



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



SEPTEMBER 2022, Edition 2022-09



The end of an era in which she was an undeniable source of stability.
She experienced groundbreaking changes in the world during her lifetime.

As well as in her private sphere.

R.I.P.



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

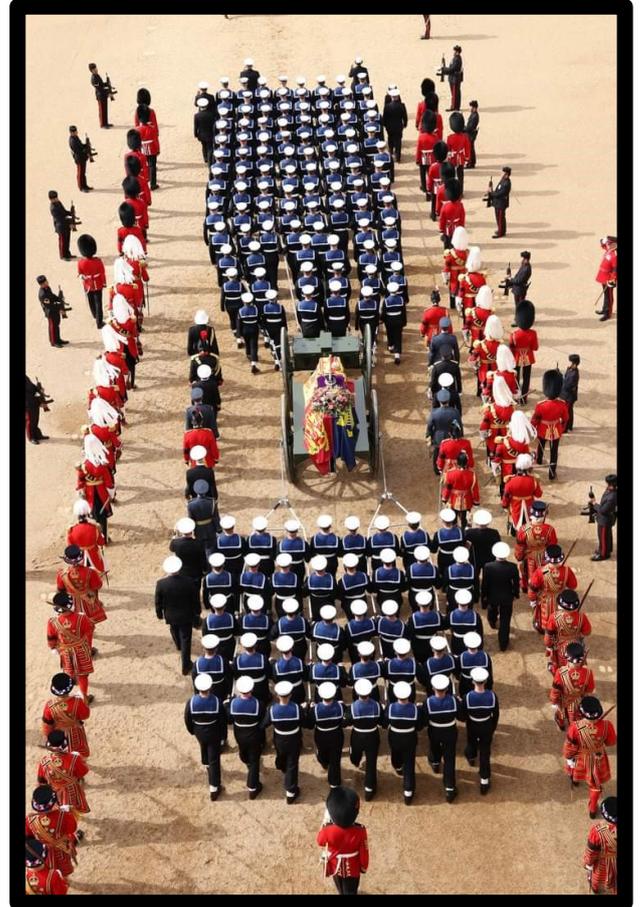


A nation has last bid farewell to Queen Elizabeth II,
with a state funeral and military procession.

World leaders and foreign royalty joined King Charles
III and the royal family at Westminster Abbey.

Hundreds of thousands of people lined the streets when
the coffin was taken to Windsor.

At the funeral, the Dean of Westminster paid tribute to
the Queen's "lifelong devotion to duty".



The Royal Canadian Legion, Liberation of the
Netherlands' Branch 005 paid her the last tribute.

In Lochem, the 'home base' of our Foundation, a
place of reflection was set up in the church.

"Thank You Majesty for Your service".

May she rest in Peace.

On behalf of the Board:

Martin Reelick

President RCL Branch 005



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



NEW INITIATIVE.

Project 'Indigenous Legacy' is a project by members within Royal Canadian Legion 'Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005 and was born in response to following action:

On June 21st 2022, during a solemn ceremony at the National Military Cemetery at Beechwood Cemetery in Ottawa, the Canadian Armed Forces unveiled the first two symbols representing Indigenous spirituality for military headstones.

The two symbols are the 'First Nations Medicine Wheel' and the 'Métis Infinity Symbol'.



At present the headstones at the Commonwealth War Graves are marked according to the service records and have no visual indication of Indigenous status, as you can see in the headstones below, identified as Indigenous comrades.



From the left:

Grave of Russell John Kitchemonia (Bergen op Zoom)

Grave of John Decoine (Holten)

Grave of Thomas Beresford 'Big Canoe' (Groesbeek)



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



Our project team is planning to draw up a list of Indigenous graves in the Netherlands.

This will be done step by step with the help of:

Indigenous Veterans Initiative (<https://www.lastpostfund.ca/indigenous-veterans-initiative/>)

and

Indigenous Traditional Name Marking

(to add traditional names of Indigenous Veterans to existing military grave markers)

Step one:

is to identify the graves and compile a list of these graves and identify which Nation and Band is their heritage.

Step two:

is to verify indeed if there is an Indigenous status on the headstone.

Step three:

is to obtain the traditional Indigenous names.

Once this is done the final step is:

Step four:

to place a tombstone with appropriate information and symbol.

This last step will be a big one as the cooperation of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is required.

We are presently active in **step one.**

We have identified 16 graves in Holten and 24 in Groesbeek and are presently working on the Bergen op Zoom site.

Later we will be starting on the other 460 cemeteries (over 800 Canadian graves) scattered throughout the Netherlands.

This all will be done in partnership with Face-to-Graves and Branch 005.

In the meantime, we planned to mark the identified graves with a small flag carrying the Indigenous or Métis symbol. We plan to do this on Canada's National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21st 2023.

Project Team

Indigenous Legacy





Royal Canadian Legion Liberation of the Netherlands Branch 005



Delden, September 2, 2022.

Pass the Poppy.

Students in Delden received the Poppy from the Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau.

In front of the camera, Fenne Roorda (9) of the school IKC Erve Hooyerinck from Delden, placed a poppy on the liberation monument near the Twente Canal.



© Photo: Lenneke Lingmont

A little later, Colonel Marc LaFortune, Canada's military attaché in the Netherlands, did the same. The video will be shown on all Canadian schools and on North American television later this year.

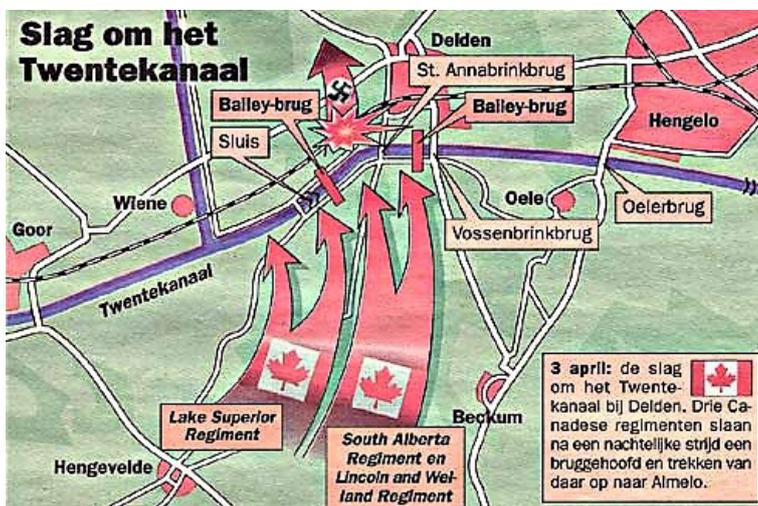
(Text: Rob Steentjes. 2022-09-03 for the daily newspaper Tubantia)

A delegation of the Royal Canadian Legion, Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005 had the honour of being present.

Editorial addition:

Delden was officially liberated on April 4, 1945 after heavy fighting at the lock in the Twente Canal in Wiene and the St. Annabrink Bridge.

After building a bridge, units of the 4th Canadian Armoured Division were able to continue their advance on the north side of the canal.





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



Airborne March 2022.

This commemorative march in remembrance of the Battle of Arnhem 1944 is held every year on the first Saturday of September in Oosterbeek. This year the 75th Airborne March took place. It was a fantastic day to be a part of. Peter and Cynthia Mensink and Nic and I were again standing along the route with our promotional tent. We got a lot of walkers who bought stuff, or wanted to have a chat, because they recognized us from other years.



In this way we try to generate funds for RCL Branch 005.. We all know that this is much needed and that is why I would like to repeat the call for more of our members to come up with actions to raise money for the club. We have already passed on some suggestions.

Let everyone think about what he or she can do in their own environment.

Anyway, we had another successful day in Oosterbeek on September 3rd. A day worth to repeat and that is why we will also be at Ginkelse Heide in Ede on September 17th with our promotional tent. A wonderful event to attend. Hundreds of paratroopers descend that day. All this in the context of the Market Garden commemoration.

Elly van Wakeren



Postscript editor:

Was it the weather? Were it the good-tempered walkers? Was it the friendly and charming staff of the promotional tent? Or was it just the combination of factors?

'A successful day', dear Elly, is an understatement. Without going into details, we can state that the treasurer has been able to book a considerable amount. It will be spent on achieving the objectives of RCL Branch 005. Thank you Peter and Cynthia, Nic and Elly for your efforts.



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



Editorial.

Preface to the various commemorations.

After some months with relatively few activities and commemorations, the agenda shows more program items from mid-September.

The commemorations begin globally around Operation Market-Garden and its ensuing events.



Its history has been quoted and analyzed several times. The media also devote the necessary attention to this every year and visitors to the various events share their impressions and photos extensively on social media. Reason for the editors not to come up with a (short) historical overview or to describe the events again.

We realize that not everyone interested in RCL Branch 005's activities has a Facebook-account, or takes a look at YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, Pinterest, etc.

That is why we will publish photos in the Newsletter that we "swipe together" from all sides, but limit ourselves to that. Sometimes with a short caption if clarity requires it.

After all, the saying goes: "a picture is worth a thousand words".

If a comrade from our Branch was present at an event and made a photo report, we will place the photo series on our website.

To have a look: activate the following link: <https://www.rcl005.nl/photo-album-2022/>



© Arjan Vrieze Photography 2022



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



Ginkel Heath.

September 17, 2022.

Commemoration Market Garden.

This year again with an audience, with a very large audience, on a rainy Ginkel heath.

RCL Branch 005 was present with the promotional tent.

Cynthia and Peter Mensink, Amanda Slotboom and Hendrik Kuiper formed the line-up.

Thank you for your commitment.



Photos are images from the livestream of Omroep Gelderland Broadcasting. They speak for themselves. You can watch the entire broadcast by activating the link below.

<https://youtu.be/lg3B-sfjGnY>





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





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



Driel, September 17, 2022.

Monument for the Royal Canadian Engineers.



There was also great interest in the commemoration on the Rijndijk.

Unless otherwise stated, the photos are provided by Paul ten Broeke Photography.

Thank you for that Paul.

Wreath-laying, among others, the Canadian Embassy and Royal Canadian Legion, Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005.





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





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



Wolfheze.

Unveiling Glider pilot monument.



Stills from the video by RTV Connect. You can watch the complete report by activating the following link:

https://youtu.be/9hz2xn_4MT0



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



**Oosterbeek, Airborne commemoration.
@ De Naald (the Needle).**

Stills from video by RTV Connect.

See complete report? Activate:

https://youtu.be/X61XLOk9_GQ





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



Heelsum. Commemoration Airborne monument.



Also here active participation by the youth.

For the whole registration:

<https://youtu.be/Xq0G2lyuudc>





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



Oosterbeek.

September 25, 2022.

During the Airborne weekend around the commemorations of Market Garden in 1944, the commemoration at the Airborne Cemetery in Oosterbeek was central on Sunday, September 25.



Video: © Veluwezoo in beeld. To watch: [click on this photo.](#)

The memorial was in the pouring rain. Five veterans attended the commemoration, two of them fought in the Arnhem area in 1944.

The last wreath laying, by Arnhem veteran Geoff Roberts (98), was greeted with applause by visitors.

The so-called "flower children" were also present. Something that was highly appreciated by all visitors.



(FunckSterrShoots by Cinner Leiwakabessy. We were allowed to post them here. Thanks for this.)
(We also appreciate the images made by Arjan Vrieze.)



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



The range of photos was so large that it was difficult to choose. We chose the veterans and the youth. We can't portray 'We will remember them' more clearly.



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



For too long, the deployment of the Polish troops at Market-Garden was "covered up".
Finally, the recognition came.

Of course they were also present at this commemoration at the Airborne cemetery.

RCL Branch 005 was present with a delegation.



The weather conditions did not stop the countless visitors. Paying tribute to those who fought and died for our freedom was a matter of course for them.



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



Also, a recurring event: The race to the bridge.

Organized by the Airborne Battle Wheels Oosterbeek.

An event that attracts many interested people.

Below are some stills from the video registration of 'Veluwezoom in Beeld'.

You can watch the video by clicking on the photo below.





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



Boekelo, September 29, 2022.

The memorial to the crew members of the Halifax DK-259 WL-L was meticulously renovated.

The day, 79 years ago, the bomber of 434 Sqn RAF crashed at that site in the surroundings of Boekelo, the new setup was "unveiled".

Guest of honour at this ceremony, organized by the Historic Circle Boekelo, was Mrs. Sherry Horne-Hovey.

Her father, Clarence, was the Rear Gunner of the 7-man crew. He survived the crash and he survived the captivity in Stalag Luft III; known for "The Great Escape".

(See our background story in edition 2022-01, Facts and Fables around "The Great Escape".)



Flight Engineer Sgt. Scudder (RAF) and Bomb Aimer F/O Bellinger (RCAF) died in the crash. They found their last resting place in Enschede. The pilot Lt Clary (USAAF) evaded captivity with help of the resistance. P/O Clarence Hovey was taken POW and so were three other crewmembers.

In a personal conversation with her, Mrs. Horne told me that her father had not been able to fulfill his intentions to visit Europe again. His physical condition had suffered too much from the hardships in the camp and the death march just before the liberation. He died far too young.

She later gave substance to her father's plans.



By placing a nameplate next to the portrait of her father, together with alderman Van Houdt, she completed this phase of completion of the renovated monument.



The photos of the other crew members indicated the spot where seven trees will be planted later this year.

Five oaks for the survivors, two maples for the dead.



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



Wreaths and flowers were laid after a moment of silence.

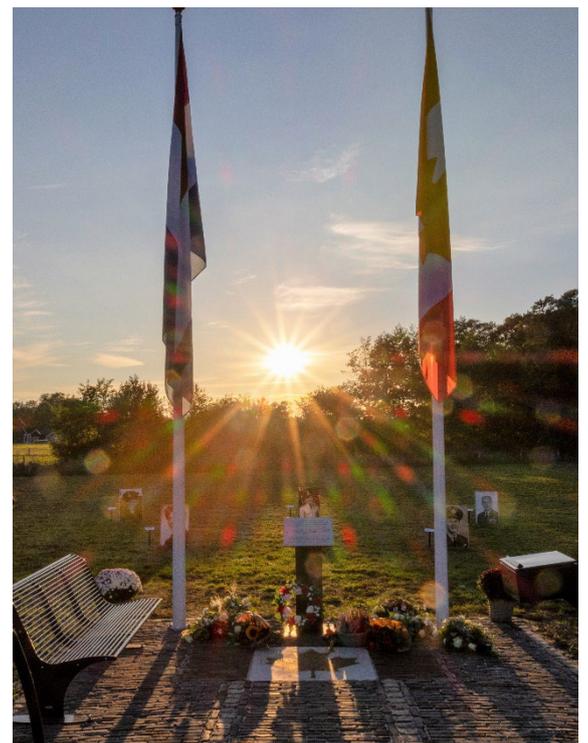
Comrade Hendrik Kuiper and the undersigned had the honour to be present at the ceremony and paid tribute to those who risked and gave their lives for our freedom.



Members of the Foundation 'Keep Them Rolling' provided a suitable decor with their vehicles.

(Photos courtesy of:
Mr. Hans Klaver, Mr. Harold Pot, Mr. Benny Schreurs)

Herman Sligman





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



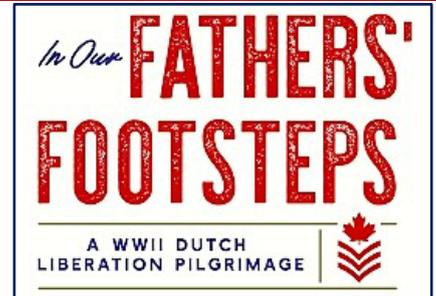
Miscellaneous.

In the agenda you could already see that a fairly large delegation of Canadians would come over.

They partly traveled in the footsteps of their fathers, grandfathers or relatives.

Here are some photos of their visit.

For their own photo report activate the following link: <https://www.inourfathersfootsteps.com/gallery>



Canadian War Cemetery Groesbeek



Canadian War Cemetery Holten



Memory museum Nijverdal



Liberation museum Lochem



Literally, in the footsteps of...! @ Mechelen in the eastern part of the Netherlands



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



The Man with two Hats. Apeldoorn



On to the palace ,Het Loo'. Apeldoorn



Meet & Greet with HRH Princess Margriet and Mr. van Vollenhoven



Handing over Torch of Freedom



Tableau de la troupe



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



Canadian award for two comrades.



**Honour where
honour is due!**

**Congratulations
Comrades.**

**We are proud
of you both.**





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



The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers (French: *Médaille du souverain pour les bénévoles*) is a Canadian medal intended to honour volunteers who have made a significant and continual contribution to their community, either in Canada or abroad.

The medal was initially conceived by Governor General Roméo LeBlanc as the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award and created in November 1995, to award volunteers. It was replaced on 15 July 2015 by the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

The medals are intended for an individuals whose unpaid, voluntary contributions, behind-the-scenes, provide extraordinary help or care to individuals or groups in the community.

Nominees must be living Canadian citizens or permanent residents, but may belong to any age group; recipients typically have not previously been recognized by a national or provincial honour.

Small groups may also be nominated; all members may receive the medal if they have contributed equally.

An independent advisory committee meets to review submissions.

Once a nomination for a candidate is received, research is undertaken to confirm facts and a summary of information about each candidate is presented to the advisory committee for review.

The committee submits recommendations to the governor general.

The certificate and lapel pin are presented to recipients by a dignitary, such as a lieutenant governor, territorial commissioner, or mayor. On occasion, the governor general presents the medal during regional visits.

All previous recipients of the Caring Canadian Award later received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers



Type Medal (national)

Presented by The monarch of Canada



Status Currently awarded

Established Governor General's Caring Canadian Award: November 1995

Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers: 15 July 2015

First awarded Governor General's Caring Canadian Award: 1995



Ribbon of the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers

Precedence

Next (higher) Polar Medal^[1]

Next (lower) Canadian Centennial Medal



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



September 27, 1922 – September 27, 2022.

**HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY
CHARLES DAVIS**



Pt Charles Davis was born on September 27, 1922 in London, ON. He grew up in Port Dover, ON. He joined the army at the age of 18 yrs. old, May 20, 1941, and served with the 69th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, RCA. Charles is a Normandy Veteran and landed on Juno Beach D-Day +4 (June 10, 1944). At 21 yrs. old, he drove an ammunition truck with 10 tons of ammo on it onto Juno Beach. His job was to drive ammunition and fuel to the infantry. He later transferred to the Royal Canadian Service Corp. (RCSC). Charles went through France, Belgium, Holland and into Germany. He was in Apeldoorn, Holland where they were liberated by the Canadians.

Charles met his wife in London, England and they were married on January 16, 1943. Charles served until December 1946. He was the "Last Local Soldier" in Port Dover to return home.

In 2016 at the Maj. F.A. Tilston Armoury in Windsor, ON, Charles was presented along with 4 other Veterans, The National Order of the Legion of Honour Medal (LoHC), France's highest order of merit. He was humbled and said it was for his comrades that never returned.

Charles has returned back to Normandy, France to Juno Beach for the 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th and more recently (2019) the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, the latter with his Grandson, Lt Ryerson Fitzpatrick.



Charles was invited by Veterans Affairs to attend the 80th Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid in Windsor, where Veterans from all over Canada were invited to attend. Charles was the only WWII Veteran from Windsor in attendance and was presented the Queen's Jubilee Pin. Once again, Charles was humbled and said this is for his comrades that never returned. Charles has 4 daughters, 9 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren and resides in Riverside in his own home. He was the Past President of Br. 255 in 1955 and President of the Riverside Legion Golf League for many years. He's a proud Canadian and Veteran and turning 100 yrs. old this September and still has a sharp wit..

*Wishing you a special day that honors your 100th birthday and everything you've done to make the world a better place the last century.
From the Executive and members of Branch 255 Legion*

The Royal Canadian Legion ,Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005 is happy to join the congratulations to this 100-year-old liberator.



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



Column by comrade Wim Poppenk.

Cycling along the provincial border of Overijssel and Drenthe, where the river Reest forms the literal dividing line between the provinces, we arrive in IJhorst. There is the beautifully situated church of the protestant municipality of IJhorst - De Wijk. The foundation stone was laid in 1823 by Jan Arend Godard de Vos van Steenwyk tot Dikninge.

The church is located on a small mound right on the Reest and is surrounded by a cemetery and next to it is a beautiful belfry. This cemetery contains a Dutch War Grave and Commonwealth graves (CWGC).



Kornet Carel baron de Vos van Steenwijk was killed on May 10, 1940 when an explosive charge was applied to a roadblock in Wekerom. Kornet de Vos van Steenwijk served as a platoon commander with the 2nd platoon, 6th Eskradon, 4th Regiment Huzaren. (6-4 R.H.)



Six of the eight crew members of Halifax W7775 NF-R, 138 Squadron RAF, are buried here side by side. The Halifax crashed shortly after midnight south of IJhorst on December 23, 1942, after taking off late in the evening from Tempsford Air Base in England.

Two crew members survived the crash and were captured. Involved in the dropping of containers, the aircraft was 'trapped' and shot down.



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



The memorial reads: Six English airmen died here during a weapon drop due to betrayal.

Flight Sergeant H.C. Taylor (23), Warrant Officer C.A. Howard DFC (25), Sergeant B.M Pick (21), Sergeant C.C. Hayes (21), Sergeant B.M. Nixon (31), Flying Officer G.F.B. Newport Tinley DFC (20), all from the RAF.



Just north of this cemetery, just across the Reest, is the cemetery of De Wijk.

Here is one Commonwealth grave.

Sergeant Francis Graham Latham RAAF is the only crew member (gunner) who died in the crash of the Wellington HE 530, 466 (RAAF) Squadron, the rest were taken prisoner of war.

The Wellington, en route to Dortmund, crashed on May 5, 1943 between De Wijk and Meppel after an attack by a night fighter from Leeuwarden Air Base.

It is special to 'experience' a piece of local history from the Second World War while cycling, reading and then some Googling.

Wim Poppenk



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



Upcoming.

The best way to stay informed: [see our agenda.](#)



You can follow us on FB too.

To end with a smile:

the conscript editor

