



PRESS RELEASE
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80TH ANNIVERSARY NORMANDY D-DAY BEACON LIGHTING

On Thursday 6th June 2024 on the 80th Anniversary of Normandy D-Day Folkestone took part in the International Tribute and Beacon Lighting at the Bandstand, on The Leas.

Crowds gathered at the Bandstand to enjoy the entertainment provided by Shepway Voices, Friends of the RBL Community Choir, Victoria Bass and the 99 (Folkestone) Squadron RAF Air Cadets. The Beacon was lit by the Deputy Lieutenant, Mr Geoff Miles DL, whilst the Town Mayor of Folkestone, Cllr Akuffo-Kelly read the 'International Tribute'.

D-Day was the largest Naval, Air and land Operation in history, called Operations Neptune and Overlord, involving many hundreds of thousands of brave men who had to leave their families at home, not knowing if they would ever return, in an action that would bring about the liberation of north-west Europe from Nazi occupation.

The Town Mayor said "Both the D-Day Service and the Beacon lighting were well attended. Thank you so much to all who took part and made it a success. I am also so grateful to all those who attended. It is testament to the debt of gratitude that we owe and continue to hold for those who on that fateful day on Tuesday 6th June 1944, 80 years ago, ran into danger to secure our safety. As the years go by less and less of our Veterans can join us on these commemorative days, but whether they are here in physical form, or not, their spirit will live on in our memory. We will continue to commemorate them, for we are eternally grateful for their sacrifice and will remember them always."

For further information please contact Folkestone Town Council offices on 01303 257946 or email georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk

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ENDS
Photos attached

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
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