. De Colourparty was aanwezig, evenals de huidige regimentsvertegenwoordigers en HKH Prinses Ann van het Verenigd Koninkrijk. In de hitte werd bij het bekende Caribou monument een krans gelegd.

Agenda

12 november herdenkingsplechtigheid i.v.m. Remembrance Day (11 november). Ceremonie bij het Nationaal Canadees Bevrijdingsmonument, De Man met de twee hoeden, te Apeldoorn. Aanvangstijd altijd 11 uur. Ontvangst vanaf 10.20 uur in Wooncentrum De Loohof, Koning Lodewijklaan 2, dat zich op loopafstand van het monument bevindt.

12 november - bestuursvergadering

13 december - bestuursvergadering.

17 februari 2007 Algemene Ledenvergadering.

De Man met de twee hoeden

De 'Man met de twee hoeden' is een beeld dat vreugde betekent. De man gooit twee hoeden van vreugde in de lucht: zijn eigen hoed en de hoed van zijn buurman die naast hem staat en eveneens de Canadezen begroet bij hun intocht in de Nederlandse steden en dorpen. De twee hoeden staan ook symbool voor de twee landen en hun goede en soms mystieke nauwe banden. Door de herdenkingen op 11 november jaarlijks heeft het beeld meer betekenis gekregen en de herdenkingen hebben op hun beurt weer meer betekenis gekregen door de oprichting

van de Nederlandse afdeling van de Royal Canadian Legion.

In 1995 waren het onze huidige voorzitter Ben Zonnenberg en de Stichting Bevrijding '45 uit Apeldoorn die van mening waren dat Nederland eindelijk Canada met een zichtbaar monument moest bedanken voor het teruggeven van onze vrijheid in 1944/1945. Samen hebben zij een werkgroep gevormd en gelden bij elkaar gekregen om beeldhouwer Henk Visch de 'Man met de twee hoeden' te kunnen laten vervaardigen. In 2000 heeft Prinses Magriet het beeld onthuld aan de Loolaan te Apeldoorn en zij deed dat opnieuw in 2002 te Ottawa, Canada met het tweelingbeeld.



Bemanning Halifax in september eervol begraven.

De bemanningsleden van de in het Brabantse Hank geborgen Halifax zijn op 27 september begraven. De Stichting Berging Halifax 1944, waar ons bestuurslid Jan van Loo vice-president en oprichter van is, had oorspronkelijk graag op 24 en 25 mei, de datum waarop de Halifax 61 jaar geleden crashte, de bemanningsleden willen begraven. In het bijzijn van familie van de omgekomen bemanning gebeurde dat uiteindelijk dus in september en wel op de militaire begraafplaats Jonkerbos in Nijmegen. In Hank waren zeven inzittenden neergestort met de Halifax, waarvan nog zes tot voor kort als vermist te boek stonden, zijnde 3 Engelsen, 1 Rhodesiër en 2 Canadezen, te weten de 21 jarige Flying Officer Sidney

Glen Peterson en de 29 jarige Flight Sergeant Lloyd Joseph Thomas Leblanc.

Op de foto Sidney's broer Roy Peterson uit Vancouver/Canada met zijn vijf kinderen op de begraafplaats Jonkerbos waar zij de laatste eer bewijzen aan de crew van Halifax LV905. Voor Roy Peterson was het een emotionele dag. Het macabere lot wil dat ook een andere broer van hem Lawrence, sneuvelde. Lawrence was jachtvlieger bij de Royal Air Force en vocht boven de woestijn van Noord Afrika luchtgevechten uit met de geharde piloten van de Luftwaffe. Op 30 oktober 1942 werd hij met zijn Hawker Hurricane door eigen afweergeschut uit de lucht geschoten.



Klaproosactie

Op 4 en 11 november wordt in Apeldoorn de Klaproosactie gehouden in de Oranjerie. Het gaat om de zogenoemde Poppy Campaign van de Royal Canadian Legion, Liberation of the Netherlands Branch 005. Ook in Zandvoort en waarschijnlijk in de provincie Groningen vindt de actie plaats. Iedere inwoner wordt in de gelegenheid gesteld om een klaproos te dragen van 4 tot 12 november om daarmee uiting te geven aan de dankbaarheid jegens de Canadese bevrijders van 1944/1945. De traditie wil dat voor de poppy een kleine vergoeding wordt gegeven. De opbrengst wordt gebruikt voor de herdenkingen en educatie in Nederland.



Burgemeester G.J. de Graaf van Apeldoorn krijgt Poppy opgespeld

Grootste bedank Kaart van Canada

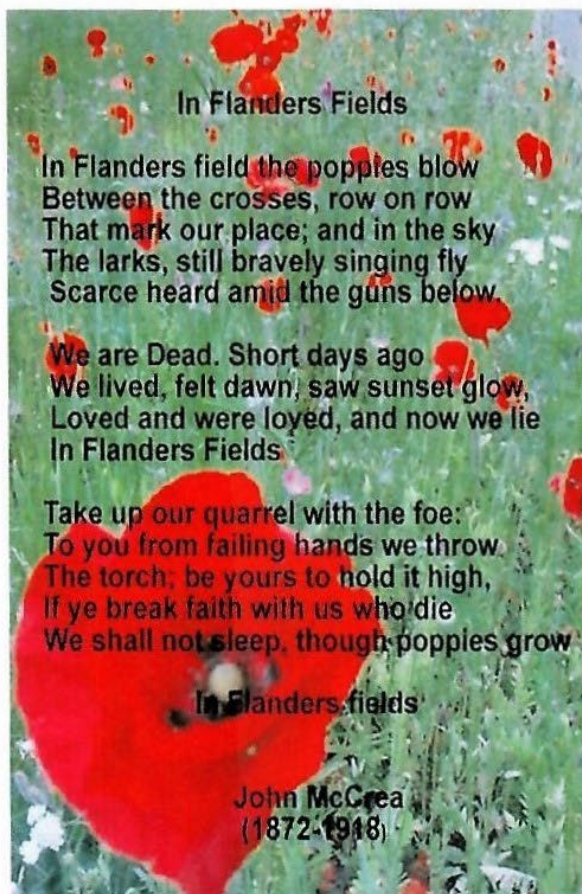
In het gemeentehuis van Apeldoorn werd op 12 oktober een tentoonstelling geopend over de Grootste bedank Kaart van Canada. Kim Shergold uit Ontario, Canada had daartoe 12 doeken naar Nederland gezonden met de gemeentewapens van Canadese steden en dorpen, waarop Canadese burgers hun handtekening hadden gezet en een bedankje aan de Canadese veteranen. Op de tentoonstelling waren ook foto's te zien van de Tweede Wereldoorlog en van de activiteiten die in Nederland worden gehouden ter ere van de Canadese veteranen. De opening werd verricht door de plaatsvervangend Canadese ambassadeur David Gill en de Apeldoornse locoburgemeester Fokke Spoelstra.



Poppy Day

De Poppy is het symbool bij herdenkingen voor Canadese gevallen en werd bedacht in de Eerste Wereldoorlog door Luitenant Kolonel John Mc Crae (en

niet Crea zoals onder het gedicht), die diende bij de Medische dienst van het Canadese leger. De eerste Poppy werd in Canada aan het publiek aangeboden in 1921. John McCrae leefde tussen de klaproosvelden in, in de loopgraven van Vlaanderen in België en Noord Frankrijk tijdens de oorlogsjaren en hij heeft ook het gedicht In Flanders Fields geschreven dat samen met de Poppy tot symbool van herdenken geworden is in het hele Britse Gemenebest voor gevallen in alle oorlogen. McCrae stierf in 1918 aan een longontsteking. Het motto van de Poppy Day is 'Wij zullen hen blijven herdenken'.



Redactie:
Marian Sterenborg
Mr. Jan C.K. van Loo,

Dieppe Memorial Service August 19th 2023.

Contribution by Ed Musters.

Introduction.

I had the privilege of attending the 81st Anniversary Memorial service for the Dieppe Raid in Hamilton Ontario Canada. I had the honour of laying a wreath, which was my first official duty as a member of the RCL Branch 005. The wreath was generously donated by Millbrook Branch 402, after explaining who I was and what it was for (they were also mentioned on the wreath). As you may already know, I served with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (RHLI) in the 80's.



The Ceremony.

The ceremony was arranged by the RHLI Veterans Association. The service pays tribute to the more than 6,000 Allied forces, most of them Canadian, who took part in the largest raid of The Second World War.

On 19 August 2003, the 61st Anniversary of the raid on the French port of Dieppe in 1942, the City of Hamilton dedicated the Dieppe Veterans' Memorial Park to the 582 soldiers of The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (Wentworth Regiment) who stormed ashore that morning. The park is located on Beach Boulevard and Manor Avenue near the Canal Lift Bridge and is three quarters of an acre in size. The main entrance is located on Waterfront Beach Trail. There is a low wall at the top of the walkway symbolizing the seawall at Dieppe. Inside this low wall is the Ceremonial Plaza. This area contains plaques with all the names of The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry that died that day. In the end, 197 members from the RHLI died, marking the single greatest loss of life of Hamiltonians to date, and nearly 300 were wounded or taken prisoner. Over 1,000 Canadian soldiers, sailors and aircrew lost their lives during the raid.

Dieppe Raid Trivia.

Did you know?

Admiral Mountbatten ordered Captain Denis Whitaker (RHLI) to attend a debriefing after the battle. He replied "But an admiral doesn't ask a Captain's advice.". His batman replied "But sir, you're all that's left. You're the senior officer in the battalion. You were the only unwounded officer of the entire brigade who came back from the beaches. There aren't many left - a few here in hospital, the rest dead or captured in France, and a handful who never landed. So, you're it, sir."

- From: *Dieppe - Tragedy to Triumph*, Brigadier General Denis Whitaker

Did you know?

John Weir Foote was a Presbyterian minister and a recipient of the Victoria Cross. On 19 August 1942 Honorary Captain Foote was attached to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (RHLI), and went ashore with them at Dieppe. After landing, Padre Foote assisted the RHLI's medical officer in caring for the wounded at the regimental aid post. However, he frequently left the relative safety of that location for the open beach where he rendered first aid, and gave injections of morphine to alleviate the suffering of the many wounded who were there. Later, he carried wounded men from the regimental aid post to landing craft waiting to evacuate the survivors of the raiding force. Padre Foote declined the opportunity to embark, preferring to continue to minister to those left behind, and to share their fate as prisoners of war. At the end of the war, Padre Foote received the Victoria Cross for his conduct at Dieppe, the first ever awarded to a Canadian chaplain. The armoury where the RHLI train is named after him.

About the Author.

Ed Musters is Canadian born to Dutch parents liberated in WWII. His parents, along with their 4 children, emigrated to Canada in 1961. Ed served in the reserves of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry in the 80s and is proud to be amongst our newest members of the RCL 'Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005.



Editorial addition.

In edition 2021-07 we highlighted the Dieppe Raid in the background story.
If you missed it; here is the link:

<https://www.rcl005.nl/newsletter-2021-07/>

MISCELLANEOUS I.

We already announced some surprising new developments on the cover of this edition. Perhaps you had already become a bit skeptical and thought: 'yes, yes, of course'.

As a first development we would like to mention, once again, the establishment of the Youth Auxiliary.



Mentioned briefly in the previous edition at the celebration of Canada Day and at the commemoration in Groesbeek prior to the Nijmegen 4-days Marches.



Some photos have also been published. You can now also follow on Instagram.



youth_auxiliary_rcl_branch005



What is new is that a nice promotional video has been made. This is posted on YouTube. **Subtitles in English.** We would like to show it to you here Click on the photo above. **(sound on)**

MISCELLANEOUS II. Another sign that RCL Branch 005 didn't go to sleep.

An idea by comrade Reinier Groeneveld. Active as a participant in the Colour party and now the maker of a map of the Netherlands. Not just any map!

On behalf of all of us: kudos for the idea.



In Google My Maps you can view a map with all locations of Canadian graves in the Netherlands.

In addition, a 'second layer' has been added.

Monuments, commemorative plaques and memorial stones are indicated on this.

All places where the memory of our liberators is kept alive.

When you click on the map on the left, they will pop up.

Zooming in makes the various locations visible.

Click on a location and you will see an explanation of the location in the side window on the left.

Addition: the map is a 'time recording'.
There is still a search for marked memorial places.
These are then added to the map.

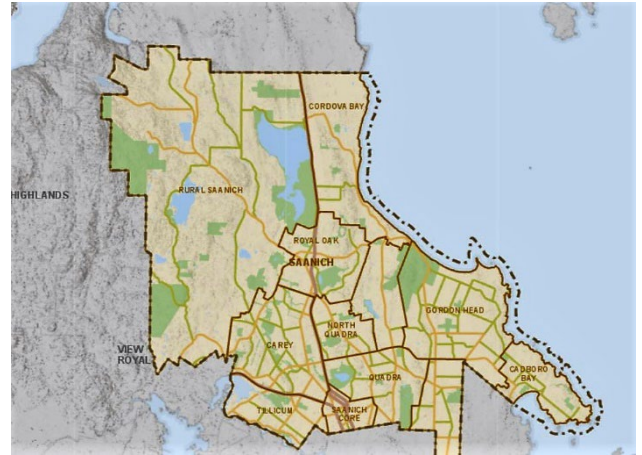
MISCELLANEOUS III.

Source: CBC News, by Jason Peters, August 23, 2023.

Vancouver Island family returns 18 hectares of former wetland to First Nations

In a transaction believed to be the first of its kind in Canada, a Vancouver Island family has returned 18.5 hectares of former wetland on the Saanich Peninsula to First Nations in the area.

The Berglund family, through Brentwood Developments Ltd., transferred the land to the WSÁNEĆ Lands Trust Society (WLTS) under the federal Ecological Gifts Program (EGP).



The EGP was established in 1995 as a way for Canadians with ecologically-sensitive land to donate it to a qualified recipient in exchange for tax benefits.



Tsartlip First Nation Chief Don Tom, who is also chairman of the WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council, speaks at an Aug. 18, 2023, ceremony marking the return of 18.5 hectares of land to the WSÁNEĆ people. (Submitted by WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council)

According to the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council (WLC) — which consists of the Tsartlip and Tseycum Nations — the transfer is the first one in Canada made to an Indigenous organization through the EGP.

Comrades during Sunset March Nijmegen.

Since October 19, 2014, the Sunset March is a daily tribute to the allied soldiers who fought for the freedom of the Netherlands. A new city bridge has been built in Nijmegen; named: 'The Crossing'.

Close to the part of the Waal where American soldiers crossed the Waal on 20 September 1944 during Operation Market Garden.

During this so-called 'Waal crossing' 48 Allied soldiers died.

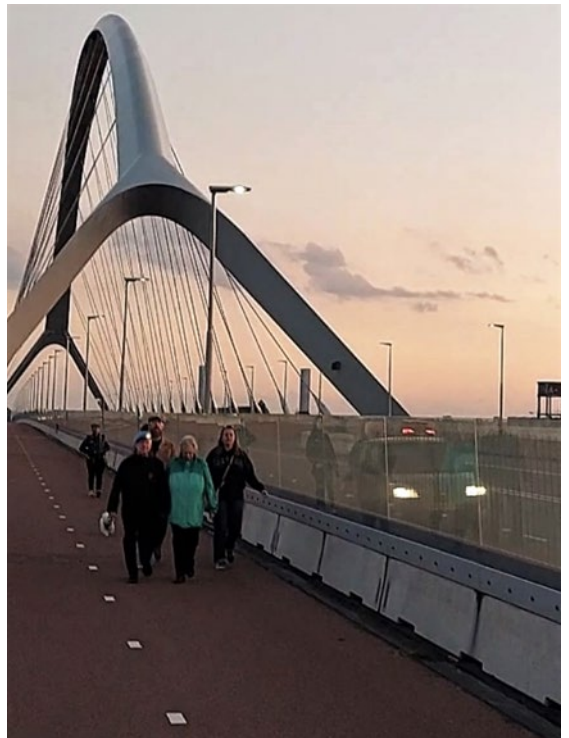
The lighting of this new bridge is very special. There are 48 pairs of light poles on the bridge. Around sunset, these light poles are lit, pair by pair, one after the other at the pace of a slow march. Every evening, as the first pair of light poles are lit, a veteran walks the Sunset March as the lights come on.

On August 27, 2023, comrade Danny Murphy was Veteran of the Day.

He walked the route together with his wife Lies, his son and the son's girlfriend.

Every reason to highlight it here.

Our RCL member Richard Hendriks also completed the route. That's why we have the photos. Thanks Richard, and you know it: the photographer himself is rarely in the picture.



From the right:
Mrs. Murphy, Patrick Murphy,
Danny Murphy, Angelique,
Patrick's girlfriend and an
unknown Dutch veteran with
his family.

**At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
We will remember them.**



Attention for the Poppy in August.

A contribution by Gerrit Bruggink.

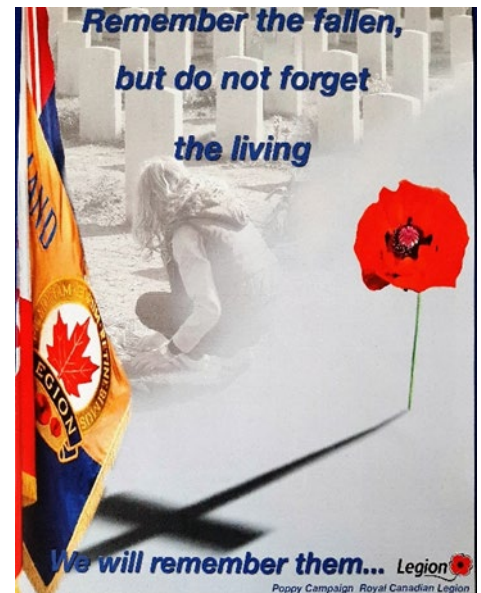
In the southwest of Belgium, known as 'the Westhoek', an event was organized for old motorcycles. In this region during the First World War, fierce battles were fought.

Reason for our 1st Vice-President (also present as a participant) to take the initiative to draw attention to the Poppy tradition.

The organization went along with it.

There was a corner where leaflets were presented and Poppies were provided.

Fair use was made of this. Photos show that participants had placed a Poppy on the motorcycle or wear it on their clothing. The action made a modest contribution.



Upcoming.

**The best way to stay informed:
see our agenda.**

<https://www.rcl005.nl/agenda-google-versie-3/>



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To end with a smile:

