



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout
News letter
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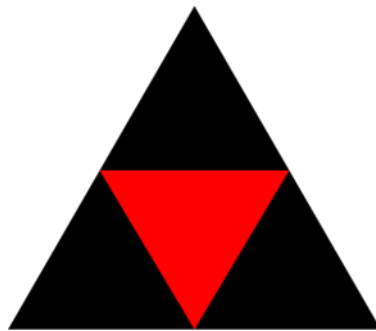
80th anniversary 1944-2024

Hello friends,

The board would like to wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy 2024. This year we can commemorate and celebrate together that we have been able to cherish our freedom for 80 years.

Just another memorial

Small monument made of stone. The monument is placed on Royal Norfolk Square. The Royal Norfolk Regiment was part of the 3rd Infantry Division that was indirectly involved in the liberation of Helmond.



It has the following inscription:

Helmond
1944-1984
Liberation September 25
Royal Norfolk Reg.
9th Infantry
1st Battalion

George Dicks was a platoon commander in the Royal Norfolk Regiment in 1944. He gave the following speech at the monument in 1994.

"Although I'd been over to Helmond on one or two occasions after the war. This was the first time I'd come with an organized party. And I then realized the sort of welcome I was getting was as warm and as loving as it was 40 years before. At each year since then, we've come, with our Dutch friends, to talk about those days and to pledge ourselves to future friendship.

Our entry in 1944, as you all know now, was peaceful. There was no opposition, and we had no casualties, thank god. But sadly, we cannot say the same for our brothers-in-arms the 11th Armoured Division, including the 3rd Battalion, Monmouthshire Regiment, who had fought very closely with the Norfolk's in Normandy. They approached from the other side of the canal and they had a sharp battle and several fatal casualties and they have now a very fine monument erected at Stiphout. But faced with the imminent arrival of the Second Army in the form of VIII Corps the enemy, the Germans, decided to decamp and make towards the Heimat.

This plaque therefore is rather different from the normal, it's not a memorial as such it is a monument. Signifying the Royal Norfolk's feeling of gratitude to the Helmonders for the greeting they gave us when we arrived and accepted by the Helmonders for the joy that liberation gave them.

No Royal Norfolk who was present on that day will ever forget it. The excitement of the occasion and the exuberance of the Dutch people. They made a profound impression on me. So much so that I've often referred to it as one of the most memorable days of my life."

No Royal Norfolk who was present on that day will ever forget it. The excitement of the occasion and the exuberance of the Dutch people. They made a deep impression on me. So much so that I have often called it one of the most memorable days of my life."

The nine oak trees around the monument were a gift from the veterans of the Royal Norfolk Regiment to the city of Helmond. "Nine, because the Royal Norfolk Regiment used to be called the ninth 'regiment of foot'."



Fl H.Raaijmakers

Thanks to Jeroen Koppes for allowing us to use this text.

<https://www.tracesofwar.nl/sights/41/Royal-Norfolk-Monument.htm>;

Then and now



F | M.Coolen Sr / H.Raaijmakers

When it was liberated in September 1944, the bridge was ready, but the slopes were missing. The English made a transition with improvised positions so that the troops and equipment could cross to carry out the liberation action towards Mierlo-Hout and Helmond.

The current bridge dates from 1937 and will be demolished in its entirety and replaced by a new bridge. Work will start in 2024.

NL-doet



Get to work!

Spring is coming again. Therefore the surroundings of our monuments are being renovated again.

NL-doet, on March 15 and 16.

Our foundation has officially registered with NL-doet again this year, it is an initiative of the Oranje fund.

On March 15, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, we will be doing various jobs on and around the memorial, the cemetery and the monument in the Slegersstraat.

By involving students from "OBS 't Hout", we show that as a foundation we must cherish our youth. This is also their end of adoption year 2023-2024.

We will give an impression of this morning in the next edition of our newsletter.

MierloHoutenaar 2023



F| Familie van de Voort

Martien Van de Voort, was presented with a check with a sum of money after the announcement of his title as: MierloHoutenaar 2023. He was allowed to divide/spend the amount himself to various organizations within the district. Why also Monument Mierlo-Hout?

"I heard that you are busy organizing 80 years of freedom in September. You can certainly use the money to make it a great event."

We will definitely try that Martien! Thank you again for your contribution on behalf of the HMMH board.

80th anniversary commemoration 1944-2024

The organization is busy setting up a program from September 15 to 29 for the whole of Helmond. We hope to be able to provide more information in the next newsletter.



For more information about our Foundation, please refer to our website:
<https://monumentmierlohout.nl>.