



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH 005
THE LIBERATION OF THE NETHERLANDS



NEWSLETTER RCL Branch 005 Nr. 2019 – 04

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Upcoming events:

May 4 Several Commemorations (a.o. Holten, Lochem)
May 5 Liberation parade Wageningen
May 11 Unveiling 3rd part monument Oud-Beijerland
June 6 Commemoration D-Day 75 years ago
June 12 Board meeting
June 27 Canada Day Wassenaar (Canadian Embassy)
July 1 Commemoration Beaumont-Hamel

Have a look on the [agenda](#). For the latest news: [Facebook](#).

There are far more pictures on our website from multiple ceremonies, to have a look: click: [album](#)



Changing column with background information on a specific topic. This can be viewed by clicking on the "The Story" button.

In this edition:

THE STORY BEHIND THE ADOPTION OF A STREET NAME IN WILNIS.





President's letter.

In the meantime, we are on our way again with the new board in a new form, with the working groups. All are busy finding their way in the way of communicating and picking up tasks. As a President I am satisfied with the first results, but especially with the patience of others. My advice is always: "After three emails, calling is faster!". I think that everything will be in order around September and that we are ready for the commemorations and celebrations of the 75th Liberation Day.

In the Netherlands we will start with Operation Market Garden in September. However, a date to remember is " June 6, 1944 D-Day. There is no organized activity from RCL Zone Europe or RCL Branch 005 concerning 6th June 2019, 75 years after that date. There are members who reported to the board that they will travel to Normandy on their own. Berry and Yvonne Swarthoff have been doing this for years and have asked to be allowed to lay a wreath on behalf of RCL005. The board has given permission of course. There are also other members who let me know to attend this memorial, such as Marc van Aken and Gerrit Bruggink, and there are probably others. Please keep me informed.

At the Zone Europe commemoration in Vimy on April 9 2019, Zone Commander Dan Saulnier asked if RCL005 could also support the Zone Commemoration on July 1, 2019. The commemoration of the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Regiment. Check for this and also for other events, the RCL005 Google agenda on our website.

I also want to give feedback from the last Board meeting of our Branch.

In addition to the board members elected at the last General Members Meeting, the following officers have been appointed by the board:

Jan van Loo - Legal Officer; Danny Murphy - Poppy Chairman (again); Ruud Janssen - 1st Vice President a.i. (for approval in the next General Members' Meeting) as successor to Albert Hartkamp, who has resigned from this position; Toon van Bussel - Sgt at Arms. During the last Color Party Drill, five Color Sgts were appointed, who command the Color Party in the absence of Toon. They are: Berry Swarthoff; Hans Achterkamp; Gerrit Bruggink; Peter Mensink and Peter Bongers. Philip van Leeuwen can also fulfill this role as Sgt at Arms of Zone Europe.

Furthermore, I can inform that the Mayor of Apeldoorn, John Berends, has been appointed Commissioner of the King in Gelderland. RCL005 thanks him for his involvement with our Branch and wishes him every success in his new job.

We will now first pay attention to the commemorations and celebrations around the 4th and 5th May. I hope to meet at least as many members here as last year. It will be a nice dress rehearsal for the Crown Year 2019-2020!





Training Colour Party.

As previously reported, a follow-up session was organized on April 4. 2019.

If you want to see how the marching was done, click here: [Colour Party](#).

The marching was practiced, the various commands were re-practiced. In particular, (new) Colour Sergeants: Hans Achterkamp, Gerrit Bruggink, Berry Swarthoff, Toon van Bussel and Peter Mensink were instructed.



The Sergeant at Arms of RCL Zone Europe also participated. At the end of the Drill, the "departing" Sergeant at Arms Martin Reelick handed over the drill cane (literally) to Toon van Bussel, who from now on will play this role in commemorations.



Everyone received a Certificate of Achievement from the departing Sergeant at Arms to prove that the Drill had been successfully completed. An applause sounded as thanks for all the work that Martin has done in the past.

Unfortunately, a number of people were unable to attend; but it was agreed that another session will be organized after the summer.

Column & Pictures: *Ruud Janssen*



Vimy Ridge Memorial Day.

Vimy Memorial Day, April 9th and members of Zone Europe of the Royal Canadian Legion were present. More than a dozen members made the more than 700 km round trip from their various branches to France to pay respect during an excellent ceremony. Great to see so many members, to meet old friends and make new ones. Most important though is that they, who fell, will not be forgotten.



A day earlier I took the opportunity to finally look up a WW I grave of a British soldier which I have 'adopted' a number of years ago and pay my respect. A visit just to make sure that he will not be forgotten. The impressive WW I monument of Thiepval is just around the corner from there.



Column & Foto's: *Philip van Leeuwen*



Monument in Holten for fallen Canadians.

Did their grandfathers die as a result of "friendly fire" or by German shooting? That question may never be answered. The Canadian grandsons of Ernest J. England and Albert A. Bushensky came to visit the place where the drama took place.

Sunday, April 8, 1945. It is early in the morning when Canadian troops head for Holten after crossing the Schipbeek canal. The scouts England, Tanning and Bushensky of the 8th RECCE (14th Canadian Hussars R.C.A.C.) drive in a carrier over a small lane through the meadows in Holterbroek.

The assignment is to find out or, and if so, how many Germans are at the railway line between Holten and Deventer.

Bushensky drives the carrier over the narrow road. It is a long reconnaissance. Approximately 600 meters from the railway line it goes completely wrong. The carrier is shot at up to three times. England is killed immediately, Bushensky badly wounded. Tanning does not hesitate for a moment. He takes over the steering wheel and turns around. Back to the unit. On the way to the hospital Bushensky dies of wounds.

Both victims are buried at the Canadian Cemetery in Holten. (I.A.1 and II.H.14)

Column: *Herman Sligman*



Grandsons at the monument. With blue sweater: Chris LaBossière, kneeling: Douglas England
picture: Frans Nikkels



April 13, 2019. Commemoration Posterend.

In 2015, for the first time the liberation was commemorated in Posterend. The small village was completely under the spell of the commemoration. The village was liberated by the Canadian Carleton and York Regiment. The commander, Lieutenant Richard Boot Savage, himself and five other Canadians were killed. A reminder plaque has been placed in the Wilpermolen.

It became a yearly commemoration. Since 2015, RCL Branch 005 has been involved. The Branch is present with a delegation and / or Color Party. They also participate in educational programs for schoolchildren. Prior to this year's commemoration, pupils from the St. Martinusschool Bussloo were guests in the Wilpermolen.

RCL Branch 005 was also invited for this. Berry Swarthoff told about WWII and with various objects from his collection he made it even more visible.



Gerrit Bruggink told the story about the poppy, used all over the world as a tribute to the fallen soldiers.



The program was supplemented by a story about Operation Cannonsnot, the crossing of the IJssel at Wilp. Told by Jeroen Dumay.

Special guest was Mr. Jan Terlouw,. Nuclear physicist, politician and writer Jan Terlouw is known for his political performance within the D66 political party. He explained how he had experienced, in a nearby town, the war as a child.





The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 the Liberation of the Netherlands



Despite the cold weather, many residents attended the commemoration this year. Speeches were held by the Mayor and the Past President of Branch 005. Two students from the Canisius College from Tubbergen again had a share in the memorial service. Some children recited home-made poems.

Branch 005 was represented by: President Martin Reelick, who also laid a wreath on behalf of the Branch and furthermore the Comrades Marc van Aken, Fred Blom, Wayne Healy, Peter Mensink, Gerard and Loes Hendriks. Particularly gratifying was that Comrade Piet Polderdijk was present again. The Pipes and Drums City of Apeldoorn provided the musical support.



After the ceremony, the hot coffee in the Wilpermolen was in great demand. During the coffee, the chairman of the committee was informed that the RCMP (Royal Canadian Mountain Police Pipes and Drums) intends to be present in Posterrenk again in the next crown year. This was greeted with great approval. The chairman indicated that he had already taken this into account. He drew attention to the tip jar, specifically intended to raise money for the RCMP visit. They had good memories of the previous crown year. An unprecedented success for the village and for the Band.



Royal Canadian Mountain Police Pipes & Drums

Column: *Gerard Hendriks*



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005 the Liberation of the Netherlands



Holten, April 14, 2019.

Regiment 48TH HIGHLANDERS IN HOLTEN.



Sunday, April 14, with a lot of interested parties, the soldiers of the Regiment 48th Highlanders of Canada were commemorated at the Canadian Cemetery in Holten.

Under the code name Operation Cannonshot, the Canadian regiments were en route to liberate the Veluwe from the Germans. At the crossing of the IJssel, fate struck for the 48th Highlanders of Canada. The Regiment lost 19 soldiers, including their commander Donald MacKenzie.

One 48th Highlander was taken prisoner of war and died in Germany, after which he was reburied in Holten. So, in the end there are 20 soldiers from the Regiment from Toronto in Holten. The 48th Highlanders of Canada regiment was one of the regiments that liberated Apeldoorn on the night of 16 to 17 April 1945. Primary school students from Holten and pupils from the Canisius College from Tubbergen had placed a small Canadian flag on each stone. The commemoration was graced by the 48th Highlanders Pipes & Drums, supported by Somme Battlefield Pipe Band.

The schedule of this ceremony followed the familiar path: speeches, music and wreath laying. Among others by the military attaché of Canada. RCL Branch 005 was also present with a delegation. President Martin Reelick and Peter Mensink laid a wreath. The ceremony ended with the Canadian and Dutch national anthem.



Column: *Herman Sligman*





Also worth mentioning. April 14, 2019.

Young Canadian students from Uxbridge Ontario visit the Canadian Cemetery in Groesbeek.



Pictures: Albert de Valk



April 17, 2019. 't Sluisje Apeldoorn.

(Sluisje = a little lock in a canal)

The Association Old Apeldoorn has been organizing a memorial service for a number of years. At the lock in the north channel.

It is not a commemoration but more a tribute for 2 members of the resistance. Albert van de Scheur en Gijs Numan slipped across the lock in the night of 16 to 17 April 1945. They were able to convince the Canadian commanding officer that most Germans had withdrawn. Not an easy conversation because the Canadian intelligence



Mayor Mrs. van Wingerden-Boers lays flowers. Picture: Kevin Hagens



officer claimed that there were 3,000 para's in the city. Some POW's were questioned who confirmed the story of the resistance men. A silent night attack was decided instead of a shelling. This undoubtedly prevented a lot of damage and many casualties.

School children, the music association Eendracht and the 48th Highlanders of Holland Pipes and Drums were involved.

A wreath was also laid by members of RCL Branch 005, of which a delegation was present.

The old photo shows the two men of the Apeldoorn resistance at the lock. Left A. van de Scheur, right G. Numan.

(photo: Liberation of the Veluwe.nl)

Column: *Herman Sligman*





The liberation of Apeldoorn was also commemorated on April 17, 2019.

Relay runners from the athletics club AV'34 brought the torch from Wilp to Apeldoorn. Accompanied by Old Army Cars. Upon entering the Orange Park, the runners were guided by the City of Apeldoorn Pipes and Drums and the Colour Party of RCL Branch 005.

The liberation fire was lit by mayor Mrs. P. van Wingerden-Boers.

Poems on the theme of liberation were recited and songs were played. The public interest was great again. It is also gratifying to see that the school youth has a large share in the ceremony. The torch of freedom is passed on with dignity in Apeldoorn.



Column: *Herman Sligman*



Wilnis, April 29, 2019.

Is the unveiling of a street name sign and an information panel so special that an ambassador and a mayor take care of it together? Yes, certainly in this special case!

The Ambassador of Canada to the Netherlands, H.E. Mrs. Nölke and Mayor Divendal unveiled the nameplate under the Robert Moulton path. The path is named after Warrant Officer 1st Class Robert Benjamin Moulton. Killed in the crash of the Vickers Wellington bomber in Wilnis.



An information panel was also unveiled with an explanation of the aircraft and its crew crashed on 5 May 1943.

Further information about this ceremony and the history we have included in this Newsletter behind the "STORY button" on the front page.

Here you can view a [short impression](#) of the ceremony.

Column: *Herman Sligman*

