



# THE RIFLES REGIMENT FREEDOM OF WELLINGTON



**SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023**  
**TOWN CENTRE PARADE 2PM**  
START AND FINISH: WELLINGTON SCHOOL

ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION  
10.30AM TO 4.30PM  
RECREATION GROUND, WELLINGTON. TA21 8ND



## Wellington Town's Military Links

On 17 June 1921, Wellington Park's Civic War Memorial was unveiled. It records some 50 local residents who served with the Somerset Light Infantry regiment in the 1914-19 Great War. The army uniform of that era included woollen puttees made by Fox's in Tonedale.

Monmouth Gardens in the town centre reminds us the 13th Foot was one of two originating regiments of The Rifles, being raised during that West Country rebellion. Our Portuguese twin town of Torres Vedras is a direct link to Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, who commanded the British Army aiding Portugal to resist Emperor Napoleon's invasion. In winter 1809-10 his military engineers constructed a strong series of 150 forts – the Lines of Torres Vedras – to defend Lisbon; the French Imperial Army in the Iberian Peninsula was finally defeated in 1814. The Rifles hold the Napoleonic battle honours "Peninsula" and "Waterloo" from when riflemen and red-coated light infantry fought alongside the Iron Duke.

The Duke of Wellington's defining Anglo-Allied victory over Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in modern-day Belgium on 18th June 1815 is recalled by the National Trust monument that dominates the skyline and the street named Waterloo. Mantle Street's Army Cadet Force Centre once served as a Territorial Force depot for G Company 5th Battalion (Somerset) Light Infantry.



**Riflemen fording the Alma river in the Crimea 1854**



**King George II at Battle of Dettingen 1743**



## ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION



10.30AM TO 4.30PM  
FREE FAMILY DAY OUT TO INCLUDE:



**Re-enactment by Association of Crown Forces 1776**



**Military Charity and Police Stalls and other local trader stalls**



**Musical Entertainment and much more**

## CARE FOR CASUALTIES



Examples of the type of assistance provided include:

- Support for mental health including PTSD where C4C works with other charities and providers and the NHS for servicemen and their families.
- Mobility items including vehicle adaptations which aren't available from public sources.
- Homing and re-homing costs especially for those who have found themselves homeless.
- Contribution to training and retraining courses.
- Providing equipment such as hobby and fitness kit and items to enable individuals to maintain contact such as iPad or laptops as well as gym membership.
- Home adaptations including outbuildings which gives individuals the chance to decompress and cope.

**Collection Dates:**  
**12th to 18th June 2023**



### Visit The Rifles Museum in the Pop-up Shop

Mon 12th to Fri 16th June  
10.00am to 3.00pm  
Saturday 17th June  
10am to 1pm



### Visit Wellington Museum for more on the Duke of Wellington



*Announcement:*  
**RAF Hurricane Flypast on Sunday 25th June 2023 approx 13.15pm – Flight Path Wellington Park, Recreation Ground and Hilly Head**



**NO DRONES**

The use of Drones and UAVs over the site is strictly prohibited. Anyone found operating a Drone over this location will be reported for prosecution and subject to civil action.

**FREE TOWN CENTRE PARKING**



**WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
Serving Wellington & Rockwell Green