



The High Sheriff

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

WINTER 2014



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Also inside Annual General Meeting 2014

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The High Sheriff

**The High Sheriffs'
Association of
England and Wales**

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**Officers and Council November
2013 to November 2014**

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concerning their year in office.

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From the Editor

I HAVE been privileged to attend several High Sheriffs' Declarations, themselves simple legal ceremonies, in courts of law, a local government office, a private house and consecrated buildings, and they are always enjoyable and often imaginative. It is interesting to note the growth of 'religious' Declaration ceremonies, and this year has also seen a first with a Humanist ceremony. It is important, of course, to separate religious and secular elements, holding the Declaration before or after a service. The only essential ingredients are the new High Sheriff, the Under Sheriff and a witness – a High Court Judge (or a serving Judge who has held this appointment) or a magistrate.

Reading many accounts of Declarations, I am reminded of the way things were done a century ago. On 12 March 1909 the Under Sheriff of Kent wrote to the outgoing High Sheriff, Archibald Norman: 'Dear Norman, I write a line to say that Colonel Stanley Williams duly took his declaration of Office today so you are now no longer High Sheriff. I enclose an Account of Disbursements for the last Assizes....' So that was that. The Declaration has become more interesting perhaps than in 1909, and the enjoyment and solemnity of the occasion is witnessed by the wider audience High Sheriffs now invite.

The 200th anniversary of Waterloo and the 600th of Agincourt occur in 2015, and ever-inventive High Sheriffs will find ways of marking these events. Magna Carta's 800th anniversary is of more immediate relevance to High Sheriffs, if only for curbing their activities. Our Chairman writes on page 6 about the reception Council plans to hold in 2015 to view two original Magna Carta manuscripts at the British Library.

Your Council is grateful to contributors for producing so many inspiring stories covering the wide spectrum of interests and initiatives found among the shrievalty. I congratulate the newly nominated and wish all High Sheriffs, past, serving and future, a Happy Christmas and fulfilling New Year.

Andrew Wells
Andrew Wells, Hon Editor, Kent 2005-06



Diary 2015 of Forthcoming Events

MARCH 2015 High Sheriffs in Nomination for 2015 The names of the High Sheriffs on the Roll for 2015 will be 'pricked' by Her Majesty The Queen at the meeting of the Privy Council to be held at Buckingham Palace.	JULY 2015 Seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination for the years 2016 and 2017 <i>Friday 3 July</i> The 2015 Seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination will be held at Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire on Friday 3rd July 2015. Details of the programme and speakers together with an application form will be sent in mid-May 2015 to all High Sheriffs in nomination for 2016 and 2017.	NOVEMBER 2015 44th Annual General Meeting and Luncheon <i>Wednesday 4 November</i> The Association's 44th AGM and lunch will be held at Drapers Hall, Throgmorton Street, London EC2 2DQ on Wednesday November 2015. The agenda and papers for the AGM and an application form for the luncheon will be sent to all members of the Association in mid-September 2015.
APRIL 2015 Meeting of the Co-ordinators of the Regional Meetings <i>Wednesday 22 April at 10.00 for 10.30 am</i> Meeting of co-ordinators of the regional meetings for High Sheriffs in nomination with members of the Council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge. Please address any queries to Bill Shelford by email: bill@shelford.net	OCTOBER 2015 The Red Mass <i>Thursday 1 October at 9.30 am</i> 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.freemasonry.co.uk	The Nomination of future High Sheriffs <i>Thursday 12 November at 2pm</i> 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.
Magna Carta: reception and private viewing <i>Thursday 28 May 2015</i> In the evening, the British Library will be the venue of a private reception for members of the High Sheriffs' Association to view the special Magna Carta Exhibition, 'Law, Liberty, Legacy' (http://www.bl.uk/magna-carta). Members will be invited to take tickets early in 2015.	The Ladies' Luncheon The annual Ladies' Lunch will be held in early October 2015 but the exact date has not yet been fixed. The venue will be in London and will probably again be at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge. When arranged, full details will be sent in May 2015 to those ladies who are in nomination by the organiser, Council member Elizabeth Hunter, whose email address is: elizahunter1964@gmail.com	Following the court ceremony and for all those attending, the Association will hold a tea party nearby between 3 pm and 4.30 pm. 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.



The Chairman's Address

Annual General Meeting of the High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales
5th November 2014 at Fishmongers' Hall, London

I AM DELIGHTED to welcome you all to this, the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the High Sheriffs' Association. We are enormously fortunate to be able to hold our Annual General Meetings in such wonderful surroundings and we are very grateful to the Fishmongers for allowing us to come back here. James fforde, the Prime Warden this year, will be joining us for lunch and will say a few words of welcome.

Your Council sees it as their duty and that of the Association to uphold the values of the ancient office of High Sheriff, the oldest secular office in the land, in a changing and modernising world. We help High Sheriffs in nomination to prepare for their year in office. We try to ensure that High Sheriffs around the country maintain the same high standards in spite of the enormous differences that exist between their various counties. We act as a point of contact both for High Sheriffs and those in nomination who have queries about procedure or protocol and for members of the public who want to find out more about the shrievalty. We act as a point of focus for past High Sheriffs to keep in contact with the shrievalty and their successors. Today's meeting and lunch is an example of how we try to maintain links between High Sheriffs past, present and future.

Since our last meeting your Association has arranged a number of events. Each year on 12 November, the Lord Chief Justice assisted by three senior Judges and The Queen's Remembrancer read out the names of the High Sheriffs in nomination for the next three years. In 2013 we were pleased to welcome a new Lord Chief Justice, Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd. Following the ceremony in the Royal Courts of Justice your Association was pleased to arrange a tea party in St Clement Danes Church in the Strand for those whose names had just been read out. This venue was a new departure for the Association and it was considered to be ideal by all those present so we will be returning there

next week. There are no free riders on your Council and Andrew Morgan has looked after the arrangements for the nomination ceremony and tea party for the last two years and will be doing so again this year. Thank you, Andrew, for all your hard work in this and other areas.

I have just mentioned The Queen's Remembrancer and members may be interested to learn of a new departure: in the last few weeks we have learned of the appointment of the latest in a long line of holders of this traditional office. For the first time since the office was created in 1164 it is a lady, Senior Master Barbara Fontaine. We will be welcoming Master Fontaine to lunch after this meeting.

The most ambitious event organised by your Association is the annual seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination which now has a permanent home at Burghley House near Stamford, thanks largely to the great efforts of Simon Leatham, a stalwart on Council, to his wife Lady Victoria who was the chatelaine of Burghley for many years and to their daughter, Miranda Rock who is now the chatelaine. This year's seminar was, again, a great success. Unfortunately I was unable to stay for the whole day and your President, Julian Avery, very kindly chaired it for me. According to the reports that came back to me it was the best Burghley ever. I am incredibly indebted to Juliet Westoll who took over as the organiser of Burghley this year and did a tremendous job. She had arranged a great team of speakers and ensured that everything went like clockwork on the day. She even managed to lay on some sunshine! I am delighted that Juliet will also be organising the 2015 seminar. I know she is on the lookout for speakers so if you have any suggestions please have a word with her.

For a number of years the Association has encouraged and facilitated the organisation of regional meetings to which current and future High Sheriffs are invited and at which they are able to share their experiences on a more

local basis. Each April the coordinator from each regional meeting is invited to a regional co-ordinators' meeting in London. Through this mechanism your Council is able to maintain a dialogue with High Sheriffs at the grass roots level. This is very much a two-way process in which Council is able to understand the concerns of High Sheriffs in the counties and also to pass messages back to the regions about what Council is doing. For example, a strong message that came back from regional meetings this year is that there is some uncertainty about the composition and role of the consultative panels which should now be in place in each county to assist the High Sheriff in putting forward names to serve as future High Sheriffs. You may recall that I spoke last year about the importance of these panels following the criticisms by the Justice Select Committee of 2008 and the commitments your Association made at that time. As a result of the feedback from the regional meetings in 2014 your Council has been giving serious consideration to this whole subject at its recent meetings and will be issuing updated guidance to High Sheriffs who will be taking office in 2015. I am extraordinarily indebted to my fellow Council member, Bill Shelford who co-ordinates regional meetings on behalf of Council and who attends many of them.

This summer the Lord Chief Justice visited Wales and my fellow Council member, Anne Morgan, who was a High Sheriff in Wales, arranged a Gala Dinner to honour him, attended by some 60 High Sheriffs, past, present and future. Julian Avery, your President, represented the Association.

It has become a regular feature of the Association's calendar for a lady High Sheriffs' lunch to be held each autumn. The ladies on Council take it upon themselves to organise the ladies' lunch and this year they were ably led by Anne Morgan. This year's lunch at the Royal Thames Yacht Club was given an added sparkle when the guest speaker had to give his address standing by a fountain in Hyde Park after the club had to be evacuated due to a fire alarm!

I spoke last year of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta to which we are all looking forward next year. While High Sheriffs are mentioned in 27 of the 63 clauses, unfortunately the purpose was more to rein them in than to increase their powers! I know that many High Sheriffs in nomination are arranging functions around this important anniversary. On Council we have been looking at what we might do as an Association and we are finalising plans for a reception at the British Library in Paddington where members will have an opportunity to view the two copies of Magna Carta held in that establishment. We will let you know more when the plans are finalised. I am grateful to Martin Amlôt, who joined Council at this time last year, for taking the initiative on this event. Martin has also taken over responsibility for the Association's regalia from Andrew Wells who had been looking after that area for some years.

While mentioning Andrew Wells I must applaud him publicly for the excellent job he does in editing our magazine, *The High Sheriff*. The work he does and what he achieves in producing such a very high-quality magazine is frankly quite remarkable. We are most grateful to you

Andrew, for all you are doing. Andrew is assisted by a production editor who has changed since the last edition following the retirement of Alan Parker from this role. Andrew and the new production editor have been working on refreshing the look of the magazine and you will see the fruits of their labours in the winter edition that will be with you before Christmas. I am sure you will approve. In the meantime please do keep submitting interesting articles for the magazine to Andrew.

National Crimebeat is continuing to prosper and is ably chaired by my fellow Council member, Barbara Wilding. Barbara is assisted by Andrew Morgan and Hugh Burnett who are also on Council. You will hear more about National Crimebeat shortly from Barbara. You will remember that we handed on our other charity, DebtCred, to what has become the Money Charity, over a year ago. I am sure you will be pleased to hear that the Money Charity have delivered financial education workshops to over 21,000 young people between 11 and 19 so far this year and expect to have reached 25,000 by the end of the year. If any High Sheriffs would like to know more about this work or even get involved, please contact the Money Charity direct. Their details can be found online.

You will also be hearing from Nigel Savory, our Honorary Treasurer, shortly. With such a safe pair of hands I am delighted I don't have to concern myself with money matters. Thank you, Nigel.

We will shortly be asking you to elect two new members of Council. Sally Bowie and Hugh Tollemache have both recently served as High Sheriffs, Sally in Leicestershire and Hugh in Gloucestershire. They both also spoke at this year's Burghley seminar to which I have already referred. I am confident you will elect them and I look forward to them joining us on Council.

I can't finish without paying tribute to our long-suffering but wonderful Honorary Secretary, James Williams. If it wasn't for James I couldn't do this job. Not only has James made all the arrangements for today's meeting and lunch. He deals with enquiries from High Sheriffs, Under Sheriffs, other organisations and members of the public on an almost daily basis. He either provides the answer from his own encyclopaedic knowledge or seeks it from the appropriate quarter. James, this Association owes you an enormous debt of gratitude.

I must also thank my President, Julian Avery, who is always there to provide wise counsel when required and to stand in for me as he did at Burghley this year.

Thank you for listening. I hope you will agree that your Association is in good shape. It only remains for me to give you advance warning that next year our AGM will return to the Drapers' Hall on November 2015. Please all come again and bring your friends with you.

Jeremy Burton

Chairman, the High Sheriffs' Association



AGM 2014

The 43rd Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on Wednesday 5 November 2014 at Fishmongers' Hall in London. Following the report of our Chairman published on pages 6 and 7, here is a selection of photographs of Association members and guests.

Above right: Senior Master Barbara Fontaine (The Queen's Remembrancer) and Martin Amlôt (Merseyside 2012, Council Member)
Right: Deborah Inskip (Bedfordshire 2013) and James Shepherd-Cross (Northamptonshire 2013)
Below left: Michael Foster (High Sheriff in nomination East Sussex 2016), Barbara Wilding (Mid Glamorgan 2011, Council Member) and Malcolm Kimmins (Berkshire 2003)
Below right: Dr James Bilkhu (Nottinghamshire 2015), his wife, Baldish, and Colonel Roger Merryweather (Nottinghamshire 2008)



Nomination Ceremony

◆ **Andrew Morgan**
*High Sheriff of Greater London 2009,
Council Member*

NOVEMBER THE twelfth is a red-letter day in the calendar for all High Sheriffs in nomination. For every year on this date they congregate at Court 4 in the Royal Courts of Justice (the Lord Chief Justice's Court) to hear their names read out by The Queen's Remembrancer.

This year the numbers were impressive and the gallery was full. Kevin McGrath, High Sheriff of Greater London, in whose bailiwick the Law Courts lie, together with his charming wife Kate, and his Under Sheriff, Lynn Johansen, took their places next to Jeremy Burton (Chairman of the High Sheriffs' Association) and James Williams (Association Secretary). Richard Tilbrook then took his place. He is the Clerk of the Privy Council and is present when Her Majesty The Queen pricks the

names of the following year's High Sheriffs. Just before 2 o'clock the newly appointed Queen's Remembrancer entered with her Chief Clerk, Geraint Evans. For both of them this was the first time they had participated in the ceremony and it all went off without a hitch. Tongue-twisting names tripped off her tongue and Senior Master Barbara Fontayne is to be congratulated for her steadfastness and precision. She is the first lady ever to have become Senior Master and Queen's Remembrancer so we were privileged to see history unfolding before our eyes. At 2 o'clock Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, led Lady Justice Black, Mrs Justice Swift and Mr Justice Holroyde onto his court. After we all sat down the proceedings began with the first county – Bedfordshire. For those of you who don't know what happens, each county lists its High Sheriff and two people in nomination. The Queen's Remembrancer reads out these three names and asks for 'one new name'.

The Judges take it in turns to proclaim a new person in nomination. The list is then revised and the Queen's Remembrancer reads out the new list with next year's High Sheriff in first place followed by his or her two successors. The High Sheriff of Greater London thanked the Judges for presiding to which the Lord Chief Justice replied. Once the ceremony was over we all crossed the road to St Clement Dane's Church (the RAF Church) for the tea party. All the Judges joined us with The Queen's Remembrancer and staff from the Privy Council. There were also several Association Council members there. The Queen's Remembrancer made a fascinating speech about the Shrievalty and pointed out that the first Lady High Sheriff was from Lincolnshire and was appointed by King John in 1216 _ he couldn't have been all bad then! Jeremy Burton told us about the Association and that it was there to help and guide newcomers to the Shrievalty. Everybody enjoyed making new friends and sharing ideas about the exciting



Oliver Stephenson (Derbyshire 2015), James Fenwick (Durham 2015) and his wife Kate



Caroline Brocklehurst (Northamptonshire 2016) and Jill Hughes (Lincolnshire 2016)



Penny Walkinshaw (Cambridgeshire 2012) with Christopher Vane Percy (Cambridgeshire 2017) and his wife, Lady Linda Vane Percy



Left: Jeremy Burton (Association Chairman, West Yorkshire 2009), Kevin McGrath (Greater London 2014) with his wife Kate and Julian Avery (Association President, East Sussex 2004)

Right: Julian Avery (Association President, East Sussex 2004), Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd (Lord Chief Justice), Anne Morgan (Mid Glamorgan 2008, Council member), James Williams (Association Hon Secretary), Lt-Colonel Andrew Tuggey (Gwent 2015)



Burghley 2014

Juliet Westoll

Council member and Burghley organiser;
Cumbria 2012

A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER'S day set the scene for this year's annual nomination seminar at Burghley House. We are grateful to Miranda Rock, the chatelaine, for allowing us to meet there, where her father Simon Leatham, a member of Council, welcomed us.

One hundred thirty-seven delegates sat down on the brand new chairs in the Burghley's great hall – much appreciated by old hands who had endured the old ones! Jeremy Burton, the Association Chairman, explained that he had a later engagement with the French ambassador and the Tour de France at his home later that day. He handed over the chair to Julian Avery, the Association's President.

The first of our eminent speakers was Master John Leslie, the acting Queen's Remembrancer, who gave us a lively and amusing talk on some of his legal experiences.

The Chief Constable of Bedfordshire, Colette Paul, then spoke passionately about how she is tackling crime particularly with young people and how working closely with High Sheriffs achieved some of this. She urged delegates to build a relationship with their Chief Constables.

Three past High Sheriffs followed her: Sir Stuart Hampson, Sally Bowie and Hugh Tollemache, together with Hugh's wife Rosie talking on behalf of shrieval spouses. Their speeches were much appreciated and gave many useful tips to delegates.

We were honoured to hear the Rt Hon. the Baroness Hale, Deputy President of the Supreme Court, talking most interestingly about her experiences as a woman in the law and the appeals system.

We then moved to the beautiful, sunny, lavender-filled garden for a glass of cold sparkling wine, followed by a

delicious lunch. This is great opportunity to get to know fellow High Sheriffs in nomination and mingle with speakers and Council members.

The afternoon's proceedings began with a fascinating talk by the Clerk of the Privy Council, Richard Tilbrook. He kept everyone awake, amused and interested during the dreaded after-lunch slot, covering many aspects of the High Sheriff's role including The Queen's pricking ceremony.

Professor David Carpenter, one of the country's leading experts on Magna Carta, then spoke on the High Sheriff's place in history at that time. This should come in useful to delegates in 2015, the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta.

Barbara Wilding, a Council member and Chairman of the National Crimebeat Trust, gave an encouraging talk about the Trust's awards scheme. She emphasised that the Trust was looking not so much

for money as for worthy nominations of suitable youth projects by High Sheriffs.

Sue Warner, from the Speaker's Trust, then gave many useful tips on speaking in public. She encouraged delegates who were not confident public speakers to take one of the day courses she had run for High Sheriffs in nomination for many years.

The speeches concluded with Questions and Answers put to a panel of Council members, and dealing with subjects not covered during the day. After closing comments and thanks from Julian Avery, everyone adjourned to the Orangery for tea and a special private tour of Burghley.

The day was jam-packed with interesting topics and hopefully everyone left feeling better informed and more confident about the year of office ahead of them. The comments we have received have been very positive. Work is already on the way preparing for next year's Seminar, due to be held on 3 July 2015 at Burghley House.

I would encourage everyone to attend the seminar at least once if not twice in the run up to the year of office.

A special thank you to the wonderful team at Burghley, to Rachel Anne Lampey, Hall McCartney and to everyone who helped make the day such a success.



l-r Colonel David Leigh (Staffordshire 2016), Dr Ahmed Mukhtar (Northamptonshire 2015) and Andrew Wells (Hon Editor, Kent 2005)



Edward Harley Herefordshire 2015-16 (centre) Dr Roger Head Gloucs 2015-16 (right)



Kathrin Smallwood (Kent 2016), the Revd Richard Lee (Cumbria 2016) and Matthew Smallwood



Burghley House lunchtime reception

A Walk in the Park

Anne Morgan JP DL

High Sheriff Mid Glamorgan 2008, Council Member

EXTRAORDINARY? UNIQUE? Are there other adjectives I can use to describe our Ladies' Lunch this year?

It started well, thirty-two ladies, an excellent number, assembled on 2 October in what has now become our regular venue, The Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, to meet other lady High Sheriffs, current and in nomination, with the objective of sharing ideas and forming friendships across counties and discussing not only a possible court dress but the evolving role of the High Sheriff of today.

We began with enjoying each other's company over a relaxed drinks reception at which varying degrees of confidence in the future of their High Sheriff roles were expressed by those in nomination. Many participants had already met at Burghley and there were warm greetings as they saw each other again.

After the traditional photograph in the foyer we proceeded to lunch upstairs in the delightful room which overlooks the park. Incoming High Sheriffs sat with current High Sheriffs who, with Council member table hosts Barbara Wilding, Juliet Westoll and Elizabeth Hunter, provided encouraging and supporting advice. Following Juliet's idea of inviting a High Sheriff's wife to speak at Burghley I had asked Elizabeth Hopkins, a former High Sheriff's wife from Wales, to be with us and this too proved most useful to others on her table.

Between courses Barbara Wilding, who is Chairman of National Crimebeat our High Sheriffs' Association National Charity, spoke about how the charity's focus is now the National Awards which take place each year and for which many High Sheriffs are putting forward excellent nominations.

After lunch we looked forward in anticipation to our speaker, Edward Jacobs, an Upper Tribunal Judge, who gave us an insight into the workings of the court system, the relationships between the different courts in England and Wales and how High Sheriffs might engage with these courts. Edward is a judge of long standing and an expert

in his field. He not only writes the accepted books on his field of expertise but also undertakes much advocacy training.

However, just as I rose to introduce our speaker the fire alarm sounded.

We, and all the staff, were rapidly escorted out of the building as the fire was happening in the Qatar Embassy next door.

Our assembly point was nearby on Rotten Row in Hyde Park, where we happily chatted in the sunshine for some minutes while fire engines and police rushed to the scene.

It soon became obvious that a return to the building to hear Edward speak was most unlikely and then the bright idea of a 'Speech in the Park' emerged. He rose splendidly to the occasion, greatly helped by his height of six foot plus and a commanding voice. He was placed, much to some amusement, next to the ancient horse water trough erected in the 19th century by the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association* and proceeded to give an excellent talk which has resulted in many e-mails and letters of congratulations.

So, all ended well. I am pleased to say that comments back to me have said that the lunch was 'a very worthwhile experience' and provided invaluable 'networking experience'. The excellent location of the club is frequently commented upon and my very best wishes go to Elizabeth Hunter who will organise the lunch in 2015, with a hope that her experience is not quite so dramatic.



Above: Lady High Sheriffs al fresco with their speaker Edward Jacobs



High Sheriffs in nomination before lunch at the Royal Thames Yacht Club

*Founded 1859 by Samuel Gurney, High Sheriff of Surrey 1861 and incidentally the uncle several times removed of Andrew Buxton (Norfolk 1998), Paddy Dent (immediate past Association Chairman, Yorkshire 2003), Richard Gurney (Norfolk 2002) and Simon Leatham (Council member, Cambridgeshire 2005) - Ed.

The Red Mass

Having seen the Red Mass advertised for some years in the Summer issue of *The High Sheriff*, I thought I should know more about what we publish. A celebration of the start of the legal year at Westminster Cathedral, it is the Roman Catholic counterpart of the annual Anglican Judges' Service at Westminster Abbey.

Both denominations emphasise the origins of the Mass in the Middle Ages, when Judges and legal practitioners gathered on the first day of the Michaelmas Term at Westminster Abbey, next to Westminster Hall where the High Court sat, to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their work during the ensuing year. Following the Reformation, Roman Catholics were banned from holding all public appointments including judicial office, until their emancipation under the Roman Catholic Relief Act 1829. The service was revived in London by Roman Catholic lawyers in 1891, and obtained full official recognition in 1898 when the Lord Chief Justice attended. Lord Russell of Killowen, the first Roman Catholic to hold the office since the Reformation, was LCJ from 1894 to 1900.

Westminster Cathedral has hosted the Red Mass since 1904, the year after its fabric had been completed and masses were first said daily. This year's service was held on Wednesday 1 October at

9.30 am, almost in parallel with the Judges' Service at Westminster Abbey which it anticipated by exactly two hours – a scramble for some of its participants, not least the Master of the Temple Church, who are involved in both services. Attended by the Roman Catholic judiciary, barristers and solicitors, it takes its name from the red vestments worn by the principal celebrant, the Rt Revd Bishop Nicholas Hudson, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, and the other celebrants, especially the Canon lawyers. The Bishop preached on the need for 'compassion and that spirit of mercy' which allows defendants 'to retain their dignity and their hope'. He recalled the martyrdom in 1581 of St Ralph Sherwin, the first member of the English College in Rome to die for his faith (at the same time as Edmund Campion). On the Tyburn scaffold he smoked a last pipe and showed compassion by forgiving those responsible for his death.

Roman Catholic, and indeed other High Sheriffs will receive a warm welcome from the Cathedral and Diocesan clergy to join the procession at the Red Mass and the reception afterwards, so they should not hesitate to apply for a seat when the service is advertised in *The High Sheriff* next summer.

♥ **Andrew Wells**
Hon Editor, Kent 2005-06

Below left: Sir Stanley Dewey Bt



OPPOSITE PAGE
Top right: Judges hearing the sermon at Westminster Cathedral



Right: Rt Revd Bishop Nicholas Hudson with High Court Judges after the Red Mass

Far right: The Canon lawyers precede the bishop at the service



Clerical High Sheriffs

For many generations it was believed that men, and now women of the cloth could not serve as High Sheriffs – law enforcement, military command and tax collection were assumed to be incompatible with a priestly calling. The Sheriffs Act 1887 is silent on the mutual exclusivity of High Sheriffs and clergy. The Privy Council is the final arbiter of eligibility and qualifications to hold office and in recent years has eased restrictions on appointment, in line with legislation to avoid unnecessary and unjustified discrimination. This magazine is grateful to the Privy Council Office for confirming the current practice. Until 2005, the Privy Council Office

advised new High Sheriffs that 'Clergymen, whether beneficed or not' should not be included in nominations. This wording was used for over a century and is unambiguous, endorsed in many publications on the subject – eg *The High Sheriff* (*The Times*, 1961 – foreword by Gavin Astor, High Sheriff of Sussex 1955) and Dr Irene Gladwin's *The Sheriff: the Man and his Office* (1974). In 2005, following the removal of High Sheriffs (Courts Act 2003, effective from March 2004), the Privy Council Office revised its instructions, and recent High Sheriffs and those in nomination will be aware that 'Members of the Clergy may

also serve as High Sheriff, but should consult their Bishop before accepting nomination'. This followed advice from the Archbishop of Canterbury's office that since priests could now become MPs and hold various other offices previously denied to them, it was felt that the Shrievalty should be no different. Note the change from 'Clergymen' to 'Clergy', acknowledging the first ordinations in the Church of England of women as deacons in 1987 and as priests in 1994. It is fitting that the first clerical High Sheriff to have taken office since this change was female, the Revd Fiona Sample, High Sheriff of Northumberland in 2011, closely followed by the Revd Rachel Benson in North Yorkshire in 2013. Where the women lead, the men follow, and there is at least one male clerical High Sheriff in nomination. Although Staffordshire records state

that the Revd Sir Thomas Broughton Bt, became High Sheriff in 1772, in fact he was ordained in 1780. More recently the Revd Jonathan Peel (Norfolk 1984) and the Revd Edward Faure Walker (Hertfordshire 2000) were ordained after serving. So all these gentlemen, and doubtless other post-shrieval clergy, were operating within the rules. Chance research in another sphere revealed that rules are made to be broken. The Revd Sir Stanley Daws Dewey, 2nd Baronet, of Peak House, Sidmouth, had been ordained in 1891, served as a parish priest and rural dean in Devon until 1927, and had somehow circumvented convention to become (aged 50) a subaltern (not a chaplain) in the 4th Volunteer Battalion of the Devon Regiment in 1917. The rules were bent again in 1935 when he made his Declaration as High Sheriff of Devon and was appointed a

Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral the same year. Only two years later the Reverend William Marshall, of Sarnesfield Court, Weobley (ordained in 1901 and Rector of Sarnesfield 1905-19), became High Sheriff of Herefordshire. The High Sheriff would welcome information about other instances where clergymen, beneficed or not, became High Sheriffs before the embargo was relaxed. *The editor is grateful to Sir Anthony Dewey, Sir Stanley's grandson, and his daughter Delia Wingfield Digby, wife of the current High Sheriff of Suffolk, for providing the photograph of the shrieval Prebendary in court dress, wearing his silver jubilee medal and baronet's badge. History doesn't relate whether, as a clergyman, he wore a sword – probably he did.*

Awards Ceremony

You will be pleased to know that we the trustees have not been idle since March 2014 awards ceremony.

We attended the seminar at Burghley for High Sheriffs in nomination and the ladies' luncheon and spoke at some regional seminars and the High Sheriffs' Association's AGM.

On every occasion we have taken the opportunity to encourage those in nomination to suggest projects their leaders should submit for the 2015 awards ceremony. In so doing we also hope we have shattered some myths that surrounded National Crimebeat – principally that High Sheriffs can only nominate a project that comes through a local 'crimebeat' organisation or has won a High Sheriff's or other county award. It does not – High Sheriffs can nominate any project that fits into the National Crimebeat categories irrespective of how they have come to their attention. Equally we are not the national umbrella organisation for local crimebeats. Neither do we rely on funding from them nor have a paid employee. Most of these myths date from before National Crimebeat was reorganised in 2010.

So what is National Crimebeat today? First of all the trustees are volunteers who consider it a privilege to provide High Sheriffs with a national ceremony in which projects from their counties can compete. It is not just the joy of the finalists that comes shining through at the awards ceremony but also the pride the project organisers feel in having recognition from their High Sheriff at a national event – it really is special. Because we raise money for the prizes we are a charity. All money we raise is independent of the Association.

The arrangements are well advanced for the 2015 ceremony which will be held on 11 March, once again with the generous support of the Walduck family, at the London Royal National

Hotel. Entries can be submitted up to 16 January 2015. Following feedback we have tried to simplify the application process and have introduced a form for the 2015 awards which the applicant can download from the website – www.national-crimebeat.com. Once completed it should be sent to High Sheriffs for their section to be endorsed and then submitted. Judging will be completed by 28 January and the finalists invited to the ceremony. All Commendation certificates will be despatched soon after judging in order that High Sheriffs can present them before the end of their year.

Logistics often prevent all project members attending the awards but they do also receive a certificate and badge to be presented either by their High Sheriff or another important person. We were very pleased to receive this photograph from the London Greenwich Metropolitan Police Volunteer Cadets, who arranged for no other than the Commissioner, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, to present the outstanding certificates. This surely must have made those unable to attend the main ceremony feel just as special and valued.

The trustees were very pleased to learn that being a winning project can also be

influential in attracting other rewards. For example, the MENCAP Cumbria video project, when applying for a Big Lottery People's Millions grant, successfully used the information in their bid that they were National Crimebeat finalists in 2013. They used the £50,000 received to make even more videos on other topics directed at keeping their members safe from becoming victims of crime.

So the scene is set for a highly successful 2015 awards ceremony. If you are a past High Sheriff please support current High Sheriffs by bringing to their attention any projects you may hear of that would be relevant to National Crimebeat, or ensure they have the details of organisations which would value a visit. This might well generate an application.

As the saying goes 'a little thanks goes a long way' and it is clear from our interactions with project organisers (whether finalists or not) that being acknowledged as being worthy of submission to National Crimebeat is without doubt seen as a very 'big thanks' indeed.

Barbara Wilding
CBE QPM DL

Chair, National Crimebeat and High Sheriff of Mid-Glamorgan 2011-12



The Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, with Greenwich Volunteer Police Cadet finalists after presenting them with National Crimebeat certificates



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BERKSHIRE

News from and about members



Above: With the Town Crier of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead at my garden party

Cycle of emotion

DOES EVERY High Sheriff in nomination go through the same cycle of emotion? After the initial amazement at being asked, there is the anxiety of wanting to do well, mounting apprehension with each year in waiting, and then a gradual acceptance which gives way to a deep sense of pride and pleasure in being able to serve in the role. Now, almost halfway through the year, the reassurances of my predecessors that it would be tremendously satisfying and enjoyable have happily been confirmed.

Another bit of initial advice was to 'Walk slowly, and always carry a speech in your back pocket'. After a couple of fittings at the tailor, and my first introduction to the wearing of tights, I realised that court dress imposes its own stately pace and that there is no back pocket!

What have I learnt in the last six months? First, that each county has its own special character. In our Royal County of Berkshire, there is the honour of being involved not only in royal visits, but also in

my first week, in the state visit of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Ireland and Mrs Higgins. Being in the centre of the royal pageantry with The Sovereign is an unforgettable experience.

Then, the traditional emphasis on looking after the judiciary has become less formal, and judges make charming guests and excellent company. The High Sheriff is welcome in the courts, where magistrates made me aware of local issues and concerns, which could be passed on discreetly. In Berkshire, the Citizenship Foundation/Magistrates' Association Mock Trial Competition for schools is hotly contested, introducing schoolchildren to the criminal justice system and the workings of the courts. As patron of the Mock Trials, I found that it grabbed attention when, despite being formally dressed, I put on a ten-gallon hat and waved a plastic six-shooter (which had passed court security), asking the assembled youngsters what they thought of when hearing the title 'Sheriff'!

The range of activities so far this year has included meeting Her Majesty The Queen at the opening of the new Reading station; attending school fetes, prize-givings and regional debating contests; spending time with large and small charities; visiting our Youth Offending Team and Approved Premises, and joining 2,500 girls at the Brownie Big 100 Birthday. When visiting our Community Foundation, I learnt that only one-tenth of charitable donations raised each year stays in the county. So I have adopted the theme 'Harmony, Healing and Hope' to attract support for a wide range of need in the county. The High Sheriff's 'Bravo Berkshire' concert was held as part of the Windsor Festival, showcasing Berkshire talent, and was kindly hosted by Sir Terry Wogan. In prospect is the High Sheriff's Schools Cookbook, to feature young chefs and publicise their schools.

I have learnt not to be shy about wearing the uniform, which creates instant rapport and gives a conversational entrée. At the garden party Chris Brown, Town Crier of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Town, gladly posed with me. The party opened the way to community engagement in a personal and unexpected manner. One of our guests, a chartered surveyor, raised the alarm about the perilous state of our roof – we now have scaffolding up, and major works are proceeding!

I am enjoying working with the High Sheriffs of Buckinghamshire, Joe Barclay, and of Oxfordshire, Tony Stratton. We have shared joint visits to the Police and Crime Commissioner, and to the Chief Constable, during which we spent time with an armed response team who proudly showed us their hardware.

Finally, I must acknowledge the dedicated service of our Lord-Lieutenant, the Hon Mrs Bayliss JP, who retires in January. My predecessors and I are grateful for her wonderful help, support and advice.

♦ Christopher Khoo
High Sheriff of Berkshire 2014-15



Joe Barclay (High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire), Di Stratton and Tony Stratton (High Sheriff of Oxfordshire) and Chris Khoo at the Thames Valley Police Headquarters



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Photo: Cambridge Evening News

Hat, sword and collection bucket

Above: Linda Fairbrother on her charity walk meets Bill Hensley, Mayor of Huntingdon, and Tanya Foster, Deputy Mayor (centre)

MEETINGS, MEETINGS... I didn't think that, as High Sheriff, there would be so much to organise and unfamiliar skills to master. But, like Grand National jumps, every month there's another big event to gallop towards, leap over, and race to the next in a cold sweat. Once jumped, only the good memories remain, and the two particular standouts so far are my Declaration and the six-day 'Coast to Cambridge' Walk.

I wanted my Declaration to be a secular event,

and an enjoyable one. A first decision was to have a humanist chaplain to represent all faiths and none. Then, as well as performing the necessary formalities, I compiled two six-minute readings: 'High Sheriffs in Cambridgeshire' and 'A question of Justice'. I had spent the previous two years collecting suitable material, and then shaped quotations into coherence with a linking script.

Some elements were thought-provoking, such as a medieval sheriff's demolition of illegal gallows

in a certain town (no information on how many were hanged before local enterprise was squashed). Or the unfortunate man bankrupted by a visit from Good – but Expensive – Queen Bess in the 16th century (modern holders of the office may sympathise). Other readings kept the audience amused, like the trial of the Knave of Hearts from *Alice through the Looking Glass*, where among other foibles, the judge delivers sentence before the trial begins.

The other standout event was a charity walk, which began as a simple idea, and became far more complicated. In the end, I had a wonderful six days walking from Wisbech in the north of the county to Cambridge in the south, about 80 miles. Taking along hat, sword and collection bucket was easy – carrying the big banner was more of a trial. Each brought a different group of walkers to talk to, and different businesses, schools, and voluntary groups to visit.

It was fascinating to explore my county this way, finding out about communities large and small, discovering sad and inspiring stories: on the first day, a former alcoholic now on the staff of a hostel for the homeless; on the third day the overweight bullied youngster, who had gained confidence and skills at a young people's project and is now about to join the army. Mayors and councillors met us, the Peterborough Football Club Rabbit came to wave his two-foot carrot in support and wonderful Macmillan Cancer Support groups baked far too much cake. Even a mother seal



with her pup awaited us on the banks of the Great Ouse, 40 miles from the sea.

So many other wonderful experiences also live in my memory: a boxing club for troubled young people; sleeping rough with just a small piece of cardboard and a sleeping bag; dancing in a borrowed sari to celebrate the nine Hindu goddesses; the privilege of sitting in court with various judges.

Now only two more big fences to go: a second community party; and a premiere of specially commissioned music on the theme of 'Hereward the Wake' with 200 children taking part.

So I'm looking forward to fewer cold sweats – and meetings – for the second half.

♦ **Linda Fairbrother**
High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire 2014-15

Top: Meeting the Peterborough Football Club Rabbit

Inset: High Sheriff sleeping rough in Nene Park, Peterborough for World Homeless Day

Above: High Sheriff (centre) with charity walkers at Upton, near Peterborough

Left: L/Cpl Jack Boyd and Cadet Holly Shaw of Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force, Corps of Drums, guard the High Sheriff



Diversity in a database

Below: Proclamation of The Great Fair, Carlisle, August 2014: (left to right) Tess Hart MBE; Martyn Hart, High Sheriff; Carlisle Town Crier; Steven Bowditch, Mayor of Carlisle; Christine Bowditch, Mayoress and the Reverend Keith Teasdale, Court and City Centre Chaplain

EVEN BEFORE my year began, I was extensively involved in organising a Grand Charity Dinner signalling the end of my predecessor's successful year and the launch of my period of office.

This enjoyable event provided important introductions for me while its proceeds reinvigorated our Crimebeat Fund, reducing the need for further fundraising.

My focus (and I do endorse choosing a basic theme) has been on young people with an emphasis on alternatives to anti-social behaviour. Adolescence can be a particularly vulnerable time and programmes building self-esteem and promoting positive decision-making are crucial.

Our county is large, diverse and sparsely populated, causing occasional communication challenges. I frequently encounter groups doing outstanding work, yet unaware of other organisations

doing something similar 60 miles away. I believe sharing information is essential, so I have set myself the task of trying to join up these groups by initiating a Cumbrian database that both identifies these organisations and links their efforts, especially those which help young people and their families.

I am receiving great support from the public sector and voluntary groups. I also hope to involve young people in this database compilation via 'Young Apprenticeships'. Their IT skills certainly outweigh mine! Happily, my successor shares my interest in continuing this initiative, so I trust it will be a legacy for Cumbria.

My late daughter had profound special needs, so I chose to host my Summer Reception at Carlisle's Ofsted-rated 'outstanding' James Rennie School which she attended and where I am a long-serving Governor. The venue highlighted my focus and also

gave influential people the chance to see the joyful surroundings while affording community groups a great networking opportunity. As a relevant backdrop to the fun of the evening, the work of numerous youth projects was beamed onto the walls throughout the event. I was also very grateful to the uniformed Reivers District Scout Group for their enthusiastic assistance during the evening; further links to my focus on the youth of Cumbria.

I have been involved with the County Council in the launch of an initiative assessing the viability of providing facilities for children with severely challenging behaviour. Currently, these individuals have to be placed outside the county at huge cost, both financially and emotionally.

Cumbria's natural beauty plays a key role in my work:

- I organised a sponsored walk across Morecambe Bay for the Crimebeat Fund with the assistance of Cedric Robinson, MBE, The Queen's Guide to the Sands. It was a unique, exhilarating day I'll never forget. I am sure the 80 other participants would agree.



Above: Members of the Cumbria Army Cadet Force with The Queen's Guide to the Sands, Cedric Robinson, and Martyn Hart at the High Sheriff of Cumbria's sponsored Morecambe Bay Charity Walk, July 2014

- A day's fishing organised by the Masonic Trout and Salmon Fishing Charity provided another uplifting experience for 18 children with special needs and the 20 anglers who gently provided their expert fly-fishing instruction.
- A further memorable event was when my wife, Tess, and I visited Cowran Estate near Ulverston where Anne and Mike Diss have turned their farm into a centre delivering 'Extended Curriculum Work Placement Programmes', providing

I especially endorse organisations providing Cumbria's youth with a gathering place they can call their own. In every engagement I have had with young people, I have found that once you sit down and talk freely with them, they grow in confidence. They are curious about court dress, but once you explain it and your role, I have found their responsiveness immensely rewarding and impressive.

♦ Martyn Hart
High Sheriff of Cumbria



ACF Training Camp at Strensall, York with John Thompson, Chairman of Eden District Council; Mrs Hensman, Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria; Councillor Joan Raine; Geoff Cook, Chairman of Cumbria County Council; Tess Hart MBE; Martyn Hart, High Sheriff; David Ashby (contentmaster); and Peter Hensman OBE, August 2014



Cumbria army cadets in training at Strensall, York with Tess Hart MBE; Martyn Hart, High Sheriff and Col Mark Underhill OBE, Chief Executive NW Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, August 2014



The High Sheriff's Declaration at Bryanston School: (left to right) Richard Ball JP, Under Sheriff, Katharine Jones, Solicitor, the High Sheriff, the Revd Brian Williams, High Sheriff's Chaplain, and immediate past High Sheriff, Mrs Catriona Payne JP DL.

Safety first

AS I reflect on my year as High Sheriff so far, I feel extremely privileged to have had so many opportunities to meet with all the people working so hard for the county.

My Declaration ceremony in early April was a special occasion and the support shown was most encouraging. My theme for the year is focused on those engaged in public service, volunteers, and two particular initiatives designed to educate and keep people safe. These are SafeWise, an interactive safety centre with two sites, and the Safe Bus, which aims to provide a safe haven for predominantly young people, potentially vulnerable, at night in the town centre.

The past six months have been immensely busy and rewarding; the long hot summer certainly showed Dorset at its best. I have been very pleased to spend time with the emergency services, whether at formal award ceremonies or out with frontline staff. Dorset Fire and Rescue run various courses, for example Safer People and Responsible Communities (SPARC), for young people seeking employment. At the time of writing I have just returned from one such passing-out parade, where

participants had acquired new skills and achieved certificates in first aid. They relished working as a disciplined team to tackle a number of tasks, including extinguishing fires and rescuing 'victims' from a burning building and road traffic accident. Most importantly, after such a short time self-esteem and confidence are vastly enhanced, and students have a greater sense of purpose and future.

I am most supportive of Bournemouth University which runs various community initiatives. These include the Dementia Institute and Shrieval Students, nominated by the university for a year to support community initiatives such as the Safe Bus and other voluntary work, receiving a certificate from the High Sheriff.

I opened a concert (the result of a ten-week project) featuring patients with dementia and members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. While the orchestra played *Bolero*, it was clear that all present were enthralled.

It has been a real privilege to meet so many people around the county who are engaged in promoting safety. Dorset Police actively support both the Safe Bus and SafeWise. The launch of 'NightWise'

provides a valuable opportunity to educate young people about being safe while out at night. The many countless hours given by volunteers in a wide range of activities across Dorset is truly remarkable.

Of course, this year has marked the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War. There have been various events marking service and sacrifice, which have proved so memorable. A commemorative service at the Tank Museum on 4 August was powerful in reminding all of the conditions on the ground in 1914. Meanwhile the Air Show provided a close view of the superlative Red Arrows, and HMS *Westminster* in Bournemouth Bay recalled the crucial role of the Royal Navy. Most recently a visit to the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford underlined the importance of the Signals in developing modern communications – it is so worth a visit.

It has been a special privilege to be present during royal visits, which are greatly appreciated by local people and help to shine a light on the work of councils, volunteers and businesses. Likewise I have enjoyed meeting magistrates, judges and court staff, and attending one of the biggest gatherings for scouts in rural Dorset – of – over 1,000 earlier in the summer.

It has been a marvellous six months and I look forward to continuing this fascinating and privileged role over the winter months. It is so important to celebrate and acknowledge the lasting contribution made by people in support of their communities.

◆ Jane Stichbury
CBE QPM DL
High Sheriff of Dorset 2014-15



The High Sheriff with students, SafeWise CEO Alison Shelton BEM and Christopher Lees, Chairman of the Talbot Village Trust, at the launch of 'PubWise', a new initiative at Streetwise Safety Centre.

Photo: www.neofinn.co.uk



Photographs Paul Starr

Under Sheriff steps into new role

JONATHAN DOUGLAS-HUGHES retired as Under Sheriff of Essex in April. In May Nicholas Charrington, the current High Sheriff, held a dinner at Layer Marney to mark his retirement and to give thanks for his many years' service to the county. He has assisted 26 High Sheriffs with extraordinary devotion and has now been appointed Vice Lord-Lieutenant.

In 1963 Jonathan became an articled clerk at Gepp & Sons Solicitors, lawyers in the county town of Chelmsford and he is now senior partner. A Gepp became Under Sheriff in 1827 and since 1921 the firm has always provided the Under Sheriff.

Jonathan has generously made himself available at all times for help and consultation, which has been much appreciated by every High Sheriff. He has been a fount of knowledge with firmly held views on the role of High Sheriff, explaining to us that we are there to serve the county in the fields of law and order, but also to thank the unthanked by visiting and encouraging those involved in the voluntary sector. Moreover, he has reminded us that pomposity must be avoided at all costs!

He organised the Declaration Ceremony, which takes place in the Crown Court in Chelmsford. In October the Under Sheriff's office makes the arrangements for the Justice Service, often held in Chelmsford Cathedral. Jonathan passionately believes in the role of the High Sheriff and those holding that office in Essex have been exceptionally lucky to have benefited for so long from his experience and wisdom.

◆ Julia Abel Smith DL
High Sheriff of Essex, 2013-2014

Top: Leading the Procession to the Justice Service, 2013

Left: Julia Abel Smith and Jonathan Douglas-Hughes at her Declaration in 2013

Rehabilitation

The difference between life transformation and reoffending

ONE OF my commitments as High Sheriff of Greater London is to tackle crime in the Greater London area by helping to develop solutions to reduce reoffending rates across the capital's many and diverse boroughs.

For a long time I have believed that education is critical, particularly for those who have ended up in prison because their antisocial behaviour warranted punishment. What value can punishment have if the offender is not engaged in rehabilitation? We shouldn't take for granted the power that education plays in inspiring a sense of personal purpose and accountability. For offenders who find themselves in prison through poor judgment and displaced morals, rehabilitation can be the difference between total life transformation and reoffending.

Over the past six months I have focused my attention on the humanitarian aspects of the penal system, promoting and supporting the charities, individuals and statutory bodies which work tirelessly with current prisoners and ex-offenders to offer them a future on the right side of the law. As one of the co-founders of The Clink Charity, an award-winning scheme which rehabilitates prisoners through hospitality skills and training, I have seen first-hand the important work that

organisations such as this do to reduce crime and re-offending rates.

The Clink Charity was formed to help offenders break the cycle of crime by giving them self-belief, workplace skills and qualifications. The charity began with The Clink Restaurant at HMP High Down opening in 2009 as the first public restaurant in the UK within a prison. The concept was devised by Chef Alberto Crisci MBE, with the aim of providing prisoners with the opportunity to train and work in a similar environment to that of a 4-5 star hotel or commercial restaurant, in preparation for employment beyond the prison walls.

As well as working a full week, prisoners train towards gaining nationally recognised City & Guilds NVQ qualifications in catering, front-of-house service and cleaning, before returning to their cells in the evening. When released, each Clink graduate is mentored by a dedicated support worker who helps them to find employment and adjust to life on the outside, and visits them weekly in their place of work for six to twelve months to ensure they stay on track.

The charity has continued to go from strength to strength with the opening of charity's second restaurant, The Clink Cymru at HMP Cardiff in

Right: The High Sheriff speaking at lunch at The Clink Restaurant, HMP Brixton with the Rt Rev Bishop James Langstaff (Anglican Bishop to Prisons to his right), Maajid Nawaz (Co-Founder and Chairman of The Quilliam Foundation, opposite the Bishop) and David Crosweller (Wherever The Need Charity, foreground). The lunch was also attended by His Grace the Archbishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev Peter Smith, and the Rt Rev Bishop Richard Moth, the Catholic Liaison Bishop to Prisons.



September 2012 and the third restaurant at HMP Brixton in February 2014. A total of 10 Clink training projects are planned across the prison estate by 2017, with each initiative providing training opportunities for up to 50 graduates each year.

The Clink Charity operates using a five-step programme – recruitment, training, auditing, employment and mentoring. This model is key to ensuring that the reoffending rates of graduates are lower than the national average. In the UK, 46.9 per cent of adults reoffend within the first year of release. If they leave prison with no job or accommodation secured, this increases to 74 per cent. This shows a clear link between unemployment and increased rates of reoffending. To date, The Clink Charity has reduced the reoffending rate of prisoners training in the restaurant to 12.5 per cent following one full year of release.

I am now working closely with the board and chief executive of The Clink Charity and Her Majesty's Prison Service on the next Clink project, a training restaurant at HMP Styal, a women's prison in Cheshire, set to open in spring 2015. Not only is this a clear sign of the charity's substantial growth as it moves into prisons in the north of England but it also demonstrates its desire to rehabilitate female offenders even though they are considered a minority compared with male offenders.

I am delighted that High Sheriffs from Surrey and Hertfordshire, as well as most of the recent past High Sheriffs of Greater London, have visited The Clink and seen its work first-hand.

♦♦ Kevin McGrath

High Sheriff of Greater London 2014-15

**i To find out more, please visit
www.theclinkcharity.org**

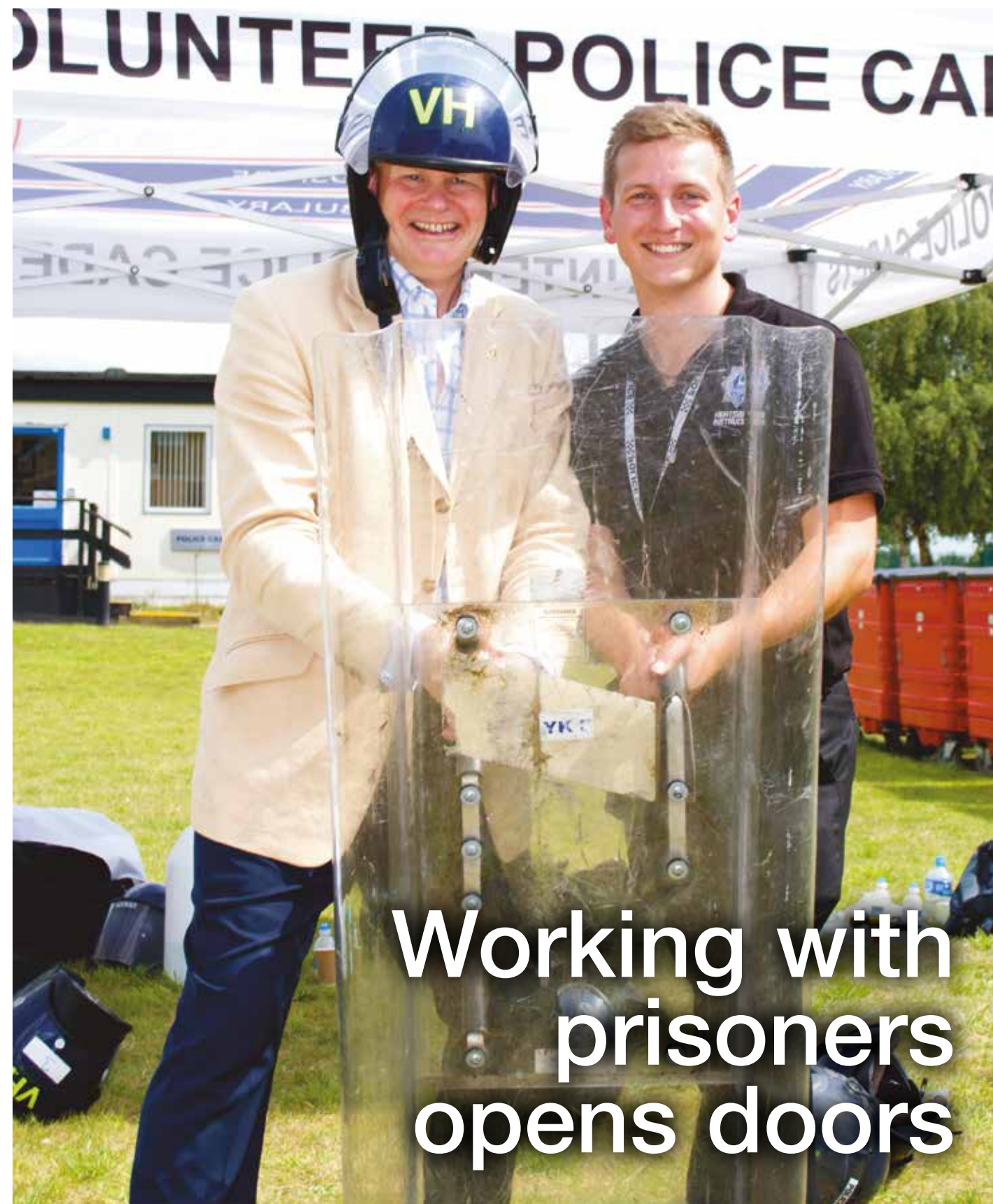
Above: The High Sheriff and Kate McGrath with the Founder and CEO of the William Wilberforce Trust and Chaplain to the High Sheriff, the Revd Paul Cowley and his wife Amanda (left)

The Clink Restaurant, HMP Brixton



I recently visited The Clink Restaurant with a group of historians. I endorse everything Kevin McGrath says and recommend the lunch, ambience and friendliness of the staff there. It is an excellent initiative which needs public support. Ed.





I AM now nearly halfway through my year as High Sheriff of Hertfordshire and I am so glad that I took the advice from a number of previous High Sheriffs to prepare well in advance for it.

I read the diaries of the previous five High Sheriffs to get a handle on what was worth doing and what could be a waste of time. This was invaluable.

Once I had a grasp of who and what I was going to come across within the county I could begin to research how I wanted to plan my 'theme' for my year into my diary. My theme was to focus on the ever-growing prison population and why so many prisoners reoffend within such a short period of time once released.

“The most impressive people I have met so far are the enormous number of voluntary workers throughout Hertfordshire”

This subject opens so many doors that are relevant to the High Sheriff's role and duty. I have got to know the Chief Constable well and also been out with all his senior officers in the major towns of Hertfordshire. I have accompanied police constables in most of Hertfordshire's 10 boroughs and seen first-hand how they engage with 'rogue' families which have generations of reoffenders.

I have also been so impressed with so many agencies which work closely with the police to keep the young on the right track. I have got to know a number of very determined and patient probation officers who work tirelessly to support so many reoffenders that need guidance and help becoming better citizens.

I have built up a good relationship with Steve Bradford, who is Governor of the Mount Prison in Bovingdon. So much so that I have persuaded him to take on The Pimlico Theatre Group – they set up a theatre within the prison and the inmates become part of the cast with professional actors also involved; they will be performing a musical in January 2016. They will be directed by the ever-enthusiastic Michael Moody, who has managed to do this with 11 other prisons. Future High Sheriffs might want to investigate this project with their own prisons.

At the very start of my year, I made appointments with Councillors at District and County levels to see how they support dysfunctional families and the sad fall-out that comes with them.

I also sat with judges at St Albans and Watford Courts and magistrates in Hatfield. This helped me understand the subject much better and therefore I was able to ask far more relevant questions when meeting people close to the 'coal face', who were dealing with reoffenders on a daily basis.

The most impressive people I have met so far are the enormous number of voluntary workers throughout Hertfordshire. Offenders leaving prison have every chance to get back on track; I have been to walk-in drug and alcohol centres, accommodation for the homeless, shadowed offender management teams and sat in with Probation and Social Service Officers – all amazing places run by determined people.

Future High Sheriffs: if you have not made your mind up as to what to support during your year, then I can guarantee a very interesting and rewarding year ahead of you if you choose the one I have.

It will highlight a lot of the troubles within your county, but also put you in touch with wonderful people and places that give you hope and inspiration to work harder as a High Sheriff.

My wife Kate and I have also had some wonderful spectacles to enjoy, like the Homecoming Parade in Hertford by the Royal Anglian Regiment which had just returned from Afghanistan. At the end of the parade we hosted 200 soldiers in our garden party marquee in the grounds of Hertford Castle and they enjoyed lots of McMullen ale!

I am only halfway through my year but if the second half is as good as the first, it will be one of the best years of my life.

♣ **Fergus McMullen**
High Sheriff of Hertfordshire 2014-15



Above: The High Sheriff with Lord Kitchener (Dennis Rutledge) at his garden party which had a First World War commemoration theme

Opposite page
The High Sheriff with PC Ross Paybody at Hertfordshire County Police Cadet Competition

Below: The High Sheriff at his garden party at Hertford Castle with the High Sheriff of Greater London, Mr Kevin McGrath, and his wife Kate



ISLE OF WIGHT

News from and about members



News from and about members



Island Highland Games and other adventures

Above: I was the ceremonial gilder of the horns of the Isle of Wight's Gilten Market champion beast

IT HAS been over six months since I wished my successor well, hung up my uniform and attempted to get back to normality. I look back at all the people I met and places visited and realise what a privilege it has been.

Since tourism is the biggest employer and earner on the island, I decided to make tourism one of my themes for the year. I was impressed to see how well the island is marketed online by Visit Isle of Wight Ltd. I had the pleasure of attending the reopening of the beautifully refurbished Swiss Cottage by TRH the Earl and Countess of Wessex at Osborne House.

I was challenged to abseil down the tower of St Mary's Church, Carisbrooke in support of Christian Aid. Nothing could prepare me for climbing over the edge on a very blustery day, but

as the Archdeacon had gone first I had no choice but to follow... never again! A suggestion to all High Sheriffs in nomination: I set up a 'JustGiving' page to encourage sponsorship, sent everyone I knew an email and they kindly sponsored me; a great help in a busy year.

Not having a legal background I was soon fascinated by the proceedings and outcomes when I sat on the bench with judges and the coroner, although walking into court for the first time was a little daunting.

I was caught by the local newspaper photographer trying to play the bagpipes at the Earl Mountbatten Hospice 'Island Highland Games'. Later that day I took the salute as six pipe and drum bands marched towards me playing

Highland Cathedral, a very moving experience.

Having had an agricultural upbringing I was delighted to attend the Isle of Wight Gilten Market, a Christmas market dating back 150 years. I was honoured with the task of gilding the horns of the champion beast; as a child I had watched this ceremony many times but never thought that one day I would be asked to do it.

During the year the Isle of Wight High Sheriff's Trust made grants to various organisations including local schools taking part in the 'Global Rock Challenge' competition. We bought a puppy for 'Ability Dogs 4 Young People' and made a grant to send young people on a 'Keep Out Campaign' at Lewes Prison.

I attended numerous award ceremonies, culminating in the Isle of Wight High Sheriff's Awards, which are presented to young people who have overcome adversity. Nominations are from a wide range of organisations and deciding on the winners was no easy task. After the ceremony many of the families of the recipients expressed genuine pleasure that their young person had been recognised.

Another unforeseen enjoyment was getting to know my fellow sheriffs from the western circuit.

My husband Geoff and I were pleased to attend legal services in five other counties and delighted to welcome back four High Sheriffs to my legal service. Organising a legal service seems to be a headache for many High Sheriffs – I just kept telling myself 'it would be all right on the night' and to my relief it was.

Despite the economic gloom and doom, I realise that the Isle of Wight is blessed with a huge number of volunteers willing to help others less fortunate. One group I visited was Age UK Isle of Wight. Last year their volunteers gave 36,000 hours of help to their neighbours. I am delighted that the Isle of Wight Society for the Blind has received a Queen's Award for Voluntary Services.

I am grateful to have had much friendly advice from the Lord-Lieutenant, Major-General Martin White. The year was only possible with the support of my husband, who came to many of the evening events with me and helped to make it a memorable one.

♦ **Mary Case**

High Sheriff of The Isle of Wight 2013-14

Below left: Enjoying the view from St Mary's Church, Carisbrooke

Below: My piping debut at the Island Highland Games





Shrievalty as an 'enabler'

THE WARMTH of the welcome that I have received across the county since my year began has demonstrated to me both the enduring importance and relevance of the Office of High Sheriff. In addition to its important ceremonial role, I have been eager to reflect the contribution that the Office can make across the public, voluntary and charitable sectors in the county.

One of the four Presiding Judges of the South Eastern Circuit, Mr Justice Singh who visited Kent during April, told me that virtually every 18-year-old with a custodial sentence has a similar CV, an individual beset by poor behaviour and lack of aspiration and academic attainment. There is increasing cross-party support to tackle these social problems at their root causes, known collectively as Early Intervention.

My shrieval theme has concentrated on preventative initiatives for those vulnerable young people who are most at risk of falling into the

Criminal Justice System. I have presented a High Sheriff Award to Nu Steps, a small charity providing vocational training for 14- and 15-year-olds at risk of permanent exclusion from school. With their self-esteem restored, several students have successfully re-engaged in their academic studies. In a different context, the Boys' Dance Club at Herne Bay High School instils a passion for contemporary dance among young men from tough backgrounds who have become disengaged from education. Few of these students will become professional dancers but the discipline and discovery of their self-confidence infuses the rest of their studies. This programme is now expanding to other schools in the area, exemplifying another 'inclusion initiative' worthy of an award.

Kent and Medway Progression Federation is an agency that seeks wider participation in higher education, working with 40 schools from the deprived areas of the county. It provides a number



of outreach programmes to enhance aspiration to higher education among students and it has proved an excellent framework to bring new initiatives of Early Intervention into the county. We hope to set up a county-wide scheme with Speakers Trust to support young people in reaching their potential through the medium of public speaking training to develop their self-confidence. The Government has recently launched a Youth Engagement Fund. Through the Federation, we hope that the latest roll-out of the programme will be in Kent, providing mentoring support to improve the attainment and employability skills those students who are the most disengaged. These two examples reflect where the Shrievalty can act as an 'enabler' to bring worthwhile initiatives to the county.

The last Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, rightly highlighted the ceaseless dedication of volunteers providing 'the glue that binds our communities together'. As High Sheriff, it is humbling to see the level of volunteering within the criminal justice system, including the magistracy, prison visitors and victim support staff. I held a tea party for Victim Support and the Court Witness Service, including the enhanced service given to Child Witnesses, which was welcomed by the hundred or so volunteers who came.

In recognition of the efforts of volunteers in local communities, I am building upon the Community Award Scheme, now in its second year in co-operation with the Kent Association of Local Councils which supports Parish and Town Councils. With the encouragement of civic leaders, it is hoped to present over 50 awards across the county early in the New Year to champion the unceasing community work of the voluntary sector.

Often depicted as the 'Frontline County' during the nation's history, Kent has been at the forefront of the commemorations to mark one

hundred years since the start of the First World War. Kate and I attended a most poignant and reflective vigil service at Rochester Cathedral as the candles were gradually extinguished in advance of 11.00 pm on 4 August, evoking the Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey's famous quotation that 'The lamps are going out all over Europe and we shall not see them lit in our lifetime'. Earlier in the day, those who had served in The Great War were remembered as HRH Prince Harry laid a wreath on the war memorial and unveiled the 'Step Short' Memorial Arch in Folkestone. A Service of Commemoration was held at Chatham Historic Dockyard for the first major loss of life at sea – three Royal Navy cruisers sunk off the Dutch Coast with the loss of 1,500 lives. It was a service of reconciliation with the presence of the German Naval Attaché, the First Sea Lord and other senior Royal Navy representatives.

The government has encouraged an enduring cultural and educational legacy in the light of the centenary so that young people and future generations will remember the sacrifices made. To this end, I commissioned the award-winning author Martyn Barr to write *The Lost Generation: The Young Person's Guide to World War One*. The book has been recognised as a valuable resource for schools and two free copies have been sent to all schools in Kent.

In common with my recent predecessors, I have maintained the profile of the Office both online and through the local press with a small but dedicated band of followers on my Twitter account, @KentHighSheriff and I aim to hold their attention with my activities over the next six months as well!

♦ Hugo M Fenwick
High Sheriff of Kent 2014-15

Above left: Hugo Fenwick with (left) Brigadier Chris Claydon, Deputy Constable of Dover Castle, and (right) Nick Sandford, Chairman of Kent branch, Country Land and Business Association, cycled from Dartford to Dungeness to draw attention to the county's attractions and the health benefits of cycling

Above: Hugo Fenwick, after unveiling the statue of a soldier of The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) at Folkestone Racecourse, commissioned Rex Cadman, organiser of the War and Peace Show to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War with trumpeters of the Duke of York's Royal Military School and a Pearly Queen.

Below: Hugo Fenwick on patrol with the Canterbury Street Pastors.





A Duchy High Sheriff

The High Sheriff of Lancashire's shield-hanging ceremony at Lancaster Castle

Above: High Sheriff's procession into Lancaster Priory Church: (right to left) Max Winterbottom, Under Sheriff of Lancashire; Tim Jacques, Assistant Chief Constable; Dr John Martin Robinson, Maltravers Herald Extraordinary; Dr Barry Johnson, High Sheriff; His Honour Judge Russell; Mr Justice Norris and Mr. Justice King

Right: Barry and Carolyn Johnson hanging the shield in the Shire Hall at Lancaster Castle

IN LANCASHIRE, Greater Manchester and Merseyside, together comprising the County Palatine of Lancaster, the three High Sheriffs are appointed by Her Majesty The Queen as Duke of Lancaster. Each Lord-Lieutenant recommends a name to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and The Queen 'pricks' the names of the three High Sheriffs on the Lites (the parchment list of names) with a bodkin, a practice dating back to the time of Queen Elizabeth I. The ceremony only takes place a few weeks prior to the installation of the High Sheriffs, hence the absolute secrecy of the names selected until the pricking has taken place.

In April 2014, following my appointment as High Sheriff of Lancashire, the colourful spectacle of hanging my shield took place in the Shire Hall in Lancaster Castle, alongside 650 other shields dating back to Richard the Lionheart.

High Sheriffs' shields show their personal coats of arms, often portraying significant aspects of their professions and interests, designed by heralds at the College of Arms. As I am a veterinary surgeon, mine contains a cow's head and horses' heads with collars of Lancashire red roses. The white bar in the middle represents the bar, my wife's profession, pierced with ermine spots representing our six sons.

The shield-hanging ceremony began with a service in the magnificent Priory Church with a procession of various dignitaries, including the Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth, the Constable of the Castle, Mrs Pamela Barker, and the Judges of the High Court, the Hon Mr Justice King, and the Hon Mr Justice Norris (also Vice-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), His Honour Judge Russell QC, Honorary Recorder of Preston, His Honour Judge Sycamore, Honorary Recorder of Lancaster and Dr John Martin Robinson, Maltravers Herald Extraordinary.



Keeper of The Queen's Peace

TWO INITIATIVES I have arranged as High Sheriff of Lancashire, which I hope may inspire future High Sheriffs, involved patrolling with the Blackpool Street Pastors and organising a Restorative Justice Forum. I and my wife Carolyn went out with the Street Pastors in the town centre on a Saturday night and presented them with a High Sheriff's certificate. We were particularly impressed with their huge commitment and dedication and the difference that they make in enhancing and safeguarding the community and visitors to Blackpool.

As Keeper of The Queen's Peace in the county I wanted to observe Blackpool's night-time economy from the perspective of the numerous volunteer agencies such as Street Pastors, who provide invaluable support.

The Street Pastors are out in the town centre from around 10.00pm to 2.00am every Saturday night. They are an inter-denominational church response to urban problems, such as homelessness, drug abuse, binge drinking and the associated problems of the night-time economy.

They help 'anyone and everyone', offering a shoulder to cry on, an ear to listen, plasters and free flip-flops to those in painful high heels and free drinks of water to those who are looking a little worse for wear. They make sure that those who are in a seriously vulnerable state get home safely and in one piece.

It was a typical Blackpool Saturday night, very windy and cold, the resort awash with fighting gangs, alcohol-fuelled hen and stag parties and busy brothels.

I believe one of the most important roles of the High Sheriff is to give active support and encouragement to the police and emergency services, the probation and prison services and other agencies involved in crime prevention. Restorative justice, I believe, is a growing, powerful tool in reforming attitudes.

I have attended – and been hugely impressed by – the Sycamore Tree accredited programme running in many of our prisons in Lancashire, which is based

on the principles of restorative justice, delivered by trained Prison Fellowship volunteers. Meeting and observing other diverse professional and voluntary organisations all striving to reduce crime, rehabilitate offenders and satisfy the victims of crime, I initiated a High Sheriff's Forum. Its aim is to bring together businesses, voluntary groups, the police, the probation and prison service, social services, lawyers, victims, former offenders, Prison Fellowship volunteers, the churches and other related organisations, to provide an opportunity to share good practice, highlight and publicise their specific work and goals, and build partnerships and networks for reform and collaboration.

John Timpson, Chairman of Timpson, the service retailer that has over 1,300 shops trading as Timpson, Max Spielmann and Snappy Snaps, was the keynote speaker. Over the last 10 years Timpson has developed the country's most proactive recruitment programme for ex-offenders, with nearly 10 per cent

of the current workforce having joined the company from prison, and it also runs training and apprenticeship schemes for prisoners in two of our prisons.

Other speakers included a prison chaplain, an ex-offender, victims of crime, a Crown Court Judge, an Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner, an assistant Chief Constable, the CEO of Street Soccer Academy and a trustee from Prison Fellowship.

Over 120 people attended the Forum and actively participated in the discussions and networked enthusiastically over lunch. Lancashire is spearheading a pilot study on restorative justice and the initial results were encouraging. I am confident that the relationships forged by the High Sheriff's Forum will publicise and progress restorative justice to reduce reoffending and promote a sense of justice and peace in our community.

♦ **Barry Johnson**
High Sheriff of Lancashire 2014-2015



Above: High Sheriff's Forum: (left to right) Carolyn Johnson, Amanda Webster (solicitor and Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner), Barry Johnson, Tony Watson (trustee) and Stephen Hawkins (regional co-ordinator), both from Prison Fellowship



Left: Blackpool street pastors receiving a High Sheriff's Award from Barry Johnson in the town centre on a blustery Saturday night. Left to right: Carolyn Johnson, Karen Trigg (co-ordinator and senior street pastor), Barry Johnson



Kicking off with sport in the community

Above: Graham Cartledge at his Declaration with the Lord-Lieutenant, Sir John Peace, and Nicky Weston, High Sheriff 2013-14, at St Andrew's Church, Cauntton

Right: HMS *Sherwood's* rededication parade with HRH Prince Michael of Kent taking the salute

Opposite page: Nottingham 'City of Football': The co-ordinated group for the city-wide venture to win the bid from Sport England

WHEN I was chosen as High Sheriff one of my personal motivations was to have as much positive impact in my short time in office as possible; I wanted to pursue a mission to focus my year which ultimately played to my passions and strengths.

As an avid sports fan and businessman, I have often wondered how these two areas could be combined to serve a better purpose – and so my mission this year as High Sheriff has become 'Sport in the Community'.

In April we launched this initiative at my High Sheriff's kick-off event, a Sport in the Community Breakfast Meeting, which brought together local business leaders and charitable organisations. Using sport as a medium, the focus is to reach people in need of additional support. The event was a great success and has encouraged discussion and collaboration on how we can help the county better.

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



Sport in the Community Mission – City of Football Bid

Shortly after the launch a significant opportunity arose to use the title of High Sheriff for a great sporting cause. Sport England launched a competition to find the inaugural 'City of Football' for 2015. The application required each city to show a united front, bringing together sometimes rival clubs in a joint effort to achieve the goal of raising awareness and participation in football, and helping with health initiatives and increased activity for youths.

Having seen the great work that Notts County and Nottingham Forest already do in the county, I wholeheartedly supported the bid knowing, if they were to win, their dedicated efforts would only be expanded and allow more people to be influenced positively by their programmes.

I was absolutely delighted when Nottingham was announced as the City of Football for 2015 after being shortlisted against Manchester and Portsmouth; it was a great day for the area and an honour to have been involved in the process.



Wreath laying at the Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium

First World War centenary – charity match

OVER THE August Bank Holiday weekend, I was in Belgium commemorating the centenary of the First World War with representatives from Newark in Nottinghamshire and Newark's German twin town of Emmendingen.

Along with Newark's Mayor, Tom Bickley, and Emmendingen's Vice-Mayor, Joachim Saar, I had the privilege to lay a commemorative wreath at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres, Belgium.

Close to 700 people attended the wreath-laying ceremony, while buglers played 'The Last Post', which to this day is played every evening at the Gate to

honour those lost during the Great War.

A highlight of the weekend was a charity football match in memory of the Christmas Day Truce Match played in 1914. The original match was an impromptu kick-around between German and British troops in no-man's-land which came about during a ceasefire called for the holiday.

Newark Town FC's Under 21s Team and FC Emmendingen 03 replayed the famous match in a friendly game. While Newark unfortunately didn't come out on top this year, we congratulate Emmendingen on their 4-1 win. Well done, lads!



Left: The High Sheriff and his Cadet, Sergeant Jamie McDonald of the Air Training Corps

Sailability, which provides sailing on Rutland Water for those with physical disabilities or learning needs. There are dinghies, trimarans and day boats all modified to allow those with reduced mobility to sail as helms or as passengers, and if they feel like it, to race. The attached picture shows me helping to launch a trimaran with a centre-mounted bucket seat for a disabled sailor, and an additional seat to one side for an able-bodied assistant.

In this year of the centenary of the start of the Great War, Rutland has been very active with commemorative parades, a museum display, a website and the updating and reprinting of the book *Rutland and the Great War*, which lists all those who fought and those who died. I am now embarking on a programme of visits to all the primary schools in the county to display items of memorabilia and to highlight the sacrifices made.

Plans for the future include hosting the Area Regional Conference at the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, organising a Rutland Diocesan Service in Peterborough Cathedral and arranging a fundraising evening at the National Space Centre in Leicester. Once those are all finished, it will be time to decide which charities and activities to carry on supporting next year when I have a bit more time.

♦♦ **Air Commodore Miles Williamson-Noble**
High Sheriff of Rutland 2014-2015



The High Sheriff with Rutland Sailability's adapted trimaran

Racing around Rutland

AS WITH all High Sheriffs, my year started with my Declaration. In Rutland we perform the ceremony in Oakham Castle, which is the perfect size to hold a sensible number of guests. I had decided that I wanted a High Sheriff's Cadet during my year and, after clearing it with the Lord-Lieutenant, asked the local Air Training Corps to nominate a suitable individual. There were a few delays along the way, but finally the immaculately smart Sergeant Jamie McDonald was nominated, and he can be seen in the picture of us both against the backdrop of the horseshoes that adorn the walls of the castle. Jamie has since left to join the Grenadier Guards, and I now have a new cadet, Warrant Officer Beth Bloor, who was previously the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet. There can be few if any other cadets who have served both a Lord-Lieutenant and a High Sheriff. If High Sheriffs are wondering whether or not to have a cadet, I strongly recommend doing so – not so much for your benefit,

but rather for the interest and benefit of the individual chosen.

The High Sheriff of Leicestershire, Richard Clowes, and I decided to get our fundraising activities off to a start by organising a Charity Racenight at Leicester Racecourse. The evening was a great success, and we raised over £36,000 for the five charities we had nominated. One of these was the new High Sheriff of Rutland's Fund, which I had recently set up in aid of voluntary organisations for young people, and of the elderly suffering from isolation and poverty. I hope to raise more for the Fund in the near future by inviting those in receipt of the Winter Fuel Payment to donate it for the benefit of those in greater need than themselves. Other fundraising activities in which I am involved are for the benefit of Warning Zone, the local charity raising risk awareness amongst 11-year-olds, and the Children's Air Ambulance.

A great local charity is Rutland

A wild reception

MY DECLARATION ceremony witnessed the arrival of not only myself as the new High Sheriff, but also a new Under Sheriff, a new Honorary Recorder and a High Court Judge who had never previously conducted a Declaration ceremony. What could possibly go wrong?

My trepidation was, of course, unfounded. Our joint lack of expertise seemed only to enhance the collective enthusiasm and enjoyment of the event, strongly felt by those of us taking part and amply reflected by all who attended. The wonderful atmosphere of that day set a memorable tone which I hope will endure throughout my year – a year that is likely to be a chapter in our lives totally unlike any other, as readers of these pages will understand.

My wife Julia suggested the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, now the fastest-growing attraction in the United Kingdom, as a venue for our summer reception. Here we could host 350 regional guests, comprising civic

Below: Residents and guests at our reception at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Panel (clockwise): Guests with Johnny and Vanessa Towers at their valedictory dinner

Presenting his staff of office to the new Under Sheriff

New British Citizens from four countries at Sheffield Town Hall



In April, we bade farewell to the indefatigable Johnny Towers. During his long 27-year tenure as Under Sheriff of South Yorkshire, Johnny, together with his wife Vanessa, has become an enthusiastic, colourful and innate part of our shrieval fabric. They were joined by past High Sheriffs at a valedictory dinner in the magnificent surroundings of the Neill Room at the Cutlers' Hall in Sheffield.

As the current High Sheriff, I had the good fortune of hosting this special evening, which Julia and I hoped would be a stylish and entertaining tribute worthy of Johnny and Vanessa's warmth

and exuberance throughout their years of service. I hope the dinner demonstrated a heartfelt appreciation of their long friendship.

As Johnny's successor we are delighted to welcome Rob Chitoriski from Penistone. Now retired, Rob has served for many years as Court Solicitor to the Magistrates in South Yorkshire. He is well known and highly regarded by the Justices and many previous High Sheriffs. His wealth of experience of court life will be of great value to all incoming High Sheriffs in South Yorkshire, myself included. We wish him good fortune in his new role.



leaders, judges and magistrates, prison governors, charity workers and business leaders. Such a venue was not without risk. The mean-looking four-legged occupants were supplemented by some mean-looking isobars on the weather chart. Fortunately the Park responded to the evening sunshine by putting on a stunning and informative show. It was a wonderfully convivial occasion, although one of my grandchildren was overheard remonstrating with fellow guests about the lack of penguins. Clearly you can't please all of the people all of the time!

I was very proud indeed to present Court Awards to three citizens from our county, all of whom were instrumental in helping the authorities secure arrests and convictions following violent assaults. The bravery each demonstrated, and the importance of the role they all played in such unpredictable and spontaneous moments, cannot help but make the rest of us wonder 'What would I have done?'

The citizenship ceremonies are another part of the rich tapestry of the High Sheriff's duties. They never fail to provide a regular source of immense satisfaction and frequent amusement. While it is true that difficulties within the Passport Office have resulted in reduced numbers at some of these ceremonies, the silver lining is that it affords the opportunity to learn more about each of the individuals who are rightly awarded citizenship. Each of them has a story to tell, frightening, fascinating or inspiring – usually a mixture of all three. It is a privilege as High Sheriff to hear these stories and be part of this process.

♦♦ **John Bramah**
High Sheriff South Yorkshire 2014-15



Above: Peter Lee presents High Sheriff Youth Awards certificate to Sam Beak and the team of Longmeadz Kickn

WHEN SUBMITTING my piece for the High Sheriffs' Association website at the start of my year, I anticipated a busy and challenging year ahead. I was right! It is also proving to be interesting, enlightening, humbling, rewarding and great fun. I am pleased that due in no small part to the work of my predecessors, there is a tremendous amount of goodwill for the office of High Sheriff.

My main theme during the year is getting young people active. This generation of young people is probably the least active in human history, and obesity levels in the young in Surrey (and indeed across the country) are on the increase. A staggering one in four young people are overweight or obese and it is getting worse. We are fortunate in Surrey to have Active Surrey, the lead development agency for promoting sport and physical activity in Surrey, which works with a number of partnerships committed to making Surrey a more active and successful sporting county. We are lucky to have some excellent sporting facilities in the county, including Surrey

Sports Park in Guildford. I was pleased to attend the P&G Surrey Youth Games and the P&G Surrey School Games held at Surrey Sports Park which involve teams from all eleven boroughs and districts in the county competing in a range of sporting disciplines.

I am trying to lead by example and, on 21 September, I participated in the YMCA Downslink Tour de Y Challenge, a cycle route of some 40 miles from the North Downs Way to the South Downs Way. As I crossed the county boundary at the halfway point, I was greeted by the High Sheriff of West Sussex, Jonathan Lucas, in full court dress!

Engaging young people through sport also cuts crime and antisocial behaviour. I believe Surrey is unique in having the High Sheriff Youth Awards, a charity which funds projects for young people that help to reduce or prevent crime. The HSYA is proud to have supported Longmeadz Kickn and Liquid Connection Total Football. Both these charities use football to engage targeted young people and give them opportunities to complete accreditations and

qualifications. Working in partnership with Surrey Police and the County Council, they aim (and succeed) in addressing antisocial behaviour while providing positive opportunities for disadvantaged young people in the area.

2014 has of course seen the commemoration of the centenary of the start of the First World War. On 4 August I attended a Vigil Service at Guildford Cathedral attended by Their Royal Highnesses the Earl and Countess of Wessex. It was an appropriately contemplative occasion, respectful, solemn and very moving.

Surrey is a county with a proud military history. It has military establishments at RLC Deepcut, Keogh Barracks and Pirbright, as well as the renowned rehabilitation centre at Headley Court. It is also home to Brookwood Military Cemetery which is the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the UK. There are strong county contingents of Reserves and army cadets which provide support to charity events around the county. Guildford itself is very much a military town. I sit on the

Surrey Military Appeals Committee and I have been very much involved in military events throughout the county. I was pleased to lend my support to Guildford's bid to host National Armed Forces Day 2015 and I am delighted that our bid was successful. It is a wonderful achievement for Guildford and for the county.

But that is for my successor to enjoy. So too are the celebrations of the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta at Runnymede on 15 June 1215. It serves as a reminder of the traditions of this great office. I am told that fourteen past and present sheriffs were present at Runnymede and played a prominent part in drafting the Charter. It is humbling to think that 800 years later the High Sheriff of Surrey will be present for the commemorations of this momentous event.

When I was approached four years ago about being High Sheriff of Surrey, I asked myself 'is the office of High Sheriff still relevant today?' I believed then that it was and, after a little over six months in office, I am even more convinced that it remains so. We may not be as powerful or influential as the sheriffs who attended at Runnymede on 15 June 1215, but we can and do still contribute positively to the counties we represent, I believe for the better.

♦ Peter Lee
High Sheriff of Surrey 2014-15

Below: Peter Lee (right) and Jonathan Lucas (left) at the county boundary on the YMCA Downslink cycle ride





Supporting a safe and secure society

MY DECLARATION as High Sheriff took place at Newcastle's Discovery Museum's Shipping Gallery. This captures the continuing and pivotal part played by those two great rivers of our county, the Tyne and the Wear, in bringing prosperity to this part of the United Kingdom. These rivers have drawn people from all over the world to settle on their banks, building a reputation for a warm welcome, a strong sense of fun and family, and a sense of community as enduring as the rivers themselves.

As High Sheriff I wanted to raise awareness of the particular plight of children and young people affected by domestic violence and abuse. At the same time, I thought it important to recognise the valuable work of those who work in child safeguarding, which is difficult and complex, requiring resilience, sensitivity and finely balanced judgment. Domestic violence and abuse knows no class, no colour, no creed – it exists in each and every community. It represents seven per cent of the workload of Northumbria Police, with a child being referred as at possible risk in 40 per cent of those cases. Research shows that help from police is sought only on average after 35 previous incidents; worryingly, this means children and young people will have seen or heard much unpleasantness before obtaining help. These vulnerable young people, even if they do not directly witness

violent or abusive acts, are more likely to suffer problematic behaviour, anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and educational problems, which can affect them in later life.

With the support of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable and Northumbria University, we hosted a conference called *Hearing the voice of the child; creating safe spaces for children and young people affected by domestic abuse*. This was attended by the judiciary, magistrates, police and probation services, health (including GPs) and social services, housing providers, local authority members, charities and community groups. The conference, focussing on children in the north-east region, shared expertise of how best to support these vulnerable children and young people. It attracted excellent academic and professional speakers, with keynote speeches by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Vera Baird QC, and the Children's Commissioner, Dr Maggie Atkinson.

We can all help by creating a safe space for children, physically and mentally. This is a cornerstone of the Tyne and Wear High Sheriff's Awards Fund, established in 1995 and serviced by successive High Sheriffs. The fund recognises and rewards local organisations which support children and young people in a safe and secure



Northumbria University conference (left to right) Dr Maggie Atkinson (Children's Commissioner for England), the High Sheriff, Lesley Storey (Domestic and Sexual Violence Co-ordinator, Newcastle City Council), Prof Peter Francis (Pro Vice Chancellor, Northumbria University), Vera Baird QC (Police and Crime Commissioner) and Dr Pamela Davies (Programme Director, Criminology, Northumbria University)

environment, developing confidence, building skills, finding fun and friendship, learning to be part of a community and in turn learning how to play a part in the community. For my husband and me, it has been heartwarming to see these organisations in action, run by dedicated, dependable and caring people, many of them volunteers, and to meet some fabulous and inspiring children and young people.

It has been enjoyable to make the opening speech before a 3,000-strong audience for Newcastle Pride; to participate in civic events across Tyne and Wear's five local authorities; to award the Queen's Medal to a 100-year-old fireman (now retired!); to watch the launch of the Great North Run and the quest for the millionth runner (a world first for this type of race); and last but not least, to participate in the pageantry of the legal processions and to dine with impressive High Court Judges in our home. In the centenary year of the outbreak of the Great War, it has been humbling to take part in ceremonies paying homage to those who lost their lives and to those who returned. It has been a privilege to become more acquainted with the armed forces and to participate in Freedom of the City ceremonies for the Royal Artillery and Royal Marines in Sunderland and Newcastle. I have also seen at first hand the work of the police, probation, fire and prison services, all of which make our society safe and secure.

It has been a special six months so far.

♦♦ Ruth Thompson OBE
High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear 2014-2015

Shining light

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 county so great.

I am sure that all High Sheriffs have heard their fair share of inspirational stories this year but few can match that of Stephen Sutton.

For those who are unaware, Stephen hailed from the West Midlands and his story has been something of a global phenomenon. The 19-year-old sadly died in May after launching an appeal in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust, which remarkably has raised almost £5m. I organised an awards event in July to recognise those who have inspired local communities and it seemed the least I could do was pay tribute to Stephen posthumously. His mother Jane has had to contend with a great deal of pain, yet despite this she attended the event, along with representatives of Teenager Cancer Trust, for which I will always be grateful.

Stephen, of course, was not alone in showing determination and courage and I have been overwhelmed by the sheer number of people who volunteer their time to help others. It would be almost impossible for me to congratulate all of them individually, but one initiative that has helped me recognise as many as possible has seen



Declaration Ceremony. From left to right back row are: HHJ James Burbidge QC, HHJ William Davis QC – (now Mr Justice William Davis), Mr Justice Leggatt, HHJ Murray Creed, HHJ Richard Bond, Mrs June Watts (front row), The High Sheriff of the West Midlands, Dr Tim Watts DL (front row)

me feeding into all the charities supported by each of the seven Lord Mayors and Mayors in my shire. I have made it a priority to attend mayoral events and have taken the time to hear about their own charity appeals, for which I have been happy to make a donation via my own fundraising.

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 for many, many years to come. The one that springs most to mind is a plan by Aston University to develop a new medical school to support local trainee doctors with scholarships. The school will cater for 100 students each year, including those from hard-to-reach communities. What a pleasure it has been to help launch something that will create doctors for the local area as well as improve the health and wellbeing of West Midlands communities.

I could list the many events in which I have participated – from welcoming to the county both HRH The Duke of Cambridge and HRH The Princess Royal, to playing bingo with the people of Sandwell and raising the flag in support of our armed forces – but there really are too many to mention.

It has been a humbling experience to date and I look forward to the remainder of my year in office with great excitement.

♦♦ Dr Tim Watts DC
High Sheriff of West Midlands 2014-2015



Awards ceremony. From left to right: The High Sheriff of the West Midlands, Dr Tim Watts DL, Mrs Jane Sutton, Mrs June Watts, Debbie Adams (Teenage Cancer Trust)



Commandant General Royal Marines, Major General Martin Smith MBE, the Lord Mayor of the City of Newcastle councilor George Pattison, and the High Sheriff during the exercising the Freedom of the City by Her Majesty's Royal Marines. 43 Commando Fleet Protection Group Royal Marines provided the guard accompanied by the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Scotland

Invisible walls in Wales

Below: Sir Martin Narey, my husband Andrew Singer, Liz Singer, Lana McLaggan and the outgoing High Sheriff, Rory McLaggan, before my Declaration

FOR NEARLY 40 years I have been a volunteer fundraiser for Barnardo's, initially as a founder member of a newly formed group in my home town of Porthcawl. As my interest grew so did my involvement, and I now chair Barnardo's Appeals Advisory Board, supporting all volunteer fundraisers in the UK.

When asked if I would accept nomination as High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan I thought this would be my chance to raise awareness of the wonderful work that Barnardo's are doing in my county. The charity now works closely within Parc Prison in Bridgend in a unique project called Invisible Walls Wales (IWW), working with the families of prisoners with the aim of keeping the families together and preventing reoffending.

My Declaration was a very special occasion attended by all my family and very close friends.

His Honour Judge Twomlow presided in my parish church in the village of Newton where we live. My guest speaker was Sir Martin Narey, one-time Director General of the Prison Service and later Chief Executive of Barnardo's. In his speech, Sir Martin made reference to the outstanding work being carried out in the IWW project. My three eldest grandchildren, who had travelled from Singapore for the occasion, were my sword bearers. The weather was perfect and we were all able to walk to the prep school behind the church for the reception.

I had already set about planning my charity event which was to be The High Sheriff's Celebrity Tug-of-War Competition and a Celebration Lunch in aid of Barnardo's in the grounds of a college in Bridgend. Nine teams from all walks in life took part, each with celebrities from sport or the media acting as

Photo by Keith Morgan



First World War Exhibition in Porthcawl - army volunteer, Paul Joseph of Porthcawl Museum, Andrew and Liz Singer

cheerleaders. After a champagne reception, 260 guests sat down to a three-course lunch in a marquee in a field! Thanks to huge support from local businesses, charitable trusts and friends, we were able to present Barnardo's with a cheque for £30,000 for their work in Mid Glamorgan.

Rather appropriately, the team of warders from Parc Prison won the event and were presented with their trophy by the Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Kate Thomas. Everyone had been made aware of the work being carried out, with short talks from the Director of Barnardo's Cymru, Yvonne Rodgers, and the Senior Manager of IWW, Corin Morgan-Armstrong, and all felt moved by what they had to say.

Mid Glamorgan is a large county in area, but there is no city and High Court Judges rarely visit, so I am not quite as busy as my fellow High Sheriffs either side in South and West Glamorgan, but it gives me the opportunity to concentrate on giving support to organisations in the local community. One special event was to open an exhibition in my home town commemorating 100 years since the commencement of the First World War. At that time Porthcawl had a population of 5,000 and 400 young men volunteered to go to war; 102 didn't return. We remembered them and were thankful.

Now I am halfway through my year, with many more appointments in the diary and much more to look forward to.

♦ Elizabeth Singer DL
High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan 2014-15

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Photo by Keith Morgan





A positive force in the county

IN THE months leading up to the Declaration it all seemed to be about 'What sort of ceremony shall I have?' and 'How on earth am I going to find court dress?' In the end, of course, it all worked out; the court dress fitted and since we live on a smallholding we had space to hold the Declaration ceremony in our Living Willow Theatre with the local primary school children singing a welcome to the judge. An additional surprise was the offer from the descendants of the local Rebecca Rioters to contribute to the event by reading their own Declaration to the judge that 'notwithstanding the lack of employment which this will provide for the judge here present' they would ensure 'the peaceful public employment of the people in the Parish of Llanwrthwl'. The original rioters in west Wales in 1839-43 were tenant farmers, disguised as women, who attacked tollgates in protest at the charges they were obliged to pay. They called themselves 'Rebecca and her daughters', probably originating from Genesis, chapter XXIV, verse 60, where Rebecca's brother exhorted her descendants to 'possess the gate of those which hate them'.

The whole day set a tone that I was keen to follow: that the office of High Sheriff should be mutually celebrated as a positive force within the county.

Sue Large pointed out in these pages (Winter 2013-14) that Powys covers a huge area with a low population and few visits from High Court Judges. I have managed to sit alongside a judge on an appeal, however, listening to three-and-a-half hours

of the most elegant English from three barristers and the judge himself. That and two days observing in Magistrates' Courts really brought home to me the huge commitment and hard work that is put in by the judiciary.

I was able to say thanks in a small way by hosting the Magistrates of Powys at a barbecue one sunny September afternoon. Apart from the lower cost involved, if you do have the space and someone to help you with the sandwiches, I believe that home entertainment is much appreciated.

I think my big breakthrough in understanding the role of High Sheriffs came during the week of the Royal Welsh which is our local Agricultural Show, the largest in Europe. I went on each of the four days, always wearing the High Sheriff's badge. After a couple of days I found myself quite at ease entering whichever stand looked interesting, introducing myself and always saying 'this year's High Sheriff'. It's the Office not the man! Those few show days introduced me to a great number of voluntary organisations, to all of which I have written and many of whom I have since visited.

Final tip: use your regional fellow High Sheriffs. We are very lucky here in Wales to have a well-defined region of eight counties. We are quite well spread out but there is an annual meeting and great sense of belonging.

I am loving my year! The best of luck to all serving and to follow.

❖ **Phil Bowen**

High Sheriff of Powys 2014-15

Below: The High Sheriff's Declaration ceremony attended by His Honour Judge Furness, Rebecca Rioters' descendants and Nantmel schoolchildren

Below right: The High Sheriff and Sue Bowen (front far right) at their barbecue at home with Powys Magistrates



Dinner Date

❖ **Anne Morgan JP DL**

High Sheriff Mid Glamorgan 2008, Council Member

THE WALES Region of the High Sheriffs' Association held a Celebratory Dinner on Friday 29 August at the St. David's Hotel, Cardiff, to mark the appointment of the Rt Hon Lord Thomas of Cwmieidd as Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, the first Welshman to hold one of the highest judicial appointments in the United Kingdom since Lord Kenyon became Lord Chief Justice in 1788.

The dinner was attended by over 200 people including more than sixty past, present and future High Sheriffs of Welsh counties with their guests. In addition there were many senior people from the Principality including Lord-Lieutenants, judges, business leaders, lawyers and others who all wished to express their pleasure at Lord Thomas's appointment.

Grace was said by The Archbishop of Wales, the Most Revd Dr Barry Morgan. The toast to the principal guest, to which the Lord Chief Justice responded, was proposed by the First Minister of Wales, the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM and supported by Mr Julian Avery, the President of the High Sheriffs' Association of England and

Wales. Dr Peter Beck, Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, proposed the loyal toast.

Mrs Anne Morgan, past High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan and member from Wales on the Council of The High Sheriffs' Association, presided at the dinner and at its conclusion thanked the members of her committee, past High Sheriffs Hugh Thomas, Morfudd Meredith, William Hopkins and Anthony Tal-Williams, as well as Sir Roderick Evans the recently retired High Court Judge, for their able help and support. She then presented the Lord Chief Justice with a framed letter from His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, conveying his congratulations and best wishes to Lord Thomas on taking office as Lord Chief Justice.

Above: Speakers (left to right) Hugh Thomas, Anne Morgan, the Lord-Lieutenant Dr Peter Beck and his wife Lyn, the First Minister Carwyn Jones and his wife Quenelda, the Archbishop of Wales Dr Barry Morgan and his wife Hilary, Derek Morgan

Below: Lord Thomas and the dinner's chairman, Anne Morgan



NEW MEMBERS

The Association welcomes the following
as new Members

Name

Name	County	Year of Office
A Boswell Esq DL	Buckinghamshire	2006
Mrs K H Cowell OBE DL	Cheshire	2016
The Lady Hameed	Greater London	2015
D K Hempleman-Adams Esq LVO OBE	Wiltshire	2016
S P Hollis Esq	West Midlands	2017
Sir Nigel Knowles	Greater London	2016
Sir Nicholas Lechmere Bt	Worcestershire	2016
Professor D M Mead OBE	West Glamorgan	2016
G C J Salvin Esq	Durham	2016
R M D Samuda Esq	Warwickshire	2016
P H Warr Esq	Dorset	2016

Deaths

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

Mrs M Barton

<p>T S Davis Esq</p> <p>Date of death: 27/09/2014</p> <p>Age: 65</p> <p>County: Powys</p> <p>Year of office: 2008</p>	<p>M F Meredith-Hardy Esq</p> <p>Date of death: 24/10/2013</p> <p>Age: 90</p> <p>County: Hertfordshire</p> <p>Year of office: 1980</p>
<p>J R Greenwood Esq DL</p> <p>Date of death: 29/05/2014</p> <p>Age: 88</p> <p>County: Sussex</p> <p>Year of office: 1971</p>	<p>J M Moubray Esq DL</p> <p>Date of death: 15/09/2014</p> <p>Age: 84</p> <p>County: Leicestershire</p> <p>Year of office: 1992</p>

County

2016-17

C E S Whitbread Esq	V B Tailor Esq
Mrs V J Fishburn	Mrs A Scrope
The Hon Mrs C R Soames DL	I D Coull Esq
C D Vane Percy Esq	Sir David Arculus
Mrs K H Cowell OBE DL	Mrs S A M C Beckett
Ms H M Wilde	A R E Brown Esq
tba*	tba*
The Revd T R Lee	A G M Wannop Esq
Mrs E J Fothergill CBE	J R Rivers Esq
Mrs A M Gilbert	Mrs H Lindsay-Fynn
P H Warr Esq	Sir Philip Williams Bt DL
G C J Salvin Esq	Mrs C P Peacock
T G Martin Esq	Mrs G E Drewry
M J Foster Esq DL	Mrs M J Chowen
G V B Thompson Esq	Mrs L J Rolfe
The Countess Bathurst	Lt Colonel A J Tabor
Sir Nigel Knowles	W J Furber Esq
tba*	tba*
T H Floyd Esq	The Hon Mrs M R Montagu-Scott
Sir Robert Rogers KCB	W J Jackson Esq
S H Stefanou Esq OBE DL	W A Hobhouse Esq
R V Courage Esq MBE	B M A S Rouse Esq
Mrs K F Smallwood	G E Jessel Esq
tba*	tba*
Professor S Sharma	T P Maxted Esq
Mrs J G A Hughes DL	A S Clarke Esq
tba*	tba*
Major General Sir William Cubitt KCVO CBE	A J S Bagge Esq
Mrs C C Brocklehurst	R Fordham Esq
W Browne-Swinburne Esq	J R Dickinson Esq
J W Furness Esq	S M Wrightson Esq
Mrs J L Naake	Colonel David R Sneath TD
Mrs S J Taylor	Miss J E Cranston
Dr S H Furness	C L Mitchell Esq
Mrs C M Holmes	C E Lillis Esq
E W G Bayntun-Coward Esq	R S Hickmet Esq
Mrs J MacDonald	D Grey Esq MBE
Colonel D L Leigh TD DL	H D S Scott-Moncrieff Esq
W B Kendall Esq DL	G T C Probert Esq
R Whittington Esq	N J S Wood-Dow Esq
J D Mowbray Esq OBE	Lt General R V Brims CB CBE DSO DL
R M D Samuda Esq	M E T Davies Esq
K Bradshaw Esq	S P Hollis Esq
M C J Prideaux Esq	The Lady Emma Barnard
C J Brown Esq	Dr T G Bramall CBE
D K Hempleman-Adams Esq LVO OBE	The Lady Marland
Sir Nicholas Lechmere Bt	S A Betts Esq

County

2017-18

Mrs C H G Howard
Professor M Hughes
J K L Thomas Esq
Professor S Hope
D J Davies Esq JP
Mrs S E Thompson
G C Lloyd Esq
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



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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:

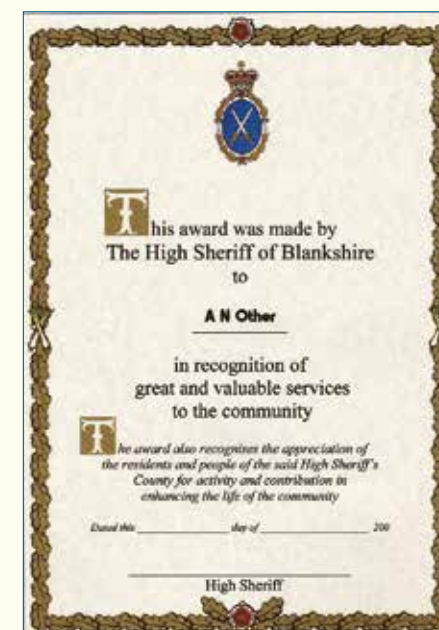
STYLE 1 comes with the name of your county already printed on it and blanks in

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

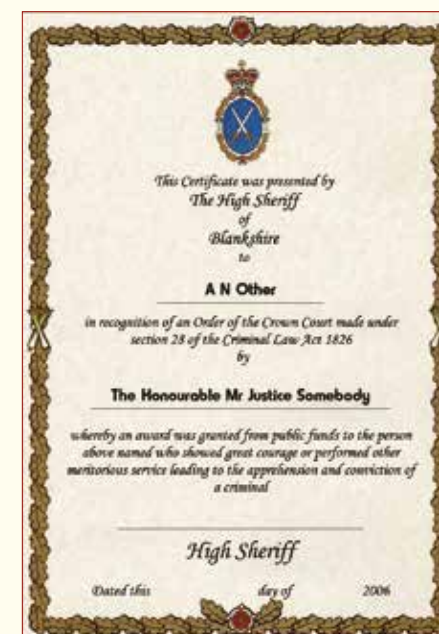
Not all counties have their own customised Crown Court Award Certificate for the High Sheriff to present or to send to the recipient of a Crown Court Award. With this in mind, the Association has designed such a certificate in two different styles which can be bought by High Sheriffs.

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.

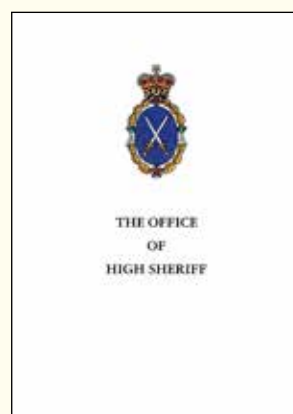
STYLE 2 lets the High Sheriff, at the time of placing an order, supply the name of the recipient; the name of the Judge or Recorder; and, if known, the date on which the certificate will be presented. All these details are then printed on the certificate in an attractive script.

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

Style 1: £4.00, Style 2: £5.00



PUBLICATIONS



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This 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
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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 June 2015.

Closing date for receipt of editorial items will be Friday Friday 24 April 2015

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