

# Thetford Dad's Army Statue Appeal



A proposal has been made for a life sized statue of Captain Mainwaring seated on a bench by the town bridge. The sketch above is an artist's impression of a proposed statue to commemorate the BBC TV programme, Dad's Army which was filmed in and around Thetford between 1968 and 1977. Drawn by a local artist, John Mayes, the location depicted is that by the town bridge situated between the Bell and Anchor hotels. These two hotels served as the home to cast and crew during their time in Thetford whilst filming. The Anchor was also the setting for the first ever scene in the first ever episode *The Man and the Hour* in 1968. The Anchor is however under threat of demolition by developers who have purchased the site. In the background, Bridge House served as the Headquarters of Thetford's own home guard in World War II.

The land for the proposed statue is owned by Breckland Council and it is hoped that this can be made available in the near future. Thetford Town Council is supportive of the proposal and it is hoped that an appeal for funds will result in the statue coming to fruition in the near future. Following the press coverage and media interest aroused, it has really put Thetford on the map. David Croft and Jimmy Perry, the show's writers, have indicated their approval for the project and Arthur Lowe's grandson has been in contact wishing to be kept up to date with progress.

If anyone wishes to support the project please make cheques payable to 'The Friends of Thetford Dad's Army Museum' and send to: Belmont House, 20 King Street, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2AP. Contact telephone number 07802 701911.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number \_\_\_\_\_