



Distinguished guests at the Lithuanian Exhibition Sworn to Never Retreat, January 2023

Sworn to Never Retreat

Exhibitions for the 32nd anniversary of the *Day of Defenders of Freedom of Lithuania*.

The exhibition is based on the photos of Lithuanian photographers, who captured the tragic events of January 13 in Lithuania 1991, and documents of the Lithuanian Supreme Council of that time.

The January events were a series of violent confrontations between the civilian population in Lithuania, supporting independence, and the Soviet Army Forces. The events took place between 11th and 13th January 1991, after the restoration of independence of Lithuania. As a result of the Soviet military actions, 14 civilians were killed and about a thousand people were injured. Currently, when we face war in the Ukraine, it is even more important to commemorate and pay tribute to the defenders of Lithuanian freedom.

Peterborough Lithuanian Community Lighthouse (Švyturys)

Two exhibitions were organised on that occasion. The first, held in the Cathedral, displayed the portraits of those killed on January 13 1991, with drawings by Peterborough Lithuanian Saturday School Gintarėlis (Amber) on the topic of *Freedom*. This exhibition will be held until 22nd of January. Revd Canon Tim Alban Jones, Vice Dean of the Cathedral, met the Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania at the Cathedral for the opening of the exhibition of the portraits.

The second - in the City Art Gallery at Peterborough Museum, it will be held until 20 of January. There are photos of the events of 13th January 1991 in Lithuania and the documents of the Lithuania Supreme Council of that time.

Guests of Honour

Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania in UK, London, Mr. Eitvydas Bajarūnas came to the launch of this exhibition as well as the MP Mr Paul Bristow, Mayor of Peterborough Mr Alan Dowson, Deputy Mayor Mr Nick Sandford and Deputy Mayoress Alderman Bella Saltmarsh, Leader of Peterborough City Council Mr Wayne Fitzgerald, other Councillors, PCC Community Cohesion Officer Esther Baffa - Isaacs, leaders of the communities of Peterborough and other honourable guests.

The Price of Freedom

Dr Darius Furmonavicius, author of monographs *Lithuania Rejoins Europe* and *Lithuania Transforms the West*, political scientist and historian, made a presentation on the topic "Price of Freedom". The event ended with a screening of the film *January 13th*, created by Lithuanian Film Studio Apropos. The organiser of the exhibitions - Peterborough Lithuanian Community Švyturys (Lighthouse) is chaired by Judita Grublienė.

Exhibition Partners and supporters

Department of Historical Parliamentarism of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, Chair of the World Lithuanians Parliament Dalia Asanavičiūtė, Lithuanian National Museum, the Chief State Archive of Lithuania, Lithuania Film Studio Apropos, Community of Lithuanian Catholics in UK, Nottingham, Židinys (Fireplace), Peterborough Museum and City Art Gallery, Peterborough Cathedral, PCC, Peterborough Lithuanian Saturday School Gintarėlis (Amber), Peterborough Lithuanians Business, Hereward Community Radio and volunteers. Photography - Vitalė Soul Photography.