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THE SHERWOOD RANGERS YEOMANRY REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

From: Capt MA Elliott
Hon Secretary

TA Centre
Cavendish Drive
Carlton
Nottingham NG4 3DX
15th March 2013

Dear Member,

AGM and ANNUAL DINNER - Saturday 27th April 2013

This year's Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at 6.30 for 7.00pm on Saturday 27th April at the TA Centre, Carlton, by kind permission of the Squadron Leader, Major Rupert Marsh.

The cost of the Dinner will be £16-00 per person and 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.

Free Tickets. Free tickets are available to those members over 65 who are in genuinely reduced circumstances and who would not otherwise be able to attend. If you are in this situation and cannot afford a ticket I still hope that you will come - please sign the declaration on the application form and I will send you a free one.

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

At the Dinner, we shall again be holding a raffle and any donations of prizes will be gratefully received. Last year's raffle collected £130 and I am most grateful to all who contributed.

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.

OBITUARIES

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

Lt Col CB Allen TD DL	- Southwell	JR Henson Esq	- Brant Broughton
Maj PDC Allen TD	- Southwell	Mr EE Mayo	- Peacehaven
Mr G Bagshaw	- Nottingham	Mr CW Pollard	- Stamford
Mr F Foss	- Mablethorpe	Mr J Pulley	- Derby
Mr JA Haalmeijer	- Groesbeek	Mr G Skelton	- Retford
Mr AJ Hackett	- Halesowen	Maj T Wright	- Bakewell
Mr HL Havard	- Southport		

Lt Col CB Allen and Maj PDC Allen

Lt Col Christopher and Maj Peter Allen, two of the four Allen brothers who served with the Regiment in the 1950s and 1960s, both died during the year. Christopher died last July aged 78 and Peter in February aged 75. Their elder brother, Maj Richard Allen, survives them together with their wives, Jane and Fiona, children and grandchildren. The fourth brother, Peter's twin brother Patrick, was drowned while out duck shooting with a fellow officer shortly after joining the SRY in 1958, a tragic time which saw the death of four of the Regiment's subalterns within little more than a year.

Christopher Allen was the last CO of the SRY as a Regiment before the formation of the RY. He joined in 1953 after National Service with 17/21L and served initially with A Sqn at Newark and later at Carlton. By the time he took over command in 1967, the TA had seen a number of changes including the end of National Service, which removed a guaranteed source of recruits, as well as the usual budgetary pressures and reorganisations. His period in command coincided with the decision to reduce the size of the Yeomanry to form a single composite regiment (the Royal Yeomanry) with an increased level of equipment, training and readiness. The SRY became B (SRY) Sqn of the new unit and Christopher retired. In civilian life, he was a solicitor with the family firm of Warren & Allen in Nottingham, where he was for many years senior partner.

Peter Allen joined from 17/21L in 1958 after National Service and served at both Mansfield and Carlton. When the RY was formed, a small group of officers and NCOs that did not transfer to the new regiment was retained as a cadre to form the basis of a future expansion should this ever be required. The new unit was established at Carlton and Peter was appointed to its command until a further reorganisation in the early 1970s led to the cadres being disbanded. In civilian life he, too, was a solicitor with Warren and Allen and served in turn as senior partner.

Both Christopher and Peter played an active part in the Association. Christopher was Treasurer for 30 years from 1965 to 1995, Secretary from 1965 to 1971, Chairman from 1971 to 1995 and President from 1998 to 2012. Peter was Secretary for the 24 years from 1971 to 1995. In addition to the welfare and administrative work of the post, he organised overseas trips to Normandy and elsewhere and the Association's participation in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Yeomanry in 1994. He was always ready to help members, either in obtaining welfare grants for those in need or in other, practical, ways. His continued advice and assistance to his successor were often sought and freely given. Between them, the two brothers kept the Association going for 30 years and Christopher was still serving as President when he died. There can scarcely have been an Annual Dinner in the last 50 years without at least one of them present, and usually both. We are enormously in their debt

Mr JA Haalmeijer

Jan Haalmeijer was for many years the Director of the National Liberation Museum at Groesbeek near Nijmegen. He was a good friend of the Regiment, welcomed the placing of our memorial tank at the Museum and always made visiting members welcome.

REPORT FROM THE MIDLANDS BRANCH

I attach a report from the Midlands Branch. The Branch is keen to establish contact with members living in the area who served in more recent years (1980s/90s) and who may have lost touch in the meantime. Please contact one of the Committee members on the telephone numbers shown.

NEW REGIMENTAL HISTORY

The first volume, *Unicorns*, of Col Jonathan Hunt's new history of the Regiment has been well received. It is the first of two volumes and covers the period from the foundation of the Regiment in 1794 to around 1900. It includes much new material about the founding of the Regiment and those involved in its early history. Copies are available from Chris Woodward using the Items For Sale form attached which gives details of the special reduced price for members.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The new Queen's Royal Lancers and Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Museum at Thoresby had a very successful year, attracting a strong flow of visitors. The Museum tells the story of all three Nottinghamshire cavalry regiments (QRL, SRY and South Notts Hussars) and is open from 10:30 to 16:30 on Wednesday to Sunday from 1st March to 30th November, including Bank Holidays. Entry is free but donations are welcome.

Thanks to the participation of the QRL, the new museum has a paid Curator. However there is also a need for volunteers to assist and to staff the museum. A number of members have volunteered to help and have been trained and we are most grateful to them for their assistance. As always, more assistance is welcome. If you live in the area and would like to help in this way, please contact me or Chris Woodward.

You can also help in other ways, including becoming a Friend. As a Friend, you are entitled to a 10% discount on any goods bought in the Museum shop, together with a half yearly newsletter and the possibility of attending special Friends' functions. Any further support that you are able to give financially would be greatly appreciated. Further details, including how to become a Friend, can be found on the Museum website: <http://www.qrlnymuseum.co.uk> or from QRLNY Museum, Thoresby Courtyard, Thoresby Park, Nr Perlethorpe, Nottinghamshire NG22 9EP

Various events are planned at the museum during the summer and I attach details on a separate sheet. Cold War warriors will recognise the "historic" vehicle featured.

S (SRY) Sqn THE ROYAL YEOMANRY

The consequences for the TA of the Strategic Defence and Security Review are still emerging. The main challenge is a need to greatly increase recruitment to make up for a reduction in the regular army, a task that is not made easier by the introduction of new, centralised system of recruitment of both regulars and reserves. This is said to be in the interest of consistency and of ensuring that reserve recruits are up the same standard as regulars. Those that know the TA might raise an eyebrow at this. The Capt Beattie's discussion with the top brass at the Alamein service (see below) elicited the admission that the TA had been "something of an afterthought" in the development of the new arrangements. Given that the success of the entire review depends on the

TA's ability to recruit the numbers required, this is, to say the least, disturbing. All Capt B wanted was an organisation that handled applications quickly and worked at the weekends, just as he did.

In practice, the Yeomanry will do what it has always done which is to get on and do the job in its own way, if necessary despite the system. A former Sqn Leader recalls the Sqn arriving on the ranges at Warcop on a Friday night in the 1970s to find a regular regiment already in possession of the camp, having been there for several days preparing for firing the following week. The regulars departed on their weekend leave and the yeomen were on the ranges early on Saturday morning. They fired for two days, achieved a report that was creditable for any regiment, TA or regular, and, on Sunday evening as the regulars returned from their weekend off, the yeomen were already packing up for the drive home. By Monday morning they were all back at work

Another problem is the need to attract, develop and retain officers and potential senior NCOs. This requires an organisational depth and interesting roles for them to carry out as well as the recognition that they will, in civilian life, be in jobs that are of comparable challenge and importance to their employers. The emphasis in recent years on the training of individuals as opposed to units and subunits has made this task particularly difficult and it is to be hoped that lessons have been learned and that the new organisation and role will alleviate the problem. Some officers and NCOs will come from the regular Army, and we have been fortunate in this respect, but in the long term the organisation will not survive if new yeoman recruits cannot be attracted, developed and retained.

It is also proposed to change the name of the Territorial Army to the Army Reserve. This may be logical and reflect the new role but it is a pity to lose the constant reminder that the TA is nothing if it is not local and rooted in its own community and territory.

Despite all of this, the RY and S(SRY) Sqn are in good heart. Another group has been mobilised for service in Afghanistan and the RY continues to do more than its bit in this regard. For those on operations, the Association continues to supported the provision of regular welfare parcels and we are grateful to all those who assist in this effort.

Maj Rupert Marsh is about to complete his third tour in command (surely a record) and his report is attached.

CAVALRY MEMORIAL PARADE - Sunday 12th May 2013

This year the Cavalry Memorial Parade will be held on Sunday 12th May in Hyde Park and I hope that the Regiment will again be well represented. Detailed arrangements will be co-ordinated through the Midlands Branch so, if you would like to attend, please contact the Branch Secretary. I assume that the RY will, as usual, be organising a lunch after the parade. If you would like to attend, please let me know as soon as possible.



The Cavalry Memorial, Hyde Park

NORMANDY JUNE 2012 and 2013

Last year's Normandy tour was undertaken by a smaller group than in the previous year but we were represented at all the usual ceremonies in Bayeux and Tilly and even managed a quick visit to the cemetery at Hottot where several of our casualties are buried.

It was the last year that our colleagues from the Essex Regiment were officially represented, as their Association has been wound up and merged with that of the Royal Anglians. We are grateful for their help over the years in organising our joint ceremonies and particularly to their padres, Maj the Revd Tony Rose and the late Maj the Revd Martin Franks for officiating at our combined services.

Last year the weather was poor with heavy rain, which hampered our plans for visits on 6th June, and a storm forced a change in the return crossing as the high-speed ferry to Poole was cancelled.

7th June dawned fine but, just as the staff at the Bayeux Museum judged that it was safe to put out the chairs for the main service, the rain started again in earnest. After a quick consultation, it was decided to hold the ceremony in the Museum cinema. The sound man moved all his kit indoors and everything went ahead in comfort.



Preparing for the indoor ceremony at the Bayeux Museum cinema

After the usual *vin d'honneur* it was still raining hard so, being in France, we cancelled the planned picnic and trip to Gold Beach and went to a nearby restaurant for lunch. When we emerged, the sun was shining and we set off for Hottot and the afternoon ceremonies at St Pierre and Tilly as though nothing had happened.



Lunch



It has stopped raining...



Hottot Cemetery



Capt David Render at Hottot



With Mme H elie at St Pierre



Graham Stevenson and Jean-Pierre Benamou



St Pierre Memorial



The Mayor at Tilly sur Seullles



The traditional Abacus minibus photo

We are planning a similar trip for this year, departing from Portsmouth on 5th June and returning on 8th June with the usual ceremonies in Bayeux and St Pierre/Tilly on the 7th. If you would like to come, please contact me or Martin Kerry as soon as possible.

Next year will be the 70th Anniversary so, if you cannot come this year make a note in your diary for 2014.

ALAMEIN 70th ANNIVERSARY

A service to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the battle of Alamein was held in Westminster Abbey on 27th October 2012. This was a much lower-key occasion than the 60th but was nevertheless attended by a large number of veterans, families and representatives of the regiments involved. Sadly, none of our Alamein veterans was able to attend but the SRY was represented by the Secretary and Capt Beattie (2i/c of the Sqn). It did, however, offer the opportunity to remind some Very Senior Officers of the continued existence of the SRY and for Capt Beattie to advise them of some of the problems that he faces in organising recruiting.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8th NOVEMBER 2012

The Regiment was represented at the Annual Field of Remembrance organised by the Royal British Legion at Westminster Abbey. My thanks to all who came, particularly to Mrs Jan Andrews, who was our representative at the head of the plot, and to her husband Bernard who arranged for us all to have lunch at the Union Jack Club after the ceremony. Jan's father, Cpl AK Turner was killed near Weeze in March 1945 and is buried in the Reichswald cemetery at Kleve. Our thanks also to Capt Nick Robinson who once again placed the memorial crosses.



Graham & John Stevenson
at the SRY Plot



Jan Andrews



Inspection by Prince Philip

This year the ceremony will be held on Thursday 7th November. Security is heightened these days and, if you would like to come you will need a ticket. However, it is a fine ceremony and I hope that anyone who would like to come will not be deterred, but please give me at least eight weeks notice so that I can make the necessary arrangements on your behalf.

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 Chris Woodward as shown on the form and not to me. As usual, these items will also be available at the Dinner.

We have also had some large (5ft x 3ft) SRY flags made and have a few available for sale at a price of £80 each. More details are given on the attached Items for Sale list.

UNIFORMS

If you have any items of uniform such as Greens or Mess Kit which either belong to the Regiment or which you would be prepared to donate, they would be much appreciated - please contact Capt Steve Goodwin (PSAO) at Carlton (0115 961 8722).

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.

The Association has also been funding the provision of welfare parcels to members of the Sqn serving on operations in Afghanistan. Each member receives a regular parcel containing small comforts and difficult-to-obtain items. These are much appreciated by the recipients and I am most grateful to Captains Turner and Goodwin and all those at Carlton who have helped in the assembly and despatch of the parcels.

WIDOWS' FUND

Thanks to the generosity of members, the Widows' Fund had another successful year. We again raised well over £2,000 and were able to send out gift vouchers worth £40 to each of 56 widows at Christmas, a record number. I received numerous letters of sincere thanks and there is no doubt that this effort is appreciated. What is most important is that the recipients know that they are not forgotten.

As in previous years, I am extremely grateful to Capt David Render, who raised more than half the total through the proceeds of his popular lecture series, and to his friend Vic Benson (ex-RMP and City of London Police) who helps on these occasions. I would also like to thank the members of the Midlands Branch who contributed the proceeds of a several of their functions and all those individuals who made personal donations, 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 Bower	- Nottingham	Mr Naylor	- Nottingham
Mr M Chapman	- Nottingham	SJ Norman Esq	- Great Chishill
Mr DN Clarke	- Newark	Mr S Pezaro	- Nottingham
J Dalton Esq	- Nottingham	Mr T Reeves	- Nottingham
Mr NJ Davies	- Derby	Mr BJ Russell	- Alcester

Mr D Dewar	- Margate	Mr G Steadman	- Doncaster
Mr RJ Dickson	- Nottingham	Mr DA Till	- Retford
Mr Gartside	- Nottingham	Mr F Tinker	- Worksop
Mr RM Hill	- Nottingham	Mr RA Toms	- Ilkeston
Mr Lock	- Nottingham	Mr MJ Whitehead	- Nottingham
Mr P McGary	- Nottingham	Mr JJ Willdig	- Chesterfield

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 Ann Barrow and all the others who supplied me with photographs. Also to Capt David Render, Mike Freeman and the Midlands Branch Committee, Chris Woodward and his helpers in the Museum, Martin Kerry, and Capt Steve Goodwin and SSM Karl Stone at Carlton for all their help 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 27th April 2013. The Agenda will be as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Apologies | 5. Officers and Trustees |
| 2. Minutes of last AGM | 6. Midlands Branch Report and Accounts |
| 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 28th APRIL 2012

Present: Col Hunt (Chairman), Maj Smith, Capt Elliott (Secretary) and 26 other members

1. Apologies for Absence - Received from Maj Cornish and 7 other members
2. Minutes of last AGM - The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
3. Matters Arising - None
4. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, Maj Smith presented the accounts for the year ended 31st Dec 2011 which had been approved by the Trustees in their meeting just finished. Excluding the Widows' Fund, this showed net outgoing resources of £8,529 which was mostly accounted for by the expenditure on the Thoresby project. The balance sheet value of investments was largely unchanged.

The accounts were approved, proposed by Col Hunt and seconded by Mr Freeman.

5. Officers and Trustees

Capt Elliott said that, since last year, Maj Marsh, SSM Stone and Cpl Brewer had taken office as *ex-officio* trustees representing the Squadron.

6. Midlands Branch Report and Accounts

Mr Freeman presented the report of the Midlands Branch which had had another successful year. Mr Woodward presented the Branch accounts and confirmed that they had been approved by the Branch.

7. Southern Branch

Capt Elliott reported he had now taken over the assets of the Southern Branch and thanked Bill Barrett and the other members of the Ewing family for taking care of the Branch since Ken's death. The remaining Branch members had now been transferred to the Midlands Branch and the funds were being used to subsidise their visit to the Dinner, to Normandy in June and similar purposes. Also, he was pleased to report that the Branch President (Capt Render) had just agreed that the Branch would make a donation of £1,000 to the Thoresby museum in memory of Ken Ewing.

Col Hunt paid tribute to Mr Ewing and all that he had done in setting up the Branch which brought us all back in touch with the wartime generation and made possible so much of what has happened since the Branch was founded.

8. Welfare

Capt Elliott said that, over the past year, the Association had funded to sending of welfare parcels to those on operations. These appeared to have been well received and he thanked all those involved in this important effort.

Mr Freeman said that Mr Brown had once again made a major contribution as welfare visitor in looking after our less fortunate members. Col Hunt thanked Mr Brown for all his efforts in this field.

9. Any Other Business

Maj Smith said that Col Hunt's new book would be on display afterwards and was available at a special price of £30 for a signed copy. It was an excellent read and he hoped that as many members as possible would buy it.

Capt Beattie said that, as 2 i/c, he was responsible for recruiting and he thanked the Trustees for the grant that they had just approved towards the cost of this which was much appreciated.

Capt Elliott thanked the SSM and members of the Squadron for their assistance in organising the Dinner.

SHERWOOD RANGERS YEOMANRY ASSOCIATION
MIDLANDS BRANCH
ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Once again I am pleased to report that the Branch has had a satisfactory 12 months throughout 2012 11 meetings were held over the months, January to November, with an average attendance of 32 members per meeting.

At the start of 2012, we were subject to a little uncertainty, about our continued use of the WOs' & Sgts' Mess for our monthly meetings. This was due to the Security issues because of the retirement of the Resident Caretaker, Graham Mayall. However, the problem was overcome due to the intervention of the Squadron Leader, Major Marsh, who kindly gave us permission to use the Squadron club room.

My personal thanks must go to the PSAO Captain Goodwin, the SSM Karl Stone and the other senior ranks, who assisted with the move to the clubroom, not forgetting of course our branch members who have supported us throughout, giving their time and effort to ensure the move went as smoothly as possible

Finally in April we finally moved in to the club room after many hours of re-decoration and a revamp of the bar. Arrangements have been made for the serving members of the Squadron to join us after their duties after each of our branch meetings, a great opportunity for us to meet socially and it is working extremely well.

In May we attended the OCA Cavalry Memorial Parade in Hyde Park which was again well attended. In June we organised a trip to Bournemouth and Normandy which was well attended, and again an opportunity to visit Bayeux and other places of interest. My thanks go out to Martin Kerry, Brian Brown and John Maltby for their valuable assistance in making the trips a success.

After the meeting in July, our now completed meeting room was officially declared opened by Captain Beattie (2 i/c) who cut the tape and said a few kind words. In September we organised a trip to the Royal Armouries in Leeds, again well supported by the branch members

On the 24th of October, the Branch celebrated the 20th anniversary of its formation which was on the 20th of October 1992. After the meeting in November we held a prize draw where over 120 prizes were up for grabs. On December the 12th the Branch members and guests sat down to a Christmas dinner which was held in The Magna Charta pub in Lowdam.

Events planned for the rest of 2013 include a trip to Hyde Park in May, for the OCA Cavalry Memorial Parade, and a trip to Normandy in June. If you are interested in taking part in any of our events, please contact Mike Freeman or Martin Kerry.

I send out Branch newsletters twice a year to all subscribing members, (£3.50) per year. If you wish to subscribe please contact any of the following committee members. Even if you are unable to attend our Branch meetings, the newsletters are an invaluable way to keep in touch with events and plans within the SRY Association.

Mike Freeman (Chairman)
John Maltby (Vice-Chairman)
Chris Woodward (Treasurer)

Mike Freeman (Branch Chairman)

S (Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry) Squadron, The Royal Yeomanry

'TA soldier, serious fun, good pay and excellent training' is the strap line on my SRY mouse mat of circa 2002; the picture of a loader in a Challenger 2 turret may be 10 years out of date, but the message remains the same and is as true as ever.

The past twelve months have flown, a sure sign that, firstly, we have been kept busy and, secondly, that we are still having 'serious fun'. Fun is not an end in itself of course but an essential element in any volunteer organisation and vital if we are to retain our unique *esprit de corps* - while in the seriousness stakes it is hard to beat training for mobilization on Op HERRICK 18 in Afghanistan, which was the Regiment's main effort for the year. This culminated in the mobilisation of six Sherwood Rangers in November, most of whom will serve together in the Warthog group of The Royal Tank Regiment; we wish them a safe and successful tour.

Inevitably perhaps, the year was rather disjointed: everyone was kept busy but in small groups and all over the country, with HERRICK training as the focus, which comprised a series of build-up weekends designed to consolidate individual soldiering skills. We were able to deploy on only one squadron exercise, in Staffordshire, concentrating on low-level dismounted training, before the first of two annual camps (or, in newspeak, *Annual Training Periods (ATP)*) in June. This was split between Bovington-Lulworth for trade training, and Lydd-Hythe for a range package, so although training objectives were achieved, the opportunity for the Regiment to unite for the fortnight was lost, the middle weekend instead being spent shuttling between Dorset and Kent. That said, those who attended were suitably entertained with sport, a foray into Weymouth and a visit to the Tank Museum, while the Padre catered for our spiritual needs with a short open-air service on Sunday evening at the new memorial by the museum.



First Aid with RWMIK



Indoor tactics



Recruit Green



Capt Beattie airborne

For those able to take more time off work, a second camp was held in September in Denmark, Ex VIKING STAR, a fabulous range package courtesy of the Danish Home Guard who, belying their name, were most professional (despite alarming weapon handling drills, one of which is to check guns are clear by looking down the barrel from the muzzle!), and staffed by a surprising number of Britons who had moved from Germany on retirement from the British Army. The section in defence night shoot was particularly effective, the incoming mortar simulation was deafening, blinding and almost too close for comfort. The range package was followed by a weekend in an impressive OBUA village, using their standard carbines converted to take paint cartridges. The week culminated in a dismounted field exercise, Capt Beattie, squadron 2IC, leading the SRY contingent with characteristic bravado.



In the forest in Denmark

2012 involved much more ceremonial than in recent years, with parades in London to mark the Freedoms of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, a Guard of Honour at Southwell Minster for Sir Andrew Buchanan's retirement service as Lord-Lieutenant and Remembrance Sunday parade in Newark, while SSgts Sulley and Pick had the sad duty of attending Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Allen's funeral in Southwell.



Remembrance Day at Newark



The Sqn and Old Comrades on parade



March past at Newark

Notable arrivals this year include the aforementioned Capt Beattie (formerly Intelligence Officer at RHQ) as 2IC, WO2 Stone (late 9/12L and formerly a PSI at B(LDY)Sqn), as SSM, WO1 Rooke (late QRL and RSM RY) as Training WO, and Sgt Gregory (also late QRL and recently employed at Lincoln Army Careers Office); their combined experience has strengthened the squadron immeasurably. Recent handover-takeovers include that of our former OC, Lt Col Astbury, to Lt Col Donaldson RTR (formerly North Irish Horse and LDY before he joined RTR), and our Sigs PSI, SCpl Toon RHG/D who has become RSWO at RHQ to be replaced by SSgt Webb QRL, while in the Admin office we are lucky to have Marina Neighbour as a highly capable successor to Mrs Jean Lacey.

Finally all that remains is to wish my successor as OC, the soon-to-be-promoted Captain Jenkins, the very best of luck - I am delighted to be handing over to another Sherwood Ranger. He takes over at an exciting time for the squadron and the regiment, with new vehicles (R-WMIK) an emerging role as light cavalry and a national TA recruiting drive on an unprecedented scale. I am confident that he will be able to rely on the joint support of the serving squadron and Regimental Association all of whom I know will remain *Loyal unto Death*.

Major R D Marsh TD

THORESBY EVENTS 2013

THORESBY MILITARY MUSEUM PRESENTS:

19th May – Vintage military vehicles in the Courtyard,
come and have a look.

9th June – Picnic in the Park with regiments past and present,
military bands and a range of vintage military vehicles.

1.00 - 5.30

Free parking & entry



The first is a small event based around the Courtyard. It will be on Sunday 19th May and will feature some WWII military vehicles from the Trent Valley Military Vehicle Trust.

The second and larger event will take place on the lawns of Thoresby Park on Sunday 9th June, 1:00pm to 5:30pm. The theme is “Picnic in the Park” and will be free to enter.

We aim to feature a large contingent of WWII and post war military vehicles from the Trent Valley Military Vehicle Trust and “Call sign alpha” (Post War Vehicles).

The South Notts Hussars are looking to bring a 105mm Light Gun, we also have requested the South Notts Hussars band to play during the afternoon.

The Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry hope to bring a fully crewed WMIK.

We have also been offered a police dog display and hope to add other attractions.

You can see from the above that it promises to be a good day out.

Please make a note in your dairies.