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Further information on Admiral Sir Bertram Home Ramsay is available in Wikipedia ([here](#))

## **Borders museum planned for the man who masterminded the Dunkirk evacuations**

Admiral Bertram Home Ramsay not only commanded Operation Dynamo, which rescued more than 338,000 Allied soldiers in 1940, but he was also heavily involved in the D-Day landings four years later.

Now a museum is to be created in the grounds of his home at Bughtrig House, near Coldstream. A memorial garden is open to the public between June and September ([here](#)).

A statue in his honour already stands in Kent.

But Admiral Ramsay's legacy will now be fully celebrated with the conversion of a garden store within the grounds of Bughtrig.

His grandson William Ramsay is one of the trustees of the charity set up to run the museum. William said: "On August 24, 1939, Vice-Admiral Bertram Ramsay was appointed Flag Officer Dover.

"Having served as part of the Dover Patrol in WW1, he knew the Channel well.

"Shortly after his arrival in Dover he wrote to his wife, my grandmother, that he 'had no stationary, books, typists or machines ... maddening communications, and nothing but long retired officers or volunteers'.

"Eight months later, 845 vessels - including over 500 civilian boats - that he had assembled, in the nine-day Dunkirk evacuation rescued a third of a million British and French soldiers."

Born in London in 1883, Bertram Ramsay became a midshipman in the Royal Navy in 1899 and commanded a destroyer in World War One.

He became a rear admiral in 1935 and retired as a vice-admiral in 1938.

During this time the Ramsay family estate was acquired just outside Coldstream.

The 18th century manor house is set in picturesque grounds close to the English border.

When war broke out again in 1939 Bertram Ramsay was made flag officer at Dover and in 1940 he was put in charge of organising the evacuation from Dunkirk.

He was knighted for his part in the successful evacuation.

By 1943 he was appointed naval commander in chief for Operation Overlord, the projected Allied invasion of northern France.

And he was also promoted to the position of Admiral.

The ships under his command landed one million Allied troops over a one-month period from D-Day in June 1944.

Grandson William said: "Skipping four years on, it was fitting that he was chosen to send the Allies back to France in 1944, after bringing them back in 1940.

"For the Normandy Landings, he led the largest amphibious operation the world had ever seen, and probably will ever see, with 4,126 vessels which on D-Day and the subsequent eight days landed half a million men and 77,000 vehicles."

Bertram Ramsay was killed in a plane crash at the start of 1945 on his way to meet Field Marshal Montgomery in Brussels.

While Admiral Ramsay's name may not be as well known as many of the other military leaders from the world wars, it is hoped that the new museum in the Borders will give him the prominence he deserves.

The conversion proposals, which were given the green light last week by Scottish Borders Council, will see the garden store converted into the museum with a letting bedroom created on the first floor.

The aims of the museum are to highlight the two great naval operations which Admiral Ramsay led, the Dunkirk evacuation and The D-day Landings, as well as his wider life and career.

It will also provide information on the impact World War II had on the surrounding Berwickshire area.

The Admiral Ramsay Museum, which will sit close a current memorial garden dedicated to Admiral Ramsay, will be managed by five trustees, which includes family members.