



Justification of Roll of Honour Uncle Beach

The idea for a Roll of Honour in Flushing came to light after seeing similar ones during visits abroad. Reading the names and ages of the men who fought and died in battle has a far greater impact compared to a statue or monument.

Looking at the world today, you can see the rising threat of war and violence. Military conflicts and actions on the borders of Europe and in the Middle East are no longer isolated events. Political extremism is gaining popularity. Integration of nations made way for disintegration. Even some people talk about a new Cold War. These developments concern us all.

Warning against the loss of peace and safety is the least we can do. And what better way to do that, than to acknowledge the countless victims of World War II. Reading the names and age of those that gave their lives for our freedom may strengthen the feeling of 'never again'. That is why our motto 'each name is a cry for peace' is so suitable. Their names and their ultimate sacrifice will give new meaning to our call for vigilance, for peace and for safety.

The Roll of Honour is an initiative by Mr. Jaap Ventevogel, chairman of the Flushing Wartime Foundation. Mrs. Lies vd Doef - Heystek and Alwin Reedijk (WTS Architects) helped with the design and location. During a visit to Uncle Beach, it became immediately clear that the Roll of Honour should be near the motto on the wall 'We will remember'. Hans Bommelje was then selected as the designer and his design was immediately approved.

John Meijboom is responsible for quality, finance and planning. A team of board members and volunteers worked hard to make this day possible.

Deciding the exact names for the monument was a process that was fraught with difficulties. There is no room for error, there can be no doubt. The list of names as stated on our website was double checked by our board member Rens Flipse. We also allowed to use and access to records from the Community Archives, the Liberation Museum Zeeland, the UK Embassy and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Finally we have chosen only the names of allied forces personnel who died here in Vlissingen between November 1 – 3 1944.