

PLYMOUTH ARMED FORCES WEEK 2012

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



ABOUT PLYMOUTH ARMED FORCES WEEK

The aim of Plymouth Armed Forces Week (Monday 25 June to Sunday 1 July 2012) is to raise awareness of and support for our Armed Forces community and celebrate the outstanding contribution it makes to our country. The highlight of the week will be the Armed Forces Day National Event, hosted this year by Plymouth, on Saturday 30 June.

Plymouth will welcome visitors from home and abroad to join in honouring and celebrating the dedication of our Armed Forces and their families. Visitors will be able to find out more about the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, the Reserves, Veterans, the Merchant Navy, cadets and the charities and organisations that support them.

The event coincides with National Sea Awareness Week.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

A number of events are being held in the run-up to Plymouth Armed Forces Week, including:

Saturday 21 April

A celebration of the Armed Forces hosted by Plymouth Argyle Football Club at Home Park.

Wednesday 6 to Saturday 30 June

An introductory exhibition at the Central Library to mark the city's historic link with the Polish Armed Forces and settlement after 1945. Open: Mon and Fri 9am-7pm, Tue to Thur 9am-5.30pm, Sat 9am-5pm. For information call 01752 305923. Also see programme of Polish events on Monday 25 June.

Wednesday 18 to Friday 29 June

A programme of visits by school children to naval and military establishments and visits by veterans to schools. Organised by Plymouth City Council.

Saturday 23 June

Promotion of Plymouth's Armed Forces Week at the Cornwall County Armed Forces Day in Bodmin.

Sunday 24 June

9.30am Prayers for Armed Forces Week during Morning Service at the Minster Church of St Andrew, Plymouth.

Sunday 24 June

2 pm Guided walk at Ford Park Cemetery, the resting place of many veterans from Plymouth who have served the Crown over the last 150 years. The free 'Battles Fought' walk will visit the graves and tell the stories of some of the sailors, soldiers and airmen buried at Ford Park. Meet at the visitor centre at 1.45pm, where there will be an exhibition and



refreshments.

For more information ring 01752 665442.

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June

10am-4pm An open weekend at Knighstone, Yelverton, on the site of RAF HARROWBEER the former World War II RAF Fighter Station, once home to Spitfires, Hurricanes and Typhoons of RAF No 10 Group Fighter Command and representatives from many nations, including Poland, Canada, France, Czechoslovakia and the United States of America. Exhibitions, historic archives, guided tours and refreshments. For information call Michael Hayes 01822 854252

PROGRAMME FOR PLYMOUTH ARMED FORCES WEEK

Monday 25 June

Midday Opening ceremony with the raising of the Armed Forces Day flag outside the Guildhall followed by a reception for invited guests in the Council House. The ceremony will be attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth, senior naval, military and civic guests and young people. The Lord Mayor will formally declare the start of Plymouth Armed Forces Week at the reception before presenting competition prizes and veterans' badges.

12.30 –6.45pm An afternoon programme of talks and presentations at the Central Library celebrating the city's historic links with the Polish Armed Forces. Free entry. For further information call the Library on 01752 305923

7pm A Reception for invited Polish guests and friends at the Central Library to celebrate the city's links with the Polish Armed Forces. Hosted by the Central Library and the Vice Chair of the South West Maritime History Society.

Tuesday 26 June

1.10pm. Illustrated lunchtime talk at the City Museum by Commander Charles Crichton. The talk will trace the 300-year history of the 'Dock on the Hamoaze' (now know as South Yard), with an update on aspirations for the future. Entry is free but tickets must be reserved in advance on 01752 304774.

Tuesday 26 June

6pm for 7.15pm Gala dinner at the Moorland Garden Hotel, Yelverton, in support of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. Guest of honour Commodore Jamie Miller CBE Royal Navy, Naval Regional Commander, Wales and West of England. There will be a three-course menu and coffee for £25, a proportion of which will be donated to the charity. Dress, Black tie optional lounge suit. Guests can share tables of 10. Cash bar before and after dinner. To book ring 01822 852245 or email events@moorlandgardenhotel.co.uk.

Wednesday 27 June

2-6pm Open day at HMS VIVID, Royal Naval Reserve Training Unit for Devon and Cornwall situated in South Yard, HM Naval Base, Devonport. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet reservists and learn how they are trained and equipped

to provide support to the Fleet. Free entry from Granby Way, Devonport. Light refreshments on sale.

- 2pm A service to dedicate the national standard of HMS HEROES Service Children's Group at the Minster Church of St Andrews Plymouth.
- 7.30pm Concert at the Minster Church of St Andrew in celebration of our seafarers. It will feature the Plymouth Youth Concert Band and the HMS Drake Volunteer Band. The concert is free of charge but voluntary donations will be invited at the end of the concert to help cover costs.

Thursday 28 June

- 7.15 for 8pm The Plymouth Area Business Council Lord Lieutenant's Summer Dinner in honour of our Armed Forces at the Commando Forces Officers Mess, Royal Marine Barracks Stonehouse.

Friday 29 June

- Midday 'Door of Unity' service at the Minster Church of St Andrew, commemorating the enduring peace between Britain and the United States and historic links with Plymouth. Guests will include the Lord Mayor, representatives from the US Embassy in London, US citizens living in Plymouth, senior naval officers, civic leaders and young people. There will be light refreshments following the service. For more information ring the Minster Church office on 01752 661414.
- 2pm-5pm Conducted tour for the United States Naval Attaché to places and monuments at Devonport bearing witness to the historic links with the United States of America. At 4pm the Friends of Devonport Park will welcome the United States Naval Attaché and guests to the Park Pavilion for afternoon tea and to view heritage investigation work undertaken by local schoolchildren

Friday 29 June

- 6pm Seafarers UK Armed Forces Day Civic reception for invited guests at the Plymouth Guildhall.
- 7.30pm The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Plymouth, "Beat Retreat" on the Civic Square, City Centre, in the presence of senior civic, naval and military guests.

Saturday 30 June. THE ARMED FORCES DAY NATIONAL EVENT

9.30am to 6pm-Plymouth Hoe 6pm to 8pm-The Barbican

Plymouth has been chosen to host this year's Armed Forces Day National Event and is organising a spectacular day of exhibitions and displays on land, on sea and in the air. The morning and afternoon will be centred on Plymouth Hoe and there will be a packed programme of activities for families to enjoy, as well as late afternoon and evening entertainment on the Hoe and the Barbican. The city will play host to many important guests and thousands of visitors from home and abroad. Full programme details will be announced in late April.

Sunday 1 July - SEA SUNDAY

- 10-11.30am On Plymouth Hoe, the annual RAF and Allied Air Forces Monument Service in the presence of senior United Kingdom civic and military guests and representatives from the Allied nations. Music by the Central Band of the Royal Air Force. Members of the public welcome.

- 11.15am The Sea Sunday Service at the Minster Church of St Andrew Plymouth. Everyone welcome to join in giving thanks for all who serve in the Royal and Merchant Navies, and for those that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters.
- 12am-5pm A public “Forces family day” at Devonport Park hosted by the Friends of the Park to celebrate Devonport’s naval and military heritage and say thank you to service families. The day will include a concert on the spectacular new Bandstand and a wide variety of entertainment and fun for young and old. Special discounts on food and entertainment for service families.
- 7.30pm The Plymouth Armed Forces Week Concert in the Plymouth Guildhall. The renowned Plymouth Philharmonic Choir will perform ‘The Armed Man- A Mass for Peace’ by Karl Jenkins and “Horizons” by Andrew Carter. The evening will also showcase the work of Seafarers UK, the UK’s leading maritime charity. Tickets £22 at the door or £20 in advance. Young people under 16 year £5. Tickets may be purchased from the Box Office 01364 72429 or go online at www.wegottickets.com there will be a 10% discount on group bookings of 10 or more tickets. Tickets also be available in Plymouth from the Christian Literature Centre, Cornwall Street 01752 661264 and the Framing Centre, 85 Hyde Park Road 01752 255020

The programme for Plymouth Armed Forces Week 2012 is available on www.plymouth.gov.uk/whatson.