



Stockport school children commemorated D-Day Campaign as they met World War 2 Veterans on Thursday 20th June

Stockport Town Hall from 2.00 - 4.00

On Thursday 20th June Stockport MBC held an event to launch competitions for schools as part of Stockport Normandy Veterans Legacy.

In preparation and research for the competitions, teachers and pupils had the opportunity to talk to WW2 veterans and civilians gathered at Stockport Town Hall.

They were able to access augmented reality of veterans' portraits through iPhones; look at displays of work produced by a pilot group of schools and examine WW2 memorabilia which included (among others) a German helmet taken from Juno Beach during the invasion; an authentic clicker; a kit bag; original military caps and a British battledress.

They were joined by young sporting role models including Stockport County footballers and Stockport Metro swimmers.

Why are we having the competitions?

Stockport Normandy Veterans were formed 30 years ago with over 300 active members.

They undertook a range of community activities, but the thing that they valued most was going into schools to tell their individual accounts of the most significant land, sea & air invasion in history. They were always aware that they were individuals who took part in something epic.

As we are commemorating the 75th Anniversary the inevitable loss of members has meant that the remaining few are keen to establish a legacy for future generations so that their stories and the sacrifice made by so many can live on.

That is why there are two competitions:

1. **For primary school pupils.** Based on Remembrance Day, this involves pupils undertaking extensive relevant activities relating to WW2 (such as model-making, art work, creative writing) along with pupils' writing about the likely experiences of local people involved in the Second World War.

2. For secondary Year 9 History pupils. Pupils are required to investigate, analyse and write an essay about local history and its link with World War 2. The aim is to encourage and produce the historians of the future as well as engaging with issues of local interest.

These competitions have been supported by Education Advisers at Stockport MBC who arranged for a high-profile launch at Stockport Town Hall from 2.00 - 4.00 pm on June 20th.

Stockport's World War 2 Legacy Team



Veterans:
Harry, Beryl and Theo
Serving Members of the Armed Forces



Home Front:
Freda, Sheila and Maisie
School children during the War

The event, opened by the Mayor of Stockport, had high profile guests including local MPs Ann Coffey and William Wragg; young sporting role models including Stockport County footballers and Stockport Metro swimmers; the editor of The Historian Magazine, the Chairman of the Spirit of Normandy Trust and Armed Services representatives.

Full details of the competition can be accessed at:

<https://stockportveterans.com/for-schools>

Notes

Stockport Normandy Veterans and Friends meet regularly to hold social events for WW2 veterans and to help them undertake educational visits to local schools. Their stories are recorded on: www.stockportveterans.com

For further details contact:

Linda Varley (Hon Secretary) l.varley@btinternet.com Mob: 07919 162 048
Ray Withnall (Hon Treasurer) ray.withnall@icloud.com Mob: 07818 003 937