



The High Sheriff

The Magazine of the High Sheriffs' Association of England & Wales

SUMMER 2015



*Beyond bounds of duty in the bailiwicks
also inside National Crimebeat Awards 2015*



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The High Sheriff

The High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales

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2014 to November 2015

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The Association is not as a body
responsible for the opinions expressed
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represents the Council's views.

The Editor welcomes articles and
news stories from High Sheriffs
concerning their year in office.

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Joe Barclay, High Sheriff
of Buckinghamshire
2014-15, see page 16

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From the Editor

WHAT AN active bunch the 2014 sheriffs were. It is fascinating reading the end-of-term reports to see how individually High Sheriffs approach the responsibilities and expectations of their appointment, operating over such a wide variety of town and country, metropolitan and non-metropolitan.

While shrieval participation in major national celebrations or commemorations is generally covered in most articles, it is interesting to see what other themes emerge each year. It is tempting to suggest a quiz to ensure the magazine is read from cover to cover. Last year cycling sheriffs were so evident that bicycles seem to have been a favourite mode of transport for getting round their counties, and an antidote to shrieval feasting. A bike maintenance and hire project inspired by a High Sheriff created jobs and training. Others enjoyed driving tanks and riding in point-to-points.

High Sheriffs are lucky to find themselves often in atmospheric buildings and this issue reports them visiting Waterhouse's terracotta masterpiece which inspired the term 'red-brick university', Soane's most complete surviving country house and a vast mansion filled to the brim with volunteers. Cathedrals, hosting most legal services, have inspired High Sheriffs with 'their quiet Christian influence... under their soaring vaults', and in the past shrieval year have witnessed the reinterment of King Richard III and dancing strictly for their funds. How cool is that? One young person, the recipient of a National Crimebeat award, thought his nominating High Sheriff was 'totally cool' – another aspiration for future High Sheriffs.

Hugh Tollemache, the Council member responsible for the Association's website, hopes to have much of a members' dedicated area complete by the seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination on 3 July. He is asking members to try it out and pass on to him any comments that they might have. The website will include articles of interest from previous magazines, for sale and wanted court dress advertisements, advice on court dress and what to wear and when, questions and answers, photographs which may be useful for presentations and useful contacts. Members will receive the password by email once the site is running.

2015 marks many anniversaries of historical importance – Magna Carta, Agincourt and Waterloo – and I hope that members may cover these in the next two issues of the magazine. One of the great interests and joys of the shrievalty is that every year produces significant new initiatives and celebrations which make each High Sheriff's year special.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Andrew Wells'.

Andrew Wells, Hon Editor, Kent 2005-06



Diary of Forthcoming Events

JULY 2015**Seminar for High Sheriffs
in nomination for the
years 2016 and 2017
*Friday 3 July***

The 2015 Seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination will be held at Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire on Friday 3 July 2015. Details of the programme and speakers, together with application forms, were sent in mid-May 2015 to all High Sheriffs in nomination for 2016 and 2017.

**The Ladies' Luncheon
*Thursday 8 October***

The annual Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Thursday 8 October 2015 at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, London. Reminders have already been sent (with full details later) to those ladies who are in nomination by the organiser, Council member Elizabeth Hunter, whose email address is: elizahunter1964@gmail.com.

**The Nomination of
future High Sheriffs
*Thursday 12 November
at 2.00pm***

The Ceremony of the Nomination of High Sheriffs will take place on Thursday 12 November 2015 in Court 4 (the Lord Chief Justice's Court) at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL. At this ceremony the names of those nominated for the Office of High Sheriff for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 will be read out in court. Following the court ceremony, and for all those attending, the Association will hold a tea party nearby between 3.00pm and 4.30pm. The Secretary will be writing in September to all High Sheriffs in nomination for 2016 and for 2017 inviting them to attend. Court space is limited. This function provides a good opportunity for those in nomination to meet each other. It may be possible to accommodate a few 2018 nominees, subject to the capacity limits of the court, if proposers wish to contact the Secretary with the details of any nominee.

OCTOBER 2015**The Red Mass
*Thursday 1 October
at 9.30am***

The annual Roman Catholic Mass will be held at Westminster Cathedral to celebrate the start of the legal year. There will be a ticket-only reception in the Throne Room after the Mass. To obtain tickets contact Linda Helm by email at: member@dhelm.freereserve.co.uk.

**NOVEMBER 2015
44th Annual General
Meeting and Luncheon
*Wednesday 4 November***

The Association's 44th AGM and luncheon will be held at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, London EC2 2DQ on Wednesday 4 November 2015. The agenda and papers for the AGM and application forms for the luncheon will be sent to all members of the Association in mid-September 2015.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Report on Eastern Region meeting – 27 February 2015

Preparing for office



◆ Deborah Inskip

High Sheriff of Bedfordshire 2013-14

BEDFORDSHIRE WAS the proud host of this year's Eastern Region meeting for High Sheriffs in nomination for the next three years and their consorts, held at the very beautiful Moggerhanger Park. We were joined by a number of Under Sheriffs too.

We were fortunate to have four current High Sheriffs present who covered a variety of topics including 'preparing for office', 'managing your time in office' and 'what sort of support do you need?' There was much note-taking going on and it was clear that the audience was gaining a useful understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead. The detailed questions which followed gave the speakers an added opportunity to share their varied experiences of life as High Sheriffs.

The Chief Constable of Bedfordshire, Colette Paul, gave us a valuable insight into the potential and mutually beneficial relationship between the police and the Shrievalty. During her talk she touched on the support given to her by High Sheriffs and said that she really appreciated having a confidential ear and sounding board to discuss any tricky issues arising in the county. In many cases it meant that High Sheriffs were able to dispel worries and concerns that members of the public may have discussed with them.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Report on Eastern Region meeting – 27 February 2015



As a relatively new trustee of National Crimebeat, I then talked about the role of the organisation and how it could benefit each High Sheriff. As you may know, this is the youth crime prevention charity of the High Sheriffs' Association and it holds an annual awards ceremony in London. It is a relatively simple and very enjoyable role for a High Sheriff to nominate a project for an award and this can have a great impact on young people and their families. It also provides an interesting topic for a High Sheriff to raise when visiting schools, universities, police cadets and other cadet organisations. It is important to appreciate that National Crimebeat awards complement rather than replace any award system that individual High Sheriffs have in place.

The morning session concluded with a question session which generated plenty of interest and a very healthy discussion before lunch. Indeed, it proved quite difficult to get everyone's attention so that a group photograph could be taken to record the historic gathering!

Around 40 of us sat down to lunch and the team at Moggerhanger could not have given us a warmer welcome nor looked after us any better. Everyone enjoyed seeing this beautiful country house, and the lovely large rooms with their far-reaching vistas were a great venue for the meeting. Lunch was absolutely delicious and the service faultless, with happy discussion continuing throughout it. The house was designed by Sir

John Soane in 1792 and is recognised as the most complete surviving example of his work. His client was Godfrey Thornton, Governor of the Bank of England (1793-95) and High Sheriff of Bedfordshire in 1803.

In the afternoon the graveyard shift was bravely taken by Geoff Lambert, Chairman of Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation. He rose to the challenge and gave a very interesting talk – no drooping eyelids were spotted. The Community Foundations across the Eastern Region work closely together so Geoff was able to make it relevant to all six counties. In many counties, the Community Foundations support the High Sheriff with their awards ceremony and help identify possible recipients of a High Sheriff's Award.

We then enjoyed hearing from James Williams, Honorary Secretary of the High Sheriffs' Association and Under Sheriff for Hertfordshire. He gave very useful information about the Association, Magna Carta and how the High Sheriff can be involved as the returning officer in a general election. The timing of both of these events during the next High Sheriffs' years gave great relevance to this information.

It was a real pleasure to host the day and meet all those in nomination. From their very kind e-mails and lovely comments, it is great to know that they absorbed so much from the meeting. I think the Eastern Region is going to be in very safe shrieval hands over the coming years.

Opposite page: Court dress for Lady High Sheriffs displayed at the Eastern Regional meeting

Above: Delegates at the Eastern Regional meeting enjoy a quick break before lunch – Deborah Inskip (6th from left)

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

East Midlands Regional Conference

Airing views

✦ Miles Williamson-Noble
High Sheriff of Rutland 2014-15

THE PICTURE shows those attending the 2014 East Midlands Regional Conference of High Sheriffs

and High Sheriffs in nomination, together with their spouses and the day's speakers.

The conference was held on 22 October at the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight at RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire. The aircraft in the background is a

C47 Dakota in D-Day markings. The conference was organised by the High Sheriff of Rutland, and the counties included were Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016.



REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Wales Annual Regional Conference

TOPICS COVERED ON THE DAY WERE:

- Reports by the current High Sheriffs on fundraising, travel, office support, press relations, the judiciary and the police
- Probation service and community rehabilitation companies by the Deputy Director Midlands Division
- High Sheriffs' Association matters of moment by Bill Shelford of the Association Council
- Role of the High Sheriff's consort by a past High Sheriff's wife
- Role of the police and crime commissioner by the Leicestershire and Rutland PCC
- National Honours and Awards by the Cabinet Office East Midlands Outreach Co-ordinator
- Justice and other church services by the precentor of Southwell Minster
- Followed by a Q&A session using questions asked at other regional conferences



Wales Annual Regional Conference for High Sheriffs in nomination November 2014

 **J Anthony Tal-Williams MBE JP DL**
High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan 2009-10

Llangoed Hall, Powys – a grand country house sitting majestically on what was once the site of the original White Palace, the first parliament of Wales; later a monastery then a private house and now a country hotel, it is the preferred permanent conference centre for the regional meetings of the High Sheriffs of Wales.

The High Sheriffs' Association has encouraged the setting up of more localised meetings. 2014 has seen Wales deliver its fifth to which current High Sheriffs and those in nomination of all counties in Wales were invited to share their experiences. Elinor Jones spoke very entertainingly with a detailed account of the role during her first six months as High Sheriff of Dyfed.

We welcomed our guest speakers Mr Peter Vaughan DL, Chief Constable of South Wales, whose address was 'Policing in the 21st century'; Lt Colonel Andrew Tuggey DL (High Sheriff of Gwent 2015), who spoke on the varying tasks and preparations to celebrate the forthcoming 800th Anniversary of the Magna Carta; and Bill Shelford, High Sheriffs' Association Regional Co-ordinator, who detailed the supporting role of the Association.

The remainder of our rather full day's programme included group sessions and answering many questions covering all aspects of the role.

My sincere thanks go to everyone who attended – our guest speakers, Under Sheriffs, Anne Morgan (Association Council member) for her valued input, and the staff at Llangoed Hall.

Wales's next regional meeting will be held on November 26 2015.

NATIONAL CRIMEBEAT AWARDS 2015

♣ **Andrew Morgan,**
Vice Chair, National
Crimebeat
Greater London 2009-10, Council Member

THE ANNUAL National Crimebeat Awards took place as usual in the Royal National Hotel on 11 March. This year Alex and Richard Walduck generously offered us the Galleon Suite which everybody thought was a wonderful venue and it has already been booked for next year. The ceremony passed off very successfully.

In the Category A Awards (for those who start their own project and then develop it), there was a joint first prize. Warwickshire and West Yorkshire were each awarded a £1,000 prize. Twenty-one students from Kenilworth became aware of 'sexting' when a fellow student became a victim. They made a DVD warning of the dangers of sending inappropriate personal images on social media. The DVD is used to raise awareness with parents and young people. In Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, a group of young Muslims met at the 'Kumon Y'all' youth club. They

wished to put a stop to racism and violent clashes between their community (Savile Town), and the neighbouring community (Thornhill) and they spent 2,000 hours planning a football fun day. It was highly successful and 40 teams took part, raising £4,600 for Macmillan Cancer Support. This is now set to become an annual event.

The second prize (£500) went to Kent. A group of sixth formers from a school council in Gravesham recognised that mental health issues among young people were the cause of much antisocial behaviour and crime. They formed a mentoring group in the school and then went on to deliver this through a community project called SAFE.

The third prize (£250) went to East Sussex. While attending the Respond Academy in St Leonards, a group of young people came up with the idea of designing six radio programmes focused on staying safe from a young person's perspective. Much of the information was drawn from their own experiences. The programmes were so successful that the radio station wanted more programmes and 15 were made in total.

All the prizes in this category were

presented by the President of the High Sheriffs' Association, Julian Avery. In the Category B Awards (for those with projects that were started by others but were developed, managed and delivered by the groups), the High Sheriff of Greater London, Kevin McGrath, presented the cheques and certificates.

The first prize went to Merseyside. Sixty-three young people attended the 'Emotions' project in which they devised, scripted, choreographed and acted in a play show-casing the dangers of bullying, sexting, gun and knife crime, as well as loneliness and alcoholism. They have performed the play to over 2,300 young people.

Second prize went to Nottinghamshire. Year 10 pupils at six secondary schools



Warwickshire/We are Youth with Clare Hopkinson, High Sheriff



West Yorkshire/Let's UNITE, with Julian Avery, Association President (above) and Barbara Wilding, National Crimebeat Chair (inset)

NATIONAL CRIMEBEAT

Young people creating safer communities

competed to produce and deliver the best awareness-raising campaign to promote a healthy lifestyle, challenge the social acceptability of alcohol and create safer communities. The campaigns were presented in a 'Dragons' Den' style competition and the winner's campaign was rolled out across all local schools and nationally via the Community Alcohol Partnerships. Over 1,200 students have seen, and been made aware of, the campaign.

The third prize went to Cumbria. A young group used police statistics to discover that crime and anti-social behaviour increased in those communities which lacked facilities for young people. With some funding and help from mayors and town councils, they advertised and gave presentations on events planned for the summer holidays. Schools, colleges, youth clubs and the media were all targeted and the result was a significant drop in crime and anti-social behaviour.

There was also a special award this year for a group which didn't fit into either category but which the judges felt deserved to be honoured for its contribution to community safety. Jeremy Burton, Chairman of the High Sheriffs' Association, presented this to the Metropolitan Volunteer Police Cadets, Central Team. They co-ordinated over 500 cadets in preventing crime focused on other young people. They provided property marking, crime prevention surgeries, advice on internet fraud and on safeguarding personal property. These operations were carried out in vulnerable communities by the cadets and it had a huge impact on community confidence and safety.

For the first time this year several of the groups decided to communicate with each other after the event without any prompting from the organisers. This is a very happy turn of events and helps to prove why these National Crimebeat Awards are so meaningful to young people across the whole country. The Merseyside group (Emotions) are visiting Nottinghamshire (Dragons' Den) to collaborate on a project, and West Yorkshire's 'Kumon Y'all' hope to make a film with them all about what it is like to be a young Muslim in today's society.



Kent/SAFE, with Hugo Fenwick, High Sheriff (centre back)



Cumbria/Something for the Summer, with Kevin McGrath, High Sheriff of Greater London (centre)

There were many more applicants this year and the standard was so high that it became difficult to decide on the winners. The judges (some of whom were last year's prizewinners) had to deliberate long and hard. All finalists have a trip round London in an open-topped bus after lunch followed by a ride on the London Eye. There were 74 finalists this year. Congratulations to them all.

One of the finalists was part of the East Sussex group called 'Responding Plus'. His name is Danny Rowe, a homeless boy from St Leonards who froze at the ceremony and felt unable to get up on stage to perform his rap. This is what he wrote afterwards: *I am 15, I was 10 years old when*



East Sussex/Respond Academy (Danny Rowe, right)



Nottinghamshire/Dragons Den style, with Kevin McGrath, High Sheriff of Greater London (centre)

I was excluded from school then I was placed in an EBD School on Seaford and until I was 14 I was in and out of Alternate Education.

I struggled to settle in any of them even though I have had loads of support from them I didn't really appreciate most of it. Then I came to Respond Academy. I found my passion for music and found a new way to express my feelings this has helped me get on. I have learned to calm myself and express myself more appropriately. This has helped me to settle more in other school places I attend. Plus I go to Respond Academy workshops and I've been to a few events in different places with them, this means I have met



Merseyside/Emotions, with Kevin McGrath, High Sheriff of Greater London (centre)

NATIONAL CRIMEBEAT

Young people creating safer communities



Jeremy Burton presenting the award to Katie Penn, manager of the Metropolitan Volunteer Police Cadets, Central Team



different kinds of young and older people – altogether it has helped me change my life.

I was very nervous on the prospects of attending because I didn't know what to expect or what kind of people were going to be there.

Pablo, Jc and 8 of us went up in a minibus we were stuck in traffic and got there 10 minutes late.

When we walked into the hotel and saw everyone sitting down at big tables and I saw the big stage it made me even more nervous.

I sat next to a lady and when we were called to go on stage I couldn't move – she was very kind. Jc said I had written my lyrics and gave them to her to read.

I felt bad that I left the others to do it on stage and that made us change our whole presentation but I couldn't help it.

The High Sheriff of East Sussex Chris Gebbie was on our table he was totally cool and made us all really welcome. It turned out the lady was his wife Vanessa Gebbie, she's a writer. She showed my lyrics to everyone and was really impressed she asked if she could put them on her blog page I said yes.

The place was posh and nobody apart from our group was like us and that made us feel uncomfortable, but really there was no need. Different youth groups from different parts of the country did their presentations and another group did a dance performance.

We were called up to receive our Award for outstanding contribution to helping reduce crime. Ollie, Dan, Cherrie, HJade, Michelle and myself went and collected our Award and we got certificates and medals.

After the ceremony we went into the hotel for a big lunch, then we piled into a London tour bus. The bus announcer was very funny - & then we went on to the London Eye. We were in the same EYE POD as the Police Cadets and they made me feel comfortable (but they looked different wearing their normal clothes and that made me look at them differently) and a couple of Lady High Sheriffs and they made me feel comfortable.

Overall I found the whole experience a positive learning experience in how to handle myself around people I am not used to being around and how to conduct myself and I hope we can link up with some of the other groups they should come and see our project. I really hope we can and keep up a relationship with the High Sheriffs.

I found out today that the wife of the High Sheriff, Vanessa Gebbie, has used my lyrics on her personal writing blog.

I am so happy that the trip wasn't wasted (I wrote all this with support from Natalie, a Tutor at Respond Academy)

Danny

RAP

The minute people realised I was a big kid who could throw a mean slug
People would stop turning round and labelling me as a thug.
After that day I would go home and never receive a kiss or hug

And never receive a single ounce of love 'till I turned round and said that's it.
Enough is enough
Because I turned round and walked away, that's the reason I can talk the way I talk today.
See, I was taught to be a criminal and commit crimes every

day until one day I woke up and realised crime isn't the way.
Back then I was a confused little kid, so I focused on my music.
Music is like therapy helping me and that's why I use it, so now I been given this opportunity I'm not going to abuse it.

Music is my life, and that's why I choose it.

Danny Rowe aged 15 from Respond Academy, St Leonard's-on-Sea



WARNING ZONE – AN OUTSTANDING HIGH SHERIFF-LED CHARITY

IT ALL started in 1994 when Leicestershire became the second county to set up Crimebeat. With the support of the chief constable, who provided a full-time police officer as project manager, Crimebeat became firmly established. The police were keen to introduce proactive safety education for primary age children so it was natural that Crimebeat took the project in hand. It was named Safety Squad. With the help of various agencies (fire, police, road safety and the utilities) it was launched in September 1996 in a field just outside Leicester. It was able to run for two weeks and was an immediate success with children and teachers.

The cry went up – can we come back next year? Here was the problem. Maximum capacity was about 900 pupils over the two weeks. However, there are approximately 10,000 children in Year 6 in Leicester City, Leicestershire and Rutland, so only a small percentage could take part in the experience. Something had to be done to enable all pupils in the age group to attend as they came to their final year in primary education. The solution – an indoor centre able to operate throughout the school year. Several had already been established in other parts of the UK, notably in Milton Keynes, Bristol and Glasgow, but nothing in the East Midlands.

In 2001 Leicestershire and Rutland Crimebeat became a charity in its own right. The trustees, then all ex-High Sheriffs or serving High Sheriffs, looked at the viability of a permanent safety centre. Plans were made and leasehold premises found in 2004 at Syston, north of Leicester, an ideal location close to main transport routes. With financial responsibilities building on the shoulders of the trustees, a not-for-profit company was incorporated and fundraising commenced. Again, with the help of the agencies, scenarios were designed and built and the first children arrived in 2006.

In parallel with providing the hardware, plans had to be made to create a volunteer force to lead pupils through their experience. No one had any background here. However, we were fortunate that a recently retired community police officer joined the team and set about finding out how to recruit, organise and train the volunteers. He did a fantastic job from scratch.

All was going swimmingly until the bombshell fell. Our landlords wanted their factory back. The final parties of children went through Syston in summer 2009. The search for new premises started. The trustees felt strongly that never again should the charity be put in this position. The new building had to be freehold – easier said than done. We had no money and there were few or no suitable properties on the market. After several false starts, in desperation our surveyor took us to a run-down, near-derelict factory close to the city centre. It would work. We bought it and the long process of renovation got under way.

It was not until September 2011 that we were ready to go again.

By now we were rebranded Warning Zone. The volunteer team was re-invigorated and we were off. The big event came in July 2012 when we were honoured to have HRH The Princess Royal performing the formal opening of the Warning Zone in its own new building.

Children arrive at the Zone and start with a briefing from the visit manager who establishes their level of relevant knowledge through a simple question and answer session. They see a short introductory film setting the scene for the visit. Split into groups of five or six children, led by a volunteer, each group will experience scenarios dealing with: dangers of electricity; drugs and alcohol; fire and arson; personal safety; railways; risk in building sites; road safety; safety in the home; water risks. The emphasis is on total participation. This is quite a tough interactive experience with no let-up. Much is made of antisocial behaviour, peer pressure and preparation for the move from cosy primary to big secondary school. Throughout the visit every child has to estimate the degree of risk in each activity. The visit ends with a debriefing when the visit manager determines what has been learnt.

Now to the numbers: in the academic year 2013-14, 8,129 children came to the Zone. In 2014-2015 the figure will be close to 8,500. A continuous process of evaluation takes place to determine the lessons learnt. We continue to receive rave reviews from teachers and we believe strongly that the reduction locally in crime, fire incidents, and injuries has much to thank Warning Zone for.

Funding is a constant headache. It costs £250,000 per annum to run the Zone. Support in the shape of an officer from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service is invaluable; particularly since the onset of government cutbacks, support from other public bodies is limited to help from the police and the City of Leicester. We have to do our own fundraising. The High Sheriffs of Leicestershire and Rutland run fantastic events every year.

So where do we go from here? The next major project has started – the Internet Safety Zone. This will be a standalone experience aimed not only at our core Year 6 group but also at teenagers and parents. We hope to have it up and running this summer.

An immense amount of work has been put in by many to establish and run Warning Zone – too many to name individually. However, mention has to be made of Robin Murray-Philipson (Leicestershire 1993-94), who started the whole thing, and Richard Everard (Leicestershire 2002-03) who continues to be the bedrock of our fundraising. Ex-WPC Sharon Binfield-Hill was the initial project manager and subsequently CEO until 2012 and Alan Godber, now retired, was creator and manager of the volunteer team. My thanks go to everyone involved.

♦ Michael Allen
Rutland 2001-02, trustee 2003-2015

BEDFORDSHIRE

News from and about members



Back to school

Above: Armed Forces Day event in Bedford town centre with the Mayor Dave Hodgson, the Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Mrs Helen Nellis and Polish schoolchildren

Right: Attempting the Rotary Club's Wheelchair Challenge at Bedford International Athletics Stadium

I HAVE COME to the end of a truly memorable year as the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire. We – and I very much include my wife, Diane, in this – have enjoyed every moment of it. It has been a real partnership between us and Diane has attended all but a handful of events that she has been invited to. We have joked – and it's probably true – that we have been together more during the past year than in any other year of our 39 years together and it has certainly been helpful to me having a navigator when visiting parts of Bedfordshire that we had not been to previously.

At my installation on 3 April 2014, I mentioned that I wanted to visit as many schools as I could across the county during my year in office, reflecting Diane's interest in education as a teaching assistant for 19 years at one of our local lower schools and my involvement over a 20-year period as a governor at four of my home town's schools.





News from and about members



Looking back I have undertaken some 50 visits to schools, colleges and universities, including four during my final ten days in office. I have covered the whole spectrum – private schools, free school, a school with special needs pupils, a handicapped riders school, colleges, universities, and high, upper, middle, junior, infant and lower schools across the three local authorities in Bedfordshire.

Visits have included Christmas concerts, Easter productions, plays, choral evenings, prize presentations, award evenings, opening of a new extension, a topping out ceremony, fetes or just a tour of the school, including several school dinners, together with the opening of a new school in Luton in January by HRH the Duke of Kent. Most have, however, involved talking with children particularly during assemblies, in class or at debating societies. With the younger children three questions are almost always asked – 'Have you met The Queen?', 'Can you fight with the sword?' and 'Do you ride a horse?' However, as the children get older the questions take on a wider range, covering the history, role, court dress and responsibilities of a High Sheriff and therefore several thousand school pupils and students will know a little more about what we do. It was really fascinating visiting my old school of some 50 years ago and the students there were just as interested to know what it was like back then as I was to learn about the school now.

I have participated in many citizenship ceremonies at the three centres in which they are held in Bedfordshire and it has been a privilege learning where our new citizens have come from, how long they have lived here and the work in which they are engaged. Our oldest new citizen was a gentleman of 87 years of age.

I have spent a lot of time across the county with the various Rotary Clubs. Like so many other organisations they do great work – all undertaken by volunteers – and I'm sure our counties would 'grind to a halt' without the many thousands who support the needy and vulnerable

in our communities. My involvement with the Rotary Clubs has included talks, lunches and dinners, a young persons' music competition, an environmental project, the launch of a new bandstand project, a fundraising event for Help for Heroes, a presentation of Children of Courage awards and the Wheelchair Challenge Games at Bedford's International Athletics Stadium – it's not easy to steer a wheelchair as you can see.

With the commencement of World War One centenary events in August there was no time for a holiday as many events fell during that month – I had four on one day but was only able to attend two. It was therefore fitting to present a High Sheriff's Award in March to the Royal British Legion Standard Bearers who give up their time throughout the year to attend many civic and ceremonial events.

I have had a most enjoyable year with, perhaps, just one regret – it went too quickly.

♣ Colin Osborne

High Sheriff of Bedfordshire 2014-15

Above left: The High Sheriff and Mrs Osborne hosting a lunch for Her Majesty's Judges at the Luton Crown Court

Above: On a visit to an infant school in Luton

Below: The High Sheriff's shrieval tree planting ceremony in the Marston Vale with the incoming High Sheriff, the Countess of Erroll (left)



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

News from and about members



Setting off from home
at the start of the
sponsored bike ride



Finding my way

DAWN IS breaking after a wonderful but very hectic year. As with most retiring High Sheriffs, I have a mixture of emotions – humility through what I have witnessed, pleasure in getting back to normal and, overriding it all, no regrets about having taken on the role.

Support of law and order is what High Sheriffs have as their traditional *raison d'être* and I certainly sought to play a full part in that sector. Charitable activity is part of the evolving function, but it seems to me important that wealth generation must precede it if funding of worthwhile causes is to come about. So, in addition to visiting prisons (Buckinghamshire has four), police stations, courts, the probation, fire and rescue, and ambulance services, and 74 charities (we have more charities per head than any other county), I also visited some of the county's more unusual businesses. And truly fascinating they were too. They ranged from the only remaining low-tech manufacturer of vellum and parchment in Europe to Arla's huge state-of-the-art dairy outside Aylesbury, and John Lewis's equally impressive and gigantic Milton Keynes warehouse. Click and collect has brought about vast expansion, and, being halfway between London and the Midlands, Milton Keynes is ideally placed. Perhaps most interesting of all were two high-tech manufacturers: Martin-Baker which has a dominant worldwide market share in fighter aircraft ejector seats (almost 7,500 lives saved to date) and Red Bull Racing where some 600 young engineers beaver away at refining every small detail of their F1 car.

Our county is also blessed with three universities, the largest by far being the Open University, and we also have the official country residence of the Prime Minister and that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, all of which I visited. At the other end of the scale was the Calvert landfill site. This is a bit of an anomaly in an essentially rural county, much of it protected by the Green Belt. Calvert is a series of former brick clay pits and takes not only household waste from within the county but also trainloads of rubbish arriving each night from London, as well as spoil from Crossrail excavations.



News from and about members

Below: With our Red Bull guide, the Mayor of Milton Keynes and my wife Joanna (right) in front of the Red Bull Racing trophy cabinet. As you can see, this is vast. Since our visit, someone has smashed into the cabinet and stolen a selection of the contents. Some have been recovered, but not all.

Readers may have detected the geographer in me from my interest in the economic fabric of the county – and it must be noted that I did not use satnav to find my way around. In fact, before taking office, I had bicycled to every civil parish in the bailiwick, of which there are 216, so I had a fair grasp of my patch and it was a truly wonderful means of appreciating its diversity. It was also a good way of testing out local pubs – I clocked up 35 of those too. I continued my bicycling theme once in office with a sponsored ride from one end of the county to the other, raising money for our two community foundations. That lasted five days and en route I visited several of the wonderful charities that are supported by the foundations.

In this ramble I have deliberately omitted reference to all the awards ceremonies, court sittings, mayor makings and church services that are part of everyday shrieval life. One, however, will forever remain fresh in the memory. It was in one of High Wycombe's seven mosques where

“The Imam went on to announce... without prior warning, that the High Sheriff was going to address the congregation

I had been asked by the Muslim Mayor to attend his Civic Service. After a 30-minute talk the Imam went on to announce to the assembled company, and without prior warning, that the High Sheriff was going to address the congregation. Now, that did involve a bit of fast thinking. At least for the Buddhist ceremony the previous week I had been forewarned that I was expected to give a talk on world peace and harmony.

♦♦ Joe Barclay

High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire 2014-15



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An invaluable overview

Above: With the High Sheriff of Merseyside (left), as joint reviewing officers, and the Mayor of Northwich, at the 146 Sqn ATC Northwich graduation parade (photo by Cadet Sgt Indie Mackintosh)

WHEN I heard about all the things High Sheriffs no longer do, I admit to wondering whether there is still a worthwhile role in the 21st century. At the end of the year my answer is a resounding 'yes'.

Getting out and about across your county gives an invaluable overview, creating a unique opportunity to 'join the dots', facilitate introductions, make suggestions, signpost towards possible funding, and generally help to make things happen. It is hard to know the value of the many conversations you have but it is very satisfying when, perhaps months later, you learn that your input has made a difference. I started a website with a news blog which, although time consuming to keep up to date, has been surprisingly well received. It provides a vehicle to promote the wonderful work of many individuals and charities and also helps a wider audience to understand what High Sheriffs can contribute.

As well as learning about our judicial system and supporting the work of the police and

emergency services, I focussed on volunteers. People don't volunteer to be thanked but they appreciate it when they are. From the radio presenter aged 10 to the street pastor aged 92, I have been so impressed with the volunteer effort which makes such a difference within our county. I have actively promoted volunteering wherever I have been – from citizenship ceremonies to schools – as something that not only 'does good, but does you good as well'.

People often ask what is the best thing I have done. This is impossible to answer as there is such diversity in the activities my hugely supportive husband and I have undertaken – from large ceremonial events, to visiting prisons, and meeting organisations helping young people struggling with poor self-esteem and low aspirations. Crucially, looking back, I can hardly think of anything that has not been worthwhile in some way. If pushed, one highlight would have to be witnessing history being made as the first female Church of England Bishop, Libby Lane, was consecrated amid magnificent and moving pageantry at York Minster



and later her installation at a packed Chester Cathedral.

The year has also been dominated by the commemoration of the centenary of the start of World War One. As an ex-WRAF officer I have been particularly pleased to attend many events involving our armed forces – from set-piece parades such as the Mercian Regiment being given the freedom of towns and boroughs across Cheshire, to visiting several of the impressive cadet forces or listening to the drums and pipes at a Royal British Legion concert. It has been heartening to see the high regard our armed forces are held in and how much they themselves appreciate this.

Cheshire, like every county, has its problems but perhaps, most encouragingly of all, I am not aware of any that are not being tackled in some way and I feel grateful for the opportunity I have been given to play a small part in its vibrant and varied life for the past year.

♦ Susan Sellers

High Sheriff of Cheshire 2014-15



Photo: Dave McDonald

Wearing a rather different hat litter-picking with Crewe Clean Team



Off to unveil two memorials at Sandiway Golf Club to honour the US soldiers stationed there who participated in D-Day landings 70 years ago



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Privilege and pleasure

AS I write, my shrieval year is coming to its conclusion, and so this provides a welcome opportunity to reflect on a very busy and rewarding time as High Sheriff.

The early months were full of many varied events from royal visits to Civic Days, accompanied by detailed insights into the work of voluntary groups and initiatives within Dorset, often unheralded but so effective. The ability to glean such insights is undoubtedly a key part of the privilege and pleasure of being High Sheriff, a role I believe is very valuable in supporting, and ultimately sustaining, the infrastructure and traditions of county life. The long, hot summer provided a delightful context for shrieval duties in Dorset, with momentum gathering through the autumn towards Christmas.

While I cannot highlight all the many events attended, some bear extra emphasis.

The High Sheriff has a clear focus to support strong values in our society as represented by the judiciary, emergency services, voluntary organisations and civic responsibility. It was particularly inspiring, therefore, to be able to



Photo: The Stour and Avon Magazine



Photo: The Stour and Avon Magazine

attend the Dorset Police Annual Awards Ceremony, where I presented the Teenage Award to the Sir John Colfox Anti-bullying Ambassadors. An effective anti-bullying policy is realised through the work of the students, which is truly impactful, involving presentations to school leadership teams and sharing new ideas on how to reduce bullying. They were thrilled to be recognised for their work.

The legal service was held in the county town of Dorchester, at the historic St Peter's Church. It was a very special moment and the parish could not have been more welcoming. I am grateful to the judiciary for their support, and for the opportunity to attend court during the year. The proud and fascinating history of Dorset was similarly reflected in such events as the annual dinner of the Society

Above: The High Sheriff and Councillor Robin Cook, Chairman of East Dorset District Council, at the Commonwealth Flag Ceremony

Left: Launch of the Crimestoppers rural crime campaign in conjunction with Dorset Police with representatives of Crimestoppers, Dorset Police and other agencies.

Right: The High Sheriff presenting the Teenage Award to the Sir John Colfox Anti-bullying Ambassadors



of Dorset Men, and Civic Days which illuminated county life, whether in an urban or rural setting. The theme that consistently shone through was the dedication and enthusiasm of all those engaging so actively in the local life of the community.

Christmas carol services provided many opportunities to reflect on the meaning of the season while listening to the most moving music. As the New Year was ushered in, there were further reminders of conflict and the ravages of war with the marking of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and Holocaust Day. These ceremonies provided a compelling reminder of the need to ensure that memories are kept alive for future generations.

As spring beckoned, the themes of safety and communities working together were reflected in further engagements. The launch of the rural crime initiative was fun, with innovative material being utilised to prompt communities to work together to prevent crime.

Commonwealth Day, the raising of the flag, and Single Commemorative Act marking the centenary of the First World War, seemed to embody the ethos and values of the role of High Sheriff and my year, focusing on supporting those engaged in public and voluntary service within the county, and emphasising the values we hold dear, especially working together for safe communities.

It has been an immense privilege, and I am most appreciative of the support of the Under Sheriff Katharine Jones of Humphries Kirk, and her staff. I extend very best wishes to Jennifer Coombs, the new High Sheriff of Dorset, for a very successful year ahead.

♦♦ Jane Stichbury CBE QPM DL
High Sheriff of Dorset 2014-2015



Photo: Dorset Police

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Service above self

Above: First World War commemoration in Carmarthen with Field Marshal Lord Guthrie, the Lord-Lieutenant of Dyfed, the Mayor of Carmarthen, the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, Lord Williams of Oystermouth, the Bishop of St David's, Lord Morris of Aberavon KG, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff, the Bishop of Menevia and Roman Catholic Knights of Saint Gregory and of Saint Sylvester

WHAT A year it has been! I knew it would be busy, exciting and educational but it has been much more. It started with my installation at Aberglasney Gardens on 5 April. This is a special place for me as my husband and I are members of this enchanting place near our home in Carmarthenshire.

My association with the Dyfed Powys Police and the Fire Service has given me a real insight into a world that is invisible to most people and I have been moved to learn many times of the incredible bravery of so many of these men and women – duty before self without question. I hope this close connection will continue. My husband and I have been fortunate enough to participate in many commemorative services for

the fallen in two World Wars. I believe I now know the relevant parts of the Apocrypha by heart! Services were held in Carmarthen where a specially commissioned sculpture was unveiled by Field Marshal Lord Guthrie with a sermon delivered by the former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Williams of Oystermouth, as well as several other smaller scale events throughout the three counties of Dyfed. A cake sale on a rainy Saturday in a car park in Narberth in Pembrokeshire was organised by the mother of a former soldier wounded in Afghanistan and raised a staggering £8,000 in one morning – and this is an annual event!

As a former broadcaster in both languages I have been fortunate to be able to gain access to the media and had the opportunity to talk about the history of the Shrievalty and the role of the High Sheriff in



News from and about members



Dyfed has a long history of welcoming members of the Royal Family. Last year was no exception with five royal visits by HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who visited several businesses in Pembrokeshire last summer and were given a very warm welcome; as were TRH the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge when they visited the Amoco oil refinery on a particularly stormy day last autumn, but their serenity shone through nevertheless. HRH The Prince of Wales has a home in the county and he made three official visits during my year in office – twice to visit and endorse local companies which sell their produce worldwide. He also visited Llandovery College which now boasts a brand new nursery school. I shall look back at my year in office with pleasure and particularly with admiration for those in our communities who quietly place service above self.

♣ Elinor Jones

High Sheriff of Dyfed 2014-15

Below: Prize-giving at White Horse Agricultural Society Competition with winner Mr Russell Thomas – the activities of High Sheriffs can vary enormously!

twenty-first century Britain. School children have been particularly fascinated and as the year has progressed calls have come from societies in all parts of the three counties to give after-dinner speeches.

As we have no High Court in Dyfed, it has been a pleasure to join other High Sheriffs in West Glamorgan and Cardiff to meet sitting judges and to attend a special dinner given for the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, the first Welshman to have filled the post in more than a century. Other notable events have included the service and dinner for presenting the Royal Charter to the Welsh Livery Guild, and visits to the Order of St John headquarters in Wales and the Welsh Language Society at a meeting in which language, culture and community interaction took centre stage. The year has also given me the opportunity to make Alzheimer's my chosen charity and I've been able to attend several fundraising events. The High Sheriff's Awards were also an excellent opportunity to highlight the work done by many individuals in their communities.





A race against time

Opposite page: South Wales Police Shrievalty Award presentation to PSCO Allan Blackburn with Martyn Jenkins (West Glamorgan), Assistant Chief Constable Richard Lewis, Liz Singer and David Jenkins (South Glamorgan)

NOW THE year has come to an end, I have time to reflect on what an extraordinary year it has been. Everyone said it would fly by and after Christmas it seemed like a race against time to fit everything in.

My interest continued in the work of Barnardo's; the charity works in conjunction with Parc Prison, Bridgend on the Invisible Walls Wales Project, helping children and families affected by parental imprisonment. I never once sat beside anyone at dinner without informing them of the work, and as a result I was able to introduce various agencies willing to help. The icing on the cake came on 9 February, when HRH The Princess Royal visited the project and talked to some of the prisoners and their children, as well as to the staff of HMP Parc and Barnardo's, showing great interest. The day after I handed over to my successor, I attended an awards ceremony at the prison, where the children of prisoners were presented with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards and the fathers with their Leadership Awards. This has never happened anywhere before; it involved huge commitment from the staff and

it was wonderful to see prisoners and children showing pride in each other.

One of the duties of the three High Sheriffs of Mid, South and West Glamorgan is to sponsor a Community Shrievalty Award for South Wales Police. Nominations were put forward and with guidance from a senior officer we chose a winner. He was PSCO Allan Blackburn from the Rhondda Valley. He had recognised a lack of respect for the community in young people who complained of being bored and having nothing to do. He was a former professional boxer and decided to start a boxing club to instill discipline, a sense of purpose and respect for others. The club proved a massive success and resulted in a decrease in antisocial behaviour in the area. We presented the award in the Brangwyn Hall in Swansea. I subsequently visited the boxing club in Tonyrefail and saw the youngsters in action – what a difference it has made to the community. When it came to the end of my year and my High Sheriff's Community Awards, Allan Blackburn and the Tonyrefail Boxing Club were among my awardees.

In the New Year Honours list, Mary Squire, Clerk to Lord-Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan Mrs Kate Thomas, was appointed a Member of the Royal

Below: Lunch to honour Mary Squire MVO
Back row: Anne Campbell, Morfudd Meredith, Heather Stevens, Ann Jenkins, Jayne James, Bethan Williams
Front row: Beverley Humphrey, Kate Thomas, Mary Squire MVO, Liz Singer, Barbara Wilding, Anne Morgan





Victorian Order by HM The Queen. Alongside her duties with the Lord-Lieutenant, Mary has helped High Sheriffs in nomination in Mid and South Glamorgan to organise their declaration ceremonies over several years. We have all found her knowledge and efficiency extremely valuable, and were so pleased that she had been honoured. I organised a lunch for Lady High Sheriffs, past, present and future, in the High Sheriff's room in the Crown Court in Cardiff. Our guest of honour sat down with the Lord-Lieutenant – herself a High Sheriff before Mary's involvement – and ten past, present and future High Sheriffs of the two counties.

I feel extremely honoured to have held the position of High Sheriff in my county. I think I was able to make a difference in some quarters, and I am so grateful to all the people I have met and who have made my year so special.

♦♦ Elizabeth Singer DL
Mid Glamorgan 2014-15



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On board early for the mystery tour

Above: Swansea welcomes three new citizens with Mark Mathias DL, the Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea Councillor Ceinwen Thomas and the High Sheriff of West Glamorgan

MY SHRIEVAL year started significantly sooner than I had initially anticipated. I was originally due to take office during 2016-17. However, due to unforeseen circumstances I was shoehorned into the role for 2014-15. With hindsight, I think I have been most fortunate.

What a fascinating and memorable experience it has been. The office really does give one the opportunity to visit so many different parts of the county.

I remember a previous High Sheriff comparing his experience to travelling on a year-long mystery bus journey; not knowing where it was going and

visiting places he had never been to before, even though they were all in his county. I must say, this analogy is perfect.

At the beginning of the year everyone says, 'Do it your way'. However, what is one's way? When you have finished, you do recognise your way.

The past twelve months have been a succession of interesting and varied experiences, including award presentations, citizenship ceremonies, Remembrance services, royal visits and visits from High Court Judges.

Certainly for me, one of the highlights of the year was attending the monthly citizenship ceremonies. Everyone is so appreciative of the welcome they receive as they become new citizens



News from and about members

of the United Kingdom and the City and County of Swansea. It is a very moving occasion and really worthwhile. It is such a positive ceremony and all the staff involved help to make it a special celebration for the new citizens.

With 2014 marking the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War I naturally attended many memorial services. Each one was a very poignant and emotional experience.

Another highlight of my year was the annual High Sheriff's Awards Ceremony. This year 25 awards were presented, all to very worthy recipients. One of my favourites was Rhodri's Rangers. This group of 11 year olds from Blaenymaes Primary School in Swansea tackle the problems of bullying, antisocial behaviour and also e-bullying, which is becoming increasingly common. They were delighted to receive their award and a few days later I was invited to the school to congratulate the whole team.

I have been fortunate to attend several Appeal Court dinners in Cardiff. I would like to thank my counterpart in South Glamorgan David Jenkins and his wife Sue for the enormous effort they made to ensure these dinners were always a success. One particularly memorable dinner took place at Fonmon Castle, the home of Sir Brooke Boothby, a past High Sheriff.

Throughout my year I have been supported by many people, particularly my predecessor Gaynor Richards, who was a superb mentor, and HM Lord-Lieutenant, Byron Lewis, whom I would like to thank for his continuous support and friendship. We are most fortunate in West Glamorgan to have such a close link with the Lieutenancy.



A huge thank you goes to my wife Valerie, who has attended almost as many engagements as I have. In fact, I'm sure many people in West Glamorgan thought Valerie was the High Sheriff and I was her consort!

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served as the High Sheriff of West Glamorgan. I am very grateful to have been given this opportunity.

I extend my very best wishes to my successor Robert Redfern.

♣ ♦ Martyn Jenkins

High Sheriff of West Glamorgan 2014-2015

Above: Handing over to Robert Redfern (left), my successor as High Sheriff of West Glamorgan

Below: Presenting a High Sheriff's Award to Rhodri's Rangers





Forays in philanthropy

Opposite page

Top: David Lea-Wilson with Richard Carter, both wearing their hats at Richard's request

Bottom: Bro Aberffraw Community celebrating its award of £250,000

HIGH SHERIFFS have huge opportunities to use their office for good. But with our very limited power also comes responsibility – after all if you can't get answers when you are the High Sheriff when can you?

In a deprived part of Wales (Bro Aberffraw) where benefit claimants make up 40 per cent of the population, there are second-generation families where no one has ever had a full-time job and I was particularly interested in finding out more and doing something about this. My initial idea was to get all the public agencies together and politely bang heads together! I discovered that this wouldn't work as there were more than nine active agencies. Change has to come from the bottom up so I talked to seven voluntary organisations.

My first foray discovered a micro philanthropy fund for Wales and a pitch to them secured £2,000 to start a bike hire enterprise in a beach car park close to Newborough. This could teach a number of skills to anyone interested and would introduce routine and training by servicing a need at local camp sites. We now have the funds and secure containers and are negotiating for the bikes.

Next, again through the Community Foundation in Wales, I heard that the sale of the Olympic village had released funds into the Spirit of 2012 Trust, which is dedicated to increasing participation – in sport, the arts and volunteering – in fourteen deprived yet inspired communities across the UK. After some great teamwork, the seven voluntary groups submitted a bid and came through stiff competition to be selected for an award of £250,000. This will be dispersed over the next two years with the help of an advisory committee of 11. The money will go to small, local initiatives that benefit the 5,200 people who live in one of the most beautiful but most deprived parts of Wales. The committee plans to make its first twenty £1,000 awards in National Volunteer Week in June 2015.

The other theme that dominated the year was the commemoration of the start of the First World War. Of the many ceremonies I attended the one I found most moving was in a small church near Holyhead where the candles were snuffed out one by one until only one was left. This to me symbolised how close we came to ending the civilisation that

spawned our legal system. I couldn't help thinking that the quintessentially British institution of the Shrievalty would probably have disappeared had the outcome of the last two world wars been different. It brought to mind my own grandfather who flew biplanes in the First World War and bombed submarines by tipping the plane on its side and rolling out bombs by hand; and also my wife's grandfather who was gassed in the trenches but survived to tell us how bad it really was.

At my award ceremony I chose Richard Carter, an armed forces veteran and the oldest volunteer I found in Wales who, aged 100, continues to make and sell poppies for the British Legion as he has been doing for the last 18 years. He asked to wear his service beret for the photograph and I was happy to kneel with him and wear my hat as he received a standing ovation in the court.

It has been a great year and one I feel hugely enriched by as I hang up my sword and move on.

♦♦ **David Lea-Wilson**
High Sheriff of Gwynedd 2014-15





News from and about members





Dancing for the Cathedral

Above: The High Sheriff competes in Herefordshire's Strictly Come Dancing with Joanna Cobb

THE PICTURES tell so much of the story. I danced for the Cathedral Perpetual Trust in April and I raced in a point-to-point at the end of my year to raise funds for the High Sheriff's Trust.

Both were exhilarating and outside my usual sphere of activities but both resonated in Herefordshire and brought publicity and recognition to the Shrievalty. In between times I was in a suit or my uniform doing many of the events which will be familiar to readers of this magazine. I found throughout the year that interest and respect for the office opened doors that may otherwise have been closed and shone a light into corners where the beneficial rays of publicity often do not reach.

In particular I ran a successful rural crime initiative with the Chief Constable of West Mercia

Police. We launched this with a reception for 300 rural businesses and followed it up with regional meetings around the county. These were well received and gave impetus to a 'Stop that Thief' campaign, extra rural patrolling and a reduction in rural crime in the county. A couple of significant arrests came from the campaign. We included in the partnership the NFU and the NFU Mutual insurance group and now have in place a system which has the blessing and funding of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, a secretariat from the NFU and, hopefully, the legs to take it forwards.

Visiting local charities and special schools and colleges has been one of the most memorable parts of my year. The children in Barrs Court Special School showed so much pleasure at having a visitor in uniform – and they tried most of it on! Our



News from and about members



Royal National College for the Blind is doing such a special job for those whose sight is failing. There are so many minor charities in Herefordshire quietly doing good and asking no reward save the pleasure that helping others brings. To visit these and sometimes help them in small ways has been both humbling and a delight.

As the year drew to a close people often asked what had been my favourite part. Well I loved

it all but in Herefordshire I have really enjoyed involvement with the Cathedral; in part because of the magnificence and beauty of the services; but mainly because its quiet Christian influence, teaching and principles seem to pervade everything that is good in this county.

♣ **Major Patrick Darling DL MFH**
High Sheriff of Herefordshire 2014-15

Above left: 2013 High Sheriff Bob Tabor hands over to 2014 High Sheriff Patrick Darling

Above: The High Sheriff in the members' race in a local point-to-point with his daughter Dreda Darling taking the lead

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Awards raise awareness

WHILE THIS anniversary year of Magna Carta provides a stark reminder of the antiquity of the office, a recent predecessor of mine in Kent remarked upon the sheer scope of the office of High Sheriff today. Support for the judiciary at all levels remains a central feature of the role and I attended the Crown Courts at Maidstone and Canterbury on several occasions.

Together with the ceremonial aspect of the office, I have found that the role has offered real scope for involvement in both the public and voluntary sectors of the county. I primarily concentrated my time on programmes working with vulnerable young people and families, tackling social problems at their root causes. These early intervention initiatives aim to engage young people who are at risk of dropping out of school, while developing their aspirations and opportunities and actively deterring them from falling into the criminal justice system.

The awards ceremony that I held at Leeds Castle in March recognised several organisations involved in this preventative agenda. Intervention in the early years is as significant as the effect of neglectful parenting in the 'first 1000 days' on a child's development and subsequent behaviour. Family Nurse Partnership is a government scheme, which supports young mothers from disadvantaged backgrounds from late in their pregnancy until the child is two years old. The Play and Learn Scheme (PALS) in Ramsgate takes experienced play workers into the homes of parents equipping them with the skills they need to bring up a young child. These awards, run in association with Kent Community Foundation, proved to be an excellent vehicle to raise the profile of both the Shrievalty and the organisations concerned.

Addressing the lack of aspiration among children and young people is a particular concern in Thanet. I chaired an initiative to introduce an educational enrichment programme for five primary



Winners of the High Sheriff of Kent Awards at Leeds Castle

schools in the area for Year 6 pupils. This activity was delivered by Canterbury Christ Church University as part of its outreach programme to widen access to higher education for those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The large prison estate in Kent is facing a number of challenges with the persistently acute shortage of prison officers in the South East. Fortunately, a number of charities are operating within the system exemplified by the Prison Listener Service – a Samaritan service delivered by prisoners to prisoners – which has been invaluable in addressing mental illness in Kent prisons. I was able to give High Sheriff's Awards both to the initiator of the scheme from the Canterbury Samaritans and to the prisoner who supervised its introduction into HMP Elmley. The demonstrable success of training prisoners to become mentors for other prisoners is also reflected in the work of the Shannon Trust, which improves literacy in our prisons. A High Sheriff's Award was justly deserved for the extent and quality of the scheme in HMP Maidstone.

The privatisation of the probation service is still in its infancy but Kent is pursuing the invaluable Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme, which brings together the police, prison service, social services and NHS to work with individuals collectively to resettle them successfully back into the community. I was able to give a High Sheriff's Award to an excellent IOM scheme operating in Thanet.

Through the work of my predecessors to ensure continuity, the awareness of the Shrievalty is becoming ever more widespread across the county. The awards personally given out each year by the High Sheriff together with the recently instituted Community Awards – jointly awarded by District and Parish Councils and the High Sheriff – are all picked up by the local press and social media such as Twitter. Fortunately, the traditions of this ancient office are securely embedded in the county while its awareness continues to flourish. Long may that be the case.

♦ Hugo Fenwick
High Sheriff of Kent 2014-15



King Richard remains in Leicester

FROM THE time I took over as High Sheriff of Leicestershire on 7 April 2014, the big question was whether I would have the reinterment of King Richard III in my time in office. However, this was dependent on the result of a Judicial Review carried out by Mr Justice Haddon-Cave, who arrived in Leicester for a trial soon after I took office. I did not dare mention Richard III while he was here, as he wrote up the Review in the judge's lodgings overlooking the cathedral, in case I said the wrong thing and the king's mortal remains were to be interred in York or elsewhere.

Fortunately, not long afterwards, in late May the decision was taken for King Richard to remain in Leicester and to be reinterred in the cathedral (which was to be dramatically internally reordered in the meantime) in the week of Sunday 22 March. Many events took place, including the opening of the Richard III Visitor Centre, a dinner at the Museum of the Order of St John in Clerkenwell for

“The most moving part was when members of the Coldstream Guards Association guarded the coffin on the Tuesday night

the Bosworth peers, and a local fundraiser hosted by my predecessor, Sally Bowie, now a Lay Canon of Leicester Cathedral, and myself.

The week quickly arrived and comprised three principal services in the cathedral, all of which were attended by me and my wife Dot. We were present as the coffin arrived at the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre in the presence of HRH the Duke of Gloucester and thereafter at the Service of Compline at the rearranged cathedral, which was very moving. Four descendants of Bosworth noblemen laid the pall onto the coffin, having been previously rehearsed by my successor, the current High Sheriff Gordon Arthur. They were (for York) the Duke of Rutland (descended from Richard's sister Anne of York and from Sir Robert Manners) and the Hon Thomas Orde-Powlett, MC (of Bolton Castle and descended from Lord Scrope of Bolton), and (for Lancaster) the Earl of Derby (whose ancestor Lord Stanley determined the result of the Battle of Bosworth) and Earl de la Warr (descended from Lord

la Warre who was in exile with Henry Tudor and was later one of his military commanders).

On the Thursday we attended the Service of Reinterment of the Remains which was carried out with enormous dignity. We were lucky enough to have staying with us Harry Scrope, another descendant of Lord Scrope of Bolton. He gave us an insight into his ancestor's part in the battle – in fact if he had done his job properly we would not have been attending any reinterment. The highlight of this was that my wife had her photograph taken with Benedict Cumberbatch! Finally, on the Friday there was the Service of Reveal of the Tomb and Celebration of King Richard, which was something completely different, featuring a cast from the Curve Theatre in Leicester.

However, for me the most moving part was when members of the Coldstream Guards Association guarded the coffin on the Tuesday night. Two of them were John Hamore, the excellent Secretary of the local branch, and Captain Fred Shorrocks, who was Regimental Sergeant Major when I was Adjutant of the First Battalion.

It was a great honour to be High Sheriff of Leicestershire in this special year and to attend all the ceremonies which were carried out with such honour and dignity.

♦ Richard Clowes

High Sheriff of Leicestershire 2014-15

Below: Members of the Coldstream Guards Association guarding the coffin of Richard III



GREATER MANCHESTER

News from and about members



Photograph by kind permission of Nick Fairhurst (www.nickfairhurstphotographer.com)

Greater access...

Above: Paul Lee with Greater Manchester Civic Heads attending the Mayor of Wigan's Charity Ball at Haigh Hall on 20 March 2015

MY YEAR as High Sheriff has flown by, and I have enjoyed every minute of it.

It has been an immense honour for me to join with the Lord-Lieutenant in welcoming royal visitors to our county. The opportunity to entertain Her Majesty's High Court Judges in Manchester has been another delight, through which I have sought to highlight the vibrant educational and cultural aspects of Greater Manchester which may not always be so apparent to busy visitors.

Greater Manchester comprises 10 boroughs. A significant part of the role, therefore, is to be with the mayors at some of their own ceremonial occasions, and that has been great fun.

The law has many facets, and a particular focus for the High Sheriff is the courts, a world largely unknown to me, having spent just over 40 years as a corporate lawyer. Therefore, the opportunity to attend Crown Court, sit with the judges – and indeed dine with them very regularly – has been particularly interesting.

In 2014, the centenary of the outbreak of World War One was marked throughout the county with many services of commemoration. There were large, formal services in cathedrals but among the more poignant and personal, perhaps, was the unveiling in Royton Park in Oldham of a commemorative paving stone to mark the award of the Victoria Cross to Sgt John Hogan.

I also wished to understand more about the



News from and about members

public and voluntary sectors during the course of my year. I have been fortunate in spending some time with the police (including a night shift), the fire service and the probation and prison services.

In Greater Manchester the work done to support the homeless, addicts and the unemployed is hugely impressive. I have seen for myself the outstanding work done by such charities as the Booth Centre, the Message Trust, RECLAIM and others.

I chose to support one charity in particular, Access Sport, during my year as High Sheriff. The charity aims to give more children, especially those in disadvantaged areas, access to a wide range of quality local sport. Access Sport will now be able to create 15 new or enhanced, volunteer led, sustainable community sport clubs. This includes working with the fire service and the police to extend some of the facilities they already operate, such as Moss Side Boxing Club at Moss Side Fire Station.

I am a committed believer in interfaith co-operation and the strengthening of dialogue among people of different religions and people of no religion. It has therefore been a great honour to be High Sheriff of Greater Manchester which is a wonderfully diverse county, with all races, cultures and religions making a huge contribution to its community. My visits to various synagogues, mosques, Christian churches and cathedrals and other places of worship have all underlined for me the very real benefit of dialogue, and the understanding and tolerance which can result from that.

It has been a varied year, allowing me to experience many facets of life in Greater

Manchester of which I was previously less well informed. I will take with me from my year a determination to continue to encourage social cohesion, racial and religious tolerance and co-operation, and support for related charities. It has truly been a wonderful year for me.

♦♦ Paul Lee

High Sheriff of Greater Manchester 2014-15

Below: The High Sheriff flanked by Nigel Travis (left) and Mike Dillon, Moss Side Boxing Club and, below, members of the Club



Left to right: George Almond CBE DL, Sheriff Dana Lawthorne and Under Sheriff Tim Gleeson

Shot with the (US) Sheriffs

The immediate past High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, George Almond, met a real Sheriff and his Under Sheriff at a recent 9/11 memorial event in the City of Alexandria, Virginia USA, when they took the opportunity to discuss their respective roles.

Mr Almond said he 'learnt that their Sheriff's Office is not dissimilar to that of our High Sheriffs' of old, inasmuch as they are responsible for the operation of the Detention Centre, courthouse, service of legal documents, execution of court orders, transportation of prisoners and execution of arrest warrants together with general law enforcement.'



The future looks bright

EDUCATION WAS a central theme of my shrieval year which started appropriately with my installation in Liverpool University's Victoria Building, Alfred Waterhouse's terracotta masterpiece, from which the term 'red-brick university' originated. I was doubly blessed with two chaplains: one a Muslim of my own faith and one from the majority Christian faith. The education theme was highlighted by many visits to local schools, and there can be no more heart-warming greeting to any official visitor than a class of infants shouting out in unison 'Good Morning, High Sheriff.' The older girls at Merchant Taylors' were no less welcoming and my own name will be immortalised on the plaque I unveiled there to commemorate the opening of the new primary wing of the school.

Apart from the ceremonial duties, every High Sheriff will be inspired by the intensity and dedication of the work of the voluntary sector that they will encounter. I was just amazed. Up and down Merseyside, from Southport to Liverpool, and across from Wirral to Knowsley and St Helens, there is just so much good work being done, particularly for and by young people. As my predecessor said, the role of the High Sheriff is often to thank the un-thanked for the work they do. I felt I was only scratching the surface of a bedrock of civil society that is invisible to much of the outside world, certainly to most of the media. It would be invidious to



Plaque unveiling at Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, Jan 2015

highlight one particular project – there were so many – but I must flag up that Merseyside won first place in this year's National Crimebeat Awards with 'Emotions', a wonderful and truly original project which uses dance and theatre to communicate the societal effects of crime to young people who might otherwise be tempted to go down that route.

Each of the armed services was very supportive during my shrieval year and I was particularly impressed by the youthful enthusiasm of all their cadet corps, and of course by the Scouts. The police, co-sponsors of our crime prevention initiatives, supplied my two cadets, Danielle and Tom, who as well as accompanying me during royal visits, carried my borrowed sword for the Judges' Service at the Anglican Cathedral. Both cathedrals saw a great deal of Bob, my husband (and self-appointed *Shrievalty Factotum*), and me during the year. What must be fairly unique is that we attended the installation of the new Diocesan Bishop of Liverpool, the new Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, and the new Rector of Liverpool Parish Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas – all three in one year.

Because my year coincided with the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War, I witnessed many very poignant events – from the giant marionettes of the *Royale de Luxe* memorably parading through Liverpool, to marking the

departure of the 'Liverpool Pals' from Lime Street station in 1914. Even more moving were Remembrance Sunday outside St George's Hall; the Royal Marines' commemoration of the 1918 Zeebrugge Raid (following which British troops and casualties were taken off by many small ships, including our own Mersey ferries); and Merchant Navy Day in Liverpool commemorating the 36,000 seafarers who died at sea in World War Two.

The sea and particularly the River Mersey have been a very strong focus during my year. As well as being entertained on three of Her Majesty's and one of His Royal Netherlands Majesty's warships, I spent a fascinating day learning about the flora and fauna of Sefton's coastline; I was taken out on the rescue boat of the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service – by far the best and most exhilarating way to see the county; and, looking to the future, I found Peel Group's vision for a new deep-water port and massive new developments on both sides of the river simply breathtaking. The most encouraging event of my whole year was probably the Mersey Maritime Awards extravaganza in March this year celebrating the successes of 1,700 maritime-based businesses with 20,000 new jobs anticipated.

Merseyside doesn't just have a unique and proud history; it has a great future.

♦♦ **Abila Pointing MBE DL**
High Sheriff of Merseyside 2014-2015



Marine rescue boat of the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service with the High Sheriff, her husband and police cadets, Danielle and Tom



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

News from and about members

Many proud moments

AFTER A year of great highlights, endearing moments and touching celebrations within the county, I have, with much pride, handed over as High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire to Dr Jaswant Bilkhu, who was installed at Ramgharia Sabha Gurawaria, a Sikh Temple in Nottingham, on 11 April 2015.

Over the past 12 months, I have been fortunate enough to be invited to a myriad of unique and intriguing events and have thus been given the opportunity to meet some most inspiring people; people who work tirelessly to raise Nottinghamshire's reputation around the country and indeed the world. I have been humbled by the countless, truly remarkable initiatives.

It is perhaps a cliché to say 'too numerous to mention', but throughout my year in office, I have received incredible support from people from across the county and I really would like to thank them all; the experience has been heart-warming. Perhaps, however, I could take a moment to reference my shrieval team. The list of those who have contributed to making my year such a success includes Deborah Hutchinson, the Under Sheriff, and my chaplain, the Rt Revd Anthony Porter, Bishop of Sherwood. Bishop Tony, as he is fondly known, presided over The Queen's Birthday Service in June as well as the Legal Service in May. He was a

constant throughout and assisted with the Community Sport Mission among many other projects. Both were a great fount of knowledge and source of advice throughout the year.

A few of the more significant initiatives of the past year have been focused on those in Nottinghamshire in need. Bishop Tony introduced me to Betel, a charity with which he works closely; a truly wonderful group which deserves as much support as possible in its mission. On my visit, I learnt about the struggle of those recovering from addiction and their journey to regain a healthy lifestyle.

One particular occasion which raised awareness of the more vulnerable people in the county was HRH Prince Harry's visit to Nottingham. He is a vocal supporter of the Full Effect project which works with young leaders to help prevent children becoming involved in youth violence and crime. No doubt his association has been fundamental to the project's success.

As High Sheriff, I was also in attendance on HRH The Princess Royal and HRH Prince Michael of Kent; it has been a very royal year for Nottinghamshire! These royal visits have understandably been some of the more newsworthy, but there have been many others which deserve just as much recognition. Of note would be the opportunities I had to bring further



Graham Cartledge with HRH Prince Harry in support of the Full Effect project

attention to Maggie's Cancer Centre in the Nottingham City Hospital grounds; Maggie's is an organisation very close to my heart. As well as hosting a dinner to raise awareness for the local chapter, I also opened the Maggie's Marvellous Goose Fair Charity Ball.

These – and other – groups who generate such positivity within the county by undertaking their noble work are admirable stalwarts of this region. I consider myself to be lucky to have been in a position to promote their causes and bring to them what extra attention I could.

This has been one of the most exhilarating years of my life. As a sports' fan, I was excited about the Sport in the Community Mission I chose to support at the beginning of my office but didn't realise just how significant it could be until the competition for naming the country's first City of Football came around. Through my position, I was able to be involved with Team Nottingham's bid. Imagine the thrill when Nottingham was named the winner!

Now that I have officially hung up my cocked hat, buckled shoes and sword, I would like to reiterate my sincere thanks to everyone who has been a part of this year and supported me throughout. I shall remain forever honoured to have held this appointment; I will assuredly always think back on my time as High Sheriff with pride and affection.

♦♦ **Graham Cartledge CBE**
High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire 2014-15



Graham Cartledge with his family on making his Declaration at St Andrew's Church, Cauntton

NORFOLK

News from and about members



A little can go a long way

Below: Arthur Dannatt, swordbearer aged seven wearing 18th century Grenadier uniform, leads his grandmother and the Judges to Norwich Cathedral

INVARIABLY ONE of the first things anyone asks you as High Sheriff is 'So, how are you enjoying it?' An understandable question, but sometimes a difficult one to answer truthfully.

While deeply conscious of the honour of being asked to be High Sheriff, and of the privilege of following in both my father's and my grandfather's footsteps, I found I did not find love every moment. And having chosen mental health – and how mental health issues impact on the Criminal Justice Service – as the theme for my year, it was perhaps inevitable I would stumble across some

pretty harrowing stuff. There are few happy tales that come out of the cash-strapped world of NHS mental health care and even fewer from our prisons and our hostels. Making any sort of difference seemed a remote and impractical dream.

But I was quite wrong on that level at least, and imperceptibly something shifted. I can't quite put my finger on it, but shift it did, as surely and certainly as do the sands of our glorious eastern coastline. I found that while, of course, never being able to change the world big time, it was remarkable and humbling how as High Sheriff, one was able to influence some things for the small





News from and about members



Left: Lord and Lady Dannatt at their garden party with Yeoman Warders from the Tower of London where Lord Dannatt is the Constable

Below: Assembled outside the west door of Norwich Cathedral for the justice service

charity, the volunteer, the patient, the ex-prisoner, the individual. And to me this is the huge strength of the appointment. It is a position that should be cherished and never underestimated. Here for me, lay the privilege of being High Sheriff.

Then came all sorts of bonuses that I had never looked for or anticipated. I found myself falling in love with the county of Norfolk in a new and totally unexpected way – Great Yarmouth, Kings Lynn... and all that lies under the wide and rolling skies between. Being High Sheriff gave me the freedom to explore; moreover to meet the raft of extraordinary men and women who share an equal passion for where they live and work, and for the indelible colour they bring to their towns and villages, schools and communities. I have visited

not only prisons and psychiatric units, but Gypsy encampments and undertakers too... and an awful lot in between.

I have relished every second in our wonderful courts of law, just as I have stood humbled yet enthralled under the soaring vault of our great Cathedral church; each stone soaked in the joys and fears, hopes and supplications of generation upon generation. For me it has been the greatest privilege of all to stand with them in the shadows, adding my prayers to theirs.

So what has impressed me most this year? It is not the parades and the parties – fun as they were. Instead it is two short words: human kindness. It is the compassion of the judge who agonises over his sentencing; the compassion shown by the young police officer to the abusive drunk, and by the ambulance crew to the lonely lady who dials 999 just because she wants to see a friendly face. It is the kindness of our prison visitors, and those who voluntarily support those with mental health issues within our communities that really make the difference. So was it fun? Not always, but that definitely is the wrong question to ask. The answer, of course, runs far deeper than that. And for the opportunity and privilege of being allowed to discover that answer for myself, I am forever grateful.

♦♦ **The Lady Dannatt MBE**
High Sheriff of Norfolk 2014-15





Above: With Greg Searle and Matt Dawson at the High Sheriff Challenge Sports event, Iffley Road Sports Ground, Oxford

Opposite page: Oxfordshire Mock Trials – Tony Stratton with the winners, Chaney School, and Lynn Dowler, organising magistrate, Oxford Magistrates' Court

High Sheriff Challenge

IN ADDITION to traditional shrieval responsibilities and activities, a focus for my year was to engage the business community, both to increase its understanding of the Shrievalty and as a source of charitable giving. To achieve this, I created the High Sheriff Challenge – a series of three events and two receptions for participating firms, in return for an agreed donation to the Oxfordshire Community Foundation.

The Foundation provided the administration and governance and also made grants to our two other charities – Access Sport and Music

for Autism. As a consequence we were able to double the money raised, a six-figure sum, through matched funding from Sport England, the Communities Fund and Oxford City Council.

Over 20 companies took part and, with the generous support of the MPs of Oxfordshire, the Challenge was launched at the Palace of Westminster in May with a drinks reception and a guided tour of the Palace (with three Oxfordshire MPs as guides) – a delightful and captivating evening.

Event one, 'The Sporting Challenge', was held at the Iffley Road Sports Stadium by kind



News from and about members



permission of Oxford University. Five participants from each challenger company formed teams and competed in ten different sporting events, including swimming, running, rowing, basketball, archery and welly wanging. The weather was kind and, with sportsmen Matt Dawson and Greg Searle in attendance to support and celebrate everybody's remarkable efforts, we enjoyed a successful afternoon and evening.

Event two, 'The Musical Challenge', took place at Blenheim Palace, with four people from each challenger company arriving to be assessed for singing potential by maestro John Lubbock (newly appointed OBE) and then formed into a choir that

performed in Blenheim's wonderful Orangery for 30 minutes before dinner.

Event three, 'The Business Challenge', was a lecture on the subject of leadership and involvement in the community by Allan Leighton at the Said Business School. The School also generously provided drinks and canapés after the lecture.

Our final reception was hosted by the Chief Constable at Thames Valley Police Headquarters, providing a truly fascinating insight into Thames Valley Police, where their current focus is on how policing is changing in today's changing world.

Of course, in addition to the High Sheriff Challenge and the business community, I have much enjoyed engagement with the judiciary, the magistracy, the police and emergency services, the military, faith groups, and the voluntary and civic sectors.

The Oxfordshire High Sheriff's Awards recognised 20 individuals, chosen from a record 50-plus nominations of the most incredible standard, and I was also delighted to present the Law Lecture Essay Awards, the Young Engineers Awards, the Community Integration Awards and the Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action Awards.

Di and I have had a wonderful year and are thoroughly exhausted! It has been such a privilege and so eye-opening to have an insight into the talent, time, aspirations and lives of the people of Oxfordshire.

♦♦ **Tony Stratton DL**
High Sheriff of Oxfordshire 2014-2015



EAST SUSSEX

News from and about members



And a thousand voices sang...

Below: With soprano Kirsty Hopkins, Veronica Christophers, Harry Christophers CBE and former High Sheriff Kathy Gore OBE DL after The Sixteen Christmas Concert at Glyndebourne

WHAT A privilege to be High Sheriff in 2014/15, one hundred years after the outbreak of the Great War. I shared in many commemorations across East Sussex and on the Western Front, and whether in city, town or village, each event carried its own poignancy, a reflection of the losses felt by every community. It has been a pleasure to participate in many of these events alongside Peter Field, Lord-Lieutenant of the county.

The enormity of the conflict and its global nature were perfectly illustrated at the Chattri Memorial on the downs north of Brighton when 600 people gathered in the presence of the High

Commissioner of India, on a hot June day, to pay their respects to Hindu and Sikh soldiers who died of their wounds in Brighton hospitals and were cremated here. They died in a land so distant from their own, fighting out of loyalty rather than understanding.

I wanted to add to the initiatives aimed at raising Great War awareness among the young. I invited the military historian and battlefield guide Jeremy Banning to talk to sixth-form pupils from across the county. They found his illustrated talk astounding, as did members of Royal British Legion, SSAFA and the Royal Sussex Regiment.

I crossed the Channel twice. In August I was a guest of the Mayor and people of Dieppe at their





News from and about members



annual commemorations of the 1942 Dieppe Raid. In September I drove to the small village of Priez, where a monument was unveiled to the fallen of Royal Sussex Regiment. The Mayor of Priez has been in post for over fifty years and was unimpressed that my term of office was only for one!

More distant Sussex history was entertainingly remembered when I processed with the Mayor of Lewes to welcome 'Henry III' on the bridge over the River Ouse on the eve of the 750th anniversary of the Battle of Lewes. Unfortunately the King's horse refused to behave, and he had to dismount.

An unusual event in Newhaven, jointly hosted by the Embassy of Vietnam and Newhaven Town Council, was attended by the Ambassador, HE Vu Quang Minh, as we marked Ho Chi Minh's link to the town and his 125th Birthday. The founder of the modern Socialist Republic of Vietnam once worked as a pastry chef on the cross-channel ferry. Who knew?

I will not forget the achievements of small charities, so often run on a shoestring by volunteers who make such a fundamental contribution to society. The East Sussex Community Foundation introduced me to many such charities, and it was a pleasure to give High Sheriff's Awards to Brighton's Chattri Memorial Group and to Little Gate Farm, near Hastings, a project for kids and adults with learning difficulties.

I must mention the Respond Academy in Hastings, a charity which encourages children who have had exclusion problems at school or brushes with the law to broaden their horizons. I entered them into the National Crimebeat Awards and they

came third – a fantastic achievement.

I have enjoyed visiting the emergency services. Despite financial constraints there is a determination not to let standards slip, and all I spoke to agreed there was a limit to cut-backs before standards are put at risk. Involvement with the emergency services has highlighted the enthusiasm shown by cadet training groups. I gave out Scouts awards too, and, I must say, Bear Grylls is an excellent role model!

I visited Sussex Police Advanced Driver Training team and Tactical Pursuit and Containment (TPAC) exercises on the M23 – I hope my driving has improved! My wife and I also visited Sussex Police headquarters to support those who help keep the show on the road, out of the public eye.

It was also a privilege to present Court Awards to individuals who helped secure convictions as witnesses – underlining the connection between the Shrievalty, the wider community and the judiciary.

The role of High Sheriff opens many doors. In December, I brought together two stars of the musical world in a Christmas concert at Glyndebourne. Harry Christophers and The Sixteen enthralled a packed house, and £63,000 was raised for hospices throughout Sussex at an event which was only possible thanks to the terrific Friends of Sussex Hospices, Glyndebourne and our generous sponsors. To round things off we all joined in singing carols with The Sixteen; thus over 1000 people can now say they too have sung at Glyndebourne!

❖ **Christopher Gebbie OBE**
High Sheriff of East Sussex 2014-15

Above left: With HE Vu Quang Minh, Ambassador of Vietnam, at a celebration of the links between Newhaven and Vietnam

Above: With Chelsea Pensioners at the First World War Civic Commemoration at Brighton



County of the competent, capable and committed

Above: Michelle Nicholson founder of Keychange women's charity receives her award from the High Sheriff

HALFWAY THROUGH my year the Crown Court was privileged to host the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Thomas. At lunch the Honorary Recorder declared that the High Sheriff was doing an exceptional job. Unfortunately he then added 'so far', thus removing any chance of my freewheeling through the second half of the game!

I have attempted to focus some of my time on the Magistrates' Courts and the special constabulary, as both play a hugely important role in the criminal system without receiving any payment. This has not prevented my sitting with the visiting High Court Judges, as well our resident Circuit and District Judges. Our prisons have been subject to many organisational changes and their governors seem to change with the frequency of football managers. Nevertheless, the

officers I met have a genuine sincerity of purpose and great professionalism in dealing with the constantly changing objectives and resources.

The police 999 response centre on a Saturday night is an enthralling place to visit. The ability of the men and women to deal patiently with calls that are clearly non-emergencies, and also to sense the casual call that could degenerate into a crisis, clearly illustrated the training that underpinned the responses. South Yorkshire police have not been without some unwelcome publicity, and we have attempted to support the chief constable and regional chief superintendents whenever, and wherever, possible.

It is very exciting to join university students at their graduation ceremonies, and, as a Rolls Royce apprentice myself, I was especially proud to present



News from and about members

awards to Rolls Royce apprentices from the new university training college.

My wife's and my affection for our four-legged friends has given us the opportunity to spend time with the mounted police division, the dog training unit for both police dog and drug search dog training. Similarly we have enjoyed our time with the canine charities which train dogs for the blind and now, increasingly, dogs for those with hearing and epileptic conditions.

I finished my year on a memorable high with a congregation of over 400 in Sheffield's newly renovated cathedral to celebrate the annual legal service. Five visiting High Court Judges joined the Honorary Recorder, Circuit Judges, District Judges, QCs and JPs, professors from both our universities, and mayors from our four principal centres. It was a colourful and noisy procession.

At the luncheon I was delighted to present three awards; one to a new organisation called Keychange, which helps female offenders to integrate back into society after custody; another to a special constable with over 20 years' service and a string of commendations; and a final one to the manager of

the local Pakistani Muslim centre who has used his boundless energy to bring the civic and religious leaders together in a positive and friendly environment.

Not having been the High Sheriff of any other county, it is hard to make comparisons, but I am convinced that in South Yorkshire we have men and women who are competent, capable and committed to upholding law and order in our county. It has been a privilege to spend time with them.

♣ John Bramah

South Yorkshire 2014-15



Left: High Sheriff with Rolls Royce apprentices at the university's awards evening



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Supporting and promoting the voluntary sector

WHEN I was invited to contribute an article to this magazine about my experiences as High Sheriff, I thought 'where do I start? It has been such a busy (about 250 engagements) and enjoyable year with so many highlights that I am not sure where to start.

I have had my share of visiting royalty (eight) which is always a pleasure. I have enjoyed participating in the citizenship ceremonies held at County Hall in Kingston and welcoming new British citizens who have decided to settle in Surrey. I delight in telling them about all that Surrey has to offer and what a remarkable and diverse county it is. I have also enjoyed presenting awards dressed in my finery whether it is for the Scouts, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, apprentices, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service or Surrey Police.

While I think it is important to continue and to respect the traditions of this great Office (and I took great pleasure in doing so – the service for the judiciary was one of the highlights of my year), in my view the main role of the modern-day High Sheriff is to take an active part in



Youth Engagement Scheme (YES) graduates with Kevin Hurley (Police and Crime Commissioner), David Munro (Chairman, Surrey County Council), Simon Moore (Assistant Chief Fire Officer), Gavin Stephens (Assistant Chief Constable) and Peter Lee (High Sheriff)

supporting and promoting the voluntary sector in the county. With 1,600 charities and voluntary organisations in Surrey, that is a job well worth doing.

I am pleased to report that two of my three nominations for a National Crimebeat Award – the Leatherhead Youth Total Football Project and Youth Engagement Scheme (YES) – received certificates of commendation which I was proud to present to them. Total Football, a project which engages disadvantaged young people through football, also received the High Sheriff Youth Awards Sports Project Award at the prestigious 2014 Surrey Sports Awards held at Kempton Park in December.

My year culminated in the High Sheriff Youth Awards celebration event generously hosted by ExxonMobil at their headquarters in Leatherhead. It is an opportunity to showcase some of the projects the HSYA has supported over the year. I am pleased to say that, as the presenter of this impressive event, I was completely outshone by the young people who participated in it.

I was very flattered to be the subject of a four-page interview in *Surrey Life* magazine headed 'The Good, the Bad and the Dashing', although I am not clear which of these referred to me! The article, fittingly, came out on the day of my successor's installation at Guildford Cathedral and drew a neat conclusion to my year.

As I reflect on what has been a busy and at times challenging year, I feel honoured, humbled and privileged to have served Surrey as its High Sheriff. It is a unique role which affords a special insight into the workings of the county, the people of the county and the communities in the county. There is an extraordinary amount of goodwill out there for the office of High Sheriff and I hope that I have played my part in preserving that for my successors.

I may now be an ex-High Sheriff but I believe that I am a better person for the experience – certainly a better informed person.

♦♦ Peter Lee

High Sheriff of Surrey 2014-15



Peter Lee, High Sheriff of Surrey, with some of the young participants at the High Sheriff Youth Awards celebration event hosted by ExxonMobil at its headquarters in Leatherhead



TYNE AND WEAR

News from and about members

Safe and secure

IT HAS been a privilege to have been High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear. It is a role that lets you knock on doors and see them open, so I do hope that, with all those who supported me, I have made a difference for others on this particular journey.

In my year I focussed on two areas. One, to recognise the work of all those involved in safeguarding children – complex and difficult work, which takes great sensitivity, resilience, and often finely balanced judgement. Two, to raise awareness of the plight of children and young people who live with domestic abuse.

I undertook three major initiatives:

- **Supported by the police and crime commissioner, the chief constable and Northumbria University, we held a conference called 'Hearing the voice of the child; creating safe spaces for children and young people affected by domestic abuse'. For the first time we focussed on the impact on children and young people in the North East and showcased good work happening in the region.**
- **A workshop to share how far domestic violence perpetrator programmes help rehabilitate the offender and thus reduce domestic abuse.**
- **The launch of the 'High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear's 50th Anniversary PhD scholarship', addressing a gap in current research to help answer the question 'when is home safe and secure?' Aimed at children, uniquely by listening to children. This will be delivered through a special partnership between Durham University and seven housing providers which have gifted funds for the research.**

Creating safe places is a cornerstone of the Tyne and Wear High Sheriff's Awards Fund from which hundreds of children and young people have benefited. We had



Above: Ruth Thompson with Kevin Ball, former Sunderland AFC captain and club ambassador, with the winning youngsters at the High Sheriff's Awards evening

a great High Sheriff's Awards evening at Sunderland University when over £30,000 was shared among more than 50 organisations, celebrating with around 150 youngsters.

My husband and I have been part of many special days. I have attended seven royal visits, each very different; watched the formality and the fun of civic events; been entertained by our armed forces and paid tribute to them at commemorative days, especially those marking 100 years since the outbreak of World War One.

It has been my pleasure to host, with a warm North-East welcome, a dozen dinners with High Court Judges who have generously reciprocated. I have sat in courts observing the legal system close up and I won't forget the formal, colourful processions at Durham, York and Newcastle Cathedrals, the pageantry marking the start and finish of the legal terms.

I have seen the operations of those who keep us safe and secure, the probation, prison, police, ambulance, and fire and rescue services, taking part in their awards' ceremonies which conferred well-deserved recognition of the wonderful service they give. I have seen in action the RNLI, which operates all day and every day, funded almost exclusively by public donations and run entirely by volunteers. I left humbled and proud in equal measure that here in Tyne and Wear we not only invented the lifeboat, but we also have in Sunderland the oldest operational lifeboat



Above: Ruth Thompson with Susan Winfield, Lord-Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear, and the county's civic heads

centre in the country and are pioneering work in sea safety.

It is often asked whether we still have a sense of community. I would say that community spirit is in full flow even if occasionally dashed against hard rocks in recent times. I have met extraordinary people working with our communities; I fear that the fabric of society would crumble without them. Martin Luther King, Jr said, 'Life's most persistent and urgent question is "What are you doing for others?"' If someone asked that question here in Tyne and Wear they would need to sit awhile to hear the answers.

◆ **Ruth Thompson OBE**
High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear 2014-15



Opening doors

WHEN ASKED to explain my year as High Sheriff I liken it to an invitation to a large house party with two conditions; one that I wear official dress and the other to open as many doors as possible. So I arrived at the vast mansion in Warwickshire in my velvet. The first door I opened was that of the judges who welcomed me with open arms, introduced me to the Justice Service and allowed me to sit with them through murder trials. It was fascinating. The chief constable led me into the room where forensic testing took place and into the command room where just 20 police officers were dealing with all the calls from the county and lastly into the camera room where 300 cameras from five towns were being watched 24 hours of every day helping to catch criminals. I followed the criminals through the next door into the prison at Onley where the prison governor gave the Bishop of Warwick, my chaplain and me an entire day of his time to show and to explain the principles of his prison and how he tries to prepare prisoners for life afterwards. The next door was that of the probation service and of social workers who work so hard to prevent offenders from reoffending.

The passages in the mansion were full of surprises: the Lord-Lieutenant with HRH The Princess Royal who had come to check up on Warwickshire's plough horses and HRH The Prince of Wales who surprised us with his birthday party at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. The door which led me into the world of Shakespeare was coated in gold. The Birthplace Trust, the costume department, the theatre, King Edward VI School where Shakespeare was educated in the Guild Hall and Holy Trinity Church where he was buried – all a magical mystery tour. Shakespeare's father was the mayor of Stratford and although he was not on the staircase it was lined with mayors from all our towns – each mayor doing a remarkable job and understanding their people. The last room was that of the volunteers – a veritable hall – filled to the brim with wonderful, generous people giving their time and their love, and making others feel better.

But the thread which bound this beautiful mansion together was one of 'faith'. There were many different cultures trying to get on and understand each other. Dinners with Sikhs; multi-faith weeks with visits to mosques and temples;

Above: Warwickshire Legal Service on Monday 13 October 2014: Major Patrick Darling, High Sheriff of Herefordshire, Anne Burnett, High Sheriff of Northamptonshire, Clare Hopkinson, High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Robert Bland, High Sheriff of Shropshire, Tom Frost, High Sheriff of Gloucestershire and Dr Tim Watts, High Sheriff of West Midlands

the uplifting, joyous and utterly glorious Christian services with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; the bishops; all the Warwickshire regiments with their brass bands and many other services; they all made this house party so special.

When asked if I had achieved anything, I had to confess nothing, beyond nominating the Kenilworth Youth Club, joint winner of the National Crimebeat Awards, which was a triumph. Of course, I raised a little money for various charities but really I did nothing except bring a smile with me wherever I could. I shook a great many hands, thanked everyone I met and loved every moment.

My advice to those who have the honour, the privilege but above all the opportunity, is to open as many doors as possible and to remember that there is no one looking over your shoulder or comparing you to anyone else. It is your year so plan it well in advance and enjoy it.

♣ **Clare Hopkinson**
High Sheriff of Warwickshire 2014-15



Working on the chain gang

HAVING LIVED and worked in the West Midlands all my life it has given me enormous pleasure to shine a light on the countless individuals, communities and businesses whose innovation, talent and creativity make the region so great.

I have attended a huge array of events and met some wonderful people. I have also been privileged to play a part in a number of truly ground-breaking schemes that will bring a whole host of benefits to the West Midlands region for many, many years to come.

I have learnt many things this past year not least what a solid, dependable and proud legal system we have in this country – it is something we should all cherish. Never was this more evident than when attending the Court Awards in March; I came across some phenomenal examples of extraordinary people who have helped to bring people to justice.

Since the start of my year in office, I have been overwhelmed by the sheer

number of people who volunteer their time to help others and I have been inspired by the dedication of so many individuals who uphold the values of community and inclusivity – it would be nigh on impossible for me to congratulate all of them. However, by fostering close relationships with the two lord mayors and five mayors in my Shrievalty, I hope that I went some way to recognising as many of them as possible by feeding into the individual charities that each support. I am sure that relationships between the ‘chain gang’ within the Shrievalty was strengthened as a result of our close working and it gave me great pleasure to thank all of them personally during my High Sheriff’s luncheon, also attended by the Lord-Lieutenant.

Since the start of 2015, there have been many standout experiences that have created lasting memories: meeting the Shirley Sea Cadets, hearing about the sterling work of the Royal Star &



At the annual celebration of the administration of justice service 8 March 2015

Garter Homes, who provide nursing care to the ex-service community, and speaking at the Reynolds Cross School, a special needs school for pupils with severe learning difficulties. I was also delighted to support an innovative scheme at Arden Primary School in Sparkhill, Birmingham that helped pupils build closer relationships with their fathers. As part of the programme, dads regularly attended the school to participate in activities with their children including sports, cookery and bowling, in addition to hearing talks and taking part in workshops on citizenship, improving confidence and how to become a good role model. The scheme was a huge success and could now be rolled out across other schools, which has to be a good thing.

My year as High Sheriff will be a time I will always look back on and remember fondly, and I sincerely hope the people and groups I have had the pleasure of meeting and working alongside will agree.

It was a unique opportunity to give something back to the county I am proud to call home and it has been an honour to embrace the role and undertake the many ceremonial, civic and social events.



Major Sylvia Parkin MBE TD JP DL, Dr Tim Watts DL and the Reverend Paul Cudby (chaplain to the High Sheriff)

♦♦ Dr Tim Watts DL
High Sheriff of the West Midlands 2014-15

THE HIGH SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

HIGH SHERIFFS OF ENGLAND AND WALES FOR 2015-16

England

Bedfordshire	The Countess of Erroll
Berkshire	D M A Bertie Esq
Buckinghamshire	Mrs A F Skelton DL
Cambridgeshire	Captain V H Lucas DL RN
Cheshire	C W Holroyd Esq CBE DL
City of Bristol	Dr R P Kennedy
Cornwall	A D G Fortescue Esq
Cumbria	S A M Rayner Esq
Derbyshire	O G Stephenson Esq
Devon	Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent KCB CBE
Dorset	Mrs J S Coombs
Durham	J M F Fenwick Esq
East Riding of Yorkshire	J L Dick Esq OBE DL
East Sussex	Mrs J A Smith JP
Essex	G V B Thompson Esq
Gloucestershire	Dr R J Head DL
Greater London	The Lady Hameed
Greater Manchester	Mrs S R Birtles JP DL
Hampshire	Lady Portal MBE DL
Herefordshire	E M Harley Esq
Hertfordshire	J C G Trower Esq
Isle of Wight	R T Holland Esq
Kent	W Alexander Esq
Lancashire	Mrs A J Parker JP
Leicestershire	G D Arthur Esq
Lincolnshire	Air Vice Marshal H G Mackay CB OBE AFC
Merseyside	R T H Owen Esq JP DL
Norfolk	N J H Pratt Esq
Northamptonshire	Dr A I Mukhtar DL
Northumberland	Mrs L H M Carroll
North Yorkshire	C D Forbes Adam Esq DL
Nottinghamshire	Dr J S Bilkhu
Oxfordshire	T H Birch Reynardson Esq
Rutland	A J Brown Esq
Shropshire	D R Stacey Esq
Somerset	The Hon Mrs James Nelson
South Yorkshire	J R Holt Esq DL
Staffordshire	J W Leavesley Esq
Suffolk	Mrs J V Shallow
Surrey	Mrs E A S Kennedy
Tyne and Wear	Mrs K L H Winkell OBE DL
Warwickshire	Mrs J A Bell Smith JP
West Midlands	E J Turpie Esq MBE
West Sussex	Mrs D L A Patterson
West Yorkshire	E J S Anderson Esq
Wiltshire	Lady Gooch JP
Worcestershire	Sir Anthony Winnington Bt

Wales

Clwyd	Mrs J P Evans
Dyfed	J W P Lewis Esq
Gwent	Lt Colonel A S Tuggey DL
Gwynedd	Dr E M N Andrews MBE DL
Mid Glamorgan	Mrs J A James
Powys	Lt Colonel M H L Lewis DL
South Glamorgan	Mrs H V Stevens CBE
West Glamorgan	R M Redfern Esq

Only honours, awards and appointments emanating from the Crown and the office of DL have been included.

NEW MEMBERS

The Association welcomes the following as new members

Name	County	Year of Office
Sir David Arculus	Cambridgeshire	2017
A J S Bagge Esq	Norfolk	2017
The Lady Emma Barnard	West Sussex	2017
Dr K G Bradshaw DL	West Midlands	2016
Dr T G Bramall CBE	West Yorkshire	2017
Lt General R V Brims CB CBE DSO DL	Tyne and Wear	2017
A R E Brown Esq	City of Bristol	2017
C J Brown Esq	West Yorkshire	2016
Mrs M Butcher	Shropshire (Under Sheriff)	
Mrs S A M Callander Beckett	Cheshire	2017
D E Cam Esq DL	Lancashire (Under Sheriff)	
Mrs M J Chowen	East Sussex	2017
A S Clark Esq DL	Lincolnshire	2017
A J Clay Esq	Gwent	2016
I D Coull Esq	Buckinghamshire	2017
Miss J E Cranston	Oxfordshire	2017
Major General Sir William Cubitt KCVO CBE	Norfolk	2016
D J Davies Esq JP	Mid Glamorgan	2017
M E T Davies Esq	Warwickshire	2017
J R Dickinson Esq	Northumberland	2017
Mrs G E Drewry	East Riding of Yorkshire	2017
Mrs R L Fleet	West Glamorgan	2017
R Fordham Esq	Northamptonshire	2017
J W Furness Esq	North Yorkshire	2016
W A Hobhouse Esq	Hertfordshire	2017
Mrs C H G Howard	Clwyd	2017
W J Jackson Esq	Herefordshire	2017
G E Jessel Esq DL	Kent	2017
C E Lillis Esq	Shropshire	2017
Mrs H Lindsay-Fynn	Devon	2017
G C Lloyd Esq	South Glamorgan	2017
The Lady Marland	Wiltshire	2017
T P Maxted Esq	Leicestershire	2017
The Hon. Mrs M R Montagu-Scott	Hampshire	2017
M D Oldham Esq	Bedfordshire (Under Sheriff)	
J R Rivers Esq CBE DL	Derbyshire	2017
Mrs L J Rolfe JP	Essex	2016
B M A S Rouse Esq	Isle of Wight	2017
H D S Scott-Moncrieff Esq DL	Staffordshire	2017
Mrs S P Scrope DL	Berkshire	2017
Colonel David R Sneath TD DL	Nottinghamshire	2017
D M Spofforth Esq OBE	West Sussex	2016
Lt Colonel A J Tabor JP	Gloucestershire	2017
V B Tailor Esq DL	Bedfordshire	2017
J K L Thomas Esq JP	Gwent	2017
C D Vane Percy Esq	Cambridgeshire	2016
A G M Wannop Esq	Cumbria	2017
R H P Williams Esq	West Glamorgan (Under Sheriff)	
Sir Philip Williams Bt JP DL	Dorset	2017
N J S Wood-Dow Esq DL	Surrey	2017

Only honours, awards and appointments emanating from the Crown and the office of DL have been included.

THE HIGH SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

Deaths

The Association has learnt with regret of the deaths of the following former High Sheriffs and members:

J A Alston Esq CBE

Date of death:
22-Feb-15
Age: 77
County: Norfolk
Year of office: 2004

D C Biles Esq

Date of death:
23-Feb-15
Age: 79
County: Isle of Wight
Year of office: 1998

C G V Davidge Esq OBE

Date of death:
22-Dec-14
Age: 85
County: Northamptonshire
Year of office: 1988

P English Esq MBE JP DL

Date of death:
19-Oct-14
Age: 78
County: Powys
Year of office: 1995

Captain G W S Miskin

Date of death:
18-Feb-15
Age: 87
County: Surrey
Year of office: 1981

Revd J S Peel CBE MC

Date of death:
11-Dec-14
Age: 77
County: Norfolk
Year of office: 1984

R E Whitfield Esq DL

Date of death:
20-Oct-14
Age: 85
County: Staffordshire
Year of office: 1992

NOMINATION OF HIGH SHERIFFS OF ENGLAND

County	2016/2017	2017/2018
Bedfordshire	C E S Whitbread Esq	V B Tailor Esq DL
Berkshire	Mrs V J Fishburn	Mrs S P Scrope DL
Buckinghamshire	The Hon Mrs C R Soames DL	I D Coull Esq
Cambridgeshire	C D Vane Percy Esq	Sir David Arculus
Cheshire	Mrs K H Cowell OBE DL	Mrs S A M Callander Beckett
City of Bristol	Ms H M Wilde	A R E Brown Esq
Cornwall	tba*	tba*
Cumbria	The Revd T R Lee	A G M Wannop Esq
Derbyshire	Mrs E J Fothergill CBE	J R Rivers Esq CBE DL
Devon	Mrs A M Gilbert	Mrs H Lindsay-Fynn
Dorset	P H Warr Esq	Sir Philip Williams Bt JP DL
Durham	G C J Salvin Esq	Mrs C P Peacock
East Riding of Yorkshire	T G Martin Esq	Mrs G E Drewry
East Sussex	M J Foster Esq DL	Mrs M J Chowen
Essex	Mrs L J Rolfe JP	tba
Gloucestershire	The Countess Bathurst	Lt Colonel A J Tabor JP
Greater London	Sir Nigel Knowles	W J Furber Esq
Greater Manchester	tba*	tba*
Hampshire	T H Floyd Esq	The Hon. Mrs M R Montagu-Scott
Herefordshire	Sir Robert Rogers KCB	W J Jackson Esq
Hertfordshire	S H Stefanou Esq OBE DL	W A Hobhouse Esq
Isle of Wight	R V Courage Esq MBE	B M A S Rouse Esq
Kent	Mrs K F Smallwood	G E Jessel Esq DL
Lancashire	tba*	tba*
Leicestershire	Professor S Sharma	T P Maxted Esq
Lincolnshire	Mrs J G A Hughes DL	A S Clark Esq DL
Merseyside	tba*	tba*
Norfolk	Major General Sir William Cubitt KCVO CBE	A J S Bagge Esq
Northamptonshire	Mrs C C Brocklehurst	R Fordham Esq
Northumberland	W Browne-Swinburne Esq	J R Dickinson Esq
North Yorkshire	J W Furness Esq	S M Wrightson Esq
Nottinghamshire	Mrs J L Naake	Colonel David R Sneath TD DL
Oxfordshire	Mrs S J Taylor	Miss J E Cranston
Rutland	Dr S H Furness	C L Mitchell Esq
Shropshire	Mrs C M Holmes JP	C E Lillis Esq
Somerset	E W G Bayntun-Coward Esq	R S Hickmet Esq
South Yorkshire	Mrs J MacDonald	D Grey Esq MBE
Staffordshire	Colonel D L Leigh TD DL	H D S Scott-Moncrieff Esq DL
Suffolk	W B Kendall Esq DL	G T C Probert Esq
Surrey	R Whittington Esq	N J S Wood-Dow Esq DL
Tyne and Wear	J D Mowbray Esq OBE	Lt General R V Brims CB CBE DSO DL
Warwickshire	R M D Samuda Esq	M E T Davies Esq
West Midlands	Dr K G Bradshaw DL	S P Hollis Esq
West Sussex	D M Spofforth Esq OBE	The Lady Emma Barnard
West Yorkshire	C J Brown Esq	Dr T G Bramall CBE
Wiltshire	D K Hempleman-Adams Esq LVO OBE	The Lady Marland
Worcestershire	Sir Nicholas Lechmere Bt	S A Betts Esq

**Note: Names for nominees in Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside are only published shortly before the nominated High Sheriff assumes Office.*

NOMINATION OF HIGH SHERIFFS OF WALES

County	2016/2017	2017/2018
Clwyd	J P O'Toole Esq DL	Mrs C H G Howard
Dyfed	Professor M Hughes DL	tba
Gwent	A J Clay Esq	J K L Thomas Esq JP
Gwynedd	Dr P G Harlech Jones	Professor S Hope
Mid Glamorgan	G J George Esq	D J Davies Esq JP
Powys	Mrs A Tudor	Mrs S E Thompson
South Glamorgan	Professor J D Williams OBE	G C Lloyd Esq
West Glamorgan	Professor D M Mead OBE	Mrs R L Fleet

Only honours, awards and appointments emanating from the Crown and the office of DL have been included.

ASSOCIATION REGALIA AND PUBLICATIONS



The High Sheriff's Badge

(for wearing round the neck) **£185.00**
41mm x 74mm



Tie (Navy blue, green or maroon in pure silk)
£32.00



Chaplain's or Cadet's Badge

Sold in pairs for each end of chaplains' preaching scarves **£27.00**



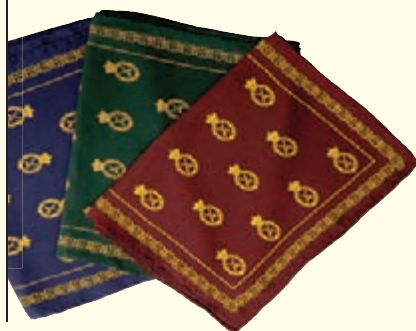
Miniature Badge for High Sheriff and Spouse

Gilt for serving and retired High Sheriffs, silver for High Sheriff's spouses/escorts **£14.50 each** 15mm x 25mm



Enamel and gilt cufflinks

available with a chain or T-Bar fitting. Each pair comes in its own presentation box **£38**



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Navy blue, maroon or green. 14oz dye printed – pure silk twill with multiple copies of the Association's badge overprinted in gold. Size 140cm x 30cm (56" x 11 3/4") **£20.00**



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A CD of the March (playing time approximately 8½ minutes) **£7.00**

PUBLICATIONS



A Guide to the Office of High Sheriff

Produced and published by
The High Sheriffs' Association of England & Wales

Guide to the Office of High Sheriff

This 27-page guide, published in 2006, outlines the key elements of the role of High Sheriff in the 21st century and gives practical advice to those preparing to take Office

£2.00



Back issues of the Association magazine **The High Sheriff**

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A History in Commemoration of The Sheriff's Millennium (1992)

£1.00



Notes on the Office of High Sheriff (per pack of 50 folded cards)

£7.50

ASSOCIATION REGALIA AND PUBLICATIONS

HIGH SHERIFF'S AWARD CERTIFICATE

The High Sheriff's Award Certificate was introduced by the Association in 1992 to meet the request of High Sheriffs who wished for some means of recognising and rewarding the many 'unsung heroes' they encountered in their county during their year of office. The High Sheriff's Award Certificate over the years has provided High Sheriffs with a popular and practical method of achieving this goal.

The certificate can be provided in two different styles:

STYLE 1 comes with the name of your county already printed on it and blanks in

which you insert the name of the recipient, the date details and then your signature.

STYLE 2 allows you, when placing your order, to supply the name of the recipient and, if known, the date on which the certificate will be presented. All these details are then printed on the certificate in an attractive script before they are supplied to you.

The price for each certificate, which includes the cost of postage and packing, is:

Style 1: £4.00 Style 2: £5.00



CROWN COURT AWARD CERTIFICATE

Not all counties have their own customised Crown Court Award Certificate for the High Sheriff to present or to send to the recipient of a Crown Court Award. With this in mind, the Association has designed such a certificate in two different styles which can be bought by High Sheriffs.

STYLE 1 comes with the name of the county already printed and blank spaces provided for the High Sheriff in which to enter the name of the recipient, the name of the Judge, or Recorder; and the date of presentation.

STYLE 2 lets the High Sheriff, at the time of placing an order, supply the name of the recipient; the name of the Judge or Recorder; and, if known, the date on which the certificate will be presented. All these details are then printed on the certificate in an attractive script.

The price for each certificate, which includes the cost of postage and packing, is:

Style 1: £4.00 Style 2: £5.00



The High Sheriff Magazine Binder

This attractive blue binder has the Association's badge on the spine and will hold up to 12 copies of *The High Sheriff magazine* keeping them in pristine condition.

As a special offer the binders are available with the latest five back issues of *The High Sheriff magazine* for only **£20.00** including VAT & postage.

The binders are also available separately for only **£10.00** each including VAT & postage.



All prices are inclusive of postage and packing.
Cheques etc. payable to
'The High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales'

Remittances with order please, to:
The Secretary
The High Sheriffs' Association
Heritage House, PO Box 21
Baldock, Herts SG7 5SH

Tel: 01462-896688 **Fax:** 01462-896677
E-mail: shrievalty@hall-mccartney.co.uk

Questions and Answers

Q Should High Sheriffs return the salute when taking the salute at a military or civilian parade?

A Saluting is confined to people wearing uniform – military (armed forces) or civilian (St John etc) – where this action forms the usual manner of greeting or acknowledging a person, object (eg military colours) or action (eg Last Post). It would be wrong to salute when wearing civilian non-uniform clothing (including court dress).

Civilians taking the salute should stand to attention when being saluted, when colours are marched past and during the Last Post. It is appropriate to acknowledge an individual person saluting with a court bow (just from the neck, men and women – no curtsying except to a member of the Royal Family). Male High Sheriffs in court dress or

civilian clothes should remove their hats instead of saluting. Ladies need not do so.

Q How should lady High Sheriffs wear a shrieval badge at the same time as any orders, decorations and medals ('decorations')?

A Since lady High Sheriffs, as royal appointees, are 'no 2' in their counties after Lord-Lieutenants, and in their shrieval capacity therefore precede all other recipients of decorations, their High Sheriffs' badges should be worn suspended from their bows (Association badges) or other fittings on the left side above any decorations they may possess. This recommendation is endorsed by the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood.

The High Sheriff

The Editor welcomes articles and news stories from High Sheriffs concerning their year in office.

The next edition of The High Sheriff will be published in **December 2015**.

Closing date for receipt of editorial items will be **Friday 25 September 2015**

Items for inclusion should be sent to:

The Editor, *The High Sheriff* magazine

c/o Hall-McCartney Ltd,

PO Box 21 Baldock, Herts SG7 5SH

Email: editor@highsheriffs.com

To advertise in *The High Sheriff*

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