



Plymouth Veterans Day 2008

**Programme of Events
27 - 29 June 2008**



PRICE: £1





Welcome by The Lord Mayor of Plymouth



Towns and cities across the UK will be joining together this Veterans Day to honour and give thanks to former servicemen and women who have given so much for their country.

Plymouth is proud of its military history and owes a great deal to the many ex-servicemen and women who have served on deployments around the world. This annual event brings people of all ages together to pay tribute to their courage and professionalism.

We hope this weekend's celebrations will also raise awareness of the continuing work that veterans still do for the city, as well as the many organisations which offer such invaluable support to Plymouth's ex-servicemen and women and their families.

Councillor Brian Vincent
Lord Mayor of Plymouth



The Citadel, Plymouth

Programme of Events

Veterans Centre - Friday 27 June & Saturday 28 June

The Veterans Centre in Plymouth Guildhall will provide members of the public with the opportunity to meet many of the organisations supporting veterans and their families. It will be formally opened by the Lord Mayor of Plymouth at 10.00 am on Friday 27 June, and open from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm on Friday and from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm on Saturday. Entry is free and individuals will also be able to book free coach tours of the Naval Base.

Elsewhere in the City Centre a range of outside entertainment will be provided by young people and a travelling museum telling the story of the "Home Front" in World War 2.

Service for National Veterans Day - Friday 27 June

On Friday 27 June, at 11.00 am, an ecumenical service is being held at St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth. Everyone is welcome to attend and there will be a retiring collection in aid of Combat Stress, the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society.

Veterans Day Concert - Saturday 28 June

Concert by the Band of the Royal Air Force Association at St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth starting at 8.00 pm. Pay on the door - adults £3; children under-16 free.

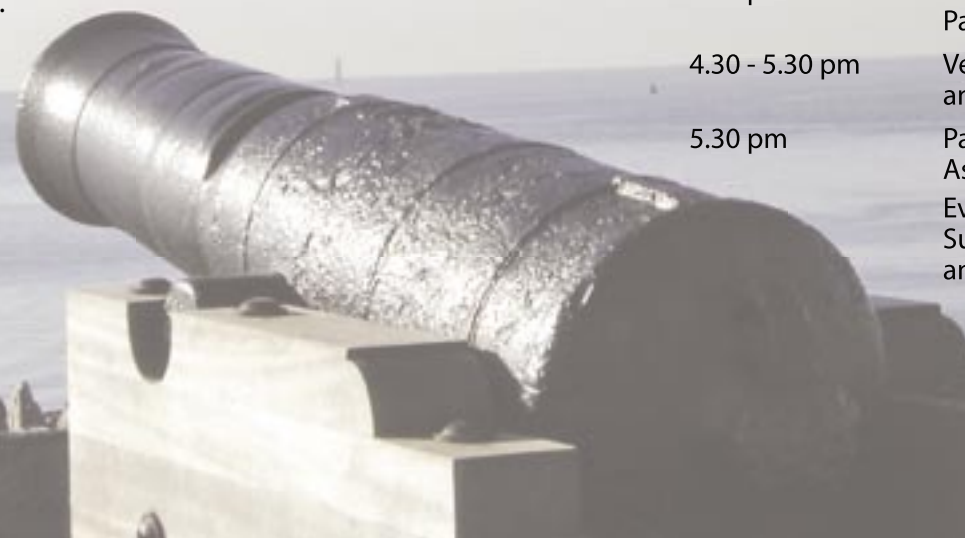
Salute to the Armed Forces and Veterans - Sunday 29 June

Starting at 10.30 am on The Hoe, a full day of events to salute the Armed Forces and veterans who served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force and the Merchant Navy. The whole day is free and will consist of music, displays, exhibitions, aircraft and warships in Plymouth Sound. A unique RAF and Allied Air Forces Monument Service is also being held at 11.30 am. The day will end with a Veterans Day Tattoo and a Review of Veterans.

For full programme see opposite.

Events on Plymouth Hoe - Sunday 29 June

10.30 am	Hoe open to the public.
11.00 am	Salamanca Band of the Rifles march from the Royal Citadel onto the Hoe.
11.00 am	Guests arrive for the RAF & Allied Air Forces Monument Service.
11.20 am	Standards parade with the Salamanca Band of the Rifles.
11.30 - 12.30 pm	RAF and Allied Air Forces Monument Service. Music by the Salamanca Band of the Rifles.
1.00 - 1.25 pm	The South West Pipes and Drums parade on the Hoe
1.30 - 2.30 pm	Young people Arena Display (Sea Cadets, Royal Marine Cadets, Army Cadets, Air Cadet Band & Morice Town Primary School Field Gun Team).
1.45 - 3.00 pm	Salamanca "Big Band" sound and the Millbay Youth Concert Band in the "Bandstand".
2.45 pm	Public move to the front of the Hoe.
3.00 pm	Steam past by HMS Cornwall & HMS Cumberland with gun salute and naval helicopters airborne. Salute taken from the Belvedere by the senior VIP followed by a Royal Navy Helicopter display with small ship armada present in The Sound.
3.45 pm	Display by "Black Knights" Royal Artillery Parachute Display Team.
4.30 - 5.30 pm	Veterans Day Tattoo (Salamanca Band, Pipes and Drums, Army Display, Air Cadet Band).
5.30 pm	Parade of standards by Ex-Service and Merchant Navy Associations followed by veterans march past. Event concludes with the Ceremony of Sunset and the marching-off of standards and the Salamanca Band of the Rifles.



Plymouth Veterans Day 2008

Patrons

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth

Sir Richard Carew Pole Bt OBE

The Bishop of Plymouth, The Right Reverend John Ford (Anglican)

The Bishop of Plymouth, The Right Reverend Christopher Budd (RC)

Linda Gilroy MP

Alison Seabeck MP

Gary Streeter MP

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Stear KCB CBE DL

Vice Admiral Sir Robert Gerken KCB CBE DL

Mrs. Phyl Ainsworth

President Federation of Plymouth & District Ex-Service Association

Major General Nicholas Vaux CB DSO DL

Rear Admiral Ric Cheadle CB DL

President Devon County Royal British Legion

Rear Admiral Richard Ibbotson DSC

Flag Officer Sea Training

Brigadier Peter Bowser CBE DL

Veterans Day 2008

"A celebration of the service by veterans to the life of the nation."

The idea of a national Veterans Day being held on 27 June every year was launched by the Prime Minister in 2006. It aims to celebrate the continuing contribution of veterans to the life of the nation. Such an event, which focuses on living veterans, will complement other commemorative events and become as familiar and respected as Remembrance Sunday that quite properly, remembers and honours those who died serving their country.

The aim of Veterans Day 2008 in Plymouth is to show people, of all ages, that veterans not only gave a great deal to the nation during their Service lives but also continue to contribute to their communities after discharge from the military. This year we also have the opportunity to include celebrations the of the 100th Anniversary of the Territorial Army (TA 100), the 90th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force and the 70th Anniversary of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS).

The City of Plymouth being the home of the Royal Navy and with strong Army, Royal Air Force and Merchant Navy connections is fiercely proud of its veterans and their families. Over the course of the weekend 27 to 29 June it is hoped veterans, members of the public, businesses and organisations will come together in this most worthy enterprise and quite rightly celebrate Plymouth as the "Veterans Capital of the South West".

Who is a veteran?

Veterans are former members of HM Armed Forces (Navy, Army or RAF - regular or reserve). Indeed, the term applies to all UK ex-Servicemen and women. There are an estimated 5.5 million in the country and with their wives, husbands, partners or children, they comprise the 10.5 million strong Veterans Community. There is a common misconception that all veterans are elderly, but veterans can be any age, from 18 to 100 plus. As soon as someone leaves the Armed Forces they become a veteran and hundreds of thousands are in their 20's, 30's and 40's.

Former National Servicemen are also veterans. The youngest are now aged 62 plus and there are an estimated 2.2 million in the UK.

The status of veteran can also be applied to a number of special groups such as those who served in Polish detachments under British command in World War 2 and Merchant Mariners who saw duty in military operations. To be a veteran you need not have seen action, served overseas or in conflict.

A Royal Navy Veteran's Story

Michelle Miller served for 16 years in the Royal Navy as a Petty Officer Writer, including time served in the Falkland Islands working with the Army Intelligence Corps. She left the Service in March 2004 and now works as the Operations Manager for the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



What skills did the RN equip you with for life outside the service?

Having served in the RN I am disciplined, reliable and able to work in a team. I can also take the lead, manage when required and accept responsibility for my actions and decisions with confidence.

What is the thing you miss most about the navy?

The 'get the job done' ethos and definitely the 'team work' spirit. I also miss the social side – in the RN no matter how different everyone is, we all had commonality.

What is the best thing about your job?

It has given me opportunities to meet many of the managers and directors of the businesses in the city and I have been able to get involved with many of the projects that Plymouth does. I also work as a voluntary business mentor for A4e, helping those who have been out of work for a long time to realise their potential.

A Merchant Navy Veteran's Story

Jack Evans is now 78 years old and served at sea for 41 years with the Merchant Navy and Royal Fleet Auxiliary. He started off in 1953 as a 23-year old shovelling coal on a banana boat, was promoted to fireman and then became a greaser with the RFA. Jack also worked as a Pump Man on tankers, both with the RFA and Esso Petroleum. Jack's last ship was the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) Sir Galahad with his last day of service being his 65th birthday in May 1994. Today Jack is a Labour Councillor for the Dunestone Plymstock area.



Any highlights of your service career?

I've been lucky enough to have travelled all over the world. There aren't many places I haven't been to.

What skills did the Merchant Navy equip you with?

Well, it certainly taught you to be able to look after yourself.

What is the thing you miss most about the Merchant Navy?

I miss the comradeship.

What is the best thing about your current job as a councillor?

Meeting local people. When I was in the Merchant Navy I didn't really meet anybody as I was away at sea a lot. I enjoy being able to help local people and I love going to Council meetings and having my say - win or lose.

An RAF Veteran's Story

Finbar Nolan was a Senior Aircraftsman in the Royal Air Force, working for seven years as a Crash Rescue Fireman. On leaving the Service in 1972 he transferred these skill to become a fireman in civilian life, rising to the rank of Sub Officer before retirement.



What skills did the RAF equip you with for life outside the service?

Discipline and comradeship come to mind, but most of all learning how to become a team player and be a respectful member of the community.

What do you miss most about the RAF?

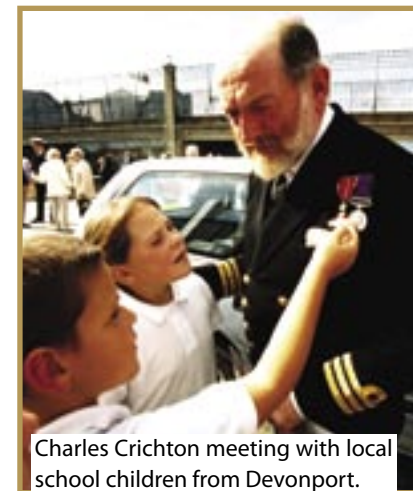
The independence, comradeship, sport and travelling.

What is the best thing about your job?

I have always enjoyed being a Fireman, both in the RAF and in civilian life. When you and your team save someone's life, either at a fire or in another trauma, there is no better reward for your achievements.



Finbar pictured with historic fire engine.



Charles Crichton meeting with local school children from Devonport.

Meet the Organiser

Charles Crichton OBE

"It is a great privilege to be Plymouth City Council's Project Officer for Veterans Day 2008. Event management can be a daunting challenge but this is not the case for Plymouth Veterans Day. In all my work over the last 6 months I have been moved by the huge groundswell of support for our Veterans here at Plymouth, the "Veterans Capital of the South West". This support is also directly linked to a fierce pride in our Armed Services. I am indebted to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Councillor David and

Mrs Diane James, Councillor Glenn Jordan, our Patrons, and City Leaders for their encouragement. A big thank you to our sponsors and the multitude of people of all ages playing their part in Plymouth Veterans Day 2008. I am also hugely grateful to my boss, Mr Dave Roberts and Mr Ray House for their guidance, support and friendship. I know that Veterans Day is now well established as an important event in the life of the City and, indeed, for the wider South West Region".

Arrangements on Plymouth Hoe for Sunday 29 June



The Bandstand

REFRESHMENTS

EXHIBITIONS

Parachute Drop Zone

MAIN ARENA

Smeaton's Tower

Disabled Parking

The Belvedere

Plymouth Hoe

3.00 pm HMS Cornwall and HMS Cumberland
steam past followed by small ship flotilla

List of Cast and Participants

27 and 28 June Veterans Centre, Guildhall

Combat Stress (Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society)
SSAFA Forces Help
Help the Heroes
The Royal Marines Association
The White Ensign Association
The Royal British Legion
Regular Forces Employment Association
Royal Naval Benevolent Trust
The Army Benevolent Fund
The WRNS Association
RAF Benevolent Fund
Disability Information and Advice Centre
British Korean Veterans Association
War Widows Association
The WRAC Association (70th Anniversary of the ATS)
British Limbless Ex Services Association (BLESMA)
Federation of Plymouth & District Ex-Service Assoc
The Coldstream Guards Association
Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association
RASC and RCT Association
Plymouth & SW Merchant Seafarers Association
The Salvation Army
Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Career Transition Partnership
Royal Navy Resettlement Office
MOD Guard Service
The Chaplaincy
HMS Vivid Royal, Naval Reserve Plymouth
Plymouth District Scouts
Plymouth Guides
Maritime Plymouth
Home Front Recall
BRNC Dartmouth- Young Officers
City College Hospitality Dept - Catering
Naval Base Coach Tours

Open public spaces:

Entertainment by young people Fri 27 & Sat 28 June
Mobile Museum Fri 27 & Sat 28 June
Some historic military vehicles

Various concessions throughout the city including the following:

Barbican
The Plymouth City Market
National Marine Aquarium

Sunday 29 June Plymouth Hoe

The Royal Navy
HMS Raleigh Trainees, exhibitions and displays.
Ceremonial "Steam Past" of two frigates and three helicopters.
Helicopter Role demonstration
HMS Vivid, Royal Naval Reserve
The Army
29 Cdo Regt, Royal Artillery
The Salamanca Band of the Rifles
The Royal Artillery Parachute Display Team
C Squadron, 442 Wessex Field Hospital
383 Pet Group, Royal Logistic Corps
300 Troop, Royal Engineers
TA Bodmin; TA Millbay
The Cadet Forces including Air Cadet Band
The Armed Forces Careers Organisation

Standards

Federation of Plymouth & District Ex-Service Association
The Royal British Legion
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Historic Fire Engines
The Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
HM Coast Guard
The National Coastwatch Society
Kevin Preston - Military Uniforms
Historic Military Vehicles
Band of the SW Pipes and Drums (City of Plymouth Pipe Band, Cornwall Caledonian Pipe Band, City of Exeter Pipe Band and North Devon Pipes and Drums)
Young people's climbing wall
Morice Town Primary School Field Gun Team
Individual entertainers

THE SALAMANCA BAND AND BUGLES OF THE RIFLES

There has been a Territorial Army (TA) Band in Devon since 1908. During the World Wars the Band was suspended and the Bandsmen assumed their normal wartime duties as stretcher-bearers. In 1999 the Band became an integral part of the Rifle Volunteers, the South West's TA Infantry Regiment comprising companies of the Devonshire and Dorset Light Infantry, The Light Infantry and the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Light Infantry. More recent changes led to the formation of "The Rifles", the biggest Regiment in the British Army, consisting of 5 Regular and two TA battalions. The Rifles' tradition and ethos is that of light forces and dates back to the Napoleonic wars. Two particular traditions are upheld by "The Rifles" musicians to this day: the use of the Bugle and the distinct pace at which they march – 140 paces to the minute. The Band is led by Major Chris Willis LRAM ARCM and Warrant Officer (Bugle Major) Tony Cox BEM.



THE SOUTH WEST PIPES AND DRUMS

For over 30 years the people of Plymouth have thrilled to the stirring sound of their own City of Plymouth Pipe Band. The band is privileged to have the Lord Mayor as Patron and is honoured to be affiliated to 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery. In recent years Pipe Bands in Devon and Cornwall have paraded together for important events.

This desire for closer working and coordination has resulted in a decision to form a Federation. Bands meet each year in September at Bideford for a Pipe Band Festival and the Lord Mayor of Plymouth's parade this year was led by a combined massed Band of nearly 50 pipers and drummers. On Sunday 29 June the Bands from the City of Plymouth, the Cornwall Caledonia and the North Devon Pipes and Drums will provide a wonderful spectacle as the "South West Pipes and Drums."



Plymouth Youth Music Programme

Friday 27 June - Bandstand, Armada Way

12.00 pm	Dorset Foundation	Disabled Learning Percussion Group
12.15 pm	Leigham Primary School	Singers
12.50 pm	St. Andrews	Performing Arts
1.25 pm	Lipson Community College	Jazz Group
2.00 pm	Widewell	School Brass Band
2.35 pm	St. Andrews	Performing Arts
3.10 pm	Estover	Vocalists
3.45 pm	Estover	Vocalists



Saturday 28 June - Bandstand, Armada Way

11.05 am	Plymouth Youth Soundhouse Brass	Brass Band
11.40 am	Josie Newton	Soloist
12.15 pm	Plymouth Youth Soundhouse Brass	Brass Band
12.50 pm	Josie Newton	Soloist
13.25 pm	Plymouth Youth Music Service	Junior Orchestra
14.00 pm	Plymouth Youth Music Service	Intermediate Orchestra
14.35 pm	Plymouth Youth Music Service	Concert Band



Acknowledgements

Plymouth Veterans Day 2008 acknowledges with gratitude support from:

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Souvenir Programme)

First Great Western

Babcock Marine

SERCO

INTERSERVE

HM Naval Base Devonport

Louise Crichton Property Search

How To Get Your Veterans Badge

The Badge

The UK Armed Forces Veterans' Lapel Badge was launched in May 2004 by the Minister of Veterans, to raise the profile of veterans by assisting the wider public to recognise them. The badge is an enamelled, engraved, and pinned, lapel badge featuring the words "HM Armed Forces – Veteran", which encompass the Tri-Service, Anchor, Crossed Swords and Eagle motif. Its symbolism is intended to unite all veterans in recognising the commonality of their service, to encourage a sense of unity and community between surviving veterans and to ignite public recognition of current veterans and their continuing contribution to society.



Who is Eligible?

All those who have served in HM Armed Forces are eligible to apply for the badge. Veterans who served in the Armed Forces of other Countries and those who served alongside HM Armed Forces, such as the Canadian Navy or Royal Australian Air Force, are not eligible.

How to apply?

You can apply by visiting the Veterans website at:-

http://www.veterans-uk.info/new_badge/application_form.pdf

You can complete the form and return to the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency by e-mail.

You can also call the Freephone Helpline number **0800 169 2277** to apply. Please ensure you have to hand all the details asked for on the application form.

Or you can apply in writing to:

Service Personnel and Veterans Agency,

Norcross

Thornton-Cleveleys,

Lancashire,

FY5 3WP



For the UK Merchant Seafarers Veterans Badge there is information on the Veterans Website on how to apply for your badge.

Tours of the Naval Base

The Royal Navy are offering organised tours of the Naval Base on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 June. There will be two tours per day with coaches departing from the Guildhall at 11.00 am and 1.30 pm. Each tour lasts about 1 hour 20 minutes and you will be dropped back at the Guildhall on completion. It is essential that you book your place on these tours and this can be done by obtaining a ticket from the tour desk situated in the Guildhall.

The tour through the Naval Base will take you through the historic South Yard and then into the modern working environment of North Yard. Commentary is provided.

There will be an opportunity to visit the Submarine Courageous museum attraction. The former nuclear-powered HMS Courageous was the last of the Valiant Class submarines. Launched in 1970 she participated in many Cold War operations and served in the South Atlantic during the Falklands Conflict. In 1992 she was decommissioned and fully de-fuelled in Devonport. In order to remove much of the mystery surrounding the workings of a nuclear submarine, in 2002 the Royal Navy established Courageous as the only public exhibit of its kind in the UK.

As part of your tour of the Naval Base you will also be able to take an upper deck tour of the Type 23 frigate HMS Argyll, recently returned from an intensive six-month patrol in the Northern Arabian Gulf off the coast of Iraq. HMS Argyll was launched in 1989 and commissioned into the Royal Navy on 30 May 1991.

During the tour please note that photography is only permitted around the Heritage Site in South Yard.



HMS Argyll



HMS Drake



5 Basin, North Yard



The Frigate Refit Complex



Naval Base Museum



No 1 Covered Slip, 1775



Courageous at sea



Vanguard Class Submarine

70th Anniversary ATS

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS), which was formed on 9 September 1938 by order of George VI. During the Second World War more than a quarter of a million women served with the ATS, with one of the most famous being the then Princess Elizabeth (pictured right) who was commissioned in March 1945. ATS personnel served as drivers, orderlies, store women and cooks and there were women serving in most of the overseas theatres of operation as well as the defence of the United Kingdom, particularly in Anti Aircraft Command. 72 were killed in action and 313 were wounded.

By the end of World War Two, it was acknowledged that women would be a valuable asset to a peacetime army with women continuing to serve on emergency engagements with the ATS. After the war plans were formulated for a regular Women's Corps and on 1 February 1949 the Women's Royal Army Corps (WRAC) came into being.



Monuments on the Hoe, with the unique RAF & Allied Air Forces Monument on the right.



HMS Cornwall one of two frigates taking part in Sunday's steam past.

HMS Raleigh

Instructors from HMS Raleigh will attempt a sponsored seven hour CPR marathon on Sunday 29 June and try to replicate a successful resuscitation of a two-year-old child, which took place in 2004. Using a dummy, Steve Wilson and Medical Assistant Brett Collins will take it in turns to carry out chest compressions and artificial ventilation, under the watchful eye of Petty Officer Ralph Crook. Steve works for Flagship Training Ltd, and all three are instructors at HMS Raleigh's First Aid School. Money raised through the challenge will be donated to the Veterans Association and the Help for Heroes charities. The team will also demonstrate first aid procedures and seek help from members of the public to be made-up with realistic wounds, just like 'Casualty' on the TV.



Left to right: Steve Wilson, Ralph Crook and Brett Collins.

TA 100



TA soldiers training

In April 2008 TA 100 was launched as a year of celebration to mark the contribution of Territorial Soldiers past and present across a century of service. The Territorial Army (TA) today plays a role as critical to overall military effectiveness as at any point in its history. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine how the Regular Army could meet its present commitments without the combat capacity and professional support provided by Territorial soldiers. TA soldiers are trained, equipped and

supported in the same way as their Regular colleagues and deployed, side by side, in the same theatres of operations.

In this centenary year, 1,500 Territorial soldiers will be deployed on operations, accounting for eight per cent of deployed Army capability. Over 15,000 Territorials have served on current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, with some losing their lives and others returning wounded.

TA100 gives the TA the chance to show what the modern Territorials do, raising awareness of the contribution they make in both their military and civilian lives. It is also an opportunity for the nation to recognise and thank Territorials past and present for their commitment to Service, and the contribution they have made and continue to make to security, democracy and the prosperity of the nation.



The Naval War Memorial on the Hoe.