



NEWSLETTER 2024-04

In this edition:

- **From the President.**
- **Update Project Carry their Torch.**
- **Ceremonies:**

Saturday, April 6

VIERLINGSBEEK: Unveiling Information Board for Halifax DT808

Sunday, April 7

Lochem: General Meeting RCL Branch 005

Tuesday, April 9

VIMY RIDGE (France): commemoration 107th anniversary

Saturday, April 13

POSTERENK: Liberation Commemoration

Wednesday, April 17

APELDOORN 't SLUISJE: Commemoration

APELDOORN: Liberation Commemoration

Saturday, April 20

HEIJNINGEN Fort Sabina: Commemoration

- **Further:**

Miscellaneous

NOTE.

April is the month in which almost all of the Eastern and Northern part of the Netherlands were liberated. From 's-Heerenberg on April 1, 1945 to Terunterzijk on April 30, 1945.

The liberation was commemorated in many places this month.

RCL Branch 005 was invited to only a few ceremonies, which we mention here.

The range of photos from other places was large, that large that the choice should have been very selective.

Any criterion for that would have been questionable.

That is why it was decided not to do that.

Curious about the liberation time table? Activate this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/nx59shnx>



From the President.

It's a troubled world today.

War in Europe and the Near East, increasing political tensions in the Middle East, shelling, famine, refugees, earthquakes, floods; the news has almost nothing positive to report anymore.

It is therefore a great good that we still live in freedom here in the Netherlands, that we can make use of all the democratic fundamental rights that belong to our constitutional state. Let us cherish that.



In this turbulent world, RCL Branch 005 held its annual General Meeting on Sunday, April 7. A partly new board was elected during this GM.

The board members are actually:

President:	Wim Poppenk - new
1st Vice-President:	Gerrit Bruggink - continued
2 nd Vice President:	Don Paauwe - new
Secretary:	Peter Mensink - new
Treasurer:	Amanda Slotboom - new
Liaison Officer:	Yvonne Swarthoff - continued

Designated positions:

Sergeant@Arms:	Toon van Bussel – continued
Legal Officer:	Jan van Loo – continued (resigned as secretary)
Poppy Chairman:	Danny Murphy, he indicated during the GM that he resigned.

The board needs to find a successor for Danny.

The board, which was discharged, deserves a great compliment.

With a decreasing number of board members due to various circumstances, they have been able to keep our Branch on track with great dedication.

And that compliment also applies to the members of the various working groups. They also did a great job.

It is up to the new board to maintain the course and slowly increase our activities.

It will take some time to get used to the new line-up, but I am convinced that everything will turn out well. The name of our previous President Martin Reelick will certainly be mentioned now and then. He remains in our thoughts.

Remembrance and Commemoration, Education, Poppy Campaign and the Social Events; the pillars of our Branch with the associated working groups, that is what we focus on, with openness and respect.

The board could use some help, can use all the help and if there are any members who would like to support us, please let us know, you are very welcome.

It remains for me to wish you a wonderful spring and, hopefully, we meet at one of the upcoming commemorations and celebrations.

Wim Poppenk

President RCL Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands'.



UPDATE PROJECT CARRY THEIR TORCH.

In previous newsletters we informed you about Project Carry their Torch. This project was developed by the Youth Auxiliary and aims to spread the message of RCL005 in a new way.

We would like to give you an update on the project and once again invite you to support us.



1) A project logo was created by CanVets Publishing from Canada on behalf of the Youth Auxiliary. This has become the official logo of Project Carry their Torch.
Please only use this with our permission.

2) The Project Carry their Torch website is currently being created. Here everyone will find all relevant information, including the Canadian War Graves and Monuments Map and a separate page with online source material. (see map on the next page)

3) We are making all the preparations for making multiple videos. Some of these are for promotion of the project, others are for explanation of the use of all sources etc.

4) We are busy collecting the necessary addresses from the local/regional press. The plan is to use press releases to draw attention to the project.

5) Multiple social media channels will be created. These serve to generate attention for the project.

As you can see, we are working hard. We do this with great enthusiasm and energy. However, it would help us enormously if you could support us.

Fortunately, this can be done with a small investment of time. Below are some examples of how you can help:

1) We are still very interested in receiving images (both photos and film footage) of monuments in your area. Part of the project is a social media campaign in which we regularly want to publish videos that draw attention to a monument or grave. The more footage we have of the various monuments, the more we can make these videos.

So if you have images in your archive for us, or if you are willing to make something in your area, that would help us enormously!

Please send this to: info@project-carry-their-torch.nl or to: youth@rcl005.org.

2) When the project goes "live" in a few months, it would help us enormously if you would "like" and share our messages on your own channels. The more attention we manage to generate, the greater the reach of the project can become.



- 3) We are convinced that this project fully fits in with the objectives of RCL005. By supporting us you contribute to spreading the message of our Branch.
- 4) If you are interested in supporting us in other ways, please contact us. We can discuss with you what we can jointly contribute to the success of this project.

Kind regards,



Suzanne and Reinier Groeneveld

Youth@rcl005.org
info@project-carry-their-torch.nl

On the right you will see the interactive map. Activate the link behind it or here below and it will appear on your screen.

<https://tinyurl.com/mryd3pf6>

You can then click on a specific location and call up the associated information





Vierlingsbeek, April 6, 2024.

Source: AD Region Berg en Dal,
 Leo Klaassen. Photos: Theo Peeters

**'In Canada it is never about the war.
 That was a long time ago and far
 away'.**

(Don Moloney, nephew of fallen navigator
 John White)

Date:	Saturday 3 April 1943
Time:	23:20
	
Type:	Handley Page Halifax Mk II
Owner/operator:	405 (Vancouver) Sqn RCAF
Registration:	DT808
MSN:	
Fatalities:	Fatalities: 5 / Occupants: 7
Aircraft damage:	Destroyed
Location:	De Lijnbraak, Vierlingsbeek, Noord-Brabant -  Netherlands
Phase:	Combat
Nature:	Military
Departure airport:	RAF Leeming
Destination airport:	

In Canada, people no longer talk about the five airmen who died 81 years ago in a forest in Vierlingsbeek.

Now there is an information board at the crash site for the crew of the Halifax II DT808. Five crew members lost their lives here, two managed to save themselves.



Relatives at the information board

Now their relatives are surprised that the Dutch keep the memory alive.

The Aircraft Crashes Working Group has been trying for years to keep alive the memory of the 27 war planes - Allied and German - that crashed in the former municipality of Boxmeer.

The board, unveiled on Overloonseweg on Saturday, is number eight and, probably, the last.

'It takes an incredible amount of work to find out stories and make contacts with families,' says Leo Janssen from Overloon.

'And you also need cooperation in the villages themselves. In that respect, it seems to be ready now.'

Before the ceremony there was a well-attended meeting.

Many relatives of the five fallen had come over.

Navigator John White (21) is one of the victims. He was the uncle of Don Moloney (65), who takes plenty of photos with his partner Sandy in Groesbeek and Vierlingsbeek.

'For the rest of the family. We know so little about this,' says Don.

'John was a farm boy who sought adventure and joined the army. In Canada it is never about the war. That was a long time ago and far away. But here in the Netherlands it is close. Thank you for still caring so much about our boys.'





A navigator -like John - at work

The family only knew one thing about John's death, Sandy says:
'It broke his mother. That never worked out again.'

You can read more about the ceremony, more photos and the stories of the family members by activating this link.

<https://tinyurl.com/mrrkxbw9>

Here you will also find a short video impression.

For the ceremony and unveiling, Canada's Ambassador, H.E. Hugh Adsett, came to Vierlingsbeek. He laid a wreath at the information board.

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 had also received an invitation to attend the ceremony.

Gerrit Bruggink, the 1st Vice-President did the honours and also laid a wreath.

LEST WE FORGET!



H.E. Hugh Adsett lays a wreath





Lochem, April 7, 2024. EDITORIAL REPORT GENERAL MEETING.

The meeting was chaired by Sgt@Arms Toon van Bussel due to the absence of 1st Vice-President Gerrit Bruggink.

The turnout was disappointing. Only 25 members signed the attendance list. Only a few reported that they could not attend.

It was gratifying that 5 new prospective members were present to be installed during this meeting. Because they were accompanied by a partner for 'moral support', the room in our clubhouse was filled to every corner.

So full that the presence of four members who, due to delays along the way, arrived a little late, was not noticed.

Without wanting to disrespect anyone, I would like to mention them.

Elly and Nic van Wakeren and Rika and Benny Schreurs were among us again.

Both gentlemen have struggled with their health for a long time and had to cancel many events, but were now attending the meeting.

Also present was Comrade Michael Stephenson, who had traveled specially from Flensburg (Germany).

The traditional agenda items were completed. I would like to highlight two of them.

First:

the installation of the five new members.

Installed were, in alphabetical order: Mike van Bussel, Henk Mostert, Johan Pieters, Maikel Slotboom and Ad van Uffelen.



Great that the meeting started with 25 members and ended with 30!

Welcome to the club comrades, I hope that our Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands' will meet your expectations.

Second:

the election of new board members. Four vacancies needed to be filled.

Two that had been vacant for some time and two positions that became available due to resignation.

Resigned are: Secretary – Jan van Loo and Poppy Chairman – Danny Murphy.

No replacement has yet been found for Danny.

Respect and thanks comrades for your efforts over many years.

The voting committee was led by Berry Swarthoff, supported by Mieke van Bussel and Dré van Roomen.



Two candidates did present themselves for the position of president, namely: Reinier Groeneveld and Wim Poppenk.

In the first round of voting there was a tie, in the second round Wim Poppenk was declared the winner.

Don Paauwe was the only candidate for the position of 2nd Vice President, so he was elected by acclamation.

Ruud Janssen had put himself forward as a candidate for the secretary position. In connection with 80-years of freedom, more than normal work can be expected for the secretary. That is why support for the secretariat was promised by Connie Lempke. Peter Mensink had also registered for the secretariat.

There were also two candidates for the position of treasurer, namely: Amanda Slotboom and Peter Bongers. The latter had already the position of treasurer temporarily assumed in 2023.

The candidates Reinier, Peter and Ruud, with the help of Connie, did carry out various tasks since September 2023 to support the remaining board members. Think of: ICT/Website, Communication, Promotion and reporting the members. (ceremonies, newsletter, etc.)

As was clear from Reinier Groeneveld's presentation speech, they had discussed in advance that they would act as one bloc to supplement the remaining board members. The experiences of the last six months were an extra plus.

When it became known that Wim Poppenk would become the new president, the three people, mentioned above, withdrew their candidacy.

Amanda Slotboom, as treasurer, and Peter Mensink, as secretary, were therefore elected by acclamation.

The new board can be seen on the website: www.rcl005.nl, including their photo.

The coming period will require a lot of time, energy and competence from the new board (see the President's column). I wish them success and perseverance.

I sincerely hope that the new board members do not lose sight of the four main objectives of our Branch 005.

I would like to mention them again:

**Encouragement and Support of Commemorations and Remembrance
Providing Education at Schools
Conducting an Annual Poppy Campaign
Promoting the Common Bond**

Because the board is responsible for the proper functioning of our Branch 005.

Needless to say, proper implementation of these goals requires the **cooperation** AND **support** of the members.



Because:

What is the Colour Party if there are no 'bearers'?

What will become of education if no one is committed to it?

What will become of a Poppy Campaign if only a few comrades are active for it?

What will become of cohesion within the Branch if we all give our own interpretation to the stated goals?

Our late President, Martin Reelick, R.I.P., once beautifully formulated this last question to me.

I quote:

'If we all blow our own tune, we're not going to get a good melody.'

Remember that we, as members, have all pledged allegiance to the objectives of

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands'..

Herman Sligman



Editor





Vimy, France, April 9, 2024.

107th commemoration of the Battle of Arras.

A delegation from The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 attended the commemoration at the national monument in Vimy.

Branch 005 'Liberation of the Netherlands' had received an invitation from Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)

RCL Branch 005 was present with a Colour Party and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Branch.



A little history:

107 years ago, Canadian troops began the assault on Vimy Ridge. Four Canadian divisions attacked the heavily defended ridge.

The attack began at 5:30 am on April 9, 1917.

Nearly 15,000 Canadians managed to overwhelm the enemy across the entire width of the Ridge in the first wave. What 150,000 British and French troops had failed to achieve, the Canadians did.





Posterenk, April 13, 2024. Contribution: Ad van Uffelen
 Commemoration of liberation. Photos: Conny de Vries and Hans Achterkamp

Contrary to expectations, the Carlton & York Regiment encountered heavy resistance near Posterenk on April 13, 1945. The Canadian troops were under fire from several sides. An observation/signal post had been placed in the Posterenk mill, which was in contact with a radio post in the church tower of Duistervoorde (neighbourhood of Voorst). The Canadian troop movements were relayed to the German positions. The Canadians fired on the mill, which was damaged. The miller's house next door burned down completely.

Platoon commander, Lieutenant Richard Booth Savage, was killed and two others wounded. Sergeant James Scott took command. With the support of tanks, the company succeeded in clearing Posterenk. At 1:37 p.m. it was reported that the company was in control of Posterenk.



Lt. R.B. Savage

The liberation has also been commemorated this year. Among those present were Mayor Jan Willem Wiggers, a delegation from The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005. The musical accompaniment was provided by the City of Apeldoorn Pipes & Drums.





Apeldoorn, April 17, 2024.

Contribution Wim Poppenk
Photos: Anneke Poppenk

On April 17, the annual commemoration took place at 'Het Sluisje' on the canal.



The advancing Canadian troops encountered much resistance. Twello and Teuge were liberated, but for the advance towards Apeldoorn the canal was still an obstacle.

The Broeksbrug over the canal it was destroyed just before a Canadian unit reached the bridge.

Canadian intelligence expected Apeldoorn to be heavily defended by a significant enemy force and had planned an artillery bombardment in advance.

However:

In the night of April 16 to 17, 1945, Gijs Numan and Albert van der Scheur crossed the canal via the lock to report to the Canadians that the Germans had left Apeldoorn and that shelling was no longer necessary.

Mayor Ton Heerts and the chairman of the Oud Apeldoorn Association Kor Comello spoke at the commemoration.



The Princess Margriet School adopted the monument, the children read poems and made a ribbon with drawings and poems.





The 48th Highlanders of Holland Pipes & Drums and the Eendracht Music Association provided the musical accompaniment, including the playing of both national anthems and Highland Cathedral.



Many wreaths and flowers were laid at the monument. Branch 005 was represented at this commemoration by Michael Stephenson and Wim Poppenk. A stylish commemoration where the weather showed itself from both sides; sunshine and rain.



WIM POPPENK





Apeldoorn, April 17, 2024.

Source:samen1.nl - Serge Poppelaars

Oranjepark Apeldoorn, at 7 p.m. on the evening of the 79th commemoration of the liberation of Apeldoorn, Mayor Ton Heerts lit the liberation fire.

Traditionally, the fire was brought to the park from Wilp by members of the Athletics Club A.V.'34.

It was a commemoration with respect and honour.



© Serge Poppelaars

Students from the 'Queen Wilhelmina School' and the International Class of 'De Heemgaard' took care of the singing and the reciting poems. The values of freedom and democracy are currently greater than ever. The stories of the past must be passed on to younger generations.

'Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it'.

This well-known saying, originally from philosopher George Santayana, is common when it comes to World War II – and for good reason.

The presence of students from both schools emphasized the importance of this message. As far as the editorial staff knew, RCL Branch 005 was represented by Michael Stephenson, who came from Flensburg – Germany, specifically for the Apeldoorn commemorations.



Photos:

Regio06
Photography



Fort Sabina, Heijningen/Willemstad, April 20, 2024.

Contribution by Comrade Dré van Roomen.

On Saturday, April 20, Comrade Ad van Uffelen and I were present early at Fort Sabina in Heijningen/Willemstad. It was the weekend of the 'defense heritage'.

Old defenses were opened to the public at about a hundred locations throughout the country. In former times enemies have encountered forts, bunkers, fortresses over the centuries. Our country is full of them.

Intermezzo: history of Fort Sabina. (editor's addition)

In 1809, the French strengthened their coastal defenses after the English invaded during the Walcheren expedition. As part of this, two forts were built on either side of the Hellegat: Fort "De Ruijter" near Willemstad and Fort "Duquesne" near Ooltgensplaat.

In 1913, Fort "De Ruijter" was renamed Fort Sabina Henrica, after the Sabina-Henricapolder in which it is located. This polder is named after Sabina Henrica van den Santheuvel (1731-1805), wife of the architect of the forts around Willemstad, captain engineer Michiel Mattheus van Oosterzee (1720-1774) and owner of the polder. The reason for the name change was the construction of a new fort in Vlissingen called Fort De Ruyter.

Ad and I were there early for the kick-off, followed by breakfast.



We were welcomed by volunteers from the Fort Sabina Foundation, but also by 'Lady Sabina' herself.

Over a delicious breakfast we were also able to network and promote the objectives of RCL005.



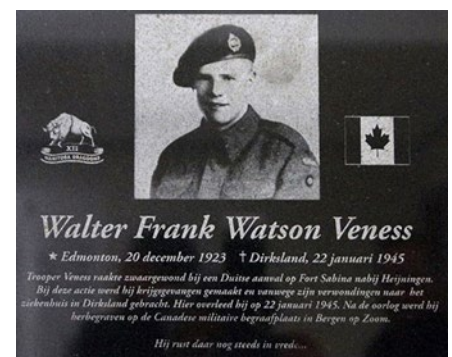
We looked 'very official', according to other attendees. I was even mistaken for the mayor.

Why were members of RCL Branch 005 there?

At Fort Sabina the stories about the Canadian unit Manitoba Dragoons come to life and specifically that about Trooper Walter VENESS.

During a German attack on Fort Sabina in January 1945, Canadian soldier Walter Frank Watson Veness was seriously injured.

He was transferred to the military hospital in Dirksland, but died on January 22, 1945.



On the night of January 21 to 22, 1944, the geese suddenly started to gag. They raised the alarm because people were walking near the fort. About 15 German commandos had crossed the Volkerak in boats from Goeree-Overflakkee.



Their assignment was to take prisoners of war in the area that had been liberated since November 1944. A short but fierce fight ensued. The German commandos soon withdrew after they had managed to capture 2 Canadians from the Manitoba Dragoons. These were Corporal J. Steinmetz and Trooper W. Veness (21). It has now been established that the German raid was carried out by part of Marine Einsatz Kommando 40, or short MEK40. The action at Fort Sabina was in connection with the raid on the St. Philipsland peninsula. Many information about this attack could be found in the fort. A monument has also been erected there in honour of Walter Veness. We were there to remember/commemorate Walter Veness.



There was a ceremony at the monument in honour of Walter Veness. At 10:00 am the 'Last Post' sounded, the poem 'Freedom and Liberation' was recited by Lady Sabina. We then laid flowers at the monument and 2-minute silence followed.

It was an honourable ceremony. Our presence was very much appreciated!



Ad and I were given a tour of the fort and spoke at length with Mr. Reginald van Overveld, the initiator of the story of Walter Veness.

In one room of the fort there is an exhibition about the Manitoba Dragoons and Veness in particular. Definitely worth a visit!



Walter's niece Lori came over from Edmonton in 2019.

That was during the unveiling of the monument, directly behind the gatehouse of Fort Sabina.

In addition to the sculpture, there is an exhibition in one of the many fort rooms dedicated to the tragic event, which Lori did not know about until 2017.



'My father Art was the youngest in the Veness family, Walter the eldest. At home there was no mention of Uncle Wally's misadventures. I only found out when a letter, addressed to my parents, was found.'

Lori Veness herself also served in the Canadian army, which created an extra bond with the uncle, whom she never knew.

At home in Edmonton, she continued delving into her family history. She discovered that her grandfather had a farm.

'Things did not get along between him and his eldest son Walter. I now understand why. He (her grandfather) was sent to Europe in the First World War and came back traumatized. Not easy when your son voluntarily enters the next war. By the way, my own father looked up to Walter. It's a shame he never got to this place.'

In 2019 Lori also visited Walter's grave at the Canadian cemetery in Bergen op Zoom. (VIII.F.4)

On that occasion she left behind a number of awards from her own service for the permanent exhibition at Fort Sabina. The original letter from Ernie Schrot to her parents Art and Dorothy Veness was also added to the collection.



Dré van Roomen



Miscellaneous.

April 1, 2024. Royal Canadian Air Force 100 years.

**RCAF 2024
Centennial**

1 April 2024 marks 100 years of service for the Royal Canadian Air Force as a distinct military element. The Centennial milestone places the RCAF in a unique position to honour its distinct heritage; recognize its tremendous people today; and generate excitement for its bright future. This is an opportunity to fuel internal and external support in the organization that instills pride in Your Air Force, while creating an enduring legacy that propels the institution forward into its next century of service. Canada's Air Force will be showcased in a past, present and future context, with a focus on highlighting contributions to national safety and security, international peace and global stability.

The RCAF 2024 Team are curating a year-long program that includes International, National and Regional events, such as the RCAF Run, RCAF Gala, Legends of the Sky, and allied air demonstration team participation in Air Shows across Canada, as well as activities to inspire future generations of Canadians through STEM initiatives, such as the RCAF Gaming Tournament.

The RCAF Centennial is an opportunity to showcase Air Force personnel and their accomplishments, demonstrate air and space power, enhance the reputation of the RCAF, and proudly honour its distinguished history and heritage.

BLUE SKIES AND HAPPY LANDINGS FOR ALL OF YOU



1920 504K



2000 CT-155-Hawk



**Branch 005
Liberation of the Netherlands**



Kilder, April 1, 2024.

Source: Montferlandjournal by Pauline Redlich.

Tip: Gerrit Bruggink.

Renovated monument.

On April 1, 1945, Sergeant William Francis Duggan and Trooper Earl Joseph Pullen were killed on the Zeddamsweg, near Sophie Rosa, just before entering Kilder. Eight years ago, a monument was unveiled at the same location, which was removed after a few years because it was unfortunately unable to withstand the various weather influences.

On Easter Monday, Kilder resident Clemens Harmsen unveiled a new memorial in honour of both Canadian liberators.

Exactly 79 years after their deaths, about thirty people attended this second unveiling. Not only was it April 1 again, but also around three o'clock in the afternoon; the time of their fateful end.



Duggan (born March 19, 1915 and from Verdun, Quebec) and Pullen (born May 21, 1922 and from Fort William, Ontario) served in the 7th Reconnaissance Regiment, part of the 17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars.

They arrived in Normandy at the end of August 1944 and then ended up in the Netherlands via France and Belgium.

Ultimately, the Rhine was crossed at Emmerich at the end of March 1945, after which East Gelderland was liberated in the following days.

On April 1, 1945 at about 3 p.m. in the afternoon, just before entering Kilder, their Daimler reconnaissance vehicle was shot at by German artillery.

Both soldiers were killed and buried on the spot.

In 1946 they got their final resting place at the Canadian War Cemetery in Groesbeek.



Zutphen, April 4, 2024.

Source: contactzutphen.nl

Tip: came across it by chance.

Photos: Henk Derksen.

Unveiling of the street name sign marks the commemoration.

The headline above this article aroused my curiosity. Why? No idea. Let's call it 'the right feeling'. That's why I decided to read this column. That was the right decision.

Quote:

ZUTPHEN - Every year a commemoration is held at the 'White Cross' in Leesten in honour of the Canadian corporal A.P. Periard, who died on April 4, 1945.

This year the commemoration took on a special character due to the presence of the Canadian Ambassador, relatives of Private Harry Gervais, and the unveiling of a street sign in honour of Lieutenant Percy Dexter Higgins.

For this special occasion, the 48th Highlanders Pipes And Drums and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 were also present.

The commemoration was led by group 6 of the Lea Dasbergschool, Mrs. Ineke Hissink welcomed those present. Mayor Wimar Jaeger addressed the attendees and laid a flower arrangement, followed by the Ambassador and other attendees.



After two minutes of silence, the Wilhelmus and the Canadian national anthem were played and sung. Students from the Lea Dasbergschool recited poems and laid flower arrangements.

After this, the students returned to school, while the others moved to the Canadian monument on the Kerkhofweg.

The names of 35 Canadian and one English soldier who died during the liberation of Warnsveld and Zutphen are on the monument. Short speeches were given by comrade Harm Kuijper, the Canadian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Hugh Adsett, Mayor Jaeger and Scott Gravel. Flowers were laid and after a moment of silence the national anthems were played and sung.





Finally, all those present returned to Leesten, where Mayor Jaeger, together with Sergeant Nicole Mitchell of the Canadian Embassy, unveiled the street sign in honour of Lieutenant Percy Dexter Higgins, who was killed on the grounds of the Groot Graffel. At the time a nearby institution for the mentally ill.



Postscript.

When I read that the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 was represented at a ceremony that included the Canadian Ambassador, I quickly checked the agenda on the RCL Branch 005 website to see if I had missed anything.

In my view, this ceremony certainly was worth mentioning in our Newsletter.

It turned out that I had not missed anything in the agenda.

Because the presence of the Ambassador was registered quite late, a representation of our Branch also had to be organized at the very last minute.

Fortunately, there were comrades, who live in a relatively short distance from Zutphen, willing to come to the ceremony.

In this way, with some flag display, The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 was still able to attend the ceremonies.

Herman Sligman



Hummelo, April 7, 2024.

Source: De Gelderlander Newspaper

Tip: Gerrit Bruggink.

Photo: Jan Ruland van den Brink.

New information board keeps the memory alive in Hummelo.

The information board is located at the grave of five Allied soldiers who died in 1940 when their plane P-4964 crashed in Hummelo. Who those men were and why they found their final resting place in Hummelo is now clear to everyone, thanks to the information board.

The plane was shot down over the village by a German night fighter. None of the five-man crew survived the crash. The sign (bilingual) tells the story of the crash. There are also photos of the five crew members on the board. Observer George Enos Matson was of Canadian descent.

'This is one of the first crashes in which a British bomber was downed by a combination of radar, searchlights and a German night fighter, which makes it very special', says Karl Lusink.

Since 1985 he has been investigating plane crashes in the eastern part of the province of Gelderland, during WW2.

Studiegroep Luchtoorlog 1939-1945

Loss Register

Loss chart: T0856

Day or night of operation	Operation	Target	Nickname Aircraft							
1/7 Oct 40	Bombing	Westerloo								
Factory	Aircraft	Mk	Serial/No.	Code	Unit	Air Force	TCU	Airfield		
Armstrong Whitworth	Whitley	V	P4964	CV-	79 Sqn	RAF	1906	Dobkirk		
Time	Cause of the Crash	Crash Location		Damage	Province					
0910	Shot down by Lt. Lt.-C. Mengelbrot of Z.NC 1	Crashed (Eastering near Hummelo)			Gelderland					
Function	Mk Rank	Inv	Name	Age	Mk reg	Air Force	Rate	Cemetery	Grave	Remarks
Pilot	P/O	N.W.	Andrew	31	86752	RAF	RAF	Hummelo	1-5	From New Zealand
Second Pilot	P/O	H.W.	Morgan	37	41038	RAF	RAF	Hummelo	1-5	From New Zealand
Observer	Sgt.	G.E.	Matson	25	58184	RAF	RAF	Hummelo	1-5	From Canada
Wireless Operator	Sgt.	F.J.L.	Richardson	19	629639	RAF	RAF	Hummelo	1-5	
Rear Gunner	Sgt.	A.	Stoove	19	622114	RAF	RAF	Hummelo	1-5	

Workfile records: Background info: Chelmsy, Number Command 1939-1940, page 136; Noddy, Northlight Combat Aircraft 1939-1940, page 11

The unveiling was actually supposed to be on the date of birth of pilot Neville Halsey Andrew, but because it fell on the Easter weekend it was postponed.

Read more? Activate this link: <https://tinyurl.com/3ywy35v>





Ede, April 9, 2024.

Tip: comrade Dré van Roomen.

Source: edestad.nl

The Sherman tank returns to Ede.

There was always an old Canadian Sherman tank at the roundabout on the N224. A souvenir of the liberation of Ede in WW2. The tank had to leave its place for the work on the construction of General Hackett lane and the new roundabout. But soon the tank will be back.

This was announced by the construction company and the municipality of Ede. It will be in its new location on Wednesday, April 17.

'It is no coincidence that we are replacing the tank on this date. On this day in 1945, Ede was liberated. An end to the Second World War. The tank was used during the liberation by the Calgary Regiment of the First Canadian Tank Brigade. This brigade was part of the British Polar Bear Division', said a spokesman of the company.

While the tank's location was being renovated, the tank was also given a makeover. It was completely cleaned in Delft and received a major overhaul. The tank will soon be able to be admired fresh and clean in full regalia.

Ede, April 17, 2024.

Source: edestad.nl

Sherman Tank can be admired in full regalia again



© Theo Beumer



Warnsveld, April 9, 2024.

Source: contactzutphen.nl

Tip: came across it by chance.

Photos: Henk Derksen.

On Tuesday morning, April 9, students from group 6 from 'Vrije School de Zonnewende' from Zutphen visited Huis 't Velde. Near the driveway is the 'Morgan Bunker', where the body of Corporal Patrick Morgan was found on April 5, 1945. He is one of the Canadian soldiers who died during the liberation of Warnsveld and Zutphen.

The 'bunker' was originally a small German foxhole. It was probably equipped with an iron ring to mount a machine gun.

Both gentlemen, Henk Mulder and Harm Kuijper, had already told the students in class about the war and the liberation of Warnsveld and Zutphen.

The students stood around the bunker and listened to Reinald Tieben.

He maintains contact with Patrick Morgan's family in Canada and spoke about this, as well as about the Morgan lane in Leesten named after him.



The students placed paper butterflies on the well, while Harm Kuijper placed flowers on the bunker on behalf of the Warnsveld Second World War Commemorations Foundation.

A minute's silence was then held to remember Patrick Morgan.

After this commemoration, the students visited the Garden of Reflection, the monument for police officers who died in the line of duty.

Editorial addition:

We previously published an article about the so-called 'Morgan bunker' as a background story in edition 2023-05.

Read? Activate the shortened link here: <https://tinyurl.com/2s46hprc>



Hengelo-Gelderland, April 14, 2024.

Contribution Gerrit Bruggink.

Editorial addition:

A brief explanation of why this is included in the Newsletter.

HAMOVE (Hengelose Auto and Motor Association) organized the first season ride for classics on Sunday, April 14.

“Classics” refers to the motorcycles.

‘In 2023, a member of our association (Bennie Smeitink) died on the way to the clubhouse after being hit by a car.

The first ride that year was named: “Bennie Smeitink Memorial ride”.

On my recommendation, as 1st Vice-President of RCL Branch 005, it was decided to dedicate the first ride in 2024 to Martin Reelick.

Our President who unfortunately passed away at the end of 2023.

He was a valued person within RCL Branch 005, our President and friend.

May he rest in peace.’



*Gerrit
Bruggink*





Holten, April 14, 2024.

Tip: came across it by chance
Photos: mentioned where known

Every year, on Sunday around April 12, all fallen Canadian soldiers and in particular the soldiers of the Regiment 48th Highlanders of Canada are commemorated at the Canadian Cemetery in Holten.



This year too, the commemoration was organized by the 48th Highlanders of Holland Pipes and Drums.

Among those present were Mr. Fred de Graaf, former mayor of Apeldoorn and member of the RCL Branch 005 from the very beginning. Since 2019, Mr. De Graaf has been patron of the 48th Highlanders of Holland. The commemoration in Holten was also attended by the mayor of the municipality of Rijssen-Holten J.C.R. van Houdt.



During the commemoration, roses were placed at the headstones, a flower arrangement was placed at the grave of Commander Donald MacKenzie and flower arrangements were placed at the "Cross of Sacrifice".

To give the soldiers a "face" again, a photo and a short description of the soldier were placed at the grave of the soldier in question.

Also for Harold Chappel, the only 48th Highlander who was not buried in Holten, but in Groesbeek.



Harold Chappel



Still from the video by JS Photography

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 Liberation of the Netherlands



April 26, 2024.

Traditionally, the Royal Awards were presented on the day before King's Day.

As far as the editors know, three members of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 were honoured on this day.

All three were appointed:
'Member of the Order of Orange-Nassau'.

Our Sergeant@Arms: Toon van Bussel;
Our Liaison-Officer: Yvonne Swarthoff and
Comrade Harm Kuyper.

The editors congratulate the recipients on this honourable award.





April 1945 in short.

April 1

Doetinchem is liberated by the Canadians.

April 4

Almelo is liberated by the Canadian 4th Division.

April 7

Allied airborne troops in the Netherlands. ([Operation Amherst](#))

April 8

Zutphen is liberated by units of the Canadian 3rd Division.

April 9

Deventer is liberated by units of the Canadian 3rd Division.

April 11

Buchenwald concentration camp is liberated by the Americans.

Camp Erika near Ommen is liberated by Canadian units.

Hoogeveen is liberated by the Canadian 2nd Division.

April 12

Soldiers from the Canadian 2nd Division liberate Westerbork camp.

American President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies.

April 13

Assen is liberated by the Canadian 2nd Division.

The Germans shoot 13 prisoners at Hoog Soeren.

April 14

Zwolle is liberated by the Canadian 3rd Division.

The battle for the city of Groningen erupts.

The British enter Arnhem.

April 15

The Canadian 3rd Division liberates Leeuwarden.

April 16

The Canadian 2nd Division liberates Groningen.

April 17

Hannie Schaft, resistance fighter, 'the girl with the red hair', is executed.

Apeldoorn is liberated by the Canadian 1st Division.

Canadian troops reach Hoenderloo.

The Germans flooded the Wieringermeerpolder.

April 18

Units of the Canadian 3rd Division liberate Harlingen and advance to the Afsluitdijk.



April 20

Nijkerk liberated by the Canadian army.
Hitler orders [Operation Clausewitz](#).

April 21

The Germans in the Ruhr area surrender. The Allies took approximately 325,000 POW's.

April 23

The last battle in the Netherlands, Operation Canada, starts at Delfzijl.

April 27

The last supplies of bread are distributed in the occupied western part of the Netherlands.

April 29

On the night of April 28 to 29, the marriage between Hitler and Eva Braun took place.
Beginning of [Operation Manna](#) by the British and American air forces.
Food drops are carried out in The Hague, Leiden and Amsterdam.

April 30

Adolf Hitler commits suicide at 3:30 PM, together with his wife Eva Braun, in the so-called ['Führerbunker'](#)



For documentary purposes: the German Federal Archive

July 1947 photo of the rear entrance to the Führerbunker in the garden of the Reich Chancellery. The corpses of Hitler and Eva Braun were burned in a shell hole in front of the emergency exit at left; the cone-shaped structure in the centre served for ventilation, and as a bomb shelter for the guards.



UPCOMING.

What's planned? See the agenda.
<http://tinyurl.com/4yzn9jus>

Also follow us on Facebook:
<http://tinyurl.com/38cmdct>

For the Youth Division of RCL Branch 005:
<http://tinyurl.com/cwbx7vzy>

Support the objectives of our association.
Donations, no matter how modest, are always welcome.
Our association has ANBI status.
All donations qualify as a tax deduction.
Scan the QR code or visit our website.



**FINISH WITH A SMILE
In the supply department: two sizes: XXXS AND XXXL**

