

Former navy veteran says he was privileged to serve

By **RICHARD VIVIAN**
The Champion

Remembrance Day carries added meaning for those who have served their country during times of war, says Peter Berry, veteran and north Milton resident.

"It's a very different mind-set than the people today, who don't appear to be interested (in Remembrance Day)," said Mr. Berry, a retired commander in the Royal Canadian Navy.

"I wasn't alive for the First (World) War, but my father served and my uncle was decorated in

France. I grew up with an understanding of what was required to fight a war. I was very privileged to fight in the Second (World) War."

With his father having served in the Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Reserve, Mr. Berry made the decision to enlist in the navy when he came of age in 1942.

The news of his enlistment, he

said, was a shock to his parents, who had hoped he would continue his education at Queen's University. He was already enrolled when he decided the navy was a better path to take.

"But I didn't care. I went back in the fall and joined the navy. If I hadn't joined up, they probably would have been more upset."

After training at the Naval College in Halifax, Mr. Berry started down a road that would take him through 24 years of service.

His first appointment was with the destroyer HMCS Kootenay.

"I was very lucky to be appointed to a destroyer, which was a great honour," he said.



Peter Berry

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Two services are planned

A Remembrance Day service will be held at Evergreen Cemetery on Ontario Street at 11 a.m. Sunday.



Then the Remembrance Day Parade will leave the Royal Canadian Legion on Charles Street at 2 p.m. and travel to the Victoria Park cenotaph (at Town Hall) for a service there.

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