



New Romney Town Council – Press Release

Issue Date: 15th October 2018

New Romney Remembers

New Romney Town Council has been working in close partnership with the New Romney Branch of the Royal British Legion and is now pleased to be able to announce a whole day of commemorative events that will bring the local community together in remembrance and commemoration on 11th November 2018.

The Town Council, having already signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant earlier this year, pledged to participate in this year's **International WW1 Centenary Tribute: 'Battle's Over'**. As a result, the Town Council, working closely with the local branch of the Royal British Legion has planned a high profile day of events that focus on commemorating the centenary of the end of World War One in line with the National Tribute.

'Battle's Over' is an international commemoration marking 100 years since the guns fell silent at the end of World War One and New Romney Town Council, together with the New Romney Branch of the Royal British Legion, is playing its part in these commemorations which will take place around the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

Organised by Pageantmaster, Bruno Peek LVO, OBE, OPR, 'Battle's Over' takes place on Sunday 11th November 2018 – with events throughout the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and at scores of overseas locations, including New Zealand, Ireland, Australia, Bermuda, France, Belgium, Canada, the United States and Germany.

The Tribute begins at 6.00am with over 1,000 lone pipers playing 'Battle's O'er' – a traditional Scottish Air played after a battle, outside cathedrals and at other individual locations throughout the country and overseas. In New Romney, we are honoured that Paige Barry-Knowles will be performing the Air at the Garden of Remembrance in Church Approach.

The annual RBL Service of Remembrance in the Parish Church will, this year, be preceded by a full parade through the High Street commencing at West Street Car Park and proceeding to St Nicholas Church via Church Approach and will be followed

by the annual Burma Star Service at the Garden of Remembrance.

During the afternoon, a Remembrance Day Concert, performed by Kent Police Band, will take place in the Church and the Old School will be open for visitors.

At 6.55pm, buglers will sound the Last Post at more than 1,000 locations, where at 7.00pm WW1 Beacons of Light will be lit in a tribute signifying the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of four years of war. New Romney Town Council is very grateful to Mr Del Jones (Principal Trumpet Player for Hythe Town Concert Band), who has graciously volunteered to sound the Last Post at The Greens, Littlestone before New Romney's Beacon of Light is lit. During the Beacon-Lighting Ceremony on The Greens, messages from the armed services will be read as well as the 'Tribute to the Millions' and music will be provided by the East Kent Piping Society and the TS Veteran Sea Cadets Band.

At 7.05pm, over 1,000 churches and cathedrals will ring their bells as part of the 'Ringing Out for Peace' tribute organised in association with the Central Council of Bell Ringers, which represents 65 societies of ringers from the British Isles and Overseas. Whilst the Beacon-Lighting Ceremony proceeds at The Greens, the Bells of St. Nicholas Church will be heard ringing out across New Romney.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney, Councillor Peter Coe, said: *'We are proud to be playing a part in this historic international event to commemorate the centenary of the end of the Great War and to recognise the contribution and sacrifice made by the men and women from our own community.'*

The Battle's Over – A Nation's tribute has been devised and planned by Pageantmaster, Bruno Peek. He has organised major royal celebrations and international events for more than 36 years and has been working on Battle's Over for more than four years.

'It's wonderful to see the event being embraced by so many organisations and communities in this country and around the world. The centenary of the end of the Great War is an opportunity to acknowledge the enormous sacrifice made by the millions of men and women who died or were wounded, as well as those who worked tirelessly at home in our fields and factories. It has been a privilege to work on this project with the support of so many amazing organisations', said Mr Peek.

More information about 'Battle's Over' can be found at www.brunopeek.co.uk/battles-over

Alongside the commemorative events that will be taking place in New Romney, the Town Council has also, this year, supported the '**There But Not There**' campaign in recognition of those that have lost their lives in the Great War. New Romney Town Council is, therefore, joining the Nationwide Installation to the Fallen, installing a life-size 'There But Not There' Tommy at the Garden of Remembrance in Church Road, New Romney, as a lasting tribute to the Fallen of WW1.

In addition to the installation of New Romney's own 'Tommy' at the Garden of Remembrance, New Romney Town Council is celebrating the award of 6 Tommy silhouettes, funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust. The silhouettes will be

located in New Romney's churches during this year's commemorative services of remembrance,

The award was made under the Armistice and Armed Forces Communities programme, which makes awards to bring the communities together to remember and to think about the Armed Forces today.

The annual Town Service of Remembrance in New Romney truly serves to bring the local community together in remembrance and reflection and in this very special centenary year commemorating one hundred years since the end of WW1, it will be all the more poignant. The Tommy silhouettes which will join this year's congregation – taking their place in the pews alongside members of our community – will play an important role in providing a real focus on remembrance in an engaging and imaginative manner.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney, Councillor Peter Coe, said: *'This project, which provides a moving focus for New Romney's remembrance this year in the form of the Tommy silhouettes that have been awarded to the Town by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust, is so important because it helps bring together the members of our community not only in remembering the tragedy of conflict but in learning the lessons that history has taught so that we can all endeavor to move forward together in harmony.'*

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust makes awards and grants to projects that support the Armed Forces Community. You can find out more about their work at www.covenantfund.org.uk

'New Romney Town Council – it leads, it listens and it works'

To request any further details, please contact:

Mrs Catherine Newcombe
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
New Romney Town Council
Town Hall
High Street
New Romney
Kent
TN28 8BT
Email: townclerk@newromneytc.co.uk
Tel: 01797 362348