



# The High Sheriff

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



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WINTER 2017



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## The High Sheriff

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

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Officers and Council November 2016 to November 2017

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*The High Sheriff* is published twice a year by Hall-McCartney Ltd for the High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales

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Email editor@highsheriffs.com  
ISSN 1477-8548

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The Association is not as a body responsible for the opinions expressed in *The High Sheriff* unless it is stated that an article or a letter officially represents the Council's views.

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 2018**. Closing date for receipt of editorial items will be **Friday 20 April 2018**.

Items for inclusion should be sent to:

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Printed by Blackmore Ltd.

Design atg Media  
www.atg-media.com



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for answers to your questions

# From the Editor



THE AGM this year marked important changes at the top with Jeremy Burton handing over the chair to Hugh Tollemache. Jeremy has guided the Association and meetings of Council with great charm and clarity for five years. Under his leadership we have seen shrieval nomination panels become established as a

force for good in all counties, ever closer ties with the Privy Council Office on important briefings of High Sheriffs in nomination, and a growth in AGM attendance – all in all keeping ‘the shrieval community together and particularly former High Sheriffs in touch and involved’ (Jeremy’s words, AGM 2015). Hugh brings to the chairmanship a wealth of leadership experience and initiatives. He has overseen the considerable expansion of website information of great interest and use to members. (Do look at page 50 for some of the topics covered on the website which we hope readers will find helpful.) We welcome him.

Council is grateful to the High Sheriffs who have written vivid accounts of their wide-ranging activities and to the

Hardman Trust for an article by the recipient of one of its awards to prisoners on release, hoping that future High Sheriffs will associate themselves with the Trust. This issue also covers High Sheriffs who declared general election results in June, fulfilling their statutory duty as returning officers for the second time in two years. The earliest declaration was at 2.00 am and the last (of three results declared) was at 5.30 am. Members kindly inform us of the deaths of past High Sheriffs, whether or not still members of the Association. The brief notices published in the magazine are often the only national recognition of a High Sheriff’s service. The Association’s records are based only on information received and it might be worth all counties maintaining a record of office holders in the last 50 years.

Members suggest from time to time that the Association should publish the magazine solely online but most tell us that they like to receive printed copies. Council will continue to ensure that members have the best of both worlds, printing and, as has happened for the past three years, placing recent issues on the website from which they can be downloaded.

I, Jayne Lewis our Production Editor and Kelly Sadler the Membership Administrator wish all members a Happy Christmas and serving and future High Sheriffs in particular a fulfilling New Year.

Andrew Wells, Hon Editor, Kent 2005-06

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# A few words from the new Chairman



IT WAS with some trepidation that I agreed to take over from the very experienced and capable Jeremy Burton who has been on the Council of the Association for eight years and Chairman for the last five years. At the AGM our President, Julian Avery, was rightly fulsome in his praise for what Jeremy has achieved during his term.

The Association has, to my mind, one over-riding aim: to help High Sheriffs and those in nomination to ‘hit the ground running’ and avoid some of the pitfalls that the unwary may encounter during their tenure, so that they can make full use of their time in this high public office. Jeremy strongly encouraged this and I intend to do the same.

It was good to see a record attendance at the AGM at Fishmongers’ Hall this year, with a welcome number of past High Sheriffs continuing to take an interest in the Shrievalty. We were honoured to have Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, immediate past President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, as our guest speaker.

Only a few days later at the Royal Courts of Justice, the new Lord Chief Justice, Lord Burnett of Maldon, together with the President and two Justices of the Queen’s Bench Division, presided at the nomination of new candidates for the Office of High Sheriff, declared by the Queen’s Remembrancer. If those in nomination needed any further proof that their service is highly valued, this was indeed very evident proof.

It may be a cliché but as I said at the AGM, it is a great honour and a privilege to serve the Shrievalty as Chairman of the Association. High Sheriffs have the opportunity to do a wealth of good within their counties and I am delighted to be a part of this.

Hugh Tollemache  
Chairman; Gloucestershire 2013-14

# Diary 2018

## of Forthcoming Events

### **MARCH 2018** **High Sheriffs in** **nomination for 2018** *Wednesday 14 March*

The names of the High Sheriffs on the Roll for 2018 will be 'pricked' by Her Majesty The Queen at a private meeting of the Privy Council to be held at Buckingham Palace.

### **APRIL 2018** **National Crimebeat** *Wednesday 18 April*

The Awards Ceremony, which will be a celebration of 20 years of National Crimebeat, will take place at the Royal National Hotel, London. All projects to be entered must be endorsed by the High Sheriff and submitted by 5pm on the 17 January 2018. Judging will take place on 31 January 2018 and results notified in the following days.

### **Meeting of the** **co-ordinators of the** **regional meetings** *April*

Meeting of co-ordinators of the regional meetings for High Sheriffs in nomination with members of the Council. The exact date and venue will be given later to those attending. Please address any queries to Elizabeth Hunter by email: elizahunter1964@gmail.com.

### **JULY 2018** **Seminar for High Sheriffs** **in nomination for the** **years 2019 and 2020** *Friday 6 July*

The 2018 Seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination will be held

at Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire, on Friday 6 July 2018. Details of the programme and speakers together with an application form will be sent in mid-May 2018 to all High Sheriffs in nomination for 2019 and 2020.

### **OCTOBER 2018** **The Red Mass** *Monday 1 October*

The annual Roman Catholic Mass will be held at 9.30 am at Westminster Cathedral to celebrate the start of the legal year. Those High Sheriffs and High Sheriffs in Nomination who wish to process will be invited to coffee beforehand from 8.30am. There will be a ticket-only reception in the Throne Room after the Mass. To obtain tickets, contact Stephen Hart by email at: stephenhart@gmail.com.

### **The Ladies' Lunch** *Early October*

The annual Ladies' Lunch will be held in London. When arranged, full details will be sent in May/June 2018 to those ladies who are in nomination.

### **NOVEMBER 2018** **47th Annual General** **Meeting and Luncheon** *Wednesday 21 November*

The Association's 47th AGM and luncheon will be held at Fishmongers' Hall, London. 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 2018.

### **The Nomination of future** **High Sheriffs**

#### *Monday 12 November* *probably at 2.00 pm*

The Ceremony of the Nomination of High Sheriffs will take place on Monday 12 November 2018 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 2019, 2020 and 2021 will be read out in court. A tea party will take place afterward at a nearby venue.

The Secretary will be writing in September to all High Sheriffs in nomination for 2019 and for 2020 inviting them to attend. This event provides a good opportunity for those in nomination to meet each other. It may be possible for a few 2021 nominees to attend as well but space in court is limited. The Association will not know the names of the 2021 nominees so it will be up to such nominees or their proposers to contact the Secretary should they wish to attend.







# The Chairman's Address

Annual General Meeting of the High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales

1 November 2017 at Fishmongers' Hall, London

**W**elcome to you all at this, the 46th Annual General Meeting of the High Sheriffs' Association. It is a treat to be back in this splendid building after two years away. We are most grateful to the Fishmongers for allowing us to meet here. I am very pleased that the immediate past Prime Warden, Nigel Bankes, will join us for lunch today. I am also very pleased to see so many of you here today. I think we have a record turnout, certainly since I have been on Council. We will be almost 190 for lunch which is stretching the capacity of the hall.

This is a very emotional day for me. I have decided that after five years in the chair it is time to pass on that particular mantle and I am very pleased that your Council has asked Hugh Tollemache to be the next Chairman of the Association and that Hugh has graciously accepted. So, with your permission, I will be handing over to Hugh at the end of this meeting. Having worked closely with Hugh since he joined Council in 2014 I am confident that your Association will be in good hands.

My time as Chairman has only been possible because of the tremendous support I have had from Council. I thank each and every Council member who has served over the last five years for everything they have done to make my job so effortless. Not only have we had great fun together but I like to think we have served the Association well, upholding the values of the ancient office, preparing incoming High Sheriffs to 'hit the ground running' after they make their declarations

and keeping past High Sheriffs in touch with the 21st-century Shrievalty.

We are coming to the end of another busy year in the life of the Association. Shortly after last year's AGM the nomination ceremony in the Lord Chief Justice's Court on 12 November unusually took place on a Saturday morning. The ceremony in Court took place at 10.00 am in order to make way for the swearing-in of the new Lord Mayor later in the day. The members in nomination then had tea, coffee and bacon sandwiches in a pub just behind the Royal Courts of Justice, after which there was an opportunity to watch the Lord Mayor's Show as it processed down Fleet Street. In spite of the rather inclement weather it was a most enjoyable occasion. All the arrangements for the day were made by Andrew Morgan who stood down from Council this time last year although I am pleased to see him with us today. This year's event reverts to the usual weekday afternoon and David Jones, who joined Council last year, has made all the arrangements including a tea party for the new nominees in St Clement Danes Church.

In May this year all the High Sheriffs currently in office were entertained most generously by the Sheriffs of the City of London at the Old Bailey. While the Sheriffs in the City share their history with us they now operate quite differently. All those who were able to attend enjoyed the occasion greatly and also learnt a lot about the Old Bailey and the institutions of the City. I hope that future High Sheriffs will have a similar opportunity.

Around the same time we found

ourselves in the run-up to an unexpected general election. Many High Sheriffs in county constituencies exercised their statutory duty as returning officer to read the results of the election in their counties. A number of acting returning officers questioned this duty and the Association's indefatigable Honorary Secretary found himself fielding no end of queries on the subject.

Later in June the current High Sheriffs were invited to the City once again, this time by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple to sung evensong in the Temple Church followed by dinner in Inner Temple Hall. This is something that occurs every four years and those who attend will know what a treat it is. When the Inner Temple originally started the tradition of inviting High Sheriffs to dinner as a thank you for looking after judges when they travelled out of London, they thought that the other three Inns of Court might host similar dinners in the intervening years. That has never happened, but we are enormously grateful to the Inner Temple for their generosity.

At the beginning of July the Association held its annual Burghley seminar for High Sheriffs in nomination and it was a successful as ever. For the last two years it has been organised by Elizabeth Hunter and has run without a flaw, despite Elizabeth going down with shingles just before it. In addition to the usual mix of judges and former High Sheriffs addressing the delegates, this year we were very fortunate to have an enlightening talk by Simon Cole, the Chief Constable of Leicestershire. We also heard from Lord Shuttleworth, chairman

of the Lord-Lieutenants' Association who challenged us to concentrate exclusively on causes connected with law and order to emphasise the traditional role of High Sheriffs. I am sure this is something Council will turn its thoughts to in coming months and years. After two years Elizabeth is passing the baton to Sally Bowie who has been on Council for three years. I know that under Sally's guidance the Burghley seminars will continue to flourish.

A few weeks ago the lady members of Council once again hosted a lunch for lady High Sheriffs in office and in nomination at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. This year Juliet Westoll was in charge ably assisted by Sally Bowie. From the accounts that reached me it was a great success.

Our communications with the wider world rely on our magazine, The High Sheriff and our website. The magazine goes from strength to strength under the watchful eye of the editor, Andrew Wells. I hope you all enjoy looking through it when it lands on your doorstep twice a year. It takes an enormous amount of work to make that happen and I can't thank Andrew enough for having carried that responsibility for the whole time I have been chairman.

Our website has made considerable progress in recent years and now has a private area for members of the Association containing an enormous amount of material, essentially as a resource to High Sheriffs and those in nomination. For the last three years the website has been taken care of by Hugh Tollemache and I know that Hugh feels that, in particular, the members' area is still work in progress and needs improving.

The Association continues to provide items of regalia for members, particularly those about to take office, and the whole business is overseen by Martin Amlôt. The one area where we have failed as a Council is to find a suitable substitute for a tie to be used by lady High Sheriffs. If anyone has any suggestions please speak to Martin who is here today. Martin is also the link between Council and the Duchy of Lancaster, having served as High Sheriff for Merseyside, a Duchy county.

Paddy Dent, my predecessor, instigated regional meetings for High Sheriffs in nomination. I am pleased to report that these continue to be run successfully and are a very important part of what we do as an Association. Until this summer they have been coordinated by Anne Morgan who is about to stand down from Council after six years. Elizabeth Hunter has now taken over from Anne as coordinator. Each regional meeting is attended by a member of Council and provides a two-way channel of communication between High Sheriffs and Council.

The Association's charity, National Crimebeat, has had another successful year but you will be hearing shortly about that from Barbara Wilding, chair of the charity. Likewise, the Association's finances continue to be healthy in the capable hands

is hard to envisage it without him. He became the Association's first unpaid treasurer in 2006, and took very good care of our finances, resulting in them being so healthy today. Simon also introduced the Association to Burghley House which has become home to the annual seminar and he continues to be a link with Burghley, now run by his daughter Miranda. Since its inception Simon has also chaired the Nomination and Governance Committee which identifies future Council members and officers and ensures that the Association is properly run.

You will have gathered that there are no free riders on Council. Every member contributes to making the Association as happy and successful as it is today, and also to making the Chairman's job such plain sailing.

Last, but not least, I have two very special thanks. The first is to our President, Julian Avery. Julian was instrumental in convincing me to take

on the chair five years ago and ever since he has been available as a sounding board when required and has kept me on the straight and narrow. Thank you so much, Julian. And, finally, to the man without whom this Association would collapse. James Williams, our Honorary Secretary, is a fount of knowledge about all things shrieval, having been an Under Sheriff for 25 years. Nothing is too much trouble for James. He is the first port of call for all enquiries coming into the Association which he will either deal with or direct to someone who can. He is the main point of contact between the Association, the Privy Council and the Queen's Remembrancer. But above all he is available to the Chairman at any time to answer no end of silly queries. James, without you, these past five years would have been a much heavier burden to bear. Thank you so much.

*Jeremy Burton*

**Chairman of the High Sheriffs' Association 2012-17; West Yorkshire 2009**

*“I like to think we have served the Association well, upholding the values of the ancient office*

of Nigel Savory who will be presenting his treasurer's report in a minute.

This year we are losing three most valuable members of Council who have served the maximum term of six years. I have already mentioned Anne Morgan. Anne was the organiser of the Burghley seminar for two years shortly after joining Council, a job she undertook with enthusiasm and efficiency before succeeding Bill Shelford as coordinator of regional meetings. Anne was also a useful link with High Sheriffs in Wales, having served as High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan.

As I have said, Bill Shelford supervised regional meetings for a number of years but he also put an enormous amount of work into the Association's guidance to High Sheriffs on the nomination procedure and consultative panels that are now operating in every county. This was an essential piece of work to make the process of selecting future High Sheriffs fit for the 21st century. Bill also sat on the Nomination and Governance Committee.

Finally, we have to say farewell, or at least 'au revoir', to Simon Leatham. Simon has been such an important part of Council since joining in 2005 that it

# RECENT EVENTS

AGM 2017

## AGM 2017

✦ James Williams

*Honorary Secretary of the High Sheriffs' Association*

**T**HE 46th Annual General Meeting and lunch took place at Fishmongers' Hall, London on Wednesday 1 November. The chairman, Jeremy Burton, gave a full report of the Association's many activities in the year including two special functions for serving High Sheriffs: a reception at the Old Bailey and a dinner at the Inner Temple.

Sadly, Jeremy said that he was retiring as chairman having served for five years and he thanked all on Council for making his position so very enjoyable throughout that time. He was delighted that Hugh Tollemache had agreed to succeed him and he knew that Hugh would fill the role excellently. Simon Leatham, Anne Morgan and Bill Shelford all stepped down from Council

and John Lee (Devon 2013), Virginia Lloyd (West Yorkshire 2013) and Andrew Tuggey (Gwent 2015) were elected as new members. Sally Bowie and Hugh Tollemache were formally re-elected to Council having served already for three years. Presentations were made to all those retiring from Council. Barbara Wilding gave a very full report about National Crimebeat which is going from strength to strength with more applications this year from more counties.

Lord Neuberger, the recently retired President of the Supreme Court, gave a fascinating speech after lunch and expressed his strong view about the need for 'protection' of judges to ensure that the rule of law was upheld. There was a record attendance of 190 people at lunch.

**Below:** Association Council

**Bottom row from left:** Jane Ashton (Kent 2018), Paul Barrett (Kent 2019), Patsy Barrett

Rob James, Andrew Tuggey (Gwent 2015, Council), Jayne James (Mid Glamorgan 2015)

David Howard (Clwyd 2017), Charlotte Howard, Sarah Callander Beckett (Cheshire 2017)





# RECENT EVENTS

AGM 2017



Panel left from top:  
Jeremy Burton handing  
over as Chairman to  
Hugh Tollemache

Jeremy Burton,  
Anne Morgan (Mid  
Glamorgan 2008)

Julian Avery (President),  
Jeremy Burton (Immediate  
Past Chairman)

Jeremy Burton,  
Bill Shelford (East  
Sussex 2009)

Above clockwise from  
top left: Senior Master  
Fontaine (Queen's  
Remembrancer), Martine  
Burton, Quenedla Avery

Richard Pemberton  
(Cambridgeshire 2017),  
Antony Pemberton  
(Cambridgeshire 2000)

Chris Khoo (Berkshire  
2014), Andrew Norman-  
Butler (Suffolk 2012),  
Naomi Khoo

Lord Neuberger  
(guest speaker), Julian  
Avery (President)



*“ Sadly, Jeremy said  
that he was retiring  
as chairman having served  
for five years and he thanked  
all on Council for making  
his position so very enjoyable  
throughout that time.*

# RECENT EVENTS

## Nomination Ceremony

# Nomination Ceremony and Tea Party 2017

### David Jones DL

*Council member; Greater London 2013-14*

**O**N 13 November Court Four of the Royal Courts of Justice was filled with 160 people made up of High Sheriffs in nomination and their guests to witness an ancient ceremony at which the names of incumbent and future High Sheriffs were read out by the Queen's Remembrancer, Senior Master Barbara Fontaine, and the recently appointed Lord Chief Justice, the Rt Hon the Lord Burnett of Maldon, accompanied by the President of the Queen's Bench Division, the Rt Hon Sir Brian Leveson, the Hon Mr Justice Coulson and the Hon Mr Justice Langstaff. All participants were given a delicious tea afterwards at St Clement Danes Church which the Chairman of the High Sheriffs' Association and the Queen's Remembrancer spoke about the shrieval year. In 2018, the event takes place on Monday 12 November.



**Above:** Tom, Rosie, Hugh (Association Chairman) and David Tollemache

**Above right:** Senior Master Fontaine with her Clerk Edward Boswell, her PA Elaine Harbert and the Queen's Bench Masters' Secretary, Linda Sandham

**Right:** Mary Opie, Nicholas Ebbs (Nottinghamshire 2018), Jayne Lingard

**Below right:** Dr Jan Eldred, Barry Eldred (South Yorkshire 2018), Gillian Sheddick, Sharon Linnard (Gwent 2018)

**Below:** James Saunders Watson (Northamptonshire 2018), James Williams (Hon Secretary), Bea Saunders Watson, Elizabeth Saunders Watson





# RECENT EVENTS

## Nomination Ceremony



**Above from top:** Michael Orde (Northumberland 2018), Samantha Orde, Linda Fenwick (North Yorkshire 2019)

Lord Jay of Ewelme, Lady Jay (Oxfordshire 2019), Julian Avery (President)

David Nicholls, Caroline Nicholls (West Sussex 2018), Davina Irwin-Clark (West Sussex 2019), Kevin Taylor (Under Sheriff, E & W Sussex)

For more imagery from the nomination ceremony, see overleaf



## Address by the Lord Chief Justice, the Rt Hon the Lord Burnett of Maldon, to High Sheriffs in nomination for 2018, 2019 and 2020

**T**HE OFFICE of High Sheriff has existed for over 1,000 years but has evolved over the centuries in a uniquely British way which maintains tradition but, at the same time, discovers new roles of striking modernity. Whilst the Normans laid waste to much of Anglo-Saxon governance, the value of the Shire Reeves was recognised. And so, should anyone ask the question what did the Normans do for us, the answer would be: consolidate the power and role of the High Sheriffs. Of course, it was not plain sailing for long. The essential problem that followed was that the sheriffs got above themselves. The fact that 63 clauses of Magna Carta deal with High Sheriffs was not altogether a compliment. Henry I had already tired of the sheriffs pocketing too much of the taxes they were collecting and moved the function elsewhere. Much later, a parvenu office was created, that of Lord-Lieutenant, which substantially reduced the power that was left.

But one aspect of the role of the High Sheriff has survived since the days of Henry I, when our predecessors first travelled the country as judges of assize. The well-being of the King's Justices was entrusted to the High Sheriff. In medieval England, travel was rarely safe. It was no doubt thought to be very bad form if a High Sheriff actually lost a judge – as certainly happened

– but the role became progressively more ceremonial as the centuries passed, with the High Sheriff being required to maintain the dignity of the Justice of the King's Bench whilst in his county. And that became more and more expensive. Not only was suitably lavish entertainment required, but a carriage or coach of some magnificence accompanied by squadrons of gentlemen and pikemen were expected by the King's Justices. And, as you will all know, there were High Sheriffs aplenty who were fined substantial sums for failing in their duty towards the judges.

I do not incline to the modern trend of apologising for ancient wrongs, but can assure you all that nothing comparable could happen today.

It was the High Sheriffs themselves who came to despair of the judges who, by the late 19th and early 20th century, preferred to creep into a county by train and forego the magnificent welcome of the High Sheriff's equipage. One of the worst not only insisted on arriving anonymously by train, but refused to be met even on the platform and insisted on walking to the lodgings. The view of High Sheriffs was that the standard of Queen's Bench Judges was slipping badly.

But by then, there were many who felt that the honour of being High Sheriff was to be avoided if at all possible. In the late 19th century

# RECENT EVENTS

## Nomination Ceremony



**Above from top:** Philippa Burrough, Bryan Burrough (Essex 2018), Suzy Harvey (Hertfordshire 2018)

Simon Phillips, Nicola Alberry (Wiltshire 2018), Hugh Tollemache (Association Chairman), Simon Barnett (Under Sheriff, Devon)

Elizabeth Jones, Mark Mitchell (Cheshire 2019), Anita Mitchell

Hugh Tollemache (Association Chairman), Senior Master Fontaine (Queen's Remembrancer), David Jones (Greater London 2013, tea organiser)

Roz Eminson (Suffolk 2019), Charles Watt (Norfolk 2018), Clive Eminson

this ceremony was punctuated with many applications to be relieved of the obligation to be High Sheriff on account of the cost. To serve as High Sheriff was a duty which could rarely be avoided. It was even possible to be nominated without knowing about it. Mr Banks of Dorchester only discovered that he was nominated when he opened his copy of *The Times* on the morning following this ceremony in 1889. He wrote to the editor explaining his poverty. He emphasised that he could 'not receive Her Majesty's Judges in the way I should like or they would expect'. No doubt an argument he hoped might find favour with the Lord Chief Justice of the day.\*

A select committee of the House of Lords had sat the year before to examine both the compulsory nature of the office and its expense. For some High Sheriffs, there appears to have been an element of never letting the side down, or, it might be thought, showing off. The most remarkable example of which I am aware concerns the High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1885. I mention this knowing I will cause nobody to blanch today because the sheriffs for the Duchy of Lancaster are chosen elsewhere. He asked a few chums to breakfast. To accommodate them, he had erected five marquees in his grounds – each of which could hold 1,900 people. That turned out to be inadequate. Between 10,000 and 12,000 guests turned up.

Happily, those days have long gone. As all here present will know, the modern High Sheriff, a true volunteer, will individually fashion his or her year in office but perhaps around five functions:

- 1 To uphold and enhance the ancient office of High Sheriff and to make a meaningful contribution to the High Sheriff's county during the year of office.
- 2 To lend active support to the principal organs of the constitution within their county – the Royal Family, the Judiciary, the police and other law enforcement

agencies and emergency services, local authorities and church and faith groups.

- 3 To support the Lord-Lieutenant on royal visits and on other occasions.
- 4 To take an active part in supporting and promoting the voluntary sector and giving all possible encouragement to voluntary organisations within the county.
- 5 To ensure the welfare of visiting High Court Judges, to attend on them at Court and to offer them some hospitality.

It was my universal experience of the High Sheriffs I met when a High Court Judge that all immersed themselves in the legal aspects of their counties, many concentrating on youth justice, reoffending adults, and the underlying causes of so much crime. Outings at night with local police in town centres, and visits to the youth courts as well as the Magistrates', Family and Crown Courts open the eyes of many. And their work in supporting local community projects was remarkable.

The High Court Judges remain very grateful to the High Sheriffs of England and Wales for keeping a weather eye out for them when they are away from home on circuit. I trust none nowadays is demanding and all are grateful to be given the opportunity to meet interesting people from all walks of life through the hospitality of the High Sheriffs. Of course, the High Court Judges visit fewer places than of old, but I very much hope that you all find engaging with the Magistracy and Judges at all levels a fascinating and perhaps eye-opening experience.

We wish you well for when you take up office; and thank you in advance for the valuable contribution you will make to the life of your counties.

*\* Mr Wynne Albert Banks had his wishes granted and was not nominated in subsequent years. His nephew Walter Banks, of Kingston Lacy, Dorset had served as High Sheriff in 1880-81, aged only 26 when he took office. Ed.*



# RECENT EVENTS

*The City and the Law*



## The City and the Law entertain High Sheriffs of 2017-18

**T**HIS YEAR'S High Sheriffs, together with the Association's officers and members of Council and their guests, were warmly entertained by the Sheriffs of the City of London, Alderman William Russell and Alderman Peter Estlin in the Great Hall of the Old Bailey, the Central Criminal Court, where they are responsible for the well-being and comfort of the judges. The reception on 25 May celebrated the similarities, differences and responsibilities of the two ancient shrieval roles and the Association hopes that it will mark a closer working relationship with the Old Bailey in years to come.



**O**n 7 June the Treasurer of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, David Pittaway QC, supported by Benchers of the Inn gave serving High Sheriffs and the Association's President, Chairman and Secretary and their guests a magnificent dinner in their hall, cementing the close links between the Judiciary, the maintenance of law and order and the Shrievalty. This was preceded by an uplifting service at the magnificent 12th-century Temple Church conducted by the Reverend and Valiant Master of the Temple, Robin Griffith-Jones.

**Top:** At the Old Bailey **Middle and left:** Guests at the Inner Temple and in the Temple Church – enjoying the Treasurer's welcome (above right), including all eight High Sheriffs of counties in Wales and their consorts



# RECENT EVENTS

Burghley 2017

## Burghley 2017

### Elizabeth Hunter

*Council member; Herefordshire and  
Worcestershire 2010-11*

**Below:** The speakers:  
James Williams,  
Elizabeth Hunter, Sir  
Richard Henriques,  
Jeremy Burton,  
Charles Abel Smith,  
Deborah Inskip, Lord  
Shuttleworth, Senior  
Master Fontaine,  
Andrew Tuggey,  
Virginia Lloyd and  
Simon Cole

**Far right, from top:**  
Jeremy Burton  
(West Yorkshire  
2009, Chairman),  
Martine Burton;

Sharon Linnard  
(Gwent 2018), Violet  
Hancock (East Sussex  
2019), Grania Phillips  
(Devon 2018);

Lady Jay of Ewelme  
(Oxfordshire 2019),  
Marcia Reid-  
Fotheringham  
(Cumbria 2019)

**I** FIRST ATTENDED the seminar for High Sheriffs in Nomination in 2008. In common with, I suspect, most of the other attendees, there was a mixture of emotions: interest, excitement, anticipation, no little apprehension and an overwhelming feeling of 'what on earth am I doing here?'. At the end of the day much of the fear had been dispelled and I think we all left with a feeling of optimism and more confidence.

Now, nine years on, I have just finished arranging my second Burghley seminar and am so very grateful to those whose unfailing support, help and good humour made the two days the success I hope they were. Of course, to start with, Burghley House is a jewel and we are most fortunate to be able to go there for what is the first major event in the life of a would-be High Sheriff and we are grateful to Miranda Rock for having us. Organising a day such as this is second nature to Kara Groves, Burghley's events manager, and nothing is too much trouble for her and her staff. Hall-McCartney too are unfailingly helpful and

produce much office support in the production of invitations, forms, name badges and so on.

Having arrived, had coffee and collected name badges and a programme for the day, participants moved to the Great Hall. Simon Leatham welcomed everyone on behalf of his daughter, Miranda Rock and then Jeremy Burton, Chairman of the Association, explained the purposes and aims of the day. He told members that this day was 'your day' and he encouraged everyone to mix and meet, to seek out other High Sheriffs in nomination from their region whom they were likely to see during their year and to ask and learn from Council members and past High Sheriffs what the Office is all about.





# RECENT EVENTS

*Burghley 2017*



The success of the day depends largely on the speakers – and how fortunate we have been in the quality of the presentations over the last two years.

As she did last year, Senior Master Barbara Fontaine opened the proceedings. Learning of her position as Queen's Remembrancer and the history of the Office of High Sheriff is of great interest and importance to those in nomination and her talk was the perfect start to the day.

Master Fontaine was followed by Lord Shuttleworth, Chairman of the Association of Lord-Lieutenants, who gave a very interesting and encouraging talk on the role of the Lord-Lieutenant and its interaction with that of the High Sheriff. He strongly advised members to concentrate particularly on their involvement with all the agencies concerned with law and order, encouraging High Sheriffs thinking of appointing personal cadets to nominate Police Cadets. He also gave some very useful advice on the subject of royal visits, nomination panels and the knotty question of expenditure.

Simon Cole, Chief Constable of Leicestershire, spoke next about High Sheriffs and the

constabulary. His was a fascinating and sometimes humorous account of life as a chief constable and his experiences of dealing with High Sheriffs in his constabulary.

He entreated them to reach out to their police force, to engage with the chief constable and with the police and crime commissioner and to go to see what they do. He urged his audience to encourage and to thank those police officers with whom they came into contact. All this helpful advice was engagingly offered.

We were delighted to welcome Sir Richard Henriques who gave an entertaining account of his life as a High Court Judge and his dealings with High Sheriffs. He had presided over many high-profile cases and told of the stress of long and difficult trials. Among the High Sheriffs he had met he had made many friends and he had been most generously entertained. He was very grateful to the Shrievalty for having looked after him so well over the years.

All these valuable and interesting talks were followed by the traditional drinks reception and lunch. Time is always short on this day but lunch was

**Clockwise from top left: Speakers Hon Sir Richard Henriques, Senior Master Fontaine;**

**Julia Upton (Buckinghamshire 2019), Lady Hanmer (Clwyd 2018), Stephanie Cathrall (Clwyd 2019);**

**Council members Hon Hugh Tollemache, Sally Bowie, Andrew Wells (and new Association hat ribbon);**

**Nicky Teare, His Honour Jonathan Teare (Notts 2019), Lord Burlington (Derbs 2019)**

**Simon Cole, Chief Constable of Leicestershire**

**Lord Shuttleworth, Chairman of the Association of Lord-Lieutenants**

# RECENT EVENTS

## Burghley 2017

much enjoyed and the members were back in their seats soon after 2 o'clock ready for the afternoon.

The session began with Deborah Inskip, a trustee of National Crimebeat, describing the aims of the organisation and the annual award ceremony. She explained how the awards were made and to whom, and told us about one of this year's winners. She encouraged future High Sheriffs to involve their counties in the awards from National Crimebeat, the High Sheriffs' Association's charity.

A valuable part of the day is provided traditionally by past High Sheriffs who speak about their year in office and offer advice as to how they have coped with the driving, secretarial support, entertaining and other aspects of the role. Virginia Lloyd and Andrew Tuggey gave fulsome accounts and many useful tips. Charles Abel Smith viewed it from the point of view of the spouse and gave a helpful insight into the role of consort.

When the invitations were sent out in May, a pre-seminar question form was enclosed and questions were invited so that they could be considered before the day. Some participants did this and it is extremely helpful to Council to be able to sort out those questions which have already been covered in the speeches; they can then concentrate in the Q & A session on those that have not and those which may need a little notice. More time for this is planned at next year's seminar so I hope those who come on 6 July 2018 will feel happy and able to pose questions to the panel.

Finally, Jeremy Burton closed the proceedings. He wished all those preparing for Office the best of luck and invited everyone to a welcome cup of tea.

I add my best wishes to all and know that Sally Bowie, who will organise the seminar next year, is looking forward to continuing the success of this important day.



**Clockwise from top:**  
Simon Berry (Cumbria 2018), Diane Berry, Anita Mitchell, Mark Mitchell (Cheshire 2019);

Robert Miles, Nicko Robertson (Northamptonshire 2019), Margaret Miles (Rutland 2019);

Sarah Beazley (Herts 2019), Charles Abel Smith, Suzy Harvey (Herts 2018), Julia Abel Smith (Essex 2013);

Evan Ellis, Kit Ellis (Gwynedd 2018), Susan Jones (Gwynedd 2019), John Jones, Col Martin Amlôt (Merseyside 2012, Council);

Lady Agnew of Oulton (Norfolk 2019), Roz Eminson (Suffolk 2019), Hon Hugh Tollemache (Gloucestershire 2013)





# Lady High Sheriffs' lunch

✦ Juliet Westoll MBE DL

*Council member; Cumbria 2012-13*

**T**HE 12th annual Lady High Sheriffs' lunch took place on 5 October at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. We are very grateful to Jenny Tolhurst, a former High Sheriff of Essex and Association Council member, for her sponsorship enabling us to hold the event at the club. Many congratulations to her on her recent appointment as Lord-Lieutenant of Essex.

The ladies' lunch this year was a happy and well-attended event, comprising 37 High Sheriffs and High Sheriffs in nomination. We were very fortunate to have the former High Sheriffs' Association Council member, past High Sheriff and current Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria, Claire Hensman as our guest speaker. She entertained everyone with a wonderful speech, full of useful advice and amusing stories about her year of office. There can be few people more experienced in the world of High Sheriffs and we are very grateful to Claire for taking time from her busy schedule to come and share her experiences with us.


The afternoon finished with a lively question and answer session. There was a display of court dress to inspire the ladies on uniforms and plenty of advice on hand from fellow Council members, Sally Bowie and Anne Morgan, on all aspects of the Shrievalty.


The feedback was extremely positive. Those present felt the event was very helpful, being informative and a good opportunity to meet other ladies who find themselves in a similar situation.

*“There can be few people more experienced in the world of High Sheriffs”*





Above: Guest speaker Claire Hensman (centre front row) with the attendees at the ladies' lunch





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TO H.R.H. THE  
PRINCE OF WALES  
HATTERS





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TO H.R.H. THE DUKE  
OF EDINBURGH  
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# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!!!

Barbara Wilding  
CBE QPM

*Chair, National Crimebeat;  
Mid Glamorgan 2011-12*

**IT IS official. We are now 20 years old and to celebrate we are holding a very special Awards Ceremony on 18 April 2018 at the Royal National Hotel, London.**

With an array of VIPs helping to celebrate this milestone it promises to be very special indeed. Tracing our 20-year journey, we will hear reflections from past winners on the impact their National Crimebeat Award has had on them individually and how their project has developed. This will be a huge tribute to the founders of the charity and we hope some of them will attend.

The keen-eyed will have noticed that we have moved our normal ceremony date from March to April but only for this special year. All other key dates remain within our normal calendar of activity. The closing date for submissions in 2018 is 17 January, and judging will be on 31 January. This will give all our finalists more time to prepare for the ceremony, particularly the presentation of their project.

This means that submitting High Sheriffs will be past High Sheriffs at the time of the ceremony. All current High Sheriffs have been sent a letter (as have High Sheriffs in nomination for 2018-19) explaining that if their projects are finalists they and serving High Sheriffs would be invited. Certificates of Commendation will still be sent out in time for High Sheriffs to arrange presentations before the end of their year. To get a flavour of both the ceremony and the range of projects submitted in 2017 just log on to our website and watch the short video.

In preparation for our 20th birthday the trustees have been very busy not only updating our website but also reworking our categories, the supporting brochure, and fact file to ensure they are relevant to young people's crime prevention projects

today. If you are a past High Sheriff and know of a project fitting the National Crimebeat categories, 'Youth Led' or 'Adult Led', do please do bring it to the attention of the High Sheriff.

The National Crimebeat journey started with incorporation on 3 December 1997 as a response by the then Shrieval Association to the ever-growing number of county Crimebeat organisations being formed by High Sheriffs. The principal aims were to encourage young people to get involved with crime prevention projects and to provide grants for those projects. National Crimebeat became an umbrella body which held an annual awards competition in which local projects could be entered. In addition, National Crimebeat held a repository of good practice in crime prevention and funded a national co-ordinator to encourage the expansion of local Crimebeats and sharing of good practice.

We are now rather different: no longer do we have a national co-ordinator or claim to have a record of good practice, nor are we an umbrella organisation for local Crimebeats. We are a charity of the High Sheriffs' Association providing High Sheriffs with an annual Awards Ceremony in London to which they can submit as many projects as they wish from any organisation in their county that has young people (aged five to 25) engaged in crime prevention projects fitting our categories. On our website we have details of finalists' projects over the past five years. From 2018 we will also include contact details for projects, as we find that following the ceremony many wish to know more about projects with an eye to replication. We will also be engaging in social media which will enable past, current and prospective projects to share information on this critical subject which is at the heart of social cohesion.

As Chair of National Crimebeat, I take great pleasure in reporting to the Association's Council the fantastic work High Sheriffs support in their counties, resulting in submissions to

National Crimebeat. This shows just how relevant High Sheriffs are to modern-day problems and keeping communities safe, the bedrock of Common Law. This relevance also serves to counter those who doubt the need for the existence of the ancient Office today. Reflecting on this, it would be tremendous – as we celebrate 20 years – if we could increase the number of counties engaging with National Crimebeat. In all, 29 counties now recognise the event and over 50 per cent enter many projects every year. What could be more satisfying than supporting the entry of young people into a national competition? Evidence of an important role High Sheriffs can play today.

Don't forget, the closing date is 5pm on 17 January 2018. Applying is so easy and all electronic: download the application from our website [www.national-crimebeat.co.uk](http://www.national-crimebeat.co.uk) and follow the instructions for submission which can only come through High Sheriffs.

**Good Luck!**

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

**There are two categories of awards:**

**YOUTH LED** is for groups where the idea for the project came from the young people who are then also responsible for running the project.

**ADULT LED** is for groups where the project was developed by others (adults) but where the young people have a significant role in the management and delivery of the project.

**THE YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD BE AGED BETWEEN 5 AND 25 YEARS**  
The projects should have a beneficial effect on the community outside of the group; therefore a project that just keeps youngsters off the street is not acceptable. It should be aimed at reducing and /or preventing crime, well established, and with benefits already being achieved.



# The Hardman Trust Awards CAN OPEN DOORS FOR PRISONERS



**THE HARDMAN Trust plays a vital role in the rehabilitation of prisoners by offering awards to those serving long sentences to help them access the courses or practical materials which will help them build a better life upon release. Men and women who have made exceptional progress are eligible to apply in England, Scotland and Wales. Men will generally need to have progressed to open prison conditions.**

The awards are presented at a morale-boosting award ceremony, often by a High Sheriff. Prisoners have used the awards for such diverse things as laptops, trade tools, HGV and 360 digger licences, tree surgery, wind farm and dog grooming courses, as well as for support materials for various academic courses. Additionally, the Trust produces the annual Hardman Directory which details other sources of funding and provides helpful tips on finding supplementary funding from legitimate sources, both while in prison and upon release.

All of this requires large resources and gaining the support of award sponsors is always key. I was a recipient of a sponsored 'Stone Mallabar' Award which enabled me to buy a laptop to continue my previous career of freelance journalist. Being part of the scheme allowed me to gain in confidence, and the pride I felt in receiving the award in front of my parents at a special ceremony was incredible. It has enabled me to do some voluntary work, some leading to possible paid opportunities despite only being out of prison for three months. I am currently doing voluntary work for the Trust on their directory.

There are a growing number of case studies which demonstrate the effectiveness of the awards in leading to work opportunities in the future. Some of the recipients had no formal education before coming to prison. The awards can provide goals upon release which are important to help bring structure to those facing life outside, often for the first time in over 10 years. A feedback form

is sent to all award winners 12 months after release and 50 per cent of recipients return these forms. All the awards are monitored and evaluated according to strict guidelines. The recipient's immediate family also benefit from the scheme as they can see first-hand the stability it can offer.

The Hardman Awards have the support of the Chief Executive of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, Michael Spurr and the Hardman Directory has the support of the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prisons and Probation, Sam Gyimah MP. The Trust's leadership team includes a director of a crime diversion scheme, a trustee of the Prisoners' Education Trust, a prison governor and a former award winner among others.

Funders of the Hardman Awards and the Hardman Directory include the Bromley Trust, The Hadley Trust and the Goldsmiths' Company among 20 regular benefactors. However, there is still a tremendous amount of funding required to run the two projects.

The directory is available in nearly all prison libraries, and visitor centres in the UK. It enables the reader to look at what opportunities are available while preparing for release. Every year 1,500 free copies are sent out to prison libraries and visitor centres and to individuals, and some can be found on the wings in prisons where access to the library is difficult. There are also plans to publish an audio version to give access to the information to the 40 percent of prisoners who have reading

difficulties or where English is not their first language but where they do have some spoken English. Many ex-offenders have started up their own business using the Hardman Award money as an initial tool. If they need additional support they can look to find it from other funders listed in the Hardman Directory.

It is the Hardman Trust's aim to extend its award scheme in Great Britain and more awards than ever will be granted next year. That is why donations for the awards and for the directory are vital to help fund these two incredible projects doing so much to help prisoner rehabilitation. Anyone funding an award can have it named after them or a loved one or even in memory of someone who has died.

The additional staffing costs required in running a larger award scheme have led to the appointment of a full-time director and a part-time administration assistant. They share a work station in serviced offices on the Isle of Wight in order to keep the costs as low as possible and rely on the good nature of many former award winners and others who volunteer to help.

If any of you would like to know more about the Trust or how to become an award sponsor or how to become a Hardman Award Assessor who visits a prison to interview award candidates, please contact Ian Wilson, Director of the Hardman Trust ([www.hardmantrust.org.uk](http://www.hardmantrust.org.uk)). I know he will be pleased to hear from you and grateful for any support you are able to offer.



**Clare Barstow**

*Hardman Trust Award winner*



Hardman Award Winner Terry Lock spent over 18 years in prison. He says 'The Hardman Trust gave me a lifeline' and his life before prison and now are like chalk and cheese. 'I used to be a bank robber; now I work for a firm of solicitors. How different can it be?' The Trust bought him a laptop so he could get going on day one.



Hardman Award Winner CJ Burge delivering the first TEDx (Technology, Entertainment and Design) talk in a prison in the UK. CJ spoke about the importance of RoTL (Release on Temporary Licence) and employment to a prisoner's successful rehabilitation in the community. The Trust bought her expensive law books to help her study for her law degree.

# RECENT EVENTS

## General Election

# General Election

**U**NDER THE Representation of the People Act 1983, s 24, the High Sheriff is the Official Returning Officer in the case of county constituencies (but not for borough constituencies) at parliamentary elections. Eighteen High Sheriffs declared results in 24 county constituencies after this year's general election on 8 June.



**Left:** Lady Marland, High Sheriff of Wiltshire, declaring for Chippenham at 3.06 am

**Far left:** Charles Lillis, High Sheriff of Shropshire, declaring in Shrewsbury for Ludlow at 4.13 (photo: Veronica Lillis)

**Left:** Gillian Drewry, High Sheriff of the East Riding of Yorkshire, declaring for Haltemprice and Howden at 3.50 am

**Below:** John Young, High Sheriff of Dorset, declaring for North Dorset at Blandford at 3.40 am

**Below left:** Anne Hall, High Sheriff of Derbyshire, declaring for Derbyshire Dales at 3.20 am (photo: Jim Fearn)



**Above left:** Jane Cranston, High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, declared the results for Wantage, Henley, and Oxford West and Abingdon between 5 and 5.30 am (Oxford West and Abingdon shown)

**Left:** Vinod Tailor, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, declaring for North East Bedfordshire at 3.47 am

**Right:** Robert Napier, High Sheriff of Surrey, declaring for Guildford at 2.30 am





# RECENT EVENTS

## General Election



**Left:** Louise Fleet, High Sheriff of West Glamorgan, declared for the Gower in Swansea at 2.50 am

**Right:** Richard Hickmet, High Sheriff of Somerset, declared for Taunton Deane at 4.24 am

**Below left:** George Jessel, High Sheriff of Kent, declared for Faversham and Mid Kent at 3.55 am, and Maidstone and the Weald 3.57 am

**Below right:** Stephen Ingram, High Sheriff for South Yorkshire, declared for Sheffield Hallam at 2.45 am and Penistone and Stocksbridge at 3.24 am (Sheffield Hallam shown)

**Below:** Stephen Burrows, High Sheriff of Merseyside, declaring for Wirral South at 2.00 am followed by Wirral West at 2.10 am



**Above:** Sarah Scrope, High Sheriff of Berkshire, declaring for Reading West at 3.32 am

**Right:** Lady Emma Barnard, High Sheriff of West Sussex, declared for Arundel and South Downs at 5:10 am and for Horsham at 5:20 am (Horsham shown)

**Left:** Geoffrey Probert, High Sheriff of Suffolk, declaring for Bury St Edmunds at 4.00 am

**Right:** Gilbert Lloyd, High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, declaring for the Vale of Glamorgan at 2.04 am

**Far right:** David Davies, High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, declaring for Cynon Valley at 2.27 am







## A focus on 'youth'



**From top:** The High Sheriff and Mrs Tailor with the Lord-Lieutenant, judges and lawyers at the annual legal service photo credit: June Essex; Welcoming Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh to the official opening of the new Elephant House at ZSL Whipsnade photo credit: Tristan Newkey-Burden; With family on Declaration day photo credit: June Essex; With the Luton Irish Forum Emerald Pipe Band at the High Sheriff's garden party photo credit: June Essex

I AM delighted to contribute to this edition of *The High Sheriff*, reflecting on what is an engaging and gratifying six months since my Declaration on 1 April 2017 as High Sheriff of Bedfordshire at the Shree Sanatan Seva Samaj Hindu Mandir in Luton, Bedfordshire.

I was born in Uganda to Indian parents with British nationality and came to the UK as an immigrant. I feel fortunate and proud to serve in a role that represents our county and allows me to make a difference to the lives of the people and hopefully leave a legacy of my year in office.

Besides traditional shrieval responsibilities and activities I have chosen to focus on 'youth' – how to keep young people fulfilling occupied as the central theme for my year as High Sheriff. This theme has been highlighted by my engagement with various youth initiatives, listening to try and understand issues that concern them in areas such as crime, alcohol, mental health, housing, training and employment, and finding ways to engage youth in responsible, inspiring activities to create positive social change.

It is a pleasure to have been invited to a myriad of events and taken part in activities which have afforded me first-hand experience of the work carried out by some of the incredible people in our emergency services, the armed forces,

church and faith groups, and the voluntary community which give their time to serve our diverse county.

There have been many highlights such as welcoming Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh to the official opening of the new Elephant House at ZSL Whipsnade, receiving HRH Princess Alexandra, and announcing the general election results for North East Bedfordshire.

I have engaged with the YMCA, The Prince's Trust, the national youth work organisation Youthscape which works directly with teenagers and local schools, supporting the curriculum; Mary Seacole Housing Association which provides supported housing and services to young single homeless people while enabling them to develop the skills needed to move into independent living; Meaningful Education which runs the Bedfordshire Dignity Network and Junior Dignity Network Youth Ambassadors creating a positive approach to the preservation of dignity by raising awareness of its importance. I am touched and humbled to hear directly from young people as to how these services have enriched their lives.

With the Bedfordshire community at large, I have attended many festivals, celebrations and faith ceremonies in various communities, meeting elderly and disability service users and gaining great insight which I much appreciated.

Additionally, I have had the privilege of hosting the annual church service for Her Majesty's judges at St Mary's Church in Luton and on the same day celebrating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Crown Court in Luton, attended by serving and former Crown Court Judges, the Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, legal practitioners and court staff, members of the voluntary sector, High Commissioners and other dignitaries. It has been an extraordinary six months and I look forward to continuing the second half of this privileged role.

♦ Vinod Tailor DL

*High Sheriff of Bedfordshire 2017-18*





# No such thing as 'typical'

THE ROLE of High Sheriff offers the holder a unique and unrivalled opportunity to observe and understand the make-up of the county in which he or she serves.

There is no political bias, no need to curry favour for the next election and no need to impress in order to justify a salary.

We are given a truly privileged access to so many parts of the body that make up the county, with few doors barred and so many people prepared to speak openly about what affects their daily lives. This brings great responsibility and it is difficult not to feel constantly humbled by the efforts we observe on our many visits throughout the community in which we live.

My impressions of Cumbria have left me with a feeling of great optimism as I see how there are so many good people who are prepared to work selflessly in the service of others. It's impossible to ignore deprivation and disadvantage; however, there are so many people who want to help to solve these problems that one feels they must surely ultimately succeed in their endeavours.

So this is the experience that energises my wife Julie and me as we criss-cross the very large county of Cumbria with the beautiful Lake District fells dominating not only the landscape but also our route planning. But when one can travel two hours to the southern tip of the county to be welcomed by the isolated community of Barrow, and from there enjoy a view which encompasses the Irish sea, a distant ruined and ancient castle, and the tall sheds in which the new generation of nuclear submarines are constructed – all with a background of the stunning Lake District fells – one realises that this is a unique county of great contrast.



**Above:** The High Sheriff's Declaration at the Old Court building in Carlisle supported by his Chaplain, the immediate past High Sheriff Richard Lee, a rare combination, and presided over by His Honour Judge Peter Hughes QC

**Below:** The High Sheriff after his Declaration with his wife Julie and daughter Natasha



**Above right:** Rare sighting of a super yacht in Whitehaven docks

**Right:** Attending Mencap's garden party at its respite house in Carlisle



Perhaps our most extraordinary day so far came when we again visited the south of Cumbria to enjoy a wonderful awards ceremony where inmates at HM Prison Haverigg were acknowledged for academic work they had done with the University of Cumbria.

As we headed for home on a beautiful early evening we travelled north via the west coast, taking in Eskdale, Muncaster, Egremont and St Bees before calling into Whitehaven. Now, Whitehaven has a little-recognised but historic and beautiful harbour which that day happened to be giving shelter to a massive super yacht sitting resplendent in the evening sunshine. Apparently this fine vessel was

the property of a Russian oligarch. The reason for his visit remains unknown to me but he proved to be a major draw that evening with several hundred of the townsfolk gathering to take in the unusual scene. Visits from Russian oligarchs remain a rarity in our county and the good people of Whitehaven were not going to pass up on this chance for a good sneek, as they say up here!

I happily admit that this was not a typical High Sheriff's experience but what I have learnt so far is that the word typical is ill adapted to shrieval duties!

♣ **Alistair Wannop**  
*High Sheriff of Cumbria 2017-18*



# Ladies day in Devon

ON MAUNDY Thursday, 13 April it was a great privilege to hold my Declaration in our home, Lee Ford. All my family were present as were the Lord-Lieutenant and Vice Lord-Lieutenant. I invited the eight living past lady High Sheriffs of Devon and they all attended. This was an historic first.

My engagements began quickly. An amazing visit to Ten Tors to watch the 2,400 young individuals begin their trek over Dartmoor and to meet some of the hundreds of volunteers who support them. Colonel James Coote DSO OBE was my host. The snap election announced by the Prime Minister created an unexpected highlight, since I presided as returning officer for the East Devon constituency. It was fascinating to spend a long night watching a flawless count and verification process. There were Commonwealth observers present learning how to manage the count in our democratic way. After two hours' sleep I attended the King's Squad passing out, inspection and drill display at Commando Training Centre Royal marines, Lympstone. My host was the Commandant, Colonel Mike Tanner OBE. What a privilege to watch the young men



who had trained so hard being presented with their Green Berets and troop awards, and later to meet their families.

In May HRH the Countess of Wessex, as our President, attended the three-day Devon County Show, with which I am heavily involved as a chief steward and member of its Council. I wore two hats that day and changed outfit four times depending on my duties. Was I the High Sheriff of Devon or a hard-working chief steward?

I was keen to take advantage of High Sheriffs being allowed special access to the prison system and observe prison life. To date I have visited HMP Exeter and HMP Dartmoor. Each is completely different. Exeter is a remand prison in the centre of the city, facing problems with drones delivering drugs, attempted escapes and overcrowding. Dartmoor, for long-term prisoners, is in a remote and sometimes harsh environment. Neither prison was

what I expected and it opened my eyes to the skill and dedication of governors and prison officers and the problems they face, while providing encouragement and creating environments which build self-esteem with the aim of reducing re-offending. Dartmoor particularly concentrates on skills training to encourage future employment for those who are nearing release. The prison has a warm atmosphere, beautiful gardens and a very positive feel. The recent no-smoking policy within prisons has created additional aggravations causing much unrest and ill-temper among offenders.

Magistrates are one of the most under-recognised groups of volunteers. Sadly the Ministry of Justice cuts have caused many Magistrates' Courts to close. I attended a tea party marking the closure of Torquay Magistrates' Court. Was this a celebration or a commiseration? Over 100 magistrates attended and many amusing anecdotes were recounted. Morale has been low, but they seemed more positive about the future, despite the lack of funding causing uncertainty.

As I enter the second half of my year I am aware I need to be proactive on my visits to voluntary organisations and to be more focused on meeting the volunteers, whose energy and engagement with those less fortunate can make such a difference to their lives and families. Being High Sheriff can open doors that are otherwise not available. My advice to future High Sheriffs is very much to make the most of it and don't be afraid to ask to do something that is of particular interest to you.

♦ Heleen Lindsay-Fynn  
*High Sheriff of Devon 2017-18*



**Above:** David Fursdon, Lord-Lieutenant of Devon, and shrieval ladies

**Left:** At the start of Ten Tors

**Below left:** Legal Sunday – with Lord Mayor's Sergeants-at-Mace

**Below right:** Exmouth sea cadets open day







# Try it – you might even enjoy it!

I WRITE this as I approach the halfway mark of my time as High Sheriff of Dorset. Much of what I have seen and done so far has been new territory for me but no less interesting or enjoyable for it. If you catch yourself saying 'I'm not sure this is really my thing...' I would urge you to overcome that diffidence, and go anyway. It's unlikely that you will be disappointed. I have found it helpful to remember that a key objective of the role is *to take an interest and offer encouragement wherever it's needed*. Being non-political means that for once one can, and indeed should, avoid taking sides. I find it liberating just to listen – with no executive responsibility.

Having been a magistrate since the '80s, I have long been interested in Domestic Abuse as a crime – one which is difficult to prosecute, defend, sentence appropriately and enforce. Since December 2015, Controlling and Coercive Behaviour too has become a crime, and I set myself the task of seeing if I could in some way raise awareness, and thus reduce the occurrence, of cases of this sort. I approached Dorset Police and Bournemouth University's Digital Animation Faculty (widely regarded as the best in the country) to see if they could collaborate in the making of a short (and punchy) public awareness film to be shown and discussed at the High Sheriff's Legal Lecture in March '18. The Duchess of Cornwall is interested in the subject (and is a supporter of Refuge) and has agreed to attend, subject to dates. So far the project has received overwhelming support.

Meanwhile, although I have seen plenty of CCTV footage in court, I have often wanted to have a better insight into how the police go about 'managing' the excesses of the night-time economy, and to witness it first-hand – particularly in Bournemouth and Weymouth. The police were extremely helpful and accommodating and let me choose two summer weekend night shifts, which I



assumed would be lively, for me to go out with them. I stayed with the response team until the small hours to get the full flavour and I wasn't disappointed. I witnessed, close up, a catalogue of offences including assaults, thefts, public order misdemeanours and so on, not to mention a clash between rival stag parties (from Swindon). The police were outstanding and I was able to tell them so. They were very pleased.

Finally I – we – have much enjoyed the set pieces, slightly to my surprise. Anyone who has organised a family wedding will recognise the similarities: the guest list (with its not always easy demands), the venue, the invitations, the seating; the less glamorous parking and lavatories; *the speech*, the music, the flowers; *the food and drink*! As with that family wedding, my advice would be to plan well ahead, set a budget (and stick to it), and remember to enjoy it – and don't forget to dance with the bridegroom's mother.

♣ John Young MC JP DL  
High Sheriff of Dorset 2017-18



**Top:** At my Declaration at the Corn Exchange, Blandford, with my predecessor Sir Philip Williams Bt (seated), my chaplain the Revd Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes, Under Sheriff Katharine Jones and Louise Dutton JP (far left)

**Above:** Presenting a long-service medal to PC Andrew Robertson

# EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

*News from and about members*



**Left:** Passing the Humber Bridge at speed with Humber Rescue with Mr David Roberts, head of the service, at the helm, the High Sheriff and consort David Drewry

## Estuary encounters!

ALMOST THE entire southern boundary of my county, East Yorkshire, comprises the north bank of the immense Humber estuary. The Humber is the busiest of all UK port complexes handling 19 per cent by volume of our maritime imports. It is also the preserve of fishing enthusiasts along its banks, possesses wonderful opportunities for leisure interests with paths and walks and a rich wildlife. Astride the estuary is the colossal Humber Bridge; for 17 years from 1981 it was the longest single span in the world.

With all this activity there are issues of safety and protection on the water and on the shore, with several organisations undertaking a variety of roles to maintain the security of this busy and extensive environment.

As High Sheriff I decided early on to visit, to become better informed and support the roles and functions of those organisations focused upon the estuary.

In July, accompanied by my consort, Professor David Drewry, I visited the Humberside Police Marine Section. Their area of operations is the Humber and North Sea coastal zone out to 20 miles, and also inland lakes, ponds, drains and ditches. Each year they average one job per day.

Following a presentation and a visit to the electronic equipment store – mostly sonar detection devices – we were taken to Hull marina to board one of their large rigid inflatables and head into the river. We were driven down-estuary to inspect the impressive Siemens wind turbines construction facility then west towards the Humber Bridge. We soon arrived at the south tower which they inspect for security on a periodic basis. We then intercepted a large rib but it was on a training exercise – so no drugs haul or illegal migrants.



**Above:** About to board the Humberside Police marine section rib in the Humber Estuary

In August I was invited to the Humber Rescue Service. While the lifeboats handle emergencies out at sea this group treats near-shore situations in the estuary and the Rivers Ouse and Trent. The service is manned entirely by volunteers, operates 24/7 and is funded by contributions. The head of the service provided information on their operations; they run two large and two smaller inflatable ribs. We then donned heavy-duty outer wet wear and a very hi-tech waterproof helmet with radio communication. On board the rib, with three staff, we made several passes beneath the Humber Bridge and around buoys marking the main channel. Sadly, one of their main roles is to retrieve bodies of suicides from the bridge. They were keen to show off the paces of the rib and clocked up a speed of 40kts and, on our last pass, turned the rib, at that speed, in a 180-degree arc! It was difficult to hold on with the g-force!

We were impressed by the professionalism and thoroughness of both these groups, dedicated to difficult tasks in a challenging environment. I am now better informed and promoting actively the important work they undertake.

### ◆ Gill Drewry

*High Sheriff of the East Riding of Yorkshire  
2017-18*





# Cadets, culture, and the hidden chapel

I THOUGHT I knew my county: not a bit of it. It was a humbling year of multiple surprises and learning, and I witnessed genuine heroics. It has led me to believe that the UK simply could not function without the legions of volunteers working behind the scenes, and so many people are being asked in their day-to-day work to achieve so much more with less. The diary benefited from the additional challenges of Hull becoming the UK City of Culture 2017 – the build-up was busy, and the first three months of 2017 was a riot with Hull literally on the map for all the right reasons. What a time to be High Sheriff.

A handshake with the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2016 for 1-1 funding to reintroduce cadets to Humberside Police provided one focus for the year. Corporate generosity, supporting the work of the Tribune Trust (our High Sheriff's fund), quickly seeded 15 cadets; this was of course then matched in full. The Attestation took place on 14 March. It was emotional all round as parents could see their children stepping up, making some positive choices, declaring their intent to make a difference to their communities, their county, themselves and quite possibly other people's lives. The demand for places was such that by mid-2017 numbers had increased to 117 cadets, and this initiative re-connects so many elements of our county. Numerous PCSOs have also requested immediate cadet secondment to their wards, and the benefits will be enormous: an increased police profile, vastly improved connections with some disadvantaged estates, better intelligence and support. This really will have an impact on vulnerable people throughout the county.

The only downside of City of Culture was my chosen venue for the County Legal Service being 'upgraded' to full Minster status following massive transformation

**Right:** The interior of Trinity House Chapel, Hull where the East Riding of Yorkshire Legal Service was held

**Below:** The High Sheriff with new Police Cadets, Police Officers and PCSOs



after a successful appeal. With just over two months' notice it was clear it would be impossible to beat the builders and ready the church in time. Another venue was required, and fast.

The result: Trinity House Chapel was made available by the Master Warden and Brethren for the very first time in its history; not too bad for a Guild formed in 1369, and which typically welcomes only 200 people through its hallowed portals every year. We exceeded that in one morning, and showed just what was possible. Everyone benefited from the experience, and the 'House' was fully subscribed for tours throughout 2017.

The year of office has made a massive impression on me personally, and it is possible to combine the role with the full-time executive position of co-leading a company with 1,700 people, BUT only if you have an outstanding support crew in place. I know the workload has

significantly impacted on others as well, but together we have combined to create the basis of a legacy. What a privilege, and what a fabulous year. \*

## ◆ Thomas Martin

*High Sheriff of the East Riding of Yorkshire 2016-17*

*\*Due to an oversight this article was not printed in the summer 2017 magazine. The writer's vivid account of the reintroduction and growth of Police Cadets in East Yorkshire is most encouraging. This is something the Association supports wholeheartedly and mirrors Lord Shuttleworth's suggestion at Burghley (see page 15) that High Sheriffs wishing to have a shrieval cadet for their year should consider appointing a Police Cadet as the most appropriate to the High Sheriff's role in upholding the rule of law. Ed.*



## Commemorating the Canadians

MY FIRST six months as High Sheriff of East Sussex has been a whirlwind of events, but the highlight was my visit to Dieppe to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid.

On 19 August 1942, 5,000 Canadian and over 1,000 British troops from Newhaven, stormed a ten-mile section of heavily defended coast at Dieppe, expecting to surprise the enemy during the night. Unfortunately they encountered an enemy naval convoy and arrived in daylight to a forewarned enemy. More than 3,350 Canadians were killed, wounded or taken prisoner, out of a population of over 11 million, Canada's bloodiest day of the war. It was the single worst day for Allied aircraft losses. Although a disaster, lessons learnt helped to ensure the success of D Day.

I travelled to Dieppe with my husband Michael, my chaplain and the Mayor of Newhaven and Brighton and the Chairmen of East Sussex County Council and Lewes District Council.

We were immediately driven to the Dieppe airfield and were introduced to the MP, Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Dieppe and local and Canadian dignitaries. The remembrance service, like all those that followed was memorable.



Above: HS and consort at Canadian Cemetery with a French family of three generations; Canadian Soldiers at Puy's Beach



Rousing speeches and prayers in French and English were followed by everyone singing the French, Canadian, British and American National Anthems. Refreshments followed where we had the opportunity to chat to our new friends.

A similar ceremony followed at Saint-Aubin Cemetery, where I laid my first wreath among many in memory of the Canadian raid's airmen.

Then off to Dieppe's West Pier for the Sailors' Memorial. After laying our wreaths I and others inspected the troops.

At 9.00 pm we visited the Canadian cemetery, taking part in a particularly moving service and vigil. We listened to a very touching story of a young Canadian

soldier who celebrated his 18th birthday at Newhaven, just before embarking for Dieppe where he was killed as he ran up the beach. His last letter was read out by the young people of Dieppe. After the service we all walked in procession between the rows of some 1,000 candlelit headstones before finally attending the vigil.

The next morning we and our Sussex colleagues were invited by the Mayor of Dieppe to join him and his colleagues for a 7.00 am breakfast. The relationship we in Sussex have with Dieppe is very strong and we agreed we would always continue to work together, not only to commemorate the Dieppe Raid but also develop new commercial joint ventures.

The day continued with wreath-laying and National Anthems at Puy's beach and at our final ceremony was held at Canada Square, Dieppe where we watched and took the salute as French and Canadian soldiers marched past. We then all paraded along the seafront to four individual memorials where they paid tribute to the fallen. The seafront was packed with people and it was as if the whole of Dieppe had come out to thank the Canadians.

I cannot describe how those two days affected me. It was such an emotional and moving experience and I was so grateful that I had had the opportunity to be there.



Above: At the Canadian Memorial and Cemetery

◆ Maureen Chowen

*High Sheriff of East Sussex 2017-18*





# A day in the life

IT IS now some months since I passed the Essex High Sheriff's baton to my successor. During this time I have reflected on what a privileged and unique year I experienced. So many highlights and special events make it difficult to choose those to write about in any meaningful way. As I flick through my diary and programmes, speeches, invitations and letters, my attention is drawn to one day in what was a fairly typical week.

This morning finds me sitting on the bench in Chelmsford Crown Court dressed in full shrieval kit. It is the culmination of a particularly lurid case and I listen in admiration as the judge succinctly sums up its complexities for the benefit of the jury and defendant alike. It does not take long for the jury to deliver a guilty verdict and he will be sentenced the following week.

A quick change into 'civvies' and I head for the Essex Police Operational Support Group. I am present while an ongoing warrant is being executed in a rather splendid country house. It is a huge 'drugs bust' and I cannot believe the number of cannabis plants at every stage of growth in designated outhouses. The estimated street value is hundreds of thousands of pounds. Two arrests are made. I had already visited a drug and rehabilitation unit and also witnessed, as a magistrate, the devastating effect that drugs can have on mental health especially when mixed with synthetic man-made materials as is now so often the case. Feeling a little peculiar, thanks to breathing in copious amounts of toxic fumes, I heartily (although hopefully not too robustly) congratulate the officers involved. During the drive home I recollect some of the other impressive days I have spent with the many branches of Essex Police. I sat in a very special helicopter used for, among other things,



**Above:** Young volunteer recipients of a High Sheriff's Award give local children a holiday fun week which otherwise they could not have enjoyed

searching for missing persons. The software was the brainchild of the highly skilled pilots and drew interest from around the world. I patrolled some of the 360 miles of the county's coastal waters seeking smugglers of people and drugs; participated in successful traffic operations and observed lines of travellers as they approach customs at Stansted Airport, trying to spot the suspicious individual. The men and women of the police and other emergency services were unstintingly generous with their time. I listened to their concerns which vary from staffing to the future state of their pensions; in spite of all the frustrations and challenges they have to meet, including putting their lives on the line to keep us safe, their good humour and dedication is always apparent.

Back into uniform and I'm off to meet an enterprising youth council in Harwich. This group has been developing a project to raise awareness of domestic abuse among the young. They show me a short film they have produced with a clever and dramatic twist at the end which raises the hairs on the back of my neck. Enthusiastically I endorse their entry to the National Crimebeat Awards and I am thrilled to hear subsequently that they have received a prestigious Highly Commended Certificate. It has been heart-warming to meet similarly innovative and caring youngsters throughout my travels.

Home but not yet to bed as I must attempt to keep on top of the 'thank you' letters. Tomorrow there is a royal visit and a civic service in the evening – the year continues to rush past.

While High Sheriffs continue their strong support for all branches of the law, they are increasingly the champions of the voluntary sector. There are over 400,000 volunteers in Essex who are now responsible for servicing thousands of charities and social enterprises. Without these hardworking individuals most of our charities both large and small would fail. As I watched their care of others and listened to their remarkable stories I was humbled and uplifted in equal measure. It was such a privilege and a true highlight of my time as High Sheriff to meet these dedicated and hugely impressive people.

♦♦ **Lorna Rolfe JP**  
*High Sheriff of Essex 2016-17*



**Above:** Lorna Rolfe with Cllr Steve Cole, Mayor of Castle Point and members of 217 Field Squadron, 33 Engineer Regiment on Armed Forces Day 2016



# Scrum down for a rugby revelation

UNBELIEVABLY, HALF my shrieval year has passed by, bursting at the seams with a variety of engagements ranging from the unusual, such as judging photo competitions and the Chinese UK Song Competition, to the expected mayor-making ceremonies and judges' dinners.

Filling me with inspiration and pride is the incredible community spirit, the 'great' in Greater Manchester. One such illustration is a fabulous project, the brainchild of Bolton Rugby Union Football Club (BRUFC) – [www.boltonrugby.co.uk](http://www.boltonrugby.co.uk). Bolton is 10 miles north-west of Manchester city centre and BRUFC is run by a committed team of enthusiastic volunteers. As well as the usual rugby teams, they have a unique outreach programme, taking sport to local schools. This started mainstream, expanding to include a number of Special Educational Needs (SEN) schools. It is with these schools in particular that I am involved.

It's well known that sport is a great vehicle through which kids can learn many skills. Revealing and surprising is the real difference that rugby has made to children with a variety of disabilities and learning

difficulties. For example, kids on the autistic spectrum often feel much more at home on a playing field than in a classroom. It has allowed them to be active, learn team spirit, build confidence, co-ordinate and feel part of the community – with coaching adapted to their individual needs.

I was delighted to be invited by Peter Gore, Community Development Officer of BRUFC, to visit Rumworth ([www.rumworth.weebly.com](http://www.rumworth.weebly.com)) and Green Fold schools ([www.theorchardsfederation.com](http://www.theorchardsfederation.com)). Both made me tremendously welcome. I saw and took part in a variety of activities, from rugby, to batting in the cricket team (at which I remain 'not out'!!), to building a den during National Den Day. Rugby helps in the classroom in different ways. Lessons are more productive after releasing some tension! Also, each classroom has a rugby ball as a calming tool. Kids ask for a five minute break, hold the ball and re-focus; gaining self-control and learning

to recognise when they need 'time out'.

The great news is that things will soon be even better as BRUFC and Prime Sports NW CIC will work in partnership to extend rugby coaching and other sports to every SEN school in Bolton, thanks to a £52k grant from BBC Children In Need.

I was told that my visits had made a difference, that the kids had lit up when my wife and I arrived. My visit made them feel special; I was there specifically to see them. They were definitely impressed by the uniform – they love a bit of bling!

As all High Sheriffs know, the sword is always the highlight of any visit! At Rumworth, a boy asked me, 'What is the sword for?' While I was searching for an appropriate reply, another child shouted out, 'It's to protect The Queen, of course'. It's a great one liner that I have adopted ever since!

As an epilogue, some Rumworth students have since come to my restaurant and had fun learning to make dim sum and I have been invited to eat cake at their bistro!

This is a relationship that will run and run!

♦♦ **Kui Man Gerry Yeung**  
**OBE DL**

*High Sheriff of Greater Manchester 2017-18*

**Below right:** The High Sheriff, Mrs Yeung and the Rumworth School cricketers; The High Sheriff and happy pupils from Green Fold School

**Below left:** The High Sheriff and the Green Fold School scrum







# HERTFORDSHIRE

## *News from and about members*



**Above:** Mary Berry at our garden party, where she acted as a judge for our charity baking competition (pictured here with my wife Kate)

**Left:** Arriving at the annual garden party

## Building effectiveness

WHY DO we say 'yes' when asked? I certainly did, without really working out what it meant!

Now, halfway through my year, I am thrilled I did. My wife Kate and I have discovered much in our county, met fascinating and wonderful people, scratched the surface on issues that harm many of us (reoffending, homelessness, addiction, mental health) and enjoyed whistle-stop tours of great institutions and great places.

One scheme that worked well was asking each borough and district council to give me a tour of their district to see the good and the bad. It was very good spending the day with the leaders of the councils and getting their views as well as seeing what was happening on their patch.

The most important relationship has been with the Hertfordshire Community Foundation. I approached them while

preparing for my year to ask what issues we face in the county. They were preparing a report focussed on the areas of need in collaboration with the University of Hertfordshire. This was immensely useful and guided my theme and diary. I urge anyone taking on this role to partner with their local Community Foundation.

Rather stupidly (given how large the subject was) I decided to celebrate and foster volunteering. Little did I realise that this covered potentially 30 per cent of the folk in the county if the statistics are to be believed. It has taken me to many charities and voluntary organisations, big and small. I do love the small ones – the local groups doing amazing things with very few resources and almost no costs.

In partnership with the Hertfordshire Community Foundation and the Cranfield Trust we have set up a 12-month 'Building Effectiveness' programme with self-

diagnosis, mentors and workshops for 10 Hertfordshire charities which applied to join. It seems to be heading for some success in helping those involved to identify areas of weakness and address these.

Despite being told that I did not need to fundraise, my wife Kate and I put on two charity concerts in St Albans Cathedral. They were a great success but the funds raised largely came from sponsorship not from tickets or donations. Be warned – fundraising is much harder work than one anticipates.

The relationship with the judiciary and law is central to our role but difficult for me since I was largely ignorant of what it is all about. I hope that I have contributed in some areas – themed lunches at the courts, visits to our local prison and governor, visits to the magistrates' courts and entertaining the judges. Probably the most eye-opening and useful has been helping the Hertfordshire Constabulary on awards and prize-giving as well as meeting the teams on cybercrime, modern slavery and sexual abuse.

♦♦ Will Hobhouse

*High Sheriff of Hertfordshire 2017-18*

# ISLE OF WIGHT

*News from and about members*



**Above:** With some of 'team Rouse', the High Sheriff's colleagues holding the fort during his year: Andrew White, Ben Silk, Lisa Butler, Linda Thorne and Paul McDine

THIS TIME last year I was fretting about whether there might be an ex-High Sheriff who was 6'7", from whom I could borrow some of the uniform. I now know there wasn't but, six months in, I realise that – while a significant symbol of the importance and history of the Office – clothes, in a very real sense here, do not maketh the man (or woman).

Having tried from the start to involve myself with the many volunteers, charities and community support groups that exist on the Island, the position has become less about the individual in the hot seat and more about how having such a platform can help the wider community.

One of my key aims for the year was to bring the charity 'The Old School Project' to the Island. It was originally featured in a BBC 2 programme last year, fronted by the Hairy Bikers. The programme showed the project being piloted by the Oxford Academy School. Its aim is to pair young with old and offers them time together in a safe environment to get to know each other and to learn from and support each other. The project recognises that some issues cross age boundaries and its intention is to look at benefits for both sides. Our communities are becoming

fractured and The Old School Project has at its heart an old African saying: it takes a whole village to raise a child. For the child who wants to talk to someone after school or the senior citizen who needs company or is feeling detached from the modern digital world, it provides access to new friends and opportunities. It is about community cohesion.

I'm happy to say that with the help of Age UK IW, the support of the team at The Old School Project at the Oxford Academy, and an Island-based charity called Independent Arts, two schools on the Island (Cowes Enterprise College and Christ the King College) have already signed up to the project. I am very grateful to the team leaders at the schools that they have been so open and enthusiastic about this project. I'm hoping that enthusiasm will infect the other secondary schools on the Island and we will gradually roll it out to all of them.

Having already met quite a few of our wonderful volunteers here I have seen first-hand the difference the kindness of others can make – without which some lives undoubtedly would be immeasurably worse. The Island is a mixed bag, being home to some of the most privileged people as well as some





## News from and about members

of the most disadvantaged. But as a group of people living on a small island there is a unique sense of togetherness, despite the huge disparities.

My predecessor launched a new event in his year (Isle of Wight Day) that we will continue to celebrate annually to help gel that community spirit. By the same token, I am collaborating with the next two High Sheriffs in nomination in order to focus on projects that bring businesses and schools together. The projects will offer young people further advancement towards employment by using the support and resources a school can provide, together with the knowledge and opportunities of the business community.

I approached the role with some trepidation but now, halfway through, I'm thoroughly enjoying all the opportunities it offers. So much achieved yet still so much to do – a year is gone in the blink of an eye!

### ♣ Ben Rouse

*High Sheriff of the Isle of Wight 2017-18*



Left: With Mary Montagu-Scott, High Sheriff of Hampshire, on a marine police launch

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## A backwards and forwards look at frontline life in Kent



ON 4 July 1958 I was lying in my pram on a hot sunny day in the beautiful gardens of Ladham House, Goudhurst in Kent. At a safe distance, my grandfather was welcoming the Kent judges and his guests to the High Sheriff's garden party which was also the garden used by my great-grandfather for his garden party in 1903!

Now it is my turn. I doubt whether my grandfather was ever strapped into the back of a police squad car answering (at alarming speed) a call-out in the centre of Canterbury, or indeed had the opportunity to visit a mental health wing in one of Her Majesty's prisons in the company of his eighteen-year-old daughter. I would hazard a guess that our role is now much more proactive, inclusive and even more important as counties and their individual challenges change at an ever-increasing rate.

Perhaps one wonderful aspect that has not changed is the privilege of meeting and welcoming a royal visitor. I have been fortunate to welcome HRH the Countess of Wessex, HRH The Princess Royal and HRH the Duke of Kent. Once you have been in the shoes of a High Sheriff you really do understand the long hours and commitment required of the royal family – not to mention a certain amount of stamina!

I have already spent a night watching The Royal Engineers as they worked on a

night exercise to set charges to 'blow up' Rochester Bridge, passed off 120 new Kent Police recruits, launched a 'coffee caravan' which drives round isolated villages and learned to cook with Porchlight. We have also had a party for eighty charity guests in our barn garden to hear about new funding opportunities.

The actual heart of Kent has not much changed in character from my grandfather's day in that it is populated by communities which really care and want to make a difference and these are the people I meet every week. I have found their hard work quite overwhelming and they are always so pleased to see their High Sheriff and find out how I can help promote their organisations or simply introduce them to others in their field. Having recently renovated a sixteenth-century cart barn I have been able to put this to good use by holding receptions and networking events which I will continue to do throughout my year in office.

Luckily, we still have two Crown Courts in Canterbury and Maidstone and my admiration for our judges has increased over the year as we have held several court lunches and spent time sitting with our judiciary and listening to the difficult decisions they have to make on increasingly complicated and depressing cases. I have also made five court awards for bravery.



**Top left:** The High Sheriff and Mrs Jessel, with the Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr Malcolm Greer, circuit judges and borough councillors, welcoming the Hon Mr Justice Stuart-Smith to Maidstone Crown Court

**Top right:** The Mayor of Medway Cllr David Wildey, the High Sheriff, Brigadier Matthew Bazeley, Commandant, Royal School of Military Engineering, Kelly Tolhurst MP for Medway and Ilona Hurrell, Rochester Bridge Trust

**Above L-R:** Sir Charles Jessel, Bt, DL, JP, High Sheriff of Kent 1903; Sir George Jessel, Bt., MC, JP, High Sheriff of Kent 1958

My current diary is still filling with events every day and my PA (who is also my wife!) is always keen to research new organisations to visit. A happy team, the Jessel High Sheriff office is always busy with my children who come and 'help', a couple of dogs and, of course, my court dress drying on a radiator ready for its next outing.

♦ George Jessel DL  
High Sheriff of Kent 2017-18





# Variety is the spice of life!

WHAT STRUCK me most about the first few months of my shrieval year is the extraordinary variety of events, meetings and special occasions which you attend in your capacity as High Sheriff. The ceremonial, judicial, formal and informal occasions seem to appear randomly in the calendar and each one has its own charm and memorable elements.

In Lancashire we begin the year with the High Sheriff's Declaration in County Hall which is appropriately formal. There follows in June the highlight of the year – the Shield Hanging in Lancaster Castle. A splendid service of Thanksgiving in Lancaster's lovely Priory is followed by the ancient ceremony which culminates in the High Sheriff being allowed to hang his coat of arms alongside the 660 other shields dating back to Richard the Lionheart. This was a truly memorable occasion. I was also delighted to attend the 125th anniversary dinner of 'Lancastrians in London'. This year the dinner was held in the Mansion House, by courtesy of the current Lord Mayor of London, Dr Andrew Parmley, a Lancastrian, and was a splendid affair.

In between there have been all manner of events, big and small, which together make such a huge contribution to life in our county. I have of course spent time with the local and visiting judiciary, as well as our magistrates, and witnessed at first hand just what a big commitment they all continue to have to our criminal justice system. When visiting the police and associated agencies I have been particularly interested and impressed by the county-wide move towards greater cooperation, and sharing of skills and resources between the public services. Although perhaps this has been initially driven by the need to save money it is now evident to many that there is a

fantastic opportunity to develop a set of services within the county which can be much more effective and cost less. I am hoping that I will be able to support and encourage this movement in the coming months by holding a forum to share best practice and inspire the leaders of our services to seize the opportunity.

The Prince's Trust runs an excellent 12-week course for young people with challenged backgrounds and in Lancashire it is delivered by the Fire and Rescue Service. The impact this opportunity has is often very significant for a high proportion of the participants, and I have been most impressed with the dedication and quality of the leadership and support provided to all those involved. More informally it

has been a delight to engage with smaller organisations in the county – too many to mention – which bring such sunshine into the lives of many. In particular, the recent opening of Lancaster's Hospice Café was a great success.

Finally, I continue to be humbled by the tireless work which is carried out by our enormous number of volunteers within Lancashire. The selfless help and assistance they provide to so many people in need is a great inspiration to us all, and the welcome they have given both me and my wife Carole wherever we have visited has been very warm.

♦♦ **Robert Webb JP DL**  
*High Sheriff of Lancashire 2017-18*

**Below:** Opening the new café at St John's hospice; The Webb family following the High Sheriff's Declaration: (L-R) Hannah, Will, Aria, Harriet, Carole, Joanna and Mike





## Declaration follows Declaration

MY FIRST six months as High Sheriff have been as full and busy as they have been rewarding and inspiring. Since my Declaration before the Honourable Mr Justice Moor, and attending those of neighbouring High Sheriffs, I visited early the three vital umbrella organisations supporting the voluntary sector in Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf – which comprise the shrieval county of Mid Glamorgan – and laid the groundwork for future engagement with them.

After memorable visits to the Old Bailey, the Inner Temple and HM The Queen's garden party, it was back to Wales and the privilege of reading the declaration of the result of the parliamentary election at Cynon Valley (I had six constituencies for which I was returning officer and from which to choose one to read the result).

The three Glamorgan High Sheriffs and our Gwent colleague had the pleasure of entertaining the Court of Appeal Judges at the Mansion House, Cardiff, in June as well as visiting the Civil Justice Centre there. Later, I would sit in my home court at Merthyr Tydfil with the Honourable Mr Justice Lavender and carry out the ancient duty and pleasure of entertaining him at home.

A rare and privileged opportunity arose in July to attend the enthronement of the new Bishop of Llandaff, the Right Reverend June Osborne. That month also saw the unveiling by the Lord-Lieutenant of a memorial stone at RAF Stormy Down which had trained thousands of air personnel during World War Two. HRH The Prince of Wales also visited The Royal Mint, where he stamped the first commemorative coin marking the retirement from public duties of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

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**Above:** Under Sheriff Philip Evans, outgoing High Sheriff Gwyn George, Lord-Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan Kathrin Thomas CVO JP, incoming High Sheriff David Davies JP and Clerk to the Lieutenancy Mary Squire MVO

**Right:** Inspecting the Welsh Guards at their Freedom Parade in Pontypridd



Monday 31 July saw a visit by the Welsh Guards to Pontypridd War Memorial to mark the centenary of the Victoria Cross awarded to Sgt Robert Bye for his heroic deeds at Passchendaele. They would return to Pontypridd in September for their Freedom Parade, where I had the honour of inspecting them, before our troops – of whom we are so rightly proud – return to Afghanistan in 2018.

There has been, of course, so much more besides. To attend civic services for the county's mayors and to get to know and support and engage with them, their colleagues and officers has been such a productive pleasure and a joy.



In this part of the world, there is too often a poignant opportunity to remember an anniversary of our past, in this case the Parc Slip colliery at Aberkenfig when 112 men and boys lost their lives in a mining disaster in 1892.

On a lighter note, there has been the pleasure of opening and supporting my village carnival, speaking at scouts' and schools' presentation evenings, and attending some wonderful musical performances (as you'd expect in Wales). Being actively involved in the volunteering awards is equally a wonderful opportunity to recognise the great things being done by the third sector in our communities. Somehow, I even managed to organise a successful fundraising evening for my own chosen charity Llamau, the leading Welsh charity supporting young homeless people and vulnerable women.

It has been a breathtaking and memorable time in equal measure. My diary tells me there is much more of the same to come.

♦♦ **David Davies JP**

*High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan 2017-18*





## Charity organisations in my sights



**Above:** His Honour Judge Andrew Stubbs QC, His Honour Judge Paul Batty QC, the High Sheriff, His Honour Peter Benson and Hon Sir Harry Ognall with Lauren Ingle when she received her Court Award at York Crown Court

MY DECLARATION ceremony in April was carried out at York Crown Court, chosen because this was where my late uncle Oliver Wrightson ate his last supper in the court dining room in October 1987. His Honour Judge Paul Batty QC, who knew my late uncle, took the proceedings smoothly and once I had been passed the baton from my predecessor John Furness, Paul related some amusing stories about Oliver. 'I always said to Oliver, never run to a train.' And this was his undoing as he suffered a fatal heart attack on the platform in York station, running to the station after a rather good court dinner.

My year has been so interesting and I have met wonderful people who do so much for their community. I have also enjoyed briefings at various RAF stations in the county: Menwith Hill, Fylingdales, Linton-on-Ouse and Leeming. In early September, my wife and I were invited to the 32nd Allied Air Forces Memorial Day at RAF Elvington, where in March this year, the museum was presented with a Mirage 4 as a token of thanks from the French Air Force after two squadrons were stationed there in the Second World War.

I enjoyed an interesting morning with

Inspector Paul Cording of North Yorkshire Police. The police do so much work behind the scenes to keep our roads safe from careless and reckless drivers. We patrolled in an unmarked car and found a driver using a mobile telephone while driving – six points and a £200 fine. Later on the A1(M) we apprehended an over-hasty driver travelling at 89 mph (he didn't realise Skodas were that fast) – three points and a £100 fine.



**Above:** Michaela Slay (Events Project Manager, Help for Heroes), the High Sheriff, Mrs Simon Wrightson and Charley Tysler (Invictus Choir) at the reception and concert by the Invictus Choir in aid of Help for Heroes on 21 September

Paul Batty invited me to present an award in York Crown Court to Lauren Ingle, who defended her corner shop from a man holding two carving knives. She fought him off, chased him out of her shop, ran him to ground and called the police. The man was sentenced to 14 years and I presented Lauren with a cheque for £500 for her bravery.

In September I held a drinks party at Phoenix House, Catterick Garrison in aid of Help for Heroes one of two charities I am supporting during my year in office, the other being Headway. We numbered around 130 and the Invictus Choir sang beautifully. The money raised has gone to support the brave men and women of our armed forces who still need support long after the war is over. Their fight to recover goes on every single day, repairing the psychological wounds of war as well as physical. Help for Heroes is in the business of building confidence, resilience and self-esteem and equipping beneficiaries with the skills they need to embrace a new future, achieve their potential and live active independent and fulfilling lives. My target was to raise large sums for Help for Heroes – so far several thousand but with more donations coming in this total will rise. I know that Phoenix House and its veterans will be eternally grateful for everyone's generous support.

♦ **Simon Wrightson**  
*High Sheriff of North Yorkshire 2017-18*

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*News from and about members*



## History in the making

**Above and below:**  
The Mercian Regiment  
at Newstead Abbey

**Below right:**  
With the Lord-  
Lieutenant, Judges  
and Under Sheriff at  
The Queen's Official  
Birthday Service

BY CLAUSE 50 of Magna Carta, King John undertook to remove from office Philip Marc, his brothers, nephew and all 'their brood'. Philip had been the Sheriff of Nottingham since 1208 and, despite the King's undertaking to the Barons, remained in office until 1217. Philip may or may not have been the bad guy in the Robin Hood legend but, as his successor, this small piece of history is a good place to start.

I began my year with more history by holding my Declaration at Newstead Abbey, the home of the poet Lord Byron who enjoyed pop star status 200 years ago and, consistent with that status, was described by his mistress Lady Caroline Lamb

as 'mad, bad and dangerous to know'. Byron's daughter was Ada, later Countess of Lovelace, who probably wrote the first algorithm and now gives her name to one of the national Science, Technology, Electronics and Mathematics (STEM) Colleges. I invited their London-based founders to visit the Abbey and the Byron family crypt where Ada lies next to her father. They are looking for an out-of-London campus.

Newstead Abbey was given to Nottingham City Council in 1931 and the Council struggles to make it pay. As a local resident, I decided to make it the theme of my year and am using my office to talk to as many agencies as I can to see what







## News from and about members

can be done to develop it and make it prosper. Proposals include a smart hotel on an old colliery country park next to the county's premier golf course and a performance/seminar centre on the site of the old Priory Church.

As for charity, I have raised modest sums so far for the RAF Benevolent Fund, Fountaindale – a local Specialist SEN school for children who have complex physical and sensory needs, the Army Benevolent Fund, the Mercian Regiment's Benevolence Charity, the Midlands Legal Support Trust and the Nottinghamshire Hospice. The latter two involved some exercise; a legal walk of over six miles around Nottingham and a bike ride of 75 miles around the county – on both occasions wearing my High Sheriff's T-shirt.

More history took me to France in May to commemorate the centenary of the death in combat of Albert Ball VC, a flying ace of the Great War; he lies buried in Annoeullin where they have named a school after him.\* I laid a wreath at the Menin Gate at the Saturday evening Last Post ceremony and made a speech in French at the school the following day, both events in court dress. Before going to Ypres, I found to my horror that I had left my court hose behind. Ever resourceful, my wife Carol nipped into the local supermarket and bought a fine pair of 120 denier tights that looked like the real thing.

Nottinghamshire is possibly the only county to celebrate HM The Queen's Official Birthday with a service in the cathedral church at Southwell Minster. This year I took advantage of my office to choose the music and am grateful to the Rector Chori and the Nottingham Band of the Royal Engineers for indulging me. The choir of St Peter's Church, Ravenshead, my local church, sang Howard Goodall's 'The Lord is my Shepherd' and had among its ranks a baritone in court dress.



In August the chief constable and I went on separate patrols on a Saturday night in Nottingham City Centre. It was fascinating to see public order policing and to meet the doormen and a wonderful group of street pastors dispensing flip-flops to young women who had kicked off their stiletto heels.

Finally, at the beginning of September, I returned to Newstead Abbey to entertain civic leaders from Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and to mark the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Mercian Regiment, successor to the Sherwood Foresters. The event began in the Great Hall where I handed community awards to eight recipients whose ages ranged from 17 to 86; we then moved outside to the West Front where the Band of the Mercian Regiment played 'Sunset' during Beating the Retreat.

### ♦♦ David Sneath TD DL

*High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire 2017-2018*

• Britain's Forgotten Fighter Ace Captain Ball VC, Walter A Briscoe and H Russell Stannard (Stroud, 2104). Ed.

**Above:** With the award winners at Newstead Abbey

**Below left:** Laying a wreath at the Menin Gate

**Below right:** Ready for patrol





## Setting the standard in Sheffield

THE FIRST half of my year in office as High Sheriff of South Yorkshire has certainly provided justification for the claims from numerous previous High Sheriffs of what a remarkable year I was going to experience. I trust that this article provides a few interesting and perceptive illustrations.

Within days of my Declaration my first official engagement was being presented, in full court dress, to HRH the Duke of York in Cutlers' Hall in Sheffield. The Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire, which was established by a parliamentary Act of Incorporation in 1624, has, for almost 400 years, sought to maintain the standards and quality of Sheffield-made cutlery and steel products and to promote the name of 'Sheffield'. Interestingly, the Duke of York informed me that, many years ago, the Duke of Edinburgh had stated that he did not expect to see 'members of his family wearing breeches in public'.

The theme of my year of office is 'inclusivity' and in particular focusing on ensuring that children and young people,

in the age range 5 to 18 years, feel part of and involved with society at large. I have met some fantastic people doing extremely good work in this area and have decided that Whirlow Hall Farm Trust should be my nominated charity. The Trust provides a range of programmes for children and young people, particularly those who are vulnerable and/or challenged. It operates a working farm which, every year, provides in excess of 10,000 student days of learning experience in a farm environment. Some of its programmes are specifically for children who have been excluded from school with the objective of supporting them in the development of the skills that will enable them to be included again. The Trust, inter alia, runs and manages the second most northerly vineyard in the United Kingdom and produces an award-winning rosé wine.

We spent a splendid evening, in early June, attending evensong at the Temple Church taken by the Master of the Temple, followed by dinner for serving High Sheriffs in the Inner Temple, hosted

**Above:** With the Master and Mistress Cutler at the summer reception  
([www.seamanphotographer.co.uk](http://www.seamanphotographer.co.uk))

by the Treasurer and Benchers of the Inn. The following day, which was the day of the general election, I returned directly to South Yorkshire. I observed the votes being counted in both Barnsley and Sheffield. In my capacity as returning officer I declared the results in Sheffield Hallam, where Nick Clegg lost his seat, and also Penistone and Stocksbridge.

For the close of this article I will move from tradition to the future. I held my summer reception at Factory 2050 in the Advanced Manufacturing Campus and a few days later we welcomed HRH the Duke of York to the county again; on this occasion he visited the very forward-looking AESSEAL factory in Rotherham to open officially a major new manufacturing and test rig for mechanical seals.

◆ **Stephen Ingram**

*High Sheriff of South Yorkshire 2017-2018*





## Ancient and modern

AS A former soldier it has been refreshing to wear court dress rather than military uniform. It is also a lot easier to maintain and put on than the military equivalent. I have worn it on public transport and found that it is a splendid way of engaging people and explaining the role. On such occasions I leave my sword at home for the obvious security reason and to make sitting down much more practical.

I was able to sign the Armed Forces Covenant with the Royal Hospital in Sunderland as one of my first engagements. This hospital has provided a large number of medical staff to the British Armed Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan in recent years.

In addition to the normal formal events I have been privileged to take High Court Judges and magistrates to see both reservists and cadets in action on evening visits. It was particularly good that two High Court Judges were able to come on board HMS *Calliope*, a shore base on the opposite bank of the River Tyne from their court. Recently renovated and now housing Royal Navy Reserves, Royal Marine Reserves and Sea Cadets the base hosted an evening for reservists and their employers on Reserves Day. This made for a splendid occasion for the judiciary to see what goes on inside the building that they have observed on many a day when attending court.

I misunderstood the headline of an invitation to attend the reliving of Heron's Pit. My imagination had me down a coal mine until I read on. I visited a research project carried out by Newcastle University at the dungeon of Newcastle Castle. The dungeon was where High Sheriff Sir William Heron incarcerated those who failed to pay their fines. This was from 1246 to 1256 when things were very different. He was an unpopular man due to the way he treated people and was thought to line his pockets with most of the fines collected. At his funeral the

people of Newcastle prayed that their wish would be fulfilled that his soul be dragged to hell. I hope that during the rest of my year in office I shall not fall into this trap but rather help rehabilitate those souls in need today. With humour anything is possible as I was reminded on visiting prison. An old lag came up to me and advised: 'Don't leave anything lying around here as this place is full of crooks'.

♦ Lt General Robin Brims  
CB CBE DSO DL  
*High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear 2017-18*



**Above:** High Sheriff Robin Brims unveils the display boards explaining the dungeon at Newcastle Castle under the protective eye of Newcastle University which led the project

**Below:** Chief Executive Ken Bremner and High Sheriff Robin Brims sign the Armed Forces Covenant in front of key staff at the Royal Hospital Sunderland



# WEST GLAMORGAN

*News from and about members*



## I'm doing it my way

MY DECLARATION took place on a lovely sunny day. The ceremony in the historic Margam Abbey and the afternoon tea in the beautiful Margam Orangery could not have gone better. It was a great start to what has been a fulfilling and heart-warming six months.

Being a magistrate, I was very keen to gain first-hand knowledge of police work behind the scenes. West Glamorgan High Sheriffs have great support from the local police officers and they were only too willing to arrange any number of visits to their facilities.

Because of my court experience, I was particularly interested in the support for victims of domestic violence. I spent a very interesting and informative morning at the Vulnerable Peoples' Unit speaking with officers dealing with the most difficult and sensitive crimes which include not only domestic violence, but child abuse, trafficking, paedophilia and sex offences. I was impressed by the professionalism, dedication and commitment of the officers. Wondering how they coped emotionally with these cases, I learnt that officers receive regular counselling to help maintain their physical and emotional well-being.

Visits to the South Wales Police Control Centre, the dog handlers, the mounted

police and the gun range, and attending events with the police youth volunteers, have also raised my understanding of policing across the county.

West Glamorgan has a very strong tradition of volunteering and from the outset I wanted to familiarise myself with the voluntary sector. My learning so far has been enlightening and humbling. I am noting many potential nominees for my High Sheriff's Awards at the end of the year! Time though is going quickly and I want to incorporate more informal visits to voluntary groups while I can.

My engagements have been diverse and wide-ranging, such as citizenship ceremonies, speaking at the Eid ul-Adha celebrations at Swansea University Mosque, climbing Pen-y-Fan with the police youth volunteers, supporting the Social Flag Project and watching the Freedom March of the Welsh Guards. I have enjoyed them all in different ways. I realised quickly the effect of time on memory so I decided to keep a journal to record my thoughts and feelings after each event which I can reflect on at my leisure – whenever that will be!

I have felt very privileged to have had the opportunity to take part in events that mean so much to others. I find it gratifying that people still value tradition

**Top left:** Awaiting the arrival of the First Battalion Welsh Guards for the inspection in Castle Square Swansea prior to the Freedom March through the City (L-R): Colonel TCS Bonas, Regimental Adjutant; Mr David King, veteran; Lt Colonel DWN Bevan MVO; the Lord Mayor of Swansea, Cllr P Downing; the High Sheriff; and the Lord-Lieutenant of West Glamorgan, Mr Byron Lewis

**Above:** Attending a citizenship ceremony with Mrs Joanna Jenkins MBE JP DL and the Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea, Councillor Philip Downing; The High Sheriff helping to raise the Mumbles St John's Ambulance Flag for the Social Flag Project in Swansea with members of the division, the Lord-Lieutenant Byron Lewis (High Sheriff 2004-05), and President of the Division, Dr Bryn John DL (High Sheriff 2009-10)

and appreciate the interest shown in them by the High Sheriff and various dignitaries. People are always interested in the role and I take any opportunity to speak about it and raise its profile within the community.

We are all temporary occupants of the High Sheriff's role and everyone advises 'do it your way'. 'Your way' becomes very clear once you are in office and I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity both to carry on the traditional duties of West Glamorgan High Sheriffs and also to do things 'my way'.

♦ Louise Fleet JP

*High Sheriff of West Glamorgan 2017-2018*





## A simple 'thank you' goes a long way

FOLLOWING ADVICE given at the excellent seminars at Burghley and elsewhere, I tried to hit the ground running after my Declaration ceremony at the Birmingham Crown Court on 11 April. The West Midlands is a large multi-cultural area with three cities and four other metropolitan councils, and all are well organised in respect of civic responsibilities. There followed a considerable number of invitations to mayor-making, guild and other ceremonies. Unfortunately, it was not possible to attend all but it started to become clear very quickly the degree to which local areas are very proud of their heritage, despite challenges existing in a number of areas.

A number of events, such as flag-raising ceremonies, in honour of the armed forces in general were held and it was very poignant to be beside men in their nineties who, in the war, were commandos parachuting into enemy territory. We have moved on well in society since the time of Thomas Barratt whose 100th anniversary of being awarded the Victoria Cross I was privileged to attend in Dudley. After a childhood spent in the workhouse he died

on the battlefield aged 22. This service was also attended by Johnson Beharry VC, a serving VC holder.

My themes for the year are to assist young people wherever possible and to promote social cohesion. I have been very pleasantly surprised by the high standard of schools I visited, some in unpromising areas – tremendous ICT and other equipment, and lovely youngsters – a delight to be with. As it is not easy to address a hall full of youngsters below the age of 11 for half an hour, I am using the approach of analysing the coat of arms of the High Sheriff alongside the coat of arms of the town or city they live in. It amuses them that the High Sheriff has leeks on the badge around his neck and I have challenged them to create their own coats of arms, which my wife Connie and I will judge later.

There are a significant number of courts in the West Midlands with many High Court and other judges in regular attendance. It has been most enjoyable to entertain or be entertained by judges, nine times so far, with many more occasions to come. Judges' company is delightful and we are lucky that we are so well served by



**Above:** At Stephen Goldstein's Mad Hatter's Tea Party with the tallest man and the constable

them while they are under such a wide range of pressures.

The advice has stuck in my mind that to say 'thank you' is usually very well received. The efforts committed by volunteers are extraordinary and without their efforts many aspects of life we take for granted would collapse. I do try to say 'thank you' as often as I can.

One is presented as High Sheriff with far more charities and related events than one thought existed. The Mad Hatter's Tea Party organised by Stephen Goldstein CBE DL is a good example of the lengths to which volunteers go to help, in this case young people with a range of disabilities – they all enjoyed the day thoroughly and well over 500 youngsters attended. The best part was when I was asked by one starry-eyed boy which character I represented...

♣ **John Hudson OBE DL**  
*High Sheriff of West Midlands 2017-18*



Attending the 100th anniversary of the award of the Victoria Cross to Thomas Barratt of Dudley, with Johnson Beharry VC and Richard Boot OBE DL



# My leg of the relay

ALMOST AS soon as I had made my Declaration and started work – planning my diary and travelling all over the county – I realised how relevant the role of High Sheriff is to the 21st century. I already knew that the job meant participation in ceremonial and royal occasions, but my other duties, judicial and civic were just as engaging, and even dramatic. Declaring the results of the general election in Chippenham in June, for instance, was a tense moment, needing a calm demeanour, steady voice, and above all, enough time between reading one result and the next to allow for the inevitable clapping, jeers and whooping. If I ever change career to stand-up comedy, I will certainly know how to time my gags.

Here, though, I should like to look at my shrieval year from three perspectives, reflecting the activities I consider most rewarding, both to me, and I hope, to those who have allowed me to connect, albeit briefly, with their lives.

**Support:** In these times of austerity and reduced funding, charities and voluntary organisations find themselves both more necessary and less affluent than ever. My contact with these organisations taught me that they respond to financial challenges with great creativity, but they need constantly to find new sources of funding. As High Sheriff, I have been able to listen to groups, hear all the facts, and then use my influence to speak to people who can help. The mental health charity, Wiltshire Mind, receives no funding from any statutory body. After spending time with the charity, I knew enough to relay their message to local businesses and trusts. Similarly, during a visit to SWADS, a Swindon-based charity offering music, art and other therapy to people with mental health problems, I suggested approaching a well-known local drummer to come along to the group's Mature Mondays band practice as a much-needed boost (and, yes, I did join in). Sometimes support just means listening – offering a non-judgemental,

non-political ear to members of the police and fire services, giving advice if asked, and supporting cadet work. One of my happiest moments was the passing-out parade for the Salamander course run by the Fire Service for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The children's and families' beaming pride in their achievements will stay with me long after my year in office.



**Right:** Declaration Day with my predecessor Sir David Hempleman-Adams KCVO OBE DL

**Opposite page:** Wiltshire Police cadets who welcomed guests at my garden party (photo: Adrian Harris Photography)





**Networking:** This term is more usually associated with the kind of young entrepreneur you might see on *The Apprentice*, but it really is the only word to describe the endless possibilities thrown up by the job of High Sheriff to meet people from all over the county and put them in touch. For example, Swindon's resident judges had a plan to open a much-needed chaplaincy centre in the County Court. At the same time Team Rubicon – based in Wiltshire but working in hurricane-hit areas – asked me for ideas to find emergency support. These ideas were in the air at exactly the time I attended a Swindon Mindful Employers' conference, so I used it to ask for business support (assisted in this by Nicky Alberry, High Sheriff in nomination). The new Dyson factory is due to open next door to the 9 Regt Royal Logistic Corps base, but the Commanding Officer had not yet met anyone from Dyson, so I put him in touch with the CEO. This is the great advantage of the role of a High Sheriff: opening doors and bringing about opportunities that benefit everyone. Incidentally, after this introduction, the James Dyson Foundation generously sponsored a High Sheriff's concert in aid of Community First Wiltshire.

*“This is the great advantage of the role of a High Sheriff: opening doors and bringing about opportunities that benefit everyone.”*

**Initiative:** As a probation officer I do not run my own diary or cold-call councillors, charities or businesses – much of this work is new to me. The choice of people one contacts is personal, but the role is not: it is to carry the baton in a 900-year relay, to use one's own knowledge and expertise to further, not reinvent, the role. The next test of my initiative sounds the most challenging: to do a 'jailbreak', in aid of the Mayor of Salisbury's Appeal – this involves 'breaking out' from the Guildhall cells and getting as far as possible in 24 hours, without spending money. Might be best to do this incognito.

### ♣ Penny Marland

*The Lady Marland, High Sheriff of Wiltshire 2017-18*

# THE HIGH SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

## HIGH SHERIFFS OF ENGLAND and WALES FOR 2017-18

### England

BEDFORDSHIRE	V B Tailor Esq DL
BERKSHIRE	Mrs S P Scrope DL
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	P B Kara Esq
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	R F A Pemberton Esq
CHESHIRE	Mrs S A M Callander Beckett
CITY OF BRISTOL	A R E Brown Esq
CORNWALL	Mrs Sarah Coryton
CUMBRIA	A G M Wannop Esq
DERBYSHIRE	Mrs A H Hall
DEVON	Mrs H Lindsay-Fynn
DORSET	S J Young Esq MC JP DL
DURHAM	Mrs C P Peacock
EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE	Mrs G E Drewry
EAST SUSSEX	Mrs M J Chowen
ESSEX	S A D Hall Esq MBE
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	Lt Colonel A J Tabor JP
GREATER LONDON	W J Furber Esq
GREATER MANCHESTER	K M Yeung Esq OBE DL
HAMPSHIRE	The Hon. Mrs M R Montagu-Scott
HEREFORDSHIRE	The Reverend the Lady Lisvane
HERTFORDSHIRE	W A Hobhouse Esq
ISLE OF WIGHT	B M A S Rouse Esq
KENT	G E Jessel Esq DL
LANCASHIRE	R M Webb Esq JP DL
LEICESTERSHIRE	T P Maxted Esq
LINCOLNSHIRE	A S Clark Esq DL
MERSEYSIDE	S Burrows Esq DL
NORFOLK	A J S Bagge Esq
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	R Fordham Esq
NORTHUMBERLAND	J R Dickinson Esq
NORTH YORKSHIRE	S M Wrightson Esq
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	Colonel David R Sneath TD DL
OXFORDSHIRE	Miss J E Cranston
RUTLAND	C L Mitchell Esq
SHROPSHIRE	C E Lillis Esq
SOMERSET	R S Hickmet Esq
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	S Ingram Esq
STAFFORDSHIRE	H D S Scott-Moncrieff Esq DL
SUFFOLK	G T C Probert Esq
SURREY	R S Napier Esq CBE
TYNE AND WEAR	Lt General R V Brims CB CBE DSO DL
WARWICKSHIRE	M E T Davies Esq
WEST MIDLANDS	Dr J L Hudson OBE DL
WEST SUSSEX	The Lady Emma Emston
WEST YORKSHIRE	Dr T G Bramall CBE
WILTSHIRE	The Lady Marland
WORCESTERSHIRE	S A Betts Esq

### Wales

CLWYD	Mrs C H G Howard
DYFED	Mrs S C Balsom
GWENT	J K L Thomas Esq JP
GWYNEDD	Professor S Hope OBE
MID GLAMORGAN	D J Davies Esq JP
POWYS	Mrs S E Thompson
SOUTH GLAMORGAN	G C Lloyd Esq
WEST GLAMORGAN	Mrs R L Fleet JP

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

## NEW MEMBERS

The Association welcomes the following as new members

Name	County	Year of Office
Colonel W C J Donnelly CBE TD DL	Mid Glamorgan	2019
M C S Hall Esq		
Mrs G M Minghella-Giddens	Isle of Wight	2018
Mrs S J Noton	Clwyd	Under Sheriff
J Pickering Esq	South Yorkshire	2019
Mrs S M L Stephenson	East Riding of Yorkshire	2019
I Wahhab Esq OBE	Greater London	2019
P H Warr Esq	Dorset	2019

## DEATHS

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

<b>H G Ashton Esq DL</b> Date of death: 28/10/2017 Age: 87 County: Essex Year of office: 1983	<b>F R Goodenough Esq DL</b> Date of death: 19/02/2017 Age: 89 County: Oxfordshire Year of office: 1987
<b>P Beaumont JP DL</b> Date of death: 14/02/2017 Age: 95 County: Clwyd Year of office: 1978	<b>Sir Ian Ley Bt</b> Date of death: 29/07/2017 Age: 83 County: Derbyshire Year of office: 1985
<b>J S Behrens Esq JP</b> Date of death: 07/05/2017 Age: 89 County: West Yorkshire Year of office: 1996	<b>J D W Maclean Esq</b> Date of death: 19/08/2017 Age: 86 County: West Glamorgan Year of office: 1995
<b>J R Carr Esq OBE DL</b> Date of death: 10/05/2017 Age: 71 County: Cumbria Year of office: 2010	<b>Sir Hugh Neill KCVO CBE TD</b> Date of death: 05/11/2017 Age: 96 County: Hallamshire Year of office: 1971
<b>R H Chapman Esq JP</b> Date of death: 07/04/2017 Age: 96 County: Tyne and Wear Year of office: 1982	<b>T F Parr Esq</b> Date of death: 18/08/2017 Age: 80 County: Nottinghamshire Year of office: 1996
<b>D B B Cheverton Esq OBE</b> Date of death: 29/07/2017 Age: 87 County: Isle of Wight Year of office: 1993	<b>F P S Phillips Esq</b> Date of death: 10/12/2016 Age: 81 County: Buckinghamshire Year of office: 2004
<b>M J Davison Esq</b> Date of death: 08/12/2016 Age: 82 County: Bedfordshire Year of office: 1981	<b>Sir Donald Walters</b> Date of death: 27/06/2017 Age: 91 County: South Glamorgan Year of office: 1987
<b>Colonel D E Gibbs CBE TD JP DL</b> Date of death: 10/06/2017 Age: 91 County: Greater Manchester Year of office: 1980	<b>J W T Wood Esq JP</b> Date of death: 04/06/2017 Age: 85 County: Leicestershire Year of office: 1975



# THE HIGH SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

## NOMINATION OF HIGH SHERIFFS OF ENGLAND

COUNTY	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
BEDFORDSHIRE	A J G Polhill Esq	Mrs C M Dolling	Mrs S J Lousada
BERKSHIRE	G E Barker Esq	Mrs L V Zeal	Mrs M E Riall
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	Professor R S Farwell CBE DL	Mrs J A Upton MBE	A D Farncombe Esq
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	Dr A C Harter CBE	His Honour N A McKittrick DL	Brigadier T J Seal TD DL VR
CHESHIRE	Mrs A J Redmond MBE	M S Mitchell Esq DL	N P Hopkinson Esq
CITY OF BRISTOL	R G Opie Esq DL	C J C Wyld Esq	Dr J C Manley
CUMBRIA	S F M Berry Esq	Ms M E Reid Fotheringham JP	Mrs J E Barton
DERBYSHIRE	Mrs L B Palmer	Earl of Burlington	A J Walker Esq
DEVON	Mrs G T Phillips	Captain S C Martin, OBE RN	G W V Hine-Hancock Esq
DORSET	Mrs J A Swift DL	P H Warr Esq	G H Streatfeild Esq
DURHAM	Dr S M Cronin	P H Candler Esq	D A Gray Esq
EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE	Mrs D J Rosenberg	Mrs S M L Stephenson	Mrs J E Dawson OBE
EAST SUSSEX	Major General J D Moore-Bick CBE DL	Mrs V L Hancock	A J Blackman Esq DL
ESSEX	B R H Burrough Esq	Dr F J A Bettley JP DL FSA	Mrs J A Fosh
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	C Martell Esq	R C G Berkeley Esq	E W Gillespie Esq OBE
GREATER LONDON	C A E Spicer Esq	I Wahhab Esq OBE	Alderman John Garbutt JP
HAMPSHIRE	M E Thistlethwayte Esq	Mrs C S Le May	Revd S E Colman
HEREFORDSHIRE	T N Hone Esq DL	J F S Hervey-Bathurst Esq CBE DL	Mrs P C H Thomas
HERTFORDSHIRE	Mrs S R Harvey	Mrs S M Beazley	The Hon H T Holland-Hibbert
ISLE OF WIGHT	Mrs G M Minghella-Giddens	G P Underwood Esq	Mrs C J Peel
KENT	Mrs S J Ashton	P J Barrett Esq	Mrs R St J Millwater
LEICESTERSHIRE	Mrs D Thompson	T R Hercock Esq	Mrs A V Smith MBE
LINCOLNSHIRE	I H Walter Esq	R W Day Esq	M J Scott Esq
NORFOLK	C J Watt Esq	The Lady Agnew of Oulton	Lady Roberts
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	J M R Saunders Watson Esq DL	N A N S Robertson Esq DL	P T S Parsons Esq
NORTHUMBERLAND	M W Orde Esq	The Lady Joicey	T P Fairfax Esq
NORTH YORKSHIRE	C J C Legard Esq	Mrs L L Fenwick	D A Kerfoot Esq MBE DL
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	N R B Ebbs Esq	His Honour J J Teare	Dame Elizabeth Fradd DBE
OXFORDSHIRE	R Venables Esq	The Lady Jay of Ewelme CBE	Mrs A Ponsonby MBE
RUTLAND	Mrs M S Jarron	Mrs M A Miles	R A Cole Esq
SHROPSHIRE	R M Swire Esq DL	Dr J J Dixey	Mrs A N Harris
SOMERSET	D A S Burn Esq	J A N Halliday Esq	Mrs M Rodwell
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	B R Eldred Esq DL	J Pickering Esq	Mrs C D O'Neill
STAFFORDSHIRE	Mrs P J Gee DL	A E Brough Esq	Commander C J B Jewitt RN
SUFFOLK	G M W Vestey Esq	Mrs R T Eminson	Mrs B F McIntyre
SURREY	W J Glover Esq	Mrs B Biddell	S Azeem Esq
TYNE AND WEAR	P M Callaghan Esq CBE	Mrs C L Moran OBE	Mrs S L Stewart OBE
WARWICKSHIRE	Mrs C A I Sawdon JP	S J V Miesegaes Esq	J Greenwell Esq CBE
WEST MIDLANDS	C T Loughran Esq	M Kuo Esq	W C Lyn Esq CBE
WEST SUSSEX	Mrs C S Nicholls DL	Mrs D Irwin-Clark	Dr T J C Fooks
WEST YORKSHIRE	C R Jackson Esq MBE DL	P D Lawrence Esq	J H Thornton Esq
WILTSHIRE	Mrs N Alberry DL	D B Scott Esq DL	Major General A E G Truluck CB CBE
WORCESTERSHIRE	C B L L Roberts Esq	E W P Holloway Esq	M L Jackson Esq

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

## NOMINATION OF HIGH SHERIFFS OF WALES

COUNTY	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
CLWYD	Lady Hanmer	Mrs S L Catherall	D H Wynne-Finch Esq
DYFED	S M E Davies Esq	Mrs A H J Lewis	D J Jones Esq MBE
GWENT	Mrs S E L Linnard	Dame Claire Clancy DCB	T M S Russen Esq
GWYNEDD	Mrs K K G Ellis	Mrs S M Jones	D E F Williams Esq
MID GLAMORGAN	J H Wall Esq	Colonel W C J Donnelly CBE TD DL	J M Edwards Esq
POWYS	D R Price Esq	D L Peate Esq JP	Mrs R M Duggan
SOUTH GLAMORGAN	B C Lakin Esq	Dr I M Graham	A R Howell Esq
WEST GLAMORGAN	H M Gilbert Esq	Ms S R Goldstone	M L Pope Esq

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

# ASSOCIATION REGALIA AND PUBLICATIONS



## The High Sheriff's Badge

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



**Tie** Navy blue, green or maroon in pure silk (only to be worn by members of the Association) **£32.00**



## Chaplain's or Cadet's Badge

Single **£27.00**, 2+ **£20.00** each  
(2 for preaching scarves)



## Miniature Badge for High Sheriff and Spouse

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



## Enamel and gilt cufflinks

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



## Ladies Pure Silk Scarf

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



## The Lady High Sheriff's Badge

**£185.00**  
45mm x 74mm



## High Sheriff's Car Pennant

(mast not included) **£30.00**



## High Sheriff's March

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

**STOP PRESS:** Association blue and white ribbon for badges and hats, **£10 per metre**

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

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

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



# ASSOCIATION REGALIA AND PUBLICATIONS

## HIGH SHERIFF'S AWARD CERTIFICATE

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

The certificate can be provided in two different styles:

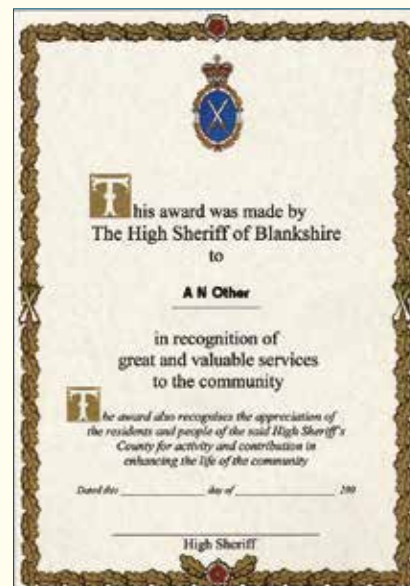
**STYLE 1** comes with the name of your county already printed on it and blanks in

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

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

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

**Style 1: £4.00, Style 2: £5.00**



## CROWN COURT AWARD CERTIFICATE

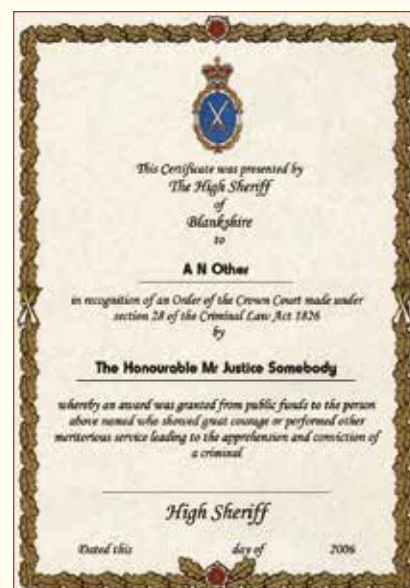
Not all counties have their own customised Crown Court Award Certificate for the High Sheriff to present or to send to the recipient of a Crown Court Award. With this in mind, the Association has designed such a certificate in two different styles which can be bought by High Sheriffs.

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

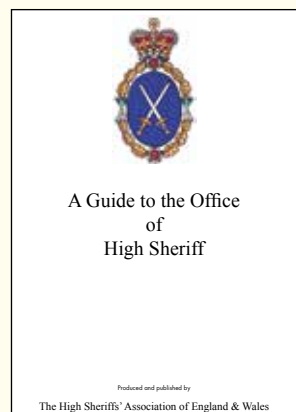
**STYLE 2** lets the High Sheriff, at the time of placing an order, supply the name of the recipient; the name of the Judge or Recorder; and, if known, the date on which the certificate will be presented. All these details are then printed on the certificate in an attractive script.

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

**Style 1: £4.00, Style 2: £5.00**



## PUBLICATIONS



### Guide to the Office of High Sheriff

This 27-page guide, published in 2006, outlines the key elements of the role of High Sheriff in the 21st century and gives practical advice to those preparing to take Office **£2.00**



**Back issues of the Association magazine The High Sheriff £2.00**



**A History in Commemoration of The Sheriff's Millennium (1992) £1.00**



**Notes on the Office of High Sheriff (per pack of 50 folded cards) £7.50**

# ADVERTISER INDEX

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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 2018**.

Closing date for receipt of editorial items will be **24 April 2018**

**Items for inclusion should be sent to:**  
The Editor, *The High Sheriff* magazine  
c/o Hall-McCartney Ltd,  
PO Box 21 Baldock, Herts SG7 5SH  
Email: [editor@highsheriffs.com](mailto:editor@highsheriffs.com)

**To advertise in *The High Sheriff* please contact Maz Oakley**  
Tel: 01462 896688  
Email: [maz@hall-mccartney.co.uk](mailto:maz@hall-mccartney.co.uk)  
[www.hall-mccartney.co.uk](http://www.hall-mccartney.co.uk)

## HELPFUL TOPICS FOR MEMBERS

– full details on the Association's website ([www.highsheriffs.com](http://www.highsheriffs.com))

If you have forgotten your password, please email [webmaster@highsheriffs.com](mailto:webmaster@highsheriffs.com) giving your year and county

**The following list of topics is not exhaustive and is revised and amplified as members seek advice:**

\*Chaplains to High Sheriffs – their appointment, duties and insignia

\*Citizenship Ceremonies

\*Court Awards recommended by judges to be made by High Sheriffs (Criminal Law Act 1826)

\*Court dress

\*Courts System Structure

\*Death or resignation of High Sheriffs in office – procedure

\*Declarations by High Sheriffs and Under Sheriffs (English and Welsh)

\*Eligibility for nomination as High Sheriff

\*Forms of Address covering the judiciary, and civic, military and other office holders (and even High Sheriffs)

\*Heraldic insignia of the Association and High Sheriffs and how this may be used

\*National Anthem – deportment when this is played (and when taking parades; [not] saluting)

\*Politics – High Sheriffs' returning officer duties (Representation of the People Act 1983, s 24(1); non-involvement in politics; not entertaining politicians during a pre-election period)

\*Proclamation of the Accession of a New Sovereign by High Sheriffs

\*Senior Judiciary – list of current judges of the higher courts