



email: [honsec@sry.org.uk](mailto:honsec@sry.org.uk)

## THE SHERWOOD RANGERS YEOMANRY REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

From: Capt MA Elliott  
Hon Secretary

26<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Member,

### AGM and ANNUAL DINNER - Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019

This year's Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at 6.30 for 7.00pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at the Army Reserve Centre, Carlton, by kind permission of the Squadron Leader, Major Simon Hallsworth.

The cost of the Dinner will be £28 per person to include wine and port. The South Notts Hussars Band will play during the meal. Full details are enclosed on a separate sheet. I hope that as many members as possible will attend. Please apply to me (or to the SSM if you are a serving member) in good time. If you apply to me please use the correct form (attached). We will always try to accommodate latecomers but if a large number of people turn up at the last minute it makes life very difficult for the organisers.

Guests are welcome at the dinner but must be connected with the SRY or other regiments.

Serving members of A Sqn should, as usual, obtain their dinner tickets from the Squadron. However, if you put your name on the Squadron list, please do not order a ticket from me as well or you will have to pay twice.

Display Board. At the dinner we plan to have a pop-up photo display for photos of the SRY through the years so please bring along pictures of your service for the display.

Raffle. At the Dinner, we shall again be holding a raffle and any donations of prizes will be gratefully received. Last year's raffle collected £204 and I am most grateful to all who contributed.

As last year, I am sending some of these newsletters by email, especially to members living abroad where the cost of postage is becoming prohibitive, and also to some in the UK for whom we only have email details. I apologise if, due to our incomplete records, some people get it twice. At least the electronic version has the photos in colour which is unfortunately too expensive for the printed copies.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held immediately before the dinner at 6.00pm. The Agenda and a copy of the Minutes of the last meeting are enclosed. The Accounts will be presented at the meeting.

Col Hunt and Brig Browne both retired as Trustees at the last AGM. Brig Browne joined the SRY in 1961 and Col Hunt joined from the Yorkshire Yeomanry at the time of the TA reorganisation in 1967. We are grateful to them both for their long and distinguished service.

Brig Browne will continue as President but Col Hunt also retired as Chairman of the Association. Maj Adrian Charman was elected in his place.

## HONORARY COLONEL

Col Murray Colville retired as Honorary Colonel in September 2018 and we are grateful to him for all that he has done for the Regiment over many years. He is succeeded by Maj Mark Smith.

## OBITUARIES

I am sorry to have to report the deaths since my last circular of a number of members as follows:

Mr R Backhouse 17/21L	-		Mr G Chadburn	-	
Mr FP Bacon MBE	-	Derby	Mr CHL Harris	-	Nottingham
Mr C Bingham	-	Nottingham	Mr RM Smith	-	Nottingham
Mr J Birchmore	-				

## REPORTS FROM THE BRANCHES

I attach reports from the Midlands and Arnold Branches describing their activities during the past year.

## YEOMANRY DAY SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2018

Yeomanry Day was held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August at Carlton. It was an extremely successful occasion with over 1,000 visitors attending and did much to increase the profile of the Regiment in the local community. Our thanks to the organising Committee and all involved from the Association and the Sqn. We are particularly grateful to those who organised the display of historic vehicles, including a Honey tank as used by the SRY recce troop in WW2, to the Museum volunteers and to Karl McDermott for his historic photo display.







Back to the 1970s with the Walkers



Capt Stone looking pensive



Alan Slater takes a team photo



WW2 Dingo and Stuart (Honey) tank

## DEDICATION OF THE SRY MEMORIAL AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

The new SRY memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum was unveiled on 29<sup>th</sup> September by Sir John Peace, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, in the presence of the serving squadron, members of the Regimental Association, their families and other friends of the Sherwood Rangers. We were particularly privileged to be joined by Capt Stan Perry who served in B Sqn SRY in 1944, his daughter and the families of many others who served during the War but are no longer alive to celebrate with us.



The Lord-Lieutenant unveiling the Memorial





A (SRY) Sqn marching past.....



...followed by the Old and Bold



The ceremony was followed by a parade with the salute taken by the Lord-Lieutenant and a most convivial lunch. The sun shone and the whole event was a great success. We are grateful to all who were involved in the organisation of this highly successful event, including Col Smith, Mr Alan Slater, Maj Hallsworth, Capt Stone, SSM Fleetwood and to all who took part in the parade.

### THE WHITE UNIFORMS

We were honoured to have with us at the NMA ceremony Sir Nicholas White Bt, his son Christopher and their wives. Their ancestor Thomas Woollaston White of Wallingwells joined the Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Cavalry in 1795 (the year after it was formed) and the family played a large part in the Regiment for many years thereafter. In 1798, when a French invasion was thought to be imminent, he raised, clothed and armed a regiment of infantry volunteers in the north of the county, entirely at his own expense. When George III heard of this, he said that this undertaking was too heavy a cost for a private gentleman to bear and offered to pay half from his privy purse. Mr White declined the King's offer, saying that he considered it the duty of every loyal gentleman to assist to the utmost of his means at such a crisis. In response, the King created him a baronet in 1802.

Some years later, his son, also Sir Thomas, received a communication from the government saying that they understood that he had a quantity of arms and accoutrements which, as government property he was required to give up. He declined, saying that they were his own property, having been provided by his father for the militia. The authorities refused to believe that a private gentleman could have done such thing and sent an officer to investigate. Sir Thomas refused to discuss the matter and sent him away empty-handed.



At about this time, the second Sir Thomas, as well as being Lt Colonel of the Nottinghamshire Militia, was also Lt Colonel of the Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Cavalry. In 1826 the Nottinghamshire Yeomanry split into two. The Nottingham Troops formed themselves into a separate regiment which later became known as the South Notts Hussars (now C (SNH) Troop 210 Bty 103 Regt RA). The County Troops incorporated former members of Sir Thomas's regiment and, in 1828, adopted its name, calling themselves the Sherwood Rangers. From the same source they took the colours of rifle green and gold and the badge of a horn and lanyard, both of which are more usually associated with light infantry than with cavalry.

For some time we have had on loan to the Museum many valuable uniforms of the period from the Whites' collection. However, they are all valuable historical items which require specialised conservation and storage and we do not have space to display more than a few of them. It was therefore agreed, at the family's request, that we should return the bulk of the collection and the family generously agreed to allow us to buy at, a very advantageous price, those items of particular significance to us which will continue on display at Thoresby. We are most grateful to the Whites for their generous support over the years and for making it possible for us to secure these precious items for our collection in this way.



The White Uniforms on display at the NMA Ceremony



The Mansfield Standard - the first to include the Horn & Lanyard and the name Sherwood Rangers - presented by Lady White in 1840

## NORMANDY JUNE 2018

Last year's tour to Normandy started with a ceremony at our memorial at Gold Beach followed by a *vin d'honneur* with Mayor Scribe and his colleagues at Asnelles. The weather was stormy as last year (and as 1944).



Another stormy day at Gold Beach



The Mayor of Asnelles



On 7<sup>th</sup> June, we held the usual remembrance ceremony at Bayeux museum which was well attended by local people as always. As in recent years, the schoolchildren laid flowers on the memorials after the wreaths were laid.



Before the Ceremony at Bayeux



With the Mayor and the Sous-Prefet



Maj Charman laying a Wreath



SRV Memorial with flowers laid by the schoolchildren

In the afternoon we continued to Tilly cemetery and then to the ceremonies at H lie Farm at St Pierre and Tilly Museum where, as always, we laid a wreath on the civilian memorial in memory of the many French civilians who were killed and wounded in the fighting.



Jean-Pierre Benamou and the Mayor at St Pierre



The Civilian Memorial and Museum at Tilly

Our thanks to all that helped to organise the trip, particularly to the Mayor Scribe at Asnelles , Jean-Pierre Benamou, St phane Jacquet, the Mayors of Asnelles, Bayeux and Tilly and all our friends in Normandy for their assistance and their usual warm welcome.



## FUTURE OVERSEAS TOURS

### Normandy June 2019

2019 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day. The new British D Day Memorial at Vers-sur-Mer (at the eastern end of Gold Beach) is still under construction and we are waiting to hear exactly what is being planned in the way of a ceremony there. However, there will be a major event at Bayeux Cemetery on 6<sup>th</sup> June as in 2004 and 2014.

The Royal Yeomanry will be there in force as the regiment will be moving to Normandy for the final days of its annual camp, to include battlefield tours and participation in, amongst others, the Bayeux cemetery ceremony.

Our plans on behalf of the Association include a ceremony at Gold Beach on 6<sup>th</sup> June and at Bayeux, St Pierre and Tilly on the 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are interesting in participating, please let me know.

### Geel September 2019

This year, we have been invited to attend the commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Geel in September 2019. The Arnold Branch is organising a trip which will also include Nijmegen and Arnhem. Please contact Chris Walker ([arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk](mailto:arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk)) for details.

### Borne 2020

Thanks to the efforts of our good friends Hans Pol and Wim Geul in Hengelo, there is a project to name a street after the Sherwood Rangers in the nearby town of Borne. The naming ceremony is likely to be held in 2020. Details to follow in due course.

## VERNON

Last year I was contacted by someone with no previous knowledge of the SRY who had visited Vernon on a Seine river cruise. He told me that while there, he noticed a ceremony being held on the river bank and sent me some photographs. Apparently, this is held at the 43rd (Wessex) Div and SRY memorials every year on the anniversary of the battle.



Ceremony at the SRY Memorial at Vernon in August 2018

I hope that one day we shall be able to visit Vernon again and take part in the commemoration.

## FLESSELLES

Four days after the SRY crossed the Seine at Vernon, they were advancing rapidly north of Amiens when a section of the Recce Troop (which was acting as a flank guard) under Sgt Cribben was ambushed in the village of Flesselles a few miles west of the main axis. Sgt Cribben's tank was knocked out by a tank hidden near the railway station and he and Tpr Sharpe were killed. Elements of B Sqn and infantry from C Coy 12/60 KRRC (the 8<sup>th</sup> Armoured Brigade's mechanised infantry battalion) were sent to deal with the Germans in the village while the advance continued to Doullens.

When Padre Skinner came back from Doullens the next day to look for the casualties, he found that the Germans had re-occupied the village and he was forced to watch from the Presbytery window while the local priest and some of his congregation buried the bodies in the village cemetery in full view of a German tank parked nearby. Having taken all the details, Skinner made his escape and returned safely to the Regiment. The full story of his adventures that day, and their consequences, are to be found in his diary *The Man who Worked on Sundays*. This is now out of print but a new edition in preparation and should be available from the usual sources in two or three months.

There is a third British grave in the cemetery at Flesselles, that of a Rifleman Harold Ruffell of 12/60 KRRC. He was killed on the same day (presumably with the relieving force from B Sqn) and I was recently contacted by his nephew who has made several visits to Flesselles. He has also located the exact spots where the various casualties were killed (which are now marked by memorials placed by the local people) and attended the annual ceremonies which the villagers hold at the memorials.



The graves in the Village Cemetery – the late Capt David Render looking on during a visit in 2015



The old Railway Station where the German tank that knocked out Sgt Cribbens' tank was hidden



The Memorial to Sgt Cribben & Tpr Sharpe



The final casualty at Flesselles that day was Tpr Flaherty of B Sqn who was wounded with the B Sqn relieving force. He was taken away by the infantry and later died of his wounds. He is buried in the British cemetery at Longueval (Somme).

I have been in touch with my correspondent's contact in Flesselles and, needless to say, we would be made very welcome if we were one day able to visit.

### CAVALRY MEMORIAL PARADE - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019

This year the Cavalry Memorial Parade will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May in Hyde Park and I hope that the Regiment will be well represented. The Arnold Branch will be organising a coach from Nottingham with lunch at Bushey on the way home. If you would like more details of this, please contact the Branch Secretary Capt Alan Brooks at [arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk](mailto:arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk).

The RY will also be organising the usual lunch after the parade. I do not have any more details at the moment but, if you would like to attend, please let me know as soon as possible, preferably by email to the address at the head of this letter, and I will give you the details when received.

Here are some photos of last year's parade:



The RY Band



## WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

The Regiment was represented at the Annual Field of Remembrance organised by the Royal British Legion at Westminster Abbey. Prince Harry officiated and Maureen Hutchinson, whose father was killed in Germany in March 1945, was our representative at the head of the plot. My thanks to all who came and to Capt Robinson for placing the crosses.

This year the ceremony will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November. For security reasons, tickets are required. So, if you would like to attend, please let me know by the beginning of September.



Jan Andrews, Col Smith, Sheila Powell, the Secretary and Dan Powell



Remembering their Fathers (at the SRY Plot)



Prince Harry inspecting the Plots



## REMEMBRANCE DAY 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

As usual, the Squadron paraded in Newark on Remembrance Day. Afterwards, all gathered for a curry lunch at Carlton.



Tpr Sam Fallows laying a Wreath



Marching past in the Market Square

The people of Newark always turn out in force to see “their” regiment. It was good to see a good turnout by retired members this year and I hope that, in future, more will come and join the parade to support the Squadron.

## A (SRY) Squadron THE ROYAL YEOMANRY

I am indebted to the Sqn Leader Maj Simon Hallsworth for the following report on the recent activities of the Squadron:

It has been a busy Training year for A Sqn so far. We started back in April with the Regimental Troop Tests where the Sqn naturally took the trophy for Best Mounted Troop. In May we conducted some WMIK Driver and Commander training as well as heading down to London for Creative Mind and Cavalry Memorial Parade. June saw the Sqn deploy to STANTA, in preparation for the Regimental FTX in July where the Regiment deployed to Salisbury Plain and conducted a Regimental level Screen prior to a Raid on a bridge over the river Berril.

We also got the news in the summer that the Regiment would be converting from Land Rover WMIK to Jackal in 2018 and 19. A positive move Jackal is a significantly more capable vehicle which crucially is also used by our Regular counterparts enhancing interoperability immeasurably. This meant that the focus of the rest of the Training Year would be changing to Jackal training as quickly as possible.

A Sqn naturally took the lead in this, organising a course with the SAS training up 22 drivers and commanders from across the Regiment in August. The Courses Camp in September was the next step, with Gunners being trained on both HMG and GPMG firing from the Jackal and Drivers getting their Category C licences.

In October we took a break from Jackal conversion to deploy dismounted to STANTA for an Urban Warfare exercise, the newest version of the TES kit and a living enemy from the RDG allowed us to make the exercise a challenge at all levels and develop the SOPs for Light Cavalry operating in this environment. November saw the Sqn head up to Newark for Remembrance Day, especially poignant on *the* 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice.

The Sqn took a bit of breather in December but still managed to organise not only a Christmas Party but also a charity event. This event picked up 74 homeless people and provided them with showers, medical checks, haircuts, foot care, new clothes and a Christmas Dinner before dropping them back off in Nottingham.

With 2019 we focus back on to Jackal Conversion, with a second Courses Camp taking place in January and February, the Sqn we also be running a Regimental Potential NCO Cadre over this time. All of this training will culminate in May and June with Ex Yeoman Overlord a two week long Regimental exercise on Salisbury Plain and Normandy.

Maj Simon Hallsworth  
OC A(SRY) Sqn RY



The new Jackal Vehicle



On the Ranges with Jackal



A(SRY) Sqn RY at the SRY Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum



## OTHER EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2019

D Day Exhibition at Thoresby. The Thoresby Museum plans to hold a D Day exhibition to be combined with Armed Forces Day at the end of June. The South Notts Hussars, Royal Lancers, Sherwood Foresters and Sherwood Rangers will all have their individual stalls and displays on show.

Guidon Laying-up Parade. A parade to lay up the SRY Guidon is planned be held in Newark some time in the autumn of 2019. The date will be announced in due course

UNICORNS – the Play. A new play *Unicorns* has been written about the life of Capt Keith Douglas, the poet, artist and author of *Alamein to ZemZem*, who was killed in action at Tilly three days after D Day. It was performed at the Hay-on-Wye Festival last year and was a great success. Col Colville, and others went to see it and we helped the organisers with materials to exhibit about Douglas and the SRY. It is hoped to arrange further performances in 2019, including possibly at Thoresby or near Nottingham. Details will be circulated if anything transpires.

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM AT THORESBY

The Thoresby museum has had another good year with record attendance and several successful events both for Friends and the public. If you are near and have not seen it, you should definitely go. See also the website at: [www.qrlnymuseum.co.uk](http://www.qrlnymuseum.co.uk)

It would be impossible to run such a museum without the assistance of our loyal and hard-working volunteers and we are grateful to all who have stepped forward to assist in this way.

WE URGENTLY NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP KEEP THE MUSEUM OPEN. The ability to staff the Museum is the main constraint on opening times and we need more volunteers to allow us to meet our objectives in this regard so, if you would like to volunteer, please let me know.

I would also urge those who have not already done so to join as a Friend and support the Museum while taking advantage of the benefits and activities arranged for Friends. To join, please contact:

[curator@qrlnymuseum.co.uk](mailto:curator@qrlnymuseum.co.uk)

## ITEMS FOR SALE

I enclose a list of books, ties, buttons and other items for sale together with details of how to order by post. Please send your order to the address on the form and not to me. As usual, these items will also be available at the Dinner.

## WELFARE

I should like to remind you that I rely entirely on members to keep me informed about other members, particularly those in need, so, if you know of someone who needs help or a visit, please inform me or one of the Branch representatives and we will do what we can to assist them, either practically or financially. I am sure that I speak for all members in saying that we continue to be most grateful for all the work done by Don Brown and others in visiting and supporting our less fortunate comrades.

## WIDOWS' FUND

Thanks to the generosity of members, the Widows' Fund had another successful year. We distributed £1,880 in the form of gift vouchers worth £40 to each of 47 widows at Christmas. I received numerous letters of sincere thanks from recipients and there is no doubt that this effort is appreciated. What is most important is that the widows know that they are not forgotten.

I would like to thank all those who made donations to the Fund, large or small.

## TAX RELIEF ON DONATIONS

As a registered charity, the Association can claim tax relief on the amount of any donation, however small, provided the donor signs a declaration that tax has been paid on the amount given. This also applies to donations to the Widows' Fund (see above). Hence, if you are a taxpayer and have not already signed such a declaration, please complete and sign the declaration on the proforma which will allow us to reclaim tax on any donation that you may make now or in the future.

## FINALLY

Please also let me know when you move so that I can keep my address list up-to-date. It is difficult to keep track of everybody. Last year the circulars addressed to the following were returned:

Mr Badcott	- Nottingham	Capt NG Hubbard	- London
Mr R Bradder	- Nottingham	Mr GE Jones	- Berlin
Mr EW Bramwell	- Ilkeston	Mr Kummer	- Nottingham
Maj CW Bridgeford MC	- Aurora, Ontario	Mr H Langsdale	- Nottingham
Mr R Brocklehurst	- High Peak	Mr P Leversuch	- London
Mr ES Corthorn	- Nottingham	Maj TSD Lyle RL	-
Mr GW Croxton	- Launceston	Capt RLW Marsh	- Hurley
Mr D Falkner	- Nottingham	Mr FC Martin	- Crawley
Mr R Fletcher	- Nottingham	SA Nelson Lucas Esq	- Milton Keynes
Mr G Froggat	- Ilkeston	Capt P Ross	- Nottingham
Mr H Gauntlett	- Thornton Heath	S Round Esq	- Bridgenorth
Mr AF Gibbons	- Mansfield	Mr D Smith	- Nottingham
Mr Grice	- Nottingham	Mr JS Tarling	- Bristol
Mr Hansford	- Nottingham	Mr P Torrington	- Nottingham
Mr WD Harris	- Edgeware	Mr A Watson	- Retford
Mr Haystead	- Grantham	Mr CS Watts	- Nottingham
Mr J Holt	- Rainworth	Mr D West	- Leicester

If you have any news of them or of anyone who did not receive this circular, please let me know.

My thanks to all who have contributed to this newsletter, particularly to Mrs Secretary, Mrs Ann Barrow, Mrs Sue Hunt, Dan Powell and all the others who have supplied me with photographs. Also to John Maltby and all those that helped to organise the Dinner last year, the Committees of the Midlands and Arnold Branches and to Maj Simon Hallsworth, SSM Robert Fleetwood and Capt Karl Stone at Carlton for their support throughout the year.

I look forward to seeing as many of possible of you at the Dinner and at other events during the year.

Yours sincerely,

*Mike Elliott*



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Carlton at 6.00pm on Saturday 13th April 2019. The Agenda will be as follows:

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Apologies                       | 5. Officers and Trustees     |
| 2. Minutes of last AGM             | 6. Reports from the Branches |
| 3. Matters Arising                 | 7. Welfare Matters           |
| 4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts | 8. Any Other Business        |

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHERWOOD RANGERS YEOMANRY REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT CARLTON ON 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2018

Present: Col Hunt (Chairman), Maj Cornish (Treasurer), Capt Elliott (Secretary) and 27 other members

1. Apologies for Absence - Received from 10 members
2. Minutes of last AGM - The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
3. Matters Arising - None
4. Treasurer's Report

Maj Cornish presented the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017 which had been approved by the Trustees in their meeting just finished. These showed net outgoing resources of £1,294. The incoming resources under Projects included a donation from the Render family for the le Hamel plaque. He also pointed out that the Widow's Fund had now had a balance of £4,614, largely as a result of the collection taken at Capt Render's funeral. However as the latter had been the main contributor to the fund with the proceeds of his lectures and book sales, other sources of funds would have to be found to sustain the fund in the future.

The accounts were approved, proposed by Maj Charman and seconded by Maj Charlton-Jones. Powell.

5. Officers and Trustees

Maj Charman was elected to succeed Col Hunt as Chairman of the Association, proposed by Brig Browne and seconded by Col Hunt.

Maj Charman proposed a vote of thank to Col Hunt for his long service as Chairman and this was carried unanimously.

Capt Elliott reported Maj Marsh had succeeded Brig Browne as a Trustee and that Maj Charman, as Chairman, becomes a Trustee *ex-officio*. Also that the new SSM, WO2 Fleetwood, had succeeded WO2 Mudd and Cpl Nicholson had succeeded Cpl Hann as Sqn Trustees *ex-officio*.

6. Reports from the Branches

Capt Brooks reported on the activities of the Arnold Branch which continued to be well supported.

Mr Higton reported that the Midlands Branch had had another successful year and referred to the annual report which had been circulated to members.

Col Hunt thanked both branches for the support that they had given to the Association and the Sqn.

#### 7. Welfare

Mr DHF Brown reported on his work in visiting and supporting our less fortunate members. Col Hunt thanked him for all his efforts on behalf of the Association.

#### 9. Any Other Business

Maj Smith reported that ceremony for the dedication of the new memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> September and a major event was planned. All would be welcome. The cost would be £20 per head to cover the cost of catering for the reception following the ceremony.

Capt Elliott thanked Mr Maltby and all those that had helped in organising the Dinner.

Col Hunt thanked the members for their support during his time as Chairman. It had been an honour to be Chairman and he wished the Association all the best for the future.

MAE

29 May 2018

### **MIDLANDS BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2018**

I am pleased to report that the Branch has had a very good year. I am also pleased to report that the branch is in a goods financial position due to the concerted efforts of Val Richards our Treasurer, along with the continued support from the Branch Committee, and Membership.

New members are always welcome. All ex members of the SRY, serving members or ex members of the RY, or if you were, or are attached to either, or were or are affiliated to the SRY, you are automatically a member of the Midlands Branch by right. We will always be pleased to see you at our monthly meetings, which are held on the fourth Wednesday each month at the TA Centre Carlton, by kind permission of the Squadron Leader Major Simon Hallsworth. Please remember to let us know your full address and telephone number, so that we can keep you informed of our Branch activities.

We have had a busy year beginning with The Regimental OCA Annual dinner which took place on 21st April 2018. It was the evening that Col. Jonathan Hunt retired as President of the Association, he was presented with 2 Saladin armoured car models in appreciation of his service. Major Adrian Charman was introduced to everyone, he will be taking over from Colonel Hunt. A presentation was also made to Chris Woodward of a Comet tank, for his long and much valued service as the Midlands Branch Treasurer . Our thanks go to John our Midlands Branch Chairman, and his team for all of their hard work in organising this event.

#### SRY OCA Midlands Branch Outing to the NMA on 14th August 2018

On Tuesday 14th August 20 members of the Midlands Branch visited the National Memorial Arboretum. The day included a tour of the Arboretum, talks from the NMA staff, an exhibition and a film presentation. Our thanks go to Brian Brown for organising the day, also to John and Val for their help.



### SRY NMA Memorial Parade on 29th September 2018

15 members of the SRY OCA Midlands Branch along attended the dedication of the SRY memorial at the NMA. The Branch had decided not to march, but to form a Guard of Honour. The parade marched to the band of the Royal Yeomanry,

The welcome and Introduction was delivered by Colonel RML Colville, and the unveiling of the memorial was carried out by Sir John Peace the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire.

All agreed that it had been a very good day, and, we congratulate the organisers. The new SRY Memorial is indeed a fitting memorial to the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry

### SRY Midlands Branch outing to Bournemouth 5th to 8th October 2018

28 members of the SRY Midlands Branch, took part in our annual trip to Bournemouth and we were delighted to be joined by our President Mr. Derek Cooper and his wife Pam. Spirits were high with the 4 day break to look forward to, our driver Alan Atkinson ensuring our safe arrival at the Tower House Hotel Bournemouth. We were then delighted to be joined by David and Celia Clarke the last of the Southern Branch members, who shared the weekend with us.

Saturday morning found that the weather had deteriorated, with wind and rain, so it was decided that we would have our bus trip out on the Sunday when the weather was forecast to be much better. So with our free day in Bournemouth everyone did their own thing with some making the short walk into Bournemouth to explore the shops, and other watering holes, with some visiting the Russell-Cotes House museum, and Art Gallery. Saturday night was one of the highlights of the weekend with our formal dinner when we were joined by Mike Freeman our Newsletter Editor, and Damian Brown, After dinner, we enjoyed our entertainment, a local lady named Claire Timms, and a good night was had by all.

On Sunday we enjoyed an outing to Weymouth and another superb meal I the evening followed by more musical entertainment. I am sure I speak for all when I give a big thank you to John our Chairman, Alan our driver, Val, and Brian making this such a brilliant week end.

### Remembrance parade

The Remembrance parade took place as usual in Newark on Sunday 11th November, sadly due to health issues, and other commitments, few Branch members were on parade

### Vale Social Club

On 19th January 2019 the Branch had our annual social at the Vale Social Club, Colwick, and with 46 people attending it was another great success.

Our AGM will be held on the 27th February 2019 at Carlton ARC, followed by our normal Branch meeting.

The Branch voted for a 3 year committee tenure at the 2016 AGM. Anticipated committee after 27th Feb AGM:

Chairman	Mr. John Maltby
Vice Chairman	Mr. David Dobbins
Secretary	Mr. Tony Higon
Treasurer	Mrs Val Richards
Welfare Visitor	Mr. Don Brown
Newsletter Editor	Mr. Mike Freeman
Events Co-ordinator	Mr. Brian Brown

On the Welfare side, if you are aware of anyone who has passed away, is suffering, or in need, please contact Donald Brown or any committee member. The Midlands Branch has always had special

interest in the welfare of the Association members and widows, and we actively support the widow's fund.

I finish this report on a sad note by reporting the sad passing Bill Haywood a long time Midlands Branch Member.

Tony Higton,  
Midlands Branch Secretary

### **ARNOLD BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2018**

The Branch goes from strength to strength with meetings every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Mapperley golf club. We average 20 members per meeting all of which are Sherwood Rangers or ex PSI's. We are extremely grateful to the Club Captain and his committee for hosting us. Melvyn Mawer our chairman keeps us on the straight and narrow whilst Captain Gren Turner continues to cook our books accurately. Chris Walker and Martin Kerry continue organising our functions and outings with help from Lee Walker and Marc Hallam.

We went on the 29th March to see our new association flag being manufactured - an idea from Chris Walker. On the branch viewing the flag Colonel Jonathan requested he pay for it as his leaving gift to the regimental association as he left post as our chairman after many, many years' service. After much pressure from Colonel Jonathan Melvyn agreed, and the Colonel generously bought the flag.

On Saturday 7th April we held a buffet disco proceeds from which help fund Cavalry Memorial trip. The 11th April we attended the Tank talk at the drill hall, whilst on the 21st April the branch took part in the regimental dinner again at Carlton we are most grateful for our serving sqn hosting this important regimental event.

On May 13th we travelled to London to take part in Cavalry Memorial parade at Hyde Park along with the Sqn and called in at Bushey on return journey for refreshments.

On Saturday 2nd of June we attended the Knightsbridge and Normandy Landings dinner hosted by the SNH at Bulwell ARC. Despite recent restrictions on opening times by the military the newly formed gun troop at Bulwell managed to take the function into the early hours. On Thursday the 28th Alan Lindley took our new Association Flag to the Armed forces day Flag raising at Arnold Gedling Borough Council House.

Lee Walker organised a branch day trip to Alrewas NMA and then the RAF Cosford air museum branch members travelled by private car and enjoyed a great day out.

11th August saw the branch along with our serving sqn organise Yeomanry Day an idea we stole from the QOY. The ARC was fully open to the public with many stands, including lots of different real history enthusiasts who were very well organised by Alan Slater. We had a Stuart tank, and a Fox armoured car both of which were runners and lots of re-enactors in uniform. Our sqn put on several stands and were joined by the re-established gun troop from Bulwell ARC with a light gun. The footfall for the day was very high, although recruiting was the main aim it put our sqn back on the map in the local area. The open day finished at 1600 and at 2000 we had a disco dance in the drill hall which was also very successful.

On September the 2nd Lee Walker organised a trip to the Leicester victory show for the branch. On September 29th we travelled to Alrewas NMA to unveil our splendid new memorial we enjoyed a short parade under the SSM. Our new flag was carried by Alan Lindley the memorial was unveiled



by the Lord-Lieutenant. We then enjoyed a smashing reception with old friends and as ever many rangers were the last to leave, in fact the last six left by golf cart to the car park.

In October 12th to 14th Martin Kerry organised a trip to Ypres and the Menin Gate ceremony where our new Association Flag was on parade again this time carried by Pete Bollands. Saturday 27th saw us celebrating El Alamein with a black tie dinner at the golf club which was well attended and enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Chris Walker for organising the evening so successfully.

November was a very busy month for the branch on Thursday 8th we attended the remembrance football games where the British army played the German army. In the morning Martin Kerry took a large party of school children from Carlton Central School to support the women's team at County ground. In the evening we attended the men's game at the Forest ground. Friday 9th November the branch attended Central school along with the serving sqn to take part in a remembrance service. September 10th saw the branch at Gedling Borough Council house in Arnold, where branch members took part in a static display with our Vickers machine gun. Thank you to Martin for organising the day and Chris Walker, Alan Lindley, and Melvyn for supporting the event. In the evening 16 members of the branch attended the SNH remembrance dinner which was very special occasion, we were joined by Colonel Mark our new honorary Colonel. On the Sunday morning the 11th November the branch paraded at Newark with the sqn and then returned for a hot buffet in the sgts mess at Carlton many thanks to the sqn for the lunch. Sunday 18th of November saw the ranch attend Mapperley Top to be part of the RBL remembrance parade. Our flag was carried by Alan Lindley and Derek Extall laid our wreath expertly. After the parade we retired to Weatherspoon's for refreshments. Our planned disco buffet on December 1st was cancelled due to lack of numbers.

All in all a very busy year for Arnold Branch, thank you to all our members, the sqn and our association for assisting us.

The Branch does not send out a printed newsletter but we have built an email distribution list of 86 members to which anyone can be added by contacting me by email at [arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk](mailto:arnoldbranch@sry.org.uk)

Capt Alan Brooks  
Honorary Secretary, Arnold Branch