



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout
Newsletter
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Introducing

An other Memorial Monument

As promised, we will introduce you to the board members of Foundation "Stichting HMMH" in this newsletter.

Next to that we will introduce a new item in our newsletter "An other Memorial Monument" a randomly chosen memorial monument somewhere in Europe.

Introducing



Mario Coolen

I am Mario Coolen, chairman of Stichting HMMH, born in Mierlo-Hout, 56 years old and married to Anja van der Linden. We have two daughters and a son. Since 2003 I am the owner of Cofoto and I work as a photo journalist. My father Marinus Coolen has given me the love for photography. We used to have a suitcase in our livingroom that was fully packed with his pictures made in the thirties and fourties. As a little boy I have seen these small black and white pictures countless times. Especially the war pictures made by my father, from which a few are to be seen in our monument, have been studied closely time after time. I have asked my father to tell his stories many times and I listened carefully when he started talking about the frightening occupation and the heavy battle, which took many lives during the liberation only 30 metres from our home.

In 2004 I made the first plans to establish a memorial monument in Mierlo-Hout together with late Leo van Aerle, who was a war documentalist. The committee got bigger during the years with more enthusiastic members en we received support from the ward council, trade and industry and municipality. Eventually this lead to revealing the monument at this historical location at September 22, 2011.

In 2012 we extended the monument; at the left side we added a panel with names and pictures of people from Mierlo-Hout and of British soldiers who died here during World War II.

Let us come together in this beautiful place, every twenty second of September, to commemorate our victims and reflect on our freedom. As a foundation, we have the monument on loan from our children. Let's try as much as possible to invite children to attend future commemorations. So this place and its history will never be lost.



Henk van de Westerlo

My name is Henk van de Westerlo, born July 3 1941 and a true “MieloHoutenaar”. I have lived in the Pastoor Elsenstraat, the Barrierlaan and together with Coby I have been living at the Noord- Parallelweg for the last 15 years.

From the first moment I have been involved in the creation of the Memorial Monument. I have designed several potential monuments and arranged the licences needed at the municipality, contacted the Ward Council, trade and industry and several sponsors regarding the creation of the monument. Last year I visited the notary and the foundation “Stichting HMMH” was created from the committee. Since I am board member as a cashier. Besides that I am the contact person for friends that support the monument.

Each September 22, we will make an effort together to properly commemorate the war victims and celebrate the freedom of Mierlo-Hout. Involving as much youth as we can is an important goal. I hope to be able to do all this for many years to come, inspite of my age.



Harrie Raaijmakers

I am Harrie Raaijmakers and I am the secretary for Stichting HMMH.

Almost 64 years of age and married to Wilma Geubbels.

We have two children, one married and one living together, with three lovely grand children. By chance I have been asked to be part of the foundation’s board. My affinity with the Memorial Monument is that the grandfather of my wife is one of the victims mentioned on the monument. His name is Francis Cornuijt, died September 22 1944 as a result of fragmentation after a bombardment.

I have been in the military myself for 37 years, ground forces.

My aim is to give the foundation more awareness and pass on the obtained freedom to the younger generation. Therefore our goal is to keep the 4 elementary schools involved in all festivities around the memorial monument.



Huub Vleeshouwers

I have been living in Mierlo-Hout since 2000 and have been the project leader Commemoration Market Garden 2014 in the Military. With our organization, Corps 30 (English orientated), we halted at the monument in September where we were welcomed in a grand fashion. Henk asked me to join and for me this was a logical step. Next to that I am the chairman of the Foundation Veterans Brabant South-East (www.svbzo.nl), we organize several activities for veterans and their families. The monument symbolizes that peace did not come for free, more respect is in place.

An other memorial monument

Monument to commemorate deported jews in Baden-Württemberg.

This monument is situated in the village of Neckarzimmern, at the site of an Evangelic youth home, and was set up in 2004. At first a 25m2 big David star was placed. 137 municipalities are cooperating by means of placing a memorial. The monument will be complete only when all 137 memorial stones are placed. 105 memorial stones were placed until the spring of 2014.

The project idea:

October 22 1940, about 5600 people from 137 municipalities in Baden-Württemberg were deported.

Thought was that from each municipality where the deportations took place, the school children would have discussions amongst each other regarding the deportations. They also received the assignment to do trace research and record how the deported and locals had experienced the events. As a last assignment they needed to design two identical stones; one would be placed in their local municipality and one at the memorial monument in Neckarzimmern.

