

Cornwall's Armed Forces Day

Honouring Britain's Armed Forces, Past, Present & Future



8 June 2015

TORPOINT FLIES THE FLAG FOR ARMED FORCES DAY

Torpoint is set to raise the Armed Forces Day Flag next Monday (15 June) as the town prepares to host Cornwall's salute to military.

This year's Cornwall's Armed Forces Day will take place on Saturday 20 June at Thanckes Park, Torpoint. In the lead up to the event the town will fly the flag from the masthead in the town centre. Recruits from HMS Raleigh will be on-hand to raise the flag at 11 am on Monday, in association with the Mayor of Torpoint, Councillor Mike Pearn, and other guests.

Councillor Pearn said: "We are delighted to have been chosen to host the County's Armed Forces Day, honouring our military personnel, past, present and future. A full day of activity is planned at Thanckes Park starting with the Veterans' parade at 11 am and ending with a firework display at 10 pm. We hope to build on the successful events we've have held in the park, such as our Golden Jubilee celebrations. The event promises to be a great day of entertainment for all the family and we are looking forward to welcoming Armed Forces personnel, their families, veterans, cadets and members of the general public from across Cornwall and further afield."

Thanckes Park has been split into three zones for the day – a military zone with displays and demonstrations from members of the Armed Forces; a historical zone showing Cornwall's contribution to previous conflicts; and an entertainment zone with an arena and stage. The Hydrographic Survey Ship HMS Scott will provide a backdrop to the event, moored across the river at Devonport Naval Base. The event has been sponsored by Babcock International with additional funding provided through a grant from the MOD and Torpoint Town Council. Other organisations have also provided services free of charge or at a reduced rate.

Key highlights will include military hardware such as a Royal Marine Jackal Armoured Vehicle, a model Spitfire and a glider simulator, along with a Royal Navy interactive maritime survival display incorporating fire-fighting, respirators, damage control and first-aid and a cooking demonstration using rations packs.

In the historical zone Living History groups will give a portrayal of the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry during World War 1 and provide a display based around the film 'The Monuments Men'. In addition there will be photographs of military history, heritage and artefacts.

Displays in the arena will include the Carbeile School Field Gun Crew, the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth, the first public performance of the All Schools Choir, featuring schoolchildren from across Cornwall and a MOD Police dog display. From 5.30 pm activity will move to the stage where a

programme has been put together showcasing Cornish musical talent. Jump Jive band Company B are the headline act.

Parking is available at Antony House with an overflow car park at HMS Raleigh's Spickernell site. Free shuttle buses will bring visitors to the park and return them to their cars. Refreshments, catering outlets and a licensed bar will be available on site along with dedicated activities for children such as a bouncy castle and a paintball gallery.

Further information is available online at www.cornwallarmedforcesday.co.uk and the Cornwall Armed Forces Facebook page.

Armed Forces Day is an annual event. Its aim is firstly to raise public awareness of the contribution made to our country by those who serve and have served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces. Secondly, it gives people from across the nation an opportunity to 'Show Your Support' for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community, from currently serving troops to Service families and from veterans to cadets.

Ends

Note to Editors:

You are welcome to send a representative to the Armed Forces Day Flag raising at Sparrow Park, Torpoint at 11.am on Monday 15 June.

Media are also welcome to attend Cornwall's Armed Forces Day on Saturday 20 June. Please call Nicki Dunwell on 01752 811221 if you have any specific requirements.