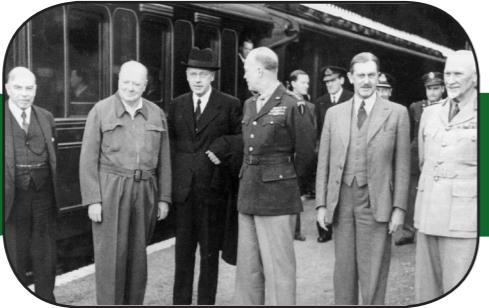


D-DAY AT



DROXFORD



Aces high as Red Arrows salute the D-Day village



THE CRACK RAF Red Arrows display team has sent a SOS message to villagers at Droxford.

'We'll Save Our Smoke for you,' they have promised as they roar over the D-Day village at 500 feet.

They are booked to perform their precision aerobatics over Southsea and The Solent on June 5 in honour of the 70th Anniversary of D-Day.

But when they learned about the Hampshire rural village's key role in the run-up to the greatest military invasion in history, they agreed to change their flight plan on the way back.

They will now set course up the old Meon Valley Railway line and pass above Droxford at precisely 14.26.

And they will save some of the red white and blue smoke they use to blaze their trails across the sky especially for Droxford, where the Allied leaders spent 2 days putting the final touches to 'Overlord' on board Churchill's special train parked in a hidden siding.

It will be a double anniversary for the world-famous team which is celebrating 50 years of breath-taking precision aerobatics with a new tail fin design incorporating the Union Flag.

For Droxford, it will be a one-off occasion, all over in seconds, so don't be late!

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D-DAY AT DROXFORD



- 2 -

We are planning a week of events to mark the 70th anniversary on June 6 and the organising committee invites you to join in and relive a unique part of our village's history.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- Wednesday, May 28 Visit to D-Day Map Room at Southwick House, 1pm.
- Friday, May 30 Churchill in Droxford – decisions that influenced D-Day. Talks by Lord Stoneham of Droxford and Tim King. Droxford Church, 7 for 7.30pm.
- Thursday, June 5 The Red Arrows will fly over the village at precisely 2.26 pm
- History of Droxford Station and its role in D-Day. Presented by Tony Williams. Droxford Church, 7pm for 7.30pm.
- Friday, June 6 Royal British Legion (Droxford & District Branch) Summer Drinks Party. Wallops Wood House.
- Saturday, June 7 Displays, re-enactment etc (see below for full details).
- Sunday, June 8 1940s Tea Dance. Droxford Village Hall, 3pm to 6pm.

Who says history is boring?

In conjunction with Droxford Country Fair, an exciting climax to the series of D-Day events will take place in and around the Parish Church on Saturday, June 7.

- Meet the D-Day leaders – Churchill, Eisenhower and de Gaulle – played by local people
- Watch them arrive in a convoy of WW2 Jeeps, trucks and a staff car to open the Fair
- Kids will love rides on carriages hauled by a LMS steam train as it puffs away from a replica of Droxford Station
- Look skywards and you'll see a flypast by a Dakota, gliders and other aircraft
- In the church, Fareham Model Railway Club will operate their 33ft long 00-gauge model of the Meon Valley Railway, there will be an exhibition of historic pictures associated with Droxford's part in D-Day and project work by children at Droxford Junior School

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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