

COPP HEROES NEWS 6

MARCH 2014

OUR LATEST NEWS ON THE COPP MEMORIAL

The latest news is that we had a meeting on Monday 3rd February at which Havant Borough Council undertook to install soakaways to ensure that in future there will be no repeat of the recent flooding around the Memorial. Following our discussions, they will extend the northern arc of the cycle path into a more generous area and install a commemorative COPP seat, for those seeking quiet contemplation of the Memorial. They will also lay a southern path extension up to the base of the mound, to give safe, easy access for close viewing.



We were most fortunate that our new associate Laurence de Mello was able to mediate and help put our case. Laurence ensured we had a meaningful dialogue with the council and achieved a solution acceptable to all. Once the council have completed their work we will do some fine tuning to the mound and shingle area to create a natural, sensitive link between the path and the Memorial.



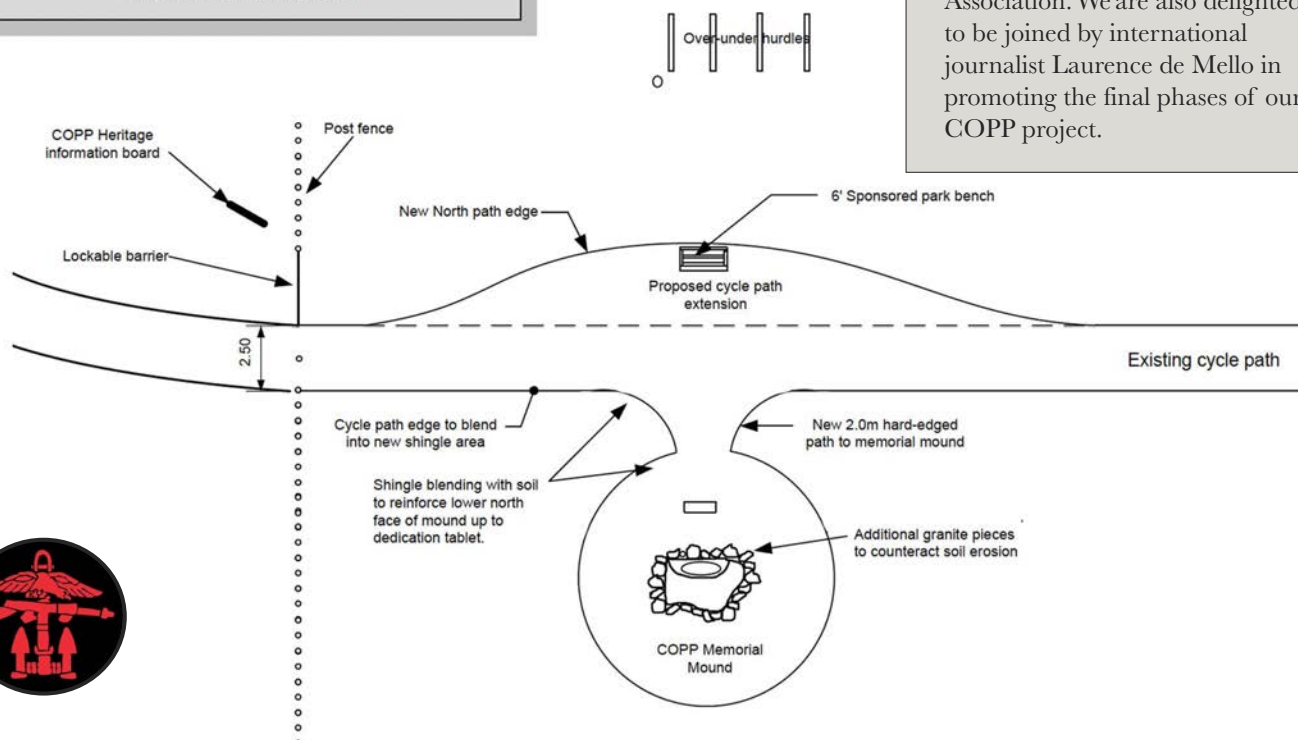
General Sir David Richards



Laurence de Mello

We are pleased to report that former CDS, General Sir David Richards has graciously agreed to take over as President of the COPP Heroes Memorial Fund Association. We are also delighted to be joined by international journalist Laurence de Mello in promoting the final phases of our COPP project.

Modifications to cycle path at the COPP Memorial Proposed 04 February 2014



We have carried out extensive maintenance work on the Memorial mound over the past six months, and our hard work has started to pay off, with considerable green growth appearing all over it. The ever generous Ian Piper has supplied a ton of granite pieces, to help consolidate the top of the mound and counteract erosion caused by water run off from the central memorial pillar.

In all of this we have been helped greatly by Hayling Golf Club and Hayling Hardware, and our own Dan Campbell, who now keeps a regular watch, filling in and patching holes left by rabbits and dogs. By May 21st this year, we are confident it will all look very good.



**WEDNESDAY
21.05.14
11.00 am**

Wednesday 21st May is the big day for our own D-Day event and to finally celebrate and commemorate the achievements of our own wonderful WWII COPP unit.

I have been in contact with 47 Regiment Royal Artillery who did such a great job for us 18 months ago, and they are very keen to help us once more on the big day. We are not yet sure of the form the event will take, but we don't want to just simply replicate the last one. However the day will clearly be very similar in format. When we have agreed our programme, I will get in touch personally with all of those most closely involved with COPP families, and the creation of the COPP Memorial, but the main thing is to mark the date.



We hope to have significant media coverage, and whatever those of you with good contacts can do to help us will be greatly appreciated. This date has been chosen, so as not to be swamped by larger national & international commemorations.

Robin Walton, March 2014

SOME VERY SAD NEWS

Since our last Newsletter we have sadly lost several of our comrades. David Owen of COPP 7 died last August, John Ainsley-Davis in November, and only a couple of weeks ago, Logan Scott-Bowden of the iconic D-Day recces, also passed away peacefully at his home in Ewelme.



David Owen



John Ainsworth-Davis



Logan Scott-Bowden

We look forward to hearing from friends old and new, who can help, or who need any further information about the event. Contact me any time on 02392 718441 or email robin@waltondesign.co.uk