HRH the Princess Royal opens a new chapter of the



A fun day out at the Armed Forces Day, Portsmouth D-Day Story

HRH the Princess Royal has today officially opened Portsmouth's D-Day Story, the first and only UK museum dedicated to the history of the Allied Invasion in 1944.

D-Day is a moment in time which resonates with many of us and for a variety of reasons. Often it's due to family connections but also because it's a story that has been extensively explored in print, film and on television. The National Lottery-supported D-Day Story draws together in one building, personal stories of courage and determination, comradeship and sacrifice, secrecy and deception, innovation and tactics. It is a historical turning point in which ordinary people worked together to achieve an extraordinary outcome.

[quote=Perdita Hunt, HLF Trustee]"The D-Day Story offers an important source of information and inspiration for visitors of all ages."[/quote]

Perdita Hunt, Trustee for HLF, said: "With the help of £4million from National Lottery players, today's opening marks the beginning of the build-up to next year's 75th anniversary and offers an important source of information and inspiration for visitors of all ages."

Telling the human side of D-Day

The museum contains exhibits not previously displayed that feature the words and perspectives of those involved - from both a military and a civilian viewpoint. The D-Day Story moves expectations beyond those of a ‘military museum’ towards an experience rich in the humanity of its stories.

Landscaping and further improvements to the outside of the museum building will be completed in 2019 when Landing Craft Tank 7074 – also supported by the National Lottery - will arrive in Portsmouth in time for the 75th Anniversary of D-Dav on 6 June 2019.



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Troops boarding ships ahead of the D-Day landings in 1944



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LCT 7074 on Gold Beach on 7 June 1944, the day after D-Day. © Imperial War Museums image record A 23941

Thumbs up for restoration of rare D-Day landing craft