

Another monument

75th Remembrance

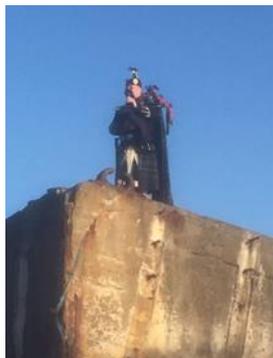
Another monument

This time I would like to talk about a special monument; the beach of Arromanches in Normandy.

75th remembrance of D-Day, operation Overlord

June 6th of this year, we remembered that the allied touched base in Normandy 75 years ago. At several different locations this was remembered and celebrated with festivities.

I have visited Arromanches myself to witness these festivities. In the days before June 6th I could visit old military vehicles at the beach. On the day itself I was present at the beach at 7.15 AM together with many others. At 7.31 AM the remembrance started with music from a bagpiper. He played this music for all fallen soldiers who fought for our freedom. This bagpiper was standing at the edge of a caisson, which was used for the creation of the temporary harbour "Mulberry haven".



Mulberry was the code name for 2 havens (Mulberry A and Mulberry B), which were created right after arriving at the beaches. Mulberry A was created in the American sector near Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer (Omaha Beach) and Mulberry B in the British sector in Arromanches (Gold Beach).

These harbours were operational by June 16. During a heavy storm from June 19 to 21, Mulberry A was damaged severely and became useless. Mulberry B could be restored after the storm and was used until October 31st of 1944.

During those 5 months, 220.000 soldiers, 628.000 ton of materials and about 40.000 vehicles were offloaded in this harbour.



Different parts of this harbour are still visible when the tide is low and are a silent witness of a piece of craftsmanship 75 years ago.



Throughout the day, there also was a Dutch and English remembrance at the June 6th square. Here, veterans who were in the army in the WWII and several officials, remembered those that have lost their lives for our freedom.

The Dutch remembrance was witnessed by a delegation of the 17th Armor Infantry, battalion Garde Regiment Fusiliers Princess Irene and 3 veterans from this battalion; Rudi Hemmes, Max Wolff en Karel Zwart.

The Band of Liberation was also present this day. They were performing in the afternoon, mainly during the English remembrance.



To summarize, my week in Normandy was very impressive and a good start towards our own festivities in September.

75th Remembrance



“Experience 75 years of FREEDOM”

Programma Stichting HMMH

17 sept. Massale doortocht voertuigen uit de 2e W.O. (Garden 75)

Aankomst circa 12:30 uur op de Hoofdstraat. Mogelijkheid tot bezichtigen van voertuigen tijdens de lunch. Eresaluut bij Herdenkingsmonument en colonne vervolgt route richting Stiphout.

18 t/m 22 sept. Expositie “Beleef 75 jaar vrijheid”

Wijkhuis de Geseldonk, 18 t/m 20 sept. 09:00 - 12:00 uur en 13:00 -17:00 uur, 21 sept. 13:00 - 17.00 uur en op 22 sept. 11.00 - 14.30 uur. Gratis entree!

21 sept. Ouderenmiddag “Beleef 75 jaar vrijheid”

14.00 uur: Wijkhuis de Geseldonk. Zaal open vanaf 13:00 uur.
Kaarten gratis te verkrijgen op 14 sept. van 11:00 - 12:00 uur in de Geseldonk.

22 sept. Herdenkingsdag 75 jaar vrijheid

10:15 uur: Herdenkingsdienst in de St. Luciakerk
12:30 uur: Concert 'Band of Liberation' in Wijkhuis de Geseldonk. Toegang vrij!
15.00 uur: Bijeenkomst 75 jaar vrijheid, locatie Herdenkingsmonument Hoek Hoofdstraat / Houtse Parallelweg



De bevrijding- en herdenkingsactiviteiten 1944-2019 in Mierlo-Hout, worden mede mogelijk gemaakt door:



The flyer above highlights the program for the upcoming month of September.



Again we are asking for your help; would you be interested and available to help us with the 75th remembrance festivities ? Please reach out to us! Especially for Tuesday September 17 we are looking for people who are willing to help us serve lunch, that we are offering the drivers and attendants during the parade of the old military vehicles.

Also Saturday September 21st we are looking for people who can help us build and decorate for the events that will take place in the Geseldonk.

Are you interested ? Please contact our secretary Harrie Raaijmakers.

Address: Binnenvoort 6, 5706 GB, Helmond

Mob: 0031622606053

E-mail: secretaris@monumentmierlohout.nl

Or through the contact form at our site www.monumentmierlohout.nl

www.helmondvrij.nl will show you all information on the festivities in all of Helmond during this period.

Next to that, the website of "Death Valley", www.deathvalleydepeel.nl will also have interesting information around the celebration and the history of WWII in area "de Peel"